

# **Three Essays on Post-Conflict Reintegration**

## **Abstract**

This dissertation consists of three essays which explore the effects of conflict and the post-conflict reintegration process, each using a different methodology to study a different facet of these issues, including an analysis of survey data, an artefactual economic experiment conducted in the field, and an laboratory experiment. The research presented here demonstrates how these methods complement one another in contributing to our understanding of how conflict affects individuals' well-being and behavior. In the first essay, I analyze an existing data set from a survey of ex-combatants in Liberia to estimate the effect of a reintegration program for former soldiers on participants' income and employment status, using propensity score matching to account for self-selection bias. The second chapter also deals with the reintegration of ex-soldiers, but focuses on social capital, using a set of experiments, including trust and dictator games, to study the effects of forced military service for a rebel group on social capital in northern Uganda. In the third chapter, we study cooperation within and between groups in the laboratory, by modeling conflict with an inter-group Tullock rent-seeking contest, and manipulating groups' conflict history to measure the effect of conflict on cooperation using a multi-level public good game.

Author: **Ian Lively**

Advisor: **PhDr. Michal Bauer, Ph.D.**

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