



## INTERNATIONAL NIANGUIRY KANTE CONFERENCE: THIRD EDITION 2026

### Organised by

The African Journal of Social Sciences and Public Health (RASP) in partnership with the Bamako Institute for Research and Development Studies (BIRDs), the Laboratory for Studies and Research in Reproductive Transition (LERTG) of Alassane Ouattara University in Côte d'Ivoire, Ibn Rushd University (IRU), the National Institute of Public Health in Mali (INSP), and the National Institute of Human Sciences (ISH).

### Call for Papers

**Theme: Social sciences and conflict resolution mechanisms in sub-Saharan Africa**

September 9 and 10, 2026

Bamako, Mali

website: <https://cini.ml>

<https://revue-rasp.org> / <https://b-institute.org> /

## 1. Rationale

Conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa continue to hinder the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to a report by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) (OCHA, 2025), more than 305.1 million people required humanitarian assistance in 2025. The same report states that this situation is largely due to armed conflicts in certain countries, including Sudan, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, among others. It is estimated that more than half of these people come from sub-Saharan Africa (OCHA, 2025; Palik et al., 2020). These conflicts thus pose a major obstacle to achieving the SDGs (Angel, 2025), making their resolution a necessity.

To resolve armed conflicts, it is essential to first understand them. Xie et al. (2023) state that armed conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa are due to several factors, including corruption, poor governance, and access to water. According to Ujunwa et al. (2021), one of the major causes of these conflicts is the increase in inequality and poverty in Nigeria. Thus, armed conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa are fueled by structural factors and have profound consequences on health, education, the economy, and social cohesion.

A growing body of evidence shows that context plays a crucial role in understanding and implementing conflict management (protection). Locally driven, context-sensitive strategies are widely recognised as essential for bridging the gap between global commitments and ground realities (Norman & Mikhael, 2023; Roborgh et al., 2024). The case of Mali, for example, is particularly telling: despite years of international engagement and the adoption of nexus frameworks, chronic insecurity, recurring displacement, and weak governance continue to undermine protection outcomes, highlighting gaps in coordination, community participation, and sustainable peacebuilding (Cho et al., 2025; Siddiqui & Guiu, 2024).

Disciplines within the social sciences, such as sociology, anthropology, political science, history, psychology, law, and others, provide tools for critical analysis, understanding local dynamics, and sustainable strategies for overcoming crises (Leonardsson & Rudd, 2015). Thus, the 3rd edition of the Nianguiry KANTE International Conference (CINI) 2026 has chosen as its theme: “Social sciences and mechanisms for conflict resolution in sub-Saharan Africa.”

## 2. Objective of the conference

This conference aims to understand the role of social sciences in the comprehension, prevention, and resolution of conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa. Specifically, it will:

1. analyse the causes and dynamics of conflicts
2. analyse the roles of traditional and local institutions;
3. promote social justice;
4. examine the effects of conflict on health;
5. analyzes the effects and impacts of conflicts on the socio-economic development of sub-Saharan Africa.

The symposium featured introductory lectures, workshops, oral presentations in parallel sessions, and poster presentations.

### 3. Thematic axes

CINI2026 will provide a framework for scientific communication on the following seven thematic axes:

#### Axis 1: The Role of Social Sciences in the Study of Conflicts

This section addresses the fundamental role that social sciences play in the study of conflicts by providing tools to understand their causes, dynamics, and consequences, as well as to propose appropriate solutions (Bar-Tal et al., 2014). Contributions in this section should analyse conflicts from multiple perspectives—structural, cultural, historical, and media-related—and enrich the discussion on the management and resolution of social tensions.

#### Axis 2: Importance of local customs and indigenous knowledge

The importance of local customs and indigenous knowledge is widely recognised in contemporary research, especially for their key roles in sustainability, education, climate change adaptation, and cultural preservation. These forms of knowledge, rooted in experience and adaptation to the local environment, are essential for sustainable development, resource management, and the transmission of cultural values. Proposals should therefore address these forms of local knowledge and experience in resolving armed conflicts, as well as for prevention and reconciliation.

#### Axis 3: Critical and Interdisciplinary Approaches to Conflict Resolution

Conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa are complex and multifaceted, requiring critical and interdisciplinary approaches for their resolution. Recent research highlights that effectiveness depends on combining local, institutional, and innovative methods adapted to the cultural, political, and environmental contexts. Contributions in this area should synthesise these methods to provide students, academic researchers, policymakers, civil society, and the general population with tools for management, prevention, resolution, and reconciliation.

#### Axis 4: Importance of Social Sciences in Reconciliation

To understand and support reconciliation following armed conflicts in Africa, it is essential to rely on the social sciences. They make it possible to analyze the root causes of conflicts, to design appropriate reconciliation mechanisms, and to strengthen social cohesion while taking local realities into account. This is why proposals and contributions in this area must analyse the causes of these conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa to develop appropriate and sustainable reconciliation mechanisms.

#### Axis 5: Impacts of Armed Conflicts on the Socio-Economic Development of Sub-Saharan Africa

This section analyses the effects of armed conflict on socioeconomic development dynamics in sub-Saharan Africa. The contributions will examine the impacts on the economy, social services, institutions, and social cohesion, as well as the strategies for resilience and adaptation employed by the populations and states. The aim is to shed light on the challenges of reconstruction, sustainable peace, and inclusive development in contexts marked by insecurity and violence.

#### Axe 6. Impacts of armed conflicts on health and health systems in sub-Saharan Africa

Armed conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa have profound and lasting impacts on the health of populations and the performance of health systems. They lead to increased maternal and child mortality, deteriorating nutrition, reduced coverage of essential care, and weakened health infrastructure and resources. Consequently, contributions in this area will provide an overview of the research in this field.

#### Axe 7. Trauma in children and adolescents during wars and conflicts

Trauma among children and adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa in the context of war is massive, multifaceted, and long-lasting (Musisi & Kinyanda, 2020; Owoaje et al., 2016). Despite advances in understanding and intervention, significant gaps remain, particularly regarding access to care, public policy, and research on vulnerable groups (Doutchi et al., 2024). Therefore, this section aims to welcome contributions that address these gaps.

**Proposals covering other aspects not included in these themes but allowing for a discussion on the role of social sciences in conflict resolution in sub-Saharan Africa are also acceptable. These proposals may, for example, address Information Technologies.**

#### References

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- Bar-Tal, D., Oren, N., & Nets-Zehngut, R. (2014). Sociopsychological analysis of conflict-supporting narratives. *Journal of Peace Research*, 51, 662–675. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343314533984>
- Doutchi, M., Ghousmane, A., Zampaligré, F., Moussa, B., Ishagh, E., Marc, O. T., Oumarou, B., Kaya, M. S., Diawara, G. A., Camara, A. M., Moussa, S., Bienvenu, K., Toko, J., Harouna, H., Moussa, H., Kofi, N. 'Zu., Tamuzi, J. L., Katoto, P., Wiysonge, C., & Anya, B. M. (2024). Health transformation toward universal healthcare coverage amidst conflict: examining the impact of international cooperation in Niger. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 12. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1303168>
- Leonardsson, H., & Rudd, G. (2015). The 'local turn' in peacebuilding: A literature review of effective and emancipatory local peacebuilding. *Third World Quarterly*, 36(5), 825–839.
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<https://www.unocha.org/attachments/1d785fb6-9dee-47d2-8651-9b75f1a69b70/GHO-2025-Abridged-FRA-Web.pdf>

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- Palik, J., Rustad, S. A., & Methi, F. (2020). Conflict Trends in Africa, 1989–2019. In *PRIO Paper*. Peace Research Institute Oslo. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/conflict-trends-africa-1989-2019>
- Ujunwa, A., Okoyeuzu, C., Nkwor, N., & Ujunwa, A. (2021). Potential Impact of Climate Change and Armed Conflict on Inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa. *South African Journal of Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/SAJE.12271>
- Xie, X., Jiang, D., Hao, M., & Ding, F. (2023). Modeling analysis of armed conflict risk in sub-Saharan Africa, 2000–2019. *PLOS ONE*, 18. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0286404>

#### 4. Important Dates

- ✓ Call for Papers Launch: Saturday, January 31, 2026
- ✓ Abstract Submission Deadline: Monday, July 6, 2026
- ✓ Notifications Sent to Authors: Without delay
- ✓ Payment Opening for Participation: Monday, June 1 to Tuesday, August 4, 2026
- ✓ Conference Dates: Wednesday, September 9 to Thursday, September 10, 2026
- ✓ Full Paper Submission: Thursday, October 1 to Thursday, October 15, 2026
- ✓ Full Paper Review: Thursday, October 1 to Friday, November 20, 2026
- ✓ Notification of Acceptance of Full Papers: Friday, November 20, 2026
- ✓ Issuance of Presentation Certificates for the Conference in Digital Format: Saturday, November 29, 2026
- ✓ Publication of Conference Proceedings: Wednesday, December 31, 2026

Venue : [Institute of Human Sciences \(ISH\)](#) Bamako, Mali

#### 5. Submissions

All abstracts (in French or English) must be original and not submitted simultaneously to another journal or conference. Prospective authors are invited to submit an unstructured abstract without references, but indicating the background and objective, methodology, results, and theoretical and/or practical contributions. The text of the unstructured abstract must be in Arial, normal, 12-point font, with 1.5 line spacing (200–300 words). Authors of the best selected abstracts will be invited after the symposium to submit their full manuscripts in accordance

with the guidelines for authors of the Revue Africaine des Sciences Sociales et de la Santé Publique (RASP) – <https://www.revue-rasp.org>, or the African Journal for Development Informatics (AJDI) – <https://press.b-institute.org>, in which these manuscripts may be published once accepted in the conference proceedings.

Submissions are made exclusively online via the Microsoft CMT platform.

Submission link: <https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/CINI2026>

Keywords: (5–8 keywords).

### ***Type of presentation***

Two presentation categories are planned:

- Oral communication
- Poster

On the Abstract page, include the title of the communication, the names and titles of the author(s), the postal address, phone contact(s), email address, the body of the summary, and keywords. Files should be named by specifying the event, type of communication (oral or poster), corresponding author's first and last names, (short) title of the communication, and thematic area to which the proposal belongs, as follows:

File name of an oral presentation

CINI2026\_Oral\_LastName\_FirstName\_Title\_Axe\_1

Nom du fichier d'un poster

CINI2026\_Poster\_LastName\_FirstName\_ShortTitle\_Axe\_2

Accepted oral communications will be given a 15-minute presentation, followed by discussions. Participants based outside Mali (if they cannot travel or prefer to) will be allowed to participate remotely via Zoom in both plenary and parallel sessions in a fully virtual mode. To this end, their presentation should be pre-recorded and sent to the conference secretariat no later than Saturday, August 31, 2026. Furthermore, a dedicated space will be provided for posters.

### ***Languages of the conference***

The conference languages are French and English.

## 6. Registration

### ***Registration and participation fees***

- ✓ Faculty, Researchers, and Professionals: 50,000 CFA francs (US\$91)
- ✓ Students: 30,000 CFA francs (US\$60)

These contributions are guaranteed per the submitted and accepted abstracts:

- ✓ access to the various sessions of the conference + conference materials
- ✓ a certificate of presentation at the conference
- ✓ a coffee break + lunch for in-person participants

- ✓ publication of accepted articles in the conference proceedings (Revue Africaines des Sciences Sociales et de la Santé Publique – RASP – <https://revue-rasp.org>) and (African Journal for Development Informatics – AJDI – <https://press.b-institute.org>)

Fees are paid via WESTERN UNION, MoneyGram, Orange Money, or Wave. For additional information, please contact the conference secretariat.

### ***Accommodation***

Accommodation is not provided by the organisers. However, a list of hotels will be made available to the authors of accepted papers. In addition, the Institute of Human Sciences has accommodation available at convenient prices.

## 7. Target audiences:

- ✓ Heads of institutions in the fields of humanities, social sciences, and humanitarian work
- ✓ Health professionals
- ✓ Local authorities
- ✓ Community leaders
- ✓ Non-Governmental Organizations
- ✓ Teacher-researchers and Researchers
- ✓ Students

## 8. Scientific Committee

**Chair of the Scientific Committee:** Prof. Olivier Douville, University of Paris, France

**Vice President:** Dr. (MR) Soumaïla Oulalé, University of Ségou, Ségou, Mali

**Second Vice President:** Prof. Abdelkader Kadir Galy (HDR), Abdou Moumouni University, Niger

### **Members:**

- ✓ Prof. Robert Oboko, University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya
- ✓ Prof. Christopher Chepken, University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya
- ✓ Prof. Dantouma Kamissoko, National School of Engineering, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Prof. Abdoulaye Dabo, CNRST, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Prof. Berta Mendiguren, ANESVAD Foundation, Spain and Central African Republic
- ✓ Dr. (PhD) Adegne Niangaly, National Institute of Public Health, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Prof. Abdoulaye Niang, Gaston Berger University, Saint Louis, Senegal
- ✓ Prof. Leon Bijlmakers, Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, Netherlands
- ✓ Prof. Adama Diabaté, University Institute for Territorial Development (IUDT)
- ✓ Prof. Cheick Hamala Fofana, University of Legal and Political Sciences of Bamako, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Dr. (Mr) Baba Coulibaly, Institute of Human Sciences, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Dr. (Lecturer) Anoua Adou Serge Judicaël, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Alassane Ouattara University, Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire
- ✓ Dr. (Mr) Mamadou Fadiala Sissoko, National Institute of Public Health, Bamako, Mali

- ✓ Prof. Hamidou Magassa, SERNES, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Prof. Jaak Le Roy, Healthnet Institute, Topo, Louvain, Belgium
- ✓ Prof. Kaourou Doucoure, National Ethics Committee for Health and Life Sciences, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Dr. (Mr) Mamadou Samake, National Center for Scientific and Technological Research (CNRST), Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Prof. Mamadou Sounkalo Traore, National Institute of Public Health, Mali
- ✓ Prof. Pierre Philippe Rey, Professor Emeritus, University of Paris 8, France
- ✓ Dr. (Lecturer) Moussa TESSOUGUE, known as Martin, Faculty of History and Geography, University of Social Sciences and Management of Bamako, Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Dr. (Lecturer) Ibrahima Traore, University of Humanities and Social Sciences of Bamako (ULSHB), Bamako, Mali
- ✓ Dr. (Lecturer) Amara Nimaga, Normal School of Technical and Vocational Education, Bamako, Mali

## 09. Organizing Committee

**President:** Dr (MR) Soumaïla Oulalé, University of Ségou, Ségou, Mali.

**Vice-President:** Dr (MR) Macire Kante (HDR), National Center for Scientific and Technological Research (CNRST), Bamako, Mali; University of Johannesburg.

Members:

- ✓ Dr (MC) Amara Nimaga, School of Technical and Vocational Education, Mali
- ✓ Dr Silamakan Kanté, Bamako Institute for Research and Development Studies, Mali
- ✓ Dr Mahamadou Kanté, Institute of Human Sciences, Bamako, Mali; Centre for Health and Sustainability, Uppsala University
- ✓ Birama Djan Diakité, National Institute of Public Health, Mali
- ✓ Fanta Kanté, Bamako Institute for Research and Development Studies, Mali
- ✓ Ibrahim Konaté, National Center for Scientific and Scientific Research (CNRST), Mali
- ✓ Adama Keita, National Center for Scientific and Technological Research, Mali
- ✓ Niame Kanté, Bamako Institute for Research and Development Studies, Bamako, Mali

The logistical organisation of the conference is handled by the Bamako Institute for Research and Development Studies in Mali, the African Journal of Social Sciences and Public Health (RASP), and the African Journal for Development Informatics (AJDI).

## 10. Conference Secretariat

All questions regarding submissions should be sent by email to [mkante@b-institute.org](mailto:mkante@b-institute.org) or [revue-rasp@revue-rasp.org](mailto:revue-rasp@revue-rasp.org)

Authors can also contact the chairs directly via [the CMT platform](#)

Information about the symposium will also be available on the website : <https://cini.ml>