

Review of: "Reflections on Bordering, Micropolitics and Everyday Life in Peacebuilding Processes: Revisiting the Lingering Legacy of the 1949 Armistice Agreements"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The strength of the article is in its thesis and the supportive survey of literature traversing politics, sociology and peace studies to point to the need to rethink peacebuilding and political agency – specifically, how everyday realities create the affective mindsets, feelings and behavior around the spatial reference of borders at the microlevel, and how building peace may emerge from the understanding of these experienced realities. Certainly, despite the much-needed high-level processes to stop the war going on now in Gaza, the thesis put forward by the authors remains a relevant and necessary framework given the grave rift between the communities, and the long-term peacebuilding and reconciliation necessary in the war's aftermath.

It is not clear why it used the 1949 Armistice Agreements as the peg, especially given that Lowenheim's account was published in 2014, at which point the occupation and settlements have enlarged beyond that envisioned in the 1949 Agreements, and the wall along the West Bank Wall put up. As such, a recount of diplomatic, macro initiatives may refer briefly to other key landmark periods such as the Oslo Peace Accord in 1993 which was signed by Israel and the PLO (for the first time) followed by the 1997 Hebron and several other agreement relating to borders/withdrawals, all of which were never really implemented. A description of these existing barriers, border crossings, etc. would enhance the images in the minds of the reader.

Finally, the main body of the article illustrating the application of its main thesis can be enriched and bolstered with other accounts and literature other than Lowenheim's.