

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

LAUNCH OF THE HISTORICAL PEACE INDEX

The Seshat: Global History Databank (Seshat) and the Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP) have announced a partnership to launch the Historical Peace Index at the University of Oxford. The Index will use cutting-edge statistic methods and robust historical data to map Global Peace over thousands of years, and provide evidence-based insight into how to improve Global Peace in the future.

The Historical Peace Index will follow the methodology of IEP's Global Peace Index(GPI), extending it back in time and using the same or similar indicators as contained in the GPI. By extending these measures to a host of societies spread over the last 5,000 years and throughout the world the Historical Peace Index will allow researchers, policy makers, and other advocates for peace a means to track the long-term evolution of the different elements of peacefulness.

IEP's Founder, Steve Killelea said "IEP is very happy to partner with Oxford University. Peace is at the heart of the world's future sustainability, because without a world that is basically peaceful, we will never have the levels of trust, co-operation or inclusiveness necessary to solve humanity's global sustainability challenges. Peace is a prerequisite. The partnership between IEP and SESHAT will help to make this possible."

Seshat Co-founder Prof Harvey Whitehouse said "Many have appealed to historical examples to support their views on current public policy but this has usually meant cherry picking while ignoring counter-examples. The Historical Peace Index will allow us to identify the precursors to peace worldwide over thousands of years and so provide a more objective way of learning from the past to plan better for the future."

About the Institute of Economics and Peace

The Institute for Economics and Peace is an international research institute dedicated to building a greater understanding of the inter-relationships between business, peace and economics with particular emphasis on the economic benefits of peace. IEP is an independent, non-partisan, not-for-profit organisation with offices in Sydney and New York.

About Seshat

Seshat: Global History Databank is a large, international, multidisciplinary team of evolutionary scientists, historians, anthropologists, archaeologists, economists, and other social scientists. Its mission is to gather information from historical societies in order to rigorously test different hypotheses about the rise and fall of large-scale societies across the

globe and human history. Seshat is housed between the University of Oxford and the innovative think-tank, the Evolution Institute, Inc.