Acknowledgment

During the last week of May of 2014, inside the unforeseeable climate of Bogotá, Colombia (where you can frequently experience the four seasons in only one day and experience contradictory environments of peace and war), a remarkable academic discussion took place that also ended up in a fruitful process of consolidation of social ties.

The Rosario University was the host, and its Faculty of Political Science and Government held the workshop-conference on Realistic Peace and Turbulent Transitions. The successful organization of this seminal debate was the result of the joint efforts of the Rosario University and the Felsberg Institute for Education and Academic Research (FIBW) with additional support from the Colombian Organizations Icetex, Corpovisiónarios and the Colombian Agency for Reintegration (ACR-Agencia Colombiana de Reintegración).

One of the most important attainments of this academic event was the encounter of numerous scholars, representing a wide variety of academic disciplines such as law, philosophy, economy, anthropology, history and sociology, among others, and carrying very singular experiences on social and political conflict from different parts of the world. Since the researchers know conflictive situations in determinate places and historical moments very well, the cases like Cambodia, Colombia, Eritrea, Germany, Iraq, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Syria, and Sudan were deeply discussed. Half of the participants are members of the International Consortium for Research on Violence-ICRoV (founded in Erbil, Iraq, in December 2013) and the other half were local professors and researchers who work in Colombian institutions.

The derived project of our mentioned event in Bogotá is the collective handbook of research on transitional justice and peace building in turbulent regions. The aggregated value of this academic product is the mixture of different points of view (different disciplines, varied analysis of conflict in dissimilar places and times) with a common denominator: how to promote processes of transitional justice and peace building in societies that suffer from endemic violence?

We are very grateful with the academic and managerial leaders and responsible persons that provided generous and opportune help. Of course, we are indebted with the academic participants of this collective effort (the authors and referees and my research assistant, Nathalie Mezza-Garcia), because of their responsibility and commitment to attain an optimal academic product. Finally we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the members of IGI GLOBAL disseminator of knowledge because their important contribution in the quality of this new handbook.