



Global Campaign for Peace Education

Worldwide Activities Brief, Issue # 25, September 2005

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We would like to express gratitude to our friend from Niger, Idi Cheffou, who translated the three books into French. It is available on our website (www.haguepeace.org) and we are happy to acknowledge that it has already been read and will hopefully serve its cause in Ivory Coast and Congo. Maud Edgren-Schori reported: "I talked yesterday to Angelica Domato, Chief of the Gender unit at ONUCI (Ivory Coast), about the possibility of elaborating a project on '*learning how to teach peace*'. She was enthusiastic." Kathleen Tordini, former director of our Global Campaign for Peace Education

has declared, talking about her friend from the Democratic Republic of Congo: “ Viviane was so happy about receiving this document, she came in and told me she was up past 1:00am reading! ... what a valuable piece of work to be able to comprehend the sense of peace education from her native language.”. It has also been confirmed that a Japanese translation is ready and will be published in November in Japan. We are hoping to make it available online very soon.

Speaking of translation, let us remind you that we welcome any volunteer who can translate any of our resources in various languages so more peace educators around the world can use it.

Teacher Training in Agadez, Niger: Report by Idi Cheffou

Idi Cheffou reports: “We are about to go to Agadez for the training of 45 teachers in peace education. The teachers are from the city of Agadez, from private and public elementary and secondary schools (children age 10 to 16 years old). The inspectors and pedagogic supervisors of these schools will get trained too, as they are the ones who ensure follow up in case we are not around. They are supposed to help the struggling teachers in imparting the peace lessons. Agadez is located in the North in the Sahara desert where the armed rebellion of 1990-1995 broke. The Tuaregs are the Sahara dwellers. We look forward to devising a curriculum in the form of pictures and drawings for younger kids (grades 1 through 3). The Ministry of Basic Education and Literacy and the Ministry of Secondary and Higher Education will forward letters to the regional officials to ask them to prepare everything for us, so the government is involved in all our proceedings.”

Idi Cheffou was the National Coordinator of our two year partnership project with the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs in Niger. You can read about this successful project in Peace and Disarmament Education, available at: <http://www.haguepeace.org/index.php?action=resources>

Idi is the National Coordinator of ‘Education and Peace for Development’ (Niger) and may be contacted at: cheffou_idi@yahoo.fr

Cultivating Wisdom, Harvesting Peace: Summary of Recommendations

The International Symposium on « *Cultivating Wisdom, Harvesting Peace: Educating for a Culture of Peace through Values, Virtues, and Spirituality of Diverse Cultures, Faiths, and Civilizations* » was held on August 10-13, 2005 at the Multi-Faith Centre of Griffith University in Australia. This event was co-sponsored by UNESCO and the outcome document (see attachment) is described by Swee-Hin, Director of the Multi-Faith Centre, as: “Rather than a brief general list of selected ideas and recommendations, we have decided instead to prepare a rapporteur's summary that provides some detail on the recommendations, so that there is enough substantive content that can guide specific policy changes and actions.” The opening lines stipulate: “It is now widely acknowledged that education plays an indispensable role in a worldwide effort to build a more peaceful world.

Communities, institutions, civil society organizations, and international or global agencies have organized educational projects and programs to address the root causes of violence and conflicts and build a world based on principles and values of active non-violence, justice, human rights, inter-cultural respect and reconciliation, sustainability, and inner peace.”

To read this report, please open the attachment and if you have any comments, you can write to Dr. Virginia F. Cawagas at v.cawagas@griffith.edu.au or vcawagas@hotmail.com

Natural Disasters and the Institution of War, Solidarity and Reflection by Manuel Dios Diz

Manuel Dios Diz wrote the following inspiring lines: “I want to send, in my own name and in that of the *Seminario Galego de Educación para la Paz - Foundation Culture of Peace in Galicia*, our support and solidarity, our spirit and affection, in these moments of pain which are the consequences of the catastrophe produced by the hurricane Katrina in the south of the United States. Today more than ever, we never suffer the consequences of being prepared for war and of not being prepared to face the

uncontrolled forces of the nature. It must make us conclude that to abolish war and to really prepare ourselves for peace is the most important priority of Humanity.”

Manuel Dios Diz is President of the Galician College on Education for Peace and Director of the Culture of Peace Foundation in Galicia, Spain.

E-mail: paz@sgep.org; Website: www.sgep.org

Congratulations Amada Benavides de Pérez on your appointment to the Working Group on the uses of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights

We would like to congratulate Amada who has been appointed by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Office as a member of the ‘working group on the uses of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination’. If you are interested in the subject, check the most recent resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly on August 31, 2005 (A/60/319):

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/476/85/PDF/N0547685.pdf?OpenElement>

To learn more about the OHCHR (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) and their activities, visit: <http://www.ohchr.org/english/>

Amada Benavides de Pérez works at the Peace Schools Foundation (Fundacion Escuelas de Paz) in Bogotá, Colombia. The foundation was initiated in 1997 to promote the Culture of Peace and Amada is a member of our International Advisory Committee, she may be contacted at: relint@lycos.com

Right Livelihoods Award and 1000 Women for Nobel Peace Prize

The "Right Livelihoods Award" honored, among others, two of the 1000 Women nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. Maude Barlow from Canada was awarded for her engagement against water privatization and right to access water for everyone and Irene Fernandez from Malaysia for her fight against violence against women and the exploitation of migrant workers.

The "Right Livelihood Award," which is often referred to as the "Alternative Nobel Prize", has been given to more than 100 activists from 48 countries since it was founded in 1980 by Jakob von Uexkull, a Swedish-German stamp collector who sold his collection, worth about a million dollars, to finance the award. Its past recipients include the 2004 Nobel Peace laureate and Kenyan environmentalist, Wangari Maathai, as well as Ken Saro-Wiwa. Winners of the award should be engaged in work that "fully respects other people and the natural world" and that involves some "personal sacrifice".

Final Outcome Document of the World Summit 2005 and the Culture of Peace

The final outcome document of the *2005 World Summit Millennium +5* includes the two following articles about the Culture of Peace:

Art. 144. “We reaffirm the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace as well as the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations and its Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly and the value of different initiatives on dialogue among cultures and civilizations, including the dialogue on interfaith cooperation. We commit ourselves to taking action to promote a culture of peace and dialogue at the local, national, regional and international levels and request the Secretary-General to explore enhancing implementation mechanisms and to follow up on those initiatives. In this regard, we also welcome the Alliance of Civilizations initiative announced by the Secretary-General on 14 July 2005.”

Art. 145. “We underline that sports can foster peace and development and can contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, and we encourage discussions in the General Assembly for proposals leading to a plan of action on sport and development.”

To read the 40-page final document issued on September 15, 2005, go to:

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/N05/511/30/PDF/N0551130.pdf?OpenElement>

Disappointment at the World Summit 2005: *Small Arms Issues, Action Against Poverty*

IANSAs reports: "Governments at the World Summit have failed to promise negotiations on an agreement regulating the small arms trade... An earlier draft of the summit outcome document represented some progress towards an international Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and a legally binding agreement controlling arms brokers. The US proposed huge cuts in the draft agreement on many issues, and in the following frantic negotiations the opportunity to make progress on reducing gun violence was lost."

For more information go to: <http://www.iansa.org/un/world-summit-2005.htm>

Global Call to Action Against Poverty stated: "... at the UN World Summit the leaders of the world sidestepped their responsibility to lead the fight against global poverty. While some progress was made on gender, peace and security, there were no new commitments on debt and aid, and things have actually slipped backwards on trade."

To read more, go to: <http://www.whiteband.org/specialIssues/UNP5/NewsListingUNP5/en>

Disappointment was voiced not only by civil society but also by countries leaders and representatives, such as the Canadian Prime Minister, Paul Martin: "I cannot disguise our profound disappointment that we were not able to agree at this summit on all of the elements required to make it operational" (Associated Press).

Indeed, the final document represented the lowest common denominator that all countries could agree on after months of negotiations. The most significant planks in the final document might be the creation of a new Peacebuilding Commission (Art. 97-105).

Disarmament in Colombia, 13,500 weapons destroyed and more to come!

IANSAs disclosed that 13,500 weapons were thrown into an electric oven and destroyed on September 15 at Sogamoso (Boyacá), Colombia. Organised by the military and the 'Vida Sagrada y Desarme' programme, the melted guns will be used to create agricultural tools and peace monuments. Another 250 000 weapons are waiting to be destroyed in the near future.

More information at <http://www.ariansa.net/noticias.htm>

Coming Events

International Peace Education Conference: June 25-27, 2006

The British Columbia Teachers' Federation is organizing an International Peace Education Conference from June 25-27 in Vancouver, Canada. This conference is part of the World Peace Forum which will be held in Vancouver from June 23-28, 2006. Educators working for peace from all over the world are encouraged to submit proposals to present at this international conference. It promises to be an outstanding opportunity to discuss and share peace education organizing strategies, teaching programs, activities and methodologies and to network for further action.

A request for proposals can be found at <http://www.bctf.ca/social/WorldPeace/RFP.html>

For information about the World Peace Forum go to: www.worldpeaceforum.ca

World March of Women, 24 Hours of Feminist Solidarity: October 17, 2005

The World March of Women is a global feminist action network supported by close to 6,000 women's groups in 163 countries and territories throughout the world. Its primary objective is to fight poverty and violence against women. The World Relay of the World March of Women has been circling the planet since March 8, 2005. On October 17 it will end in Burkina Faso, after having passed through

some 50 countries. On that same day, women around the world will all be linked by a chain of actions, in pursuit of the sun, for 24 hours of feminist solidarity.

To join the World March of Women go to: www.worldmarchofwomen.org

E-mail contact: info@marchemondiale.org

For more information on October 17 Event please contact: 24hrs2005@gmail.com

You can also follow the 24-hours-relay's progress online at: <http://mmf.lecarrefour.org>

First Isabela Youth Peace Festival; Isabela, Philippines: October 28-30, 2005

This Peace Festival aims at empowering the youth as agents of peace and reconciliation. It is organized by the Institute of Reconciliation, which was established by the Missionaries of *Our Lady of La Salette* in 2004 to promote and advocate reconciliation. The Institute provides the structure to train people in conflict transformation and reconciliation by educating, training, conducting workshops and seminars, counseling, retreating and networking with universities, colleges, schools and divers organizations.

To learn more about the Institute, visit: <http://instituteofreconciliation.org/Index.html>

For information about the festival please contact: ellisluciano@gmail.com

Toward a New World Order, Global Symposium, Lucknow City, India: Dec 10-14, 2005

This Global Symposium is inspired by the book "*You can Change the World*" written by Professor Ervin Laszlo, Founder-President, Club of Budapest. It will therefore examine the causes behind the threats the planet is facing today – from global terrorism to global warming – in order to discover real solutions at all levels. 230 participants from 65 countries have already confirmed their participation. Nobel Laureate Wangari Mathai is considering the inauguration this Global Symposium. You can contribute with innovative ideas and experiences to articulate a vision for the future that recognizes the fundamental interdependence of humanity and suggests ways to move forward for a New World Order. The online registration has closed on September 15, 2005 but as they are still receiving requests for participation, they decided to keep it open.

For application and details about the program go to: <http://www.cmseducation.org/symposium/>

Voices of Africa, International Conference, Potchestroom, South Africa, March 6-9, 2006: A call for Papers

The International Association of University Presidents (IAUP), the United Nations Commission on Disarmament Education, 'Conflict Resolution and Peace' and North West University (South Africa) are sponsoring this international conference for peace, which is supported by UNESCO funding. The conference invites scholars and researchers from around the world to explore and identify the various "voices for peace" on the African continent. The Conference objective is to elaborate on why and how movements towards peace are effectively happening on the continent and to what extent a new diplomacy of cooperation among African nations as well as international involvement are creating opportunities for peace and subsequent development in Africa.

Participants are encouraged to present a paper on one of the following themes: disarmament education, conflict resolution and peace in the African context. Papers on peace studies and initiatives in African higher education are also welcomed. The paper should be no longer than forty minutes and submitted by December 20, 2005. Accepted speakers will be notified no later than January 20, 2006.

To submit your paper: Coneill@holyfamily.edu

Courses, Workshops and Training Programs

TRANSCEND-PATRIR Workshops and Training Programs, Cluj-Napoca, Romania: Oct 10-15, Oct 31-Nov 4, Nov 7-11, 2005

TRANSCEND is an international peace and development organization for conflict transformation by peaceful means. PATRIR is a Romanian Institute for Peace.

These programs are intensive experiential learning intended for peace activists, NGO's and INGO's workers, trainers, teachers, advisers and consultants, students, and women and men who would like to learn more about these issues.

Gender and militarism; Oct 10-15, 2005

This course will include basic introduction to gender studies, analyzing the complex relationship between gender, social constructions and gender, race and class privileges. It will explore the interdependency between gender and power, focusing on the theory and practices of gender roles in different societies. The direct connection between militarism and the system of war, and gender based violence, gender based societal positions and violence-oriented societies, will be demonstrated through examples from the Middle East, South East Asia, and Western and Eastern Europe, with an emphasis on the Balkans and the United States.

Contact Person: Cristina Muresan, gender@transcend.org

Peacebuilding, Conflict Transformation and Post-War Rebuilding, Reconciliation and Resolution; Oct 31- Nov 4, 2005

Using the TRANSCEND Method for Conflict Transformation by Peaceful Means (adopted as a training manual by the United Nations), this program will explore all three phases of violence and war - pre-violence, violence, post-violence - and what can be done: to transform unresolved conflicts, for war to peace transitions, to empower communities, organizations, and individuals for conflict transformation and peacebuilding, to design and implement effective cease-fire and peace processes, and to develop effective policy responses and programmes for conflict transformation and post-war reconstruction, rehabilitation, reconciliation, and healing.

Contact Person: Andra Tanase, training@transcend.org

Designing Peacebuilding Interventions and Conflict Transformation Programmes; Nov 7-11, 2005

By providing participants with examples of best practices, and a wide range of practical skills – such as strategic planning, project development or integrated approach skills - the programme has been specifically designed to assist organizations at developing and/or implementing programmes in peacebuilding and conflict transformation into the grass-roots, community and political levels.

Contact Person: Andra Tanase, dpi@transcend.org

For further information or to apply online, please go to: <http://www.transcend.org>

MA in Human Rights and Conflict Management: Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa, Italy

This Master's Programme was first held in the academic year 2002-03. It is oriented toward the preparation of professional profiles, who would like to take an active role in war-torn areas, in civil society-building projects, electoral monitoring missions and any action, which can possibly foster the protection and the promotion of human rights, and thus preventing a possible escalation of violence. The participation is now opened to foreign candidates and the class multicultural environment gives students a wider perspective.

For more information please visit: <http://humanrights.sssup.it>

**Human Dignity and Religious Diversity: Learning to Live with Difference,
Fordham University at Lincoln Center, New York, USA, Oct 21-22, 2005**

“This workshop, designed for educators, offers approaches to teaching about the peace and justice traditions of various religious faiths. The program will offer presentations on the peace precepts and principles of social justice and human dignity of several world religions practiced in the United States. Religious belief and identity are currently major divisive factors in global society. Violent conflicts between members of different religious groups rage in most world regions. Prejudice and discrimination impedes the realization of the full range of human rights, even in societies with long democratic traditions. In the United States religious misunderstandings and misinterpretations were not new problems at the outset of the “war on terrorism.” However, the general public ignorance of the multiple religious beliefs guiding people’s lives, and especially the lack of knowledge about religious teachings on peace and justice, have been socially costly and personally painful for persons and communities. Peace education seeks to overcome this lack of knowledge and understanding of the peace beliefs of our communities. This workshop is one of a number of such programs that have taken place in Japan, the Philippines, Korea and Lebanon. The workshop’s format and materials have been cooperatively developed by directors of peace education centers of the International Network of Peace Education Centers, established and coordinated by the Peace Education Center at Teachers College Columbia University.”

For information and registration, contact Dr. Leonisa Ardizzone: ardizzone@fordham.edu

**Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program,
Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand: July-September & January-April, 2006**

As part of its ongoing effort to promote world peace and international understanding, Rotary International is establishing a Rotary Center for Peace and Conflict Studies at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. Beginning in July 2006, the new center at Chulalongkorn University will pilot the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies program, a special three-month course in peace studies (twice a year), conflict resolution and mediation training aimed at middle and upper-level managers in governments, non-governmental organizations, and private corporations. 30 fellows will be accepted per session with about one third of the openings reserved for students from outside of Thailand.

For program details and to download applications, please see the website at:

<http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/rpcsp/index.html>

E-mail contact: bangkokpeacestudies@rotaryintl.org

Peace Resources

Human Development Report 2005 Available Online

“This year’s Human Development Report takes stock of human development, including progress towards the MDGs. Looking beyond statistics, it highlights the human costs of missed targets and broken promises. Extreme inequality between countries and within countries is identified as one of the main barriers to human development—and as a powerful brake on accelerated progress towards the MDGs.”

This report is an amazing source of statistics to understand human development and, you can read it online at: <http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/>

Role journalists could play in conflict transformation: Peacejournalism.com

“The peacejournalism.com is founded with a strong belief to educate people on conflict resolution and firmly believes that the role of the media is to raise voice against injustice.”

Here is a short extract of an article written by Dev Raj Dahal (Nepal):

“Journalists must know how conflict is constructed, what are the unseen motives, which sets the dynamics and what is the purpose behind its escalation... Media can pull together the ‘connectors of society’ so as to link different groups in the bonding. Peace building largely rests on training and peace education to journalist who can simplify the arcane language of experts, researchers and academics to make the message and information clear, precise and understandable to the ordinary public and create multiple spaces for peace.”

To read this article go to: <http://peacejournalism.com/ReadArticle.asp?ArticleID=5780>

Other articles are available at <http://peacejournalism.com/>

You may join the group server and circulate your own essay (already over 2250 members from around the world) at: <http://groups.google.com/group/peacejournalism>

Founded in 1999, the Hague Appeal for Peace Global Campaign for Peace Education (GCPE), is an international organized 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, 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 helene@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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