



# Research Partnership Principles

The John Parke Young Initiative on the Global Political Economy is dedicated to forming collaborative, respectful, people-centered, and self-reflective research partnerships with community groups, non-governmental organizations, government bodies, and regional and international organizations. Our efforts to create authentic and reciprocal partnerships that address the intersections of local and global problems are based on an ethical commitment to research processes informed by the following four principles:

## 1. Collaboration Grounded in Long-Term Partnerships

A commitment to engage collaboratively and respectfully with all those with a stake in research projects in order to develop lasting partnerships that produce effective outcomes. These partnerships must aim to be productive for the communities they impact and, thus, responsive to these communities' long-term needs rather than based in the short-term goals of researchers.

## 2. Horizontal Leadership Informed by Respect for Partner Expertise

A commitment to cultivate research relationships based on non-hierarchical leadership in order to foster a trusting environment and mutual learning between academic researchers and partners, be those partners community members, civil society organizations, or governing entities. Project ideas can originate from a variety of sources, but project design and outcomes must not be predetermined but rather developed in full consultation with all partners at their earliest stages in a manner that recognizes power relationships and challenges any explicit and implicit hierarchies.

## 3. An Empathetic Research Culture

A commitment to base research projects in people-centered approaches grounded in respectful relationships between researchers and partners. Research processes should be flexible in response to partner needs and focus on equitably developing capacity and shared learning among all partners. We are emphatically and consciously committed to avoiding potential harms both to research subjects and to research partners. The aim is not research for its own sake. Rather we seek to generate processes and deliverables in solidarity with partners that have positive impacts for all participants with research protocols and results that are widely and transparently available.

## 4. Intellectually Open and Self-Reflective Scholarship

A commitment to ground research in academic excellence that is understood as being constituted by disciplinary openness and critical reflection. Ideas from multiple disciplines and expertise from many different spheres are relevant to the methods, processes, and goals of research partnerships. Participating researchers must be self-reflective and ask critical questions about how to bring greater depth and relevance to research partnerships.