



## Obituary on Johan Galtung (1930-2024)

\*24 October 1930

†17 February 2024

Prof. Dr. Johan Galtung has passed away on 17 February 2024 at the age of 93.



An Obituary by the [editor of this series](#) can be found [here](#).

## Hans Günter Brauch's Obituary on Johan Galtung

I met Prof. Johan Galtung for the first time in spring 1968 at his International Peace Research Institute in Oslo (PRIO). After an undergraduate seminar on "Sociology of Peace" in my first semester at Heidelberg University four students decided to organise a trip by car from Heidelberg to explore the emerging peace research in Copenhagen, Lund and Oslo where we had planned to have a 30 minutes interview with Prof, Johan Galtung that lasted for more than 90 minutes. This meeting at the age of 20 during the year when the student movement of 1968 started with the emerging pioneer and inspiring founder of sociological and statistically oriented peace research had a long term effect on my life. The four students from Heidelberg wrote a report that was published in May 1969;

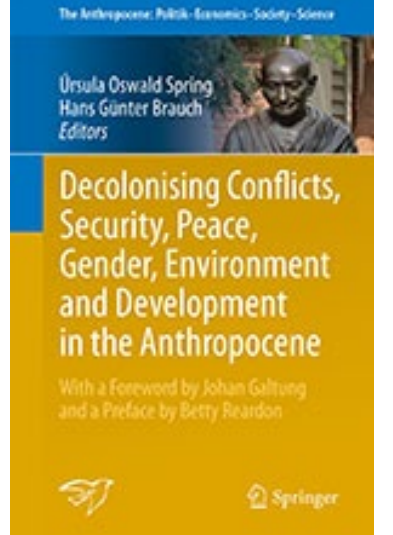
*Friedensforschung in Skandinavien. Informationen, Material, kritische Reflexionen. Bericht über eine Exkursion, Mai 1969 der "Arbeitsgemeinschaft Friedensforschung". von [Gerhard Bräunling Reinhard Hermle u. a. Günter Brauch](#) Verlag: [München, DFG-IDK](#),*

Since then I met Johan Galtung often at conferences of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA) for the last time in person at the IPRA conference in 2014 in Istanbul and the last time I talked to him on the phone was to congratulate him for his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 24 October 2020.



I published a pioneer volume presented by Dietrich Fischer (2013) on *Johan Galtung: Pioneer of Peace Research*. He wrote a preface to a volume I co-edited with Ursula Oswald Spring in 2001: *Decolonising Conflicts, Security, Peace, Gender, Environment and Development in the Anthropocene* with selected peer reviewed texts for the 27<sup>th</sup> IPRA Conference in Ahmedabad, Gujarat (India) where Mahatma Gandhi was born.

	<p><b>Vol 5</b> Vol. 5: Johan Galtung: <i>Pioneer of Peace Research</i>. SpringerBriefs on Pioneers in Science and Practice No. 5 – presented by Dietrich Fischer (Heidelberg – New York – Dordrecht – London: Springer, 2013).</p> <p>ISBN (Print): 978-3-642-32480-2 ISBN (Online/eBook): 978-3-642-32481-9 DOI: 10.1007/978-3-642-32481-9</p> <p><a href="#">More on this book</a> <a href="#">Order Form/Product Flyer</a> (Please download there) <a href="#">Order this book on the Springer Website</a> Order electronic version and individual chapters</p>
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<p>Úrsula Oswald Spring, Hans Günter Brauch (Eds.): <i>Decolonising Conflicts, Security, Peace, Gender, Environment and Development in the Anthropocene</i> (Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2021).</p> <p>ISBN: 978-3-030-62315-9 (Softcover)  ISBN: 978-3-030-62316-6 (EBook)  Doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-62316-6_ (add chapter no.)</p> <p><a href="#">Order this book on Springer Website</a></p>	<p><b>APESS Vol 30</b></p>	
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During my early years Johan Galtung and Dieter Senghaas were the two peace researchers that have influenced my own thinking and writing significantly when I focused on armament, arms control and disarmament policies in the context of confidence building measures and confidence building defence during the 1980s and turned to international environment policy and global environment policy and on anthropogenic climate change during the 1990s, on security and environment in the Mediterranean thereafter, as well as on reconceptualising security and on issues related to the Anthropocene. I did not share his political projections for the two superpowers and on Israel nor was I involved in his activities with TRANSCEND he established in 1993.

In December 1964 Johan Galtung was with John W. Burton a cofounder of IPRA in London and since IPRA's first biannual meeting in Groningen (1965). However, he was never Secretary General or President of IPRA but he has inspired many IPRA conferences, meetings, workshops and brainstormings around the globe with his intellectual contributions and critical political comments. With his key paper, "Violence, Peace and Peace Research", he presented his theory of the Conflict Triangle, a framework used in the study of peace and conflict, with the purpose of defining the three key elements of violence that form this "triangle."

**Hans Günter Brauch, Mosbach, 26 February 2024**

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