

# Review of: "Conflict Resolution Applications to Peace Studies"

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I enjoy reading this manuscript. The way it is developed is easy to follow, such that even the general public can digest it. The use of subheadings is very helpful as well.

The author tries to incorporate ethical aspects into conflict resolution, and this is something that is frequently missing. As a literature review, the author tries to lay out some key concepts and principles, especially, but not limited to, negotiation and mediation. I would suggest the author to address the following points:

1. Please be clear with the concept of conflict as it ranges from simply having different opinions to war.
2. Conflict resolution deals with several approaches where negotiation and mediation are just two of them. There are also arbitration and litigation, two other common approaches. Why does the author choose to focus on negotiation and mediation? Moreover, even after answering the question, the author needs to distinguish between negotiation and mediation; the key difference would be the involvement of the third party.
3. The author may also need to briefly clarify the difference between conflict resolution and conflict management. Since the author also proposes transformative conflict, the author may also need to touch upon conflict transformation. While these three frameworks are commonly used interchangeably, they have to be conceptually distinguished.
4. The author expects to incorporate ethical principles into conflict resolution. The conventional working principles of conflict resolution have actually incorporated the general guiding ethical principles. Being impartial, open and honest, for example, is an ethical principle. If the author wishes to invite principles of "justice, non-discrimination, and respect for human dignity" or "implications on communities, the environment, and future generations", or "open to critical self-reflection," then (1) why such is the case in negotiation and mediation, and (2) how does that work in practice?
5. The author may also reconsider the use of so many sections or subsections, some of which are very brief. It also depends on the targeted readers. As a literature review, the selling point of an article lies in its capacity to critically engage with a certain theory or perspective and delve deeply into it. This would require a more detailed and elaborate discussion by considering the pros and cons or the pluses and minuses. The manuscript may start by critically looking at the way conventional negotiation and mediation literature is structured and then depart on a more critical outlook by incorporating ethical principles. In doing so, it is suggested that the author (1) be clear about what and why certain ethical principles are incorporated, (2) how they work in real practice, and (3) how they may impact on more transformative conflicts and everlasting peace-building initiatives.

