

Call for Contributions: *Intersections* 9.1

“Peace in History”

Peace has often been defined by its absence—the silence that follows war and conflicts in societies. Yet peace also has its own complex and compelling history: one of imagination, negotiation, and everyday practice. From treaties and truces to movements for reconciliation, nonviolence, and justice, peace has shaped societies across time and place.

Despite this, the history of peace has long been overshadowed by the study of war and conflict. Scholarship has tended to focus on the origins, strategies, and consequences of military, political, and social violence, leaving the processes that sustain peace comparatively underexplored. In the case of Canada, for instance, the idea of peace has long held a central place in traditional post-1945 national narrative, often linked to its identity as a peacekeeping nation and a mediator on the world stage, but also on a national level as a “peaceful nation.” Such an approach is far from limited to Canada. Examples of peace in national narratives are numerous (peace agreements in Europe; Pax Romana, Britannica or Americana; peacetime societies; peace movements; etc.) Those narratives, too, invite renewed critical inquiry: how has peace been imagined, enacted, and contested within diverse histories, in different times and by various communities around the world?

This issue of *Intersections* seeks to redress that imbalance by inviting fresh perspectives on the history, ideas, and practices of peace—as lived experience, political process, and cultural ideal. While we welcome reflections on peace within Canadian history and society—including Indigenous traditions of peacemaking, diplomacy, and coexistence—the issue also welcomes global, comparative, and transnational perspectives. We aim to illuminate peace as a living historical process—fragile, contested, and deeply intertwined with questions of justice, power, and memory.

This issue of *Intersections* also seeks to advance the study of the history of peace as a field in its own right—not merely the absence or aftermath of war, but a space of human creativity, ethics, and resilience. By foregrounding both Canadian experiences and international perspectives, we aim to trace how diverse societies have imagined and sustained peace through politics, culture, and collective imagination.

In an era marked by renewed global tension and division, revisiting the history of peace allows us to understand the various definitions and meanings of peace and how peace has been shaped, imagined, and applied in the past—and how it might yet endure.

Possible topics include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Various definitions of peace in the past
- Peace in societies
- Case studies of peacebuilding, diplomacy, and conflict resolution around the world
- Indigenous and non-Western epistemologies of peace and coexistence

- Religious, philosophical, and ethical traditions of peace
- The politics of neutrality, nonviolence, and reconciliation
- Gender, race, and class in peace movements
- Peace education and the cultural transmission of peace values
- Artistic, literary, and media representations of peace
- Global governance, peacekeeping, and civil society initiatives in the 20th and 21st centuries

The submitted work should include a short text (600-1,000 words) and a two-line biography; a bibliography of 4-5 references and/or a copyright free image are optional. Submissions should not have footnotes. Light copyediting may be done by the editors, but all *Intersections* submissions are expected to arrive in print-ready condition. The deadline for submissions is **March 1, 2026**. Please send your text to cha-shc@cha-shc.ca.