

**ADVOCACYNET 365**  
July 22, 2021

## Peace Fellows Reflect on International Service During the Pandemic

*[Excerpts from the summer blogs](#)*



Thirteen students - undergraduates and graduates - are working at The Advocacy Project this summer and providing back-up to our community-based partners in the Global South. They include Jeremiah Gatlin from the Fletcher School at Tufts University, seen above in Senegal. This digest offers excerpts from their blogs. We encourage you to check out their great work and leave a comment! [Read more about our 2021 fellowship program and donate on GlobalGiving.](#)



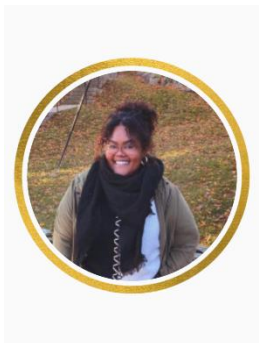
### **[Ryan Pham: On Being Asian in America](#)**

Ryan reacts to being perceived as a "perpetual foreigner" in the US at a time when hate crimes are on the rise against Asian American Pacific Islander communities. Ryan is supporting a start-up for River Gypsies in Bangladesh. Read more [here](#).



### **[Saliha Gozel: Start of an Exciting Journey](#)**

Saliha breaks down the challenge of providing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Africa. Saliha, a graduate student at Georgetown University, is supporting two WASH projects in Gulu, Uganda and researching the roll-out of vaccines in the Global South. Read more [here](#).



### **[Miriam Correia: Finding My Place in the World](#)**

Miriam describes her experience as a first generation Cape Verdean-American. Miriam is designing a catalogue of embroidered COVID stories from the US, Zimbabwe, Nepal and Kenya as part of a global initiative by AP to provide a creative outlet for pandemic frustrations. Read more [here](#).



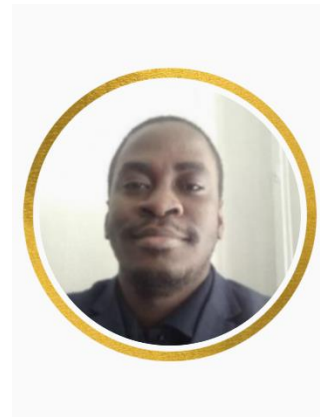
***Anna Braverman: The Antidote to COVID-19***

Anna argues that vaccine patents should be waived so that the Global South can produce vaccines and reduce dependency on handouts from the North. Anna is working with AP partners in Gulu, Uganda. Only 2% of Ugandans have been vaccinated. Read more [here](#).



***Jeremiah Gatlin: "Barcelona or Death"***

Jeremiah is working in Senegal with former migrants who risked their lives to reach Europe, but returned frustrated. His blog describes some of the pressure on young Senegalese to leave the country and explains why they will not give up. Read more [here](#).



***Matthew Nyanplu: Stigma Persists for Ebola Survivors***

Seven years after the Ebola outbreak ended in Liberia, survivors are derided for having "small brains" and suffer from other forms of extreme prejudice. Matthew is helping a group of Liberian survivors tell their story through embroidery. Read more [here](#).



### ***Sarina Maini: Are We Really at the End of the Pandemic?***

As infections rise sharply in the Global South, Sarina criticizes the response from northern governments and their inability to speed up the supply of vaccines. Sarina is supporting a program to help girls in Zimbabwe escape early marriage. Read more [here](#).



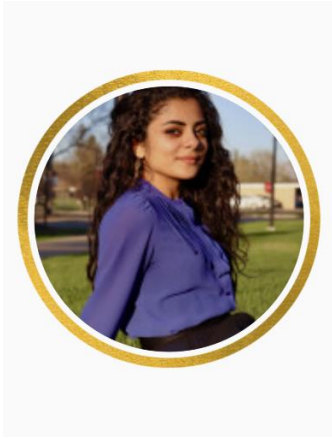
### ***Savannah Kopp: Conservation or Colonialism?***

Conservation is getting a boost from climate change and environmental degradation, but Savannah concludes that a better approach might be to listen more to indigenous communities. Savannah is researching climate change and conflict for [Children Peace Initiative Kenya](#). Read more [here](#).



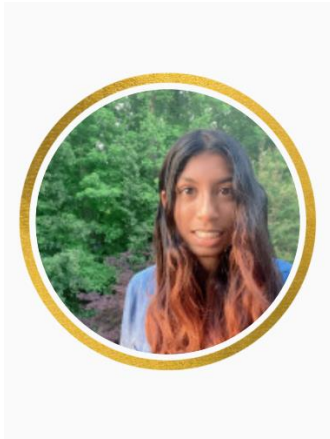
### ***Beliz Aluc: Hail to the Worms***

Beliz, a Turkish national, is supporting an innovative composting start-up that has been launched by the Tandaza Trust in the informal settlement of Kibera, Nairobi, with AP's help. Beliz, a Turkish national, is also backing up Matthew in Liberia. Read more [here](#).



**[Avyan Mejdeen: My Forced Marriage](#)**

Avyan recounts her deeply traumatic experience of forced marriage and calls for more action to stop the practice worldwide. Avyan is helping the Albinism Society of Kenya to tell its story through embroidery and providing back-up for Jeremiah in Senegal. Read more [here.](#)



**[Nina Thakur: Georgia and Critical Race Theory](#)**

Nina, a Rising Junior at High School in Georgia, warns that Georgia's controversial ban on the teaching of Critical Race Theory in schools will exacerbate racial inequalities. Nina is leading a team to make *Clean Girl* soap in support of the WAP girls in Zimbabwe. Read more [here.](#)



**[Prabal Thapa: Share Your Spare Vaccines](#)**

Prabal, a Nepali national, has been unable to leave the US because of a devastating spike in infections in Nepal. He compares his own experience - he has been vaccinated - with the lack of vaccines reaching Nepal. Prabal is supporting a start-up in Nepal to fortify 60 villages against COVID. Read more [here.](#)

***This digest was written and designed by Peace Fellow [Savannah Kopp](#), a student at the University of Maryland.***



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