

Global Campaign for Peace Education

Worldwide Activities Brief

Issue #21 April 2005

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Hague Appeal Highlights

Hague Appeal announces two forthcoming books this summer. *Peace and Disarmament Education: Changing Mindsets in Albania, Cambodia, Niger and Peru*. It is the story of partnership between the Hague Appeal for Peace (HAP) and the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs. It describes what we did, how we did it, and the successes which can be replicated in other countries.

Peace Lessons from Around the World is a collection of peace lesson plans that have worked in 15 countries. They are geared to help us move from a culture of violence to a culture of peace, in the family, the school, the community and the world. The book follows the framework of the *Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice in the 21st Century*. Please look for announcements on availability of both books in upcoming newsletters.

GCPE News from the Field

INDIA

Leban Serto reports:

Just yesterday I got this news about Peace Education in India. The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in India is finally making a move for peace education. The first government sponsored teacher training workshop will be held for 30 school teachers from June 6 to July 15, 2005. Maria Delia who participated in the International Institute for Peace Education (IIPE) 2000 will be taking part in the curriculum development workshop (18th April 2005) at New Delhi, to incorporate peace studies in student curriculum for the year 2006.

In peace, Leban Serto

ITALY

Werner Wintersteiner, member of the GCPE International Advisory Committee participated at the *Idea for Peace* conference in Udine University in Italy. The conference (April 13 – 15, 2005), organized by the Faculty of Archive and Documentation Science of the Udine University, together with the Austrian Library Association Udine, presented a composite panel of academics, peace researchers, contributions from the civil society and an active participation among the public of school teachers engaged in peace projects at their schools. This blending of different components made up a unique cultural event, since the Italian approach tends to keep the academic separated from the non-academic work. This contact and co-operation between otherwise distinct realities made the event particularly fruitful for all participants.

The initiative was tri-national, including Austria and Slovenia, a region known for war and tension. President Janez Drnovšek of the Slovenian Republic gave his support and an initiative was launched for a common history textbook (Italian-Austrian-Slovenian) developed by a group of historians of different universities in the area. The next step will be to set up a structure for Peace Research and Education at the University of Udine, similar to the one in Klagenfurt, where Dr. Wintersteiner directs the program. This will be inaugurated in May, 2005.

USA

Judge Christopher G. Weeramantry at the Hague Appeal for Peace in New York

"International Law is a way of preserving peace. It is a precious possession." Judge Christopher G. Weeramantry

Judge Weeramantry addressed a gathering of 50 educators, lawyers, and peace activists on, *International Law and Peace Education*. He offered a rationale for why and how international law can be integrated into curricula for children from as early as the age of four.

In 1899 at the Hague Conference, a century of peace was envisioned. The conference brought together people from seats of power, philosophy and the peace movement. Instead it became the bloodiest century in history. But, said the judge, we have another chance. For the first time human beings have the power to destroy all life. No other century has seen such power. If we botch it, we will not have another chance. We face a tussle between the rule of force and rule of law. We have a chance to replace the rule of force with the rule of law.

How do we educate the next generation for a just world order? Will the children be citizens of the country or of the world? We need to move from a system of passive coexistence to a system of active cooperation. Children can be introduced to the rules of the constitution to overcome the feeling that international law is an arcane mystery for the few. International law is based on the basic principles on love, forgiveness, and the peaceful settlements for disputes. Children can learn about the need to conserve our limited resources, that an individual counts, and that international law can be linked to every subject including history, geography, literature and the sciences.

Judge Weeramantry's lesson on international law for students will appear in the forthcoming *Peace Lessons from Around the World*. Robert Boehm, lawyer and supporter of the Hague Appeal, asked the judge, "how do we influence our governments in turning away from war", to which the Judge responded, "Quote former United States Presidents such as Roosevelt or Eisenhower, for their wisdom on peace, war and justice."

Kathleen Tordini, Program Director for the Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE), has been conducting a series of peace education workshops with 12-18 year olds in New York and with youth ministries from Tennessee and Illinois who come to visit the UN. She has been using lesson plans developed for the upcoming Hague Appeal for Peace curriculum, *Peace Lessons from Around the World*, as a guide for each workshop. Announcements of the availability of *Peace Lessons from Around the World* will be appear in upcoming e-newsletters.

After students listen to presentations on world issues i.e., the Middle East and Darfur, there is a need to process the information they have received. "In my workshops, I encourage students to think critically on

these current issues, reflect on the relationship of these issues to violence, peace and everyday life and brainstorm plans of action for positive change," Kathleen says. "It is invigorating to bring the lessons to life and nurture an insatiable curiosity in youth. They love to debate which demonstrates the effectiveness of the lessons. After only 1.5 - 2 hour workshops, it is sometimes hard to leave these promising young people. It is satisfying, however, to know through follow up emails that their conversations continue about what they can do to make a difference."

On March 17, 2005, **Admiral Ramu Ramdas**, member of the HAP's Advisory Board addressed the symposium, *India: The Future is Now* at the Asia Society in New York. He spoke of the need for a people to people approach in dealing with relations with neighboring countries and said that war was an obsolete foreign policy method. Lalita Ramdas of the GCPE International Advisory Committee was also here.

The Philadelphia Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY) is involved in supporting an initiative by the School District of Philadelphia for a new small public high school with the theme of peace and conflict resolution. The past 8 months was spent in developing a school design, organizing materials and resources which the school could access and meeting with staff and students. PCCY will partner with a local mediation program to develop a new course for all students that will deal with conflict resolution and leadership skills on a personal level, and are creating a class for 9th graders that will begin the process of being able to analyze problems they recognize in their lives and find solutions through connections with community and other organizations.

The Hague Appeal for Peace commends Dennis Barnebey of the PCCY for this wonderful initiative to bring together a community and to integrate peace education into the school curricula. For more information on this program and to support Dennis Barnebey in his efforts please email him at : dennisb@pccy.org or visit <http://www.pccy.org/>

CONFERENCES and EVENTS

Hiroshima and Nagasaki for College Teachers

June 27 – July 1, 2005
Bloomington Illinois, USA

This course is offered by Illinois Wesleyan University to college teachers and professors. For conference details and more information please visit <http://titan.iwu.edu/~physics/Hiroshima.html> or contact Raymond Wilson, Emeritus Associate Professor of Physics, at Tel: +1.309.556.3176

Peace as a Global Language

August 5 – 6, 2005
Chiang Mai University
Chiang Mai, Thailand

FREE FOR ALL PRESENTERS AND PARTICIPANTS.

Chiang Mai University invites educators, students, activists and others interested in peace and global studies to submit presentation proposals. We especially welcome presentations that include innovative teaching/learning approaches developed on one or more of the following general themes • Education • Government/policy • Peace/security • Environment • Health • Global issues •

Gender • Human rights • Alternative Education • Multicultural Issues • Teaching/learning Issues • International Relations • Comparative Studies • Ethnic Minorities

Session formats include, but are not limited to; panel discussions, workshops, research presentations, slide/video shows, and poster sessions. Submissions which indicate progressive presentations methods are encouraged. Also, please be aware that all presentations must be in English.

All submissions should be sent by e-mail to: cmu_peace_conference@yahoo.com Submissions may be sent as text in the body of the email or attachments in Microsoft Word. Deadline for submissions: **May 6, 2005**; Notification of Decision by email: May 27, 2005. For further details please visit <http://www.soc.cmu.ac.th/~peace48/index.html>

PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Peace Brigades International –Indonesia Project Volunteer Opportunity

The Peace Brigades International (PBI) Indonesia Project is creating a Peace Education sub-team. This new team will consist of Indonesian and International volunteers and will work in conjunction with the Peace Education Coordinator and sub-committee to develop and carry out PBI PE programs. Their focus will be on coordinating and carrying out Peace Building and Conflict Transformation workshops and other Peace Education activities. They will work throughout Indonesia.

Applicants should have: Excellent Bahasa Indonesian and English language skills, both written and verbal; Training skills (knowledge on methodologies) and experience; Knowledge of Peace Building and Nonviolence (physical, structural and cultural); Ability to live in a group environment; Commitment to work for an 18 months period; Excellent interpersonal skills. Applicants should be at least 25 years old (younger applicants with good experience may be considered)

Applications are accepted by completing the application and reference forms, which are available by sending a short email to PBI_IP_peaceed@yahoo.com or online at <http://www.peacebrigades.org/>.
Deadline for Applications: **May 20, 2005**.

U.S. in the World: A Global Citizenship Initiative for Young People

Global Kids is pleased to announce *U.S. in the World: A Global Citizenship Initiative for Young People*, a new initiative for young leaders that will be launched this summer. This year-long program will begin with a three-week Summer Institute at the Council on Foreign Relations for twenty-five to thirty high school and college students. The program will culminate in a student project designed to engage hundreds of other young people in informed and respectful dialogue about the role of the U.S. in the world. Students will receive stipends for their participation.

As part of the summer program, students will interact with leading experts on global issues, engage in leadership-development activities, and make use of the vast array of global resources that New York City has to offer. The summer program will take place from July 11 until July 29, 2005. The deadline is **May 26, 2005**.

For more information please visit: <http://www.globalkids.org/updates/042805/USinWorld/poster.pdf>

The application can be downloaded:

<http://www.globalkids.org/updates/042805/USinWorld/application.doc>

For more information on *U.S. in the World: A Global Citizenship Initiative for Young People*, please contact Shana Jalbert at Global Kids at (212) 226-0130 or shana@globalkids.org.

PEACE EDUCATION RESOURCES

Armageddon or Brave New World: Reflections on the hostilities in Iraq

Judge Christopher G. Weeramantry

Second Edition, March 2005

Published by Vishva Lekha Printers, Sri Lanka

This revised edition is a publication of the Weeramantry International Center for Peace Education and Research. The book highlights the numerous violations of international law involved in the invasion of Iraq. The book, divided in three parts, offers a refreshing reminder of the importance of international law and the implications of its violations on the world. ISBN 955-599-324-5

Founded in 1999, the Hague Appeal for Peace Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE), is an international network which promotes peace education among schools, families and communities to transform the culture of violence into a culture of peace. Over 140 organizations worldwide have endorsed the GCPE.

Peace education is a holistic, participatory process that includes teaching for and about human rights, nonviolent responses to conflict, social and economic justice, gender equity, environmental sustainability, disarmament, international law, traditional peace practices and human security. The methodology of peace education encourages reflection, critical thinking, cooperation, and responsible action. It promotes multiculturalism, and is based on values of dignity, equality and respect. Peace education is intended to prepare students for democratic participation in schools and society.

The Global Campaign for Peace Education has two goals:

- To see peace education integrated into all curricula, community and family education worldwide to become a part of life
- To promote the education of all teachers to teach for peace.

The *Hague Appeal for Peace Global Campaign for Peace Education Worldwide Activities Brief* e-newsletter highlights how and where the GCPE network is active and growing. **Submissions are encouraged!** Please contribute how you are working for peace education including dates, locations, a brief description, and a website and/ or contact information and send it to sabrina@haguepeace.org. For more information on the Hague Appeal for Peace and to become an endorser of the GCPE visit www.haguepeace.org.

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