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## CONSTRUCTIVE CONFLICTS

From Emergence to Transformation, Sixth Edition  
By Bruce W. Dayton & Louis Kriesberg

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### About the Authors

**Bruce W. Dayton** (Ph.D., Syracuse University) serves as associate professor and chair of the Master of Peace and Justice Leadership and the Master of Diplomacy and International Relations, and is director of the CONTACT Peacebuilding Institute at the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont, USA.

**Louis Kriesberg** (Ph.D., University of Chicago) is professor emeritus of sociology, Maxwell professor emeritus of social conflict studies, and founding director of the Program on the Analysis and Resolution of Conflicts (1986–1994), all at Syracuse University.

### About the Book

Substantially revised for the sixth edition, *Constructive Conflicts* explains how large-scale political and social conflicts can be waged more constructively, with more positive consequences and fewer destructive consequences for those involved. Drawing on research from political science, sociology, social-psychology, neuroscience, cultural studies, and other disciplines, Dayton and Kriesberg follow the lifecycle of social and political conflicts as they emerge, escalate, de-escalate, become settled, and often emerge again in new forms.

The sixth edition presents numerous new examples and cases of conflict episodes that have avoided extreme coercion or violence and which have resulted in the advancement of the interests of most parties involved. The book gives policymakers, concerned citizens, and students a powerful analytical framework, supported by data, for understanding and constructively intervening in conflicts of different type and scale, offering a way out of the destructive cycles of conflict management which have come to characterize contemporary social and political relations.

### Praise for the Book

“*Constructive Conflicts* by Bruce W. Dayton and Louis Kriesberg is a new classic. It is an indispensable synthesis of what we know about conflicts and how they can be approached constructively. Their new tag line *From Emergence to Transformation* captures well the dynamism that invites responsibility. Conflicts are not a given, something that ‘just happens.’ They are the product of human choices and trends, complex interactions that must be understood and responded to with commitment, competence, and compassion. This Sixth Edition is a jewel, a must read for any scholar, student, and practitioner open to seek what is possible and good for all.” — **Andrea Bartoli, President, Sant'Egidio Foundation for Peace and Dialogue**

“This new edition of a standard-setting work in the field of conflict studies brings the authors’ insights into contact with some of the most salient recent developments and challenges in the field. Using fresh cases and a reconfigured approach to grasping conflict roots, the authors stimulate much needed reflection while remaining grounded in the vast literature of conflict studies. The addition of updated cases and new study questions at the conclusion of each chapter enable readers to apply the book’s concepts to today’s world.” — **Chester A. Crocker, Emeritus Professor, Georgetown University**

“Louis Kriesberg and Bruce Dayton have helped us to understand and untangle the complex web of conflict ever since their first seminal book came out in 1998. Its lessons about the transforming harmful and destructive relations into constructive ones are ever more important for our polarized world. An essential book for today’s students, activists, and policymakers.” — **Pamela Aall, American University; and Senior Advisor, Conflict Prevention and Management, United States Institute of Peace**

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