



Global Campaign for Peace Education

Worldwide Activities Brief, Issue # 26, October 2005

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HAP highlights and Peace Education News

Successful Youth Advocacy for the Culture of Peace

In 1999, the United Nations unanimously adopted the *Decade and Program of Action for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World* (UN Resolution A/53/243). In 2000, a group of Nobel Prize Peace Laureates developed the *Manifesto 2000*, which was signed by 75 million people and presented to the General Assembly. At the Mid-Decade, 3000 pages of information were submitted by 700 organizations from 100 countries describing their actions and progress to build a world culture of peace. A 12-page summary of this Civil Society Report was submitted to the UN, but has not yet been published.

From October 1-14, a youth advocacy team coordinated by Hilary Jeune (from UNOY) took the initiative to help civil society to be heard, urging countries to publish the report and to fulfill their commitments to implement the educational and cultural activities that were agreed as part of the agenda of the Decade. Thus, eight youth representatives from international academic, development and peace building NGOs from different countries came together in New York. They received advice and help from Alicia Cabezudo (Educating Cities), Cora Weiss (Hague Appeal for Peace) and David Adams (former UNESCO Decade Office and *Fundacion Cultura de Paz*, creator of the concept). In two weeks, they delivered the Report directly to 48 permanent UN missions and contacted an additional 69 about the Report. The Report was also made available to the missions at the United Nations during their plenary debate on October 20th.

As a result, the plenary debate of the United Nations, dedicated to the *International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World*, has strongly recognized the Civil Society Report, which was mentioned and quoted by many member state representatives during the session. The Hague Appeal for Peace was pleased to provide the team with a working space while advocating in New York and would like to express congratulations to the young and talented advocates, Hilary, Gert, Jo, Anika, Loredana, Elvira, Incia, and Fatim for an amazing work.

For further details on the Culture of Peace Decade, please refer to the following documents:
UN Resolution A/53/243, adopted in 1999: http://www3.unesco.org/iycp/kits/uk_res_243.pdf
Manifesto 2000 (available in six languages): <http://www3.unesco.org/manifesto2000/>
World Civil Society Report 2005: <http://www.unoy.org/downloads/4901.pdf>
Youth Advocacy Report 2005: <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/youth.html>
United Nations Plenary Debate last October 20th 2005 (Mid-Term Report of the Decade):
<http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/undebate/overview.html>

Fifth Anniversary of Security Council Resolution 1325

The Hague Appeal for Peace is a member of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, which organized a 10-day advocacy program on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of SCR 1325. The NGOWG was formed in May 2000 to successfully advocate for a UN Security Council Resolution (SCR) on women, peace and security. This was achieved collaboratively with the unanimous adoption of SCR 1325 on 31 October, 2000. Today the NGOWG advocates for and monitors the participation of women in decision making, conflict prevention and protection of all civilians, to ensure full and rapid implementation of SCR 1325's promises. This year, the NGOWG brought six amazing grassroots women from Iraq, Afghanistan, Cote d'Ivoire, Burundi, Burma and Colombia, to speak before the Security Council of the United Nations (Arria Formula and Open Debate).

The NGOWG has also published *From Local to Global, Making Peace Work for Women*, an alternative Civil Society Report that reviews the five years-on SCR 1325. The Report was distributed to UN member states and agencies, particularly to the members of the Security Council who managed to quote it during the Open Debate Session held on October 27. A series of panels, seminars, workshops, roundtables and other events were held, organized by the NGOWG, as well as UN agencies working on gender, such as UNIFEM, INSTRAW, DAW, DPKO, etc...

"Peacewomen" has translated resolution 1325 in 70 different languages and their website is all about 1325, check it: <http://www.peacewomen.org/wpsindex.html>.

To look through all the statements made by the diverse participants and member states, to view the UN Web cast of the Open Debate, to read the NGOWG Report, or for any other details about this fifth anniversary of SCR 1325, go directly to:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/5thAnniversary/5thAnniversaryindex.html#Top>

Using African Proverbs to Teach Peace, The Story of Viviane Nguimeya-Demefack, Cameroon

Viviane is a high school French teacher from Cameroon. She has been involved with *International Education Resource Network* as a Master Teacher, to collaborate on Internet-based projects with her students and other classes around the world. She is the president 'Association Femme pour la Femme' (AFEF), a women's organization and an active member of the Cameroonian French Teacher's Association. She has been very active in developing new teaching strategies that address the needs of African students while learning the French language. Her recent work involves exploring the use of African proverbs to teach peace, friendship, and respect. Viviane believes that proverbs can teach tolerance, peace and wisdom.

Viviane is currently a *Foreign Guest* at the *International Center for Tolerance Education* (ICTE) where she explores the ways in which African proverbs can help instill global values of peace, tolerance and respect. She plans to apply it in Cameroon and share her experience with other teachers. She also wants to create peace clubs in African high schools. Viviane made copies of *Learning To Abolish War* in French to bring back to Douala, where she will soon conduct a three-day teacher training course with ten core teachers who work with 4000 students.

You may contact Viviane at vivianenguimeya@yahoo.fr

Muslim-Jewish Youth Dialogue and *Learning To Abolish War* Manual

Kathleen Tordini, former Director of the Global Campaign for Peace Education reported that the Arabic version of *Learning To Abolish War* is in good hands with Houada Abadi, the Education Director of *Children of Abraham* (CoA). CoA is a program which facilitates dialogue and understanding among Muslim and Jewish youth, it is housed by the ITCE.

You can find more the "Children of Abraham" at: <http://www.children-of-abraham.org/>

2005 Nobel Peace Prize Announcement, Statement made by the 1000 Women Nobel Peace Nominees

"We the 1000 Women Nobel Peace Prize Nominees greet the announcement of the award of the 2005 Nobel Prize for Peace to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its Director General, Mohamed El Baradei with enthusiasm and hope. The award focuses attention on the urgent need to control, reduce, and with perseverance, to abolish these weapons of mass destruction. The potential use of these weapons threatens catastrophic destruction to humankind and the planet which

sustains it. Their development and testing have for decades wrought extreme destruction to human health and the environment. The role these weapons have played in the politics of war and peace have, as well, brought severe suffering the vulnerable peoples.

In light of the extremely disappointing outcomes of the recent UN Summit in regard to these weapons, the prize calls upon us to continue the struggle toward outlawing nuclear weapons as a step toward the abolition of war itself, the institution which continues to give rise to ever more devastating weapons. We call upon on all world citizens to join us in working toward these goals in the hope of human survival and the emergence of a culture of peace on planet Earth.

We regret, however, the double mandate which the U.N. has given to the IAEA, mainly both to control nuclear weapons and promote nuclear power. We find this a difficult and conflicting mandate, promotion leading directly to proliferation.

We especially bring to your attention the need to recognize the important role of women, who are so often the peace-makers, but who are also victims of atomic attacks. The UN Resolution 1325, on Women, Peace and Security, which is International Law, requires that the IAEA and all agencies to have women on all decision-making committees. Women were invisible today at the announcement by the Nobel Committee."

Youth Visits the United Nations (YVUN)

2005 is the third year of a great initiative by Montessori Schools in the USA and the Bahamas. Last week, 124 students (ages 12-15) and their chaperones were converging on New York City, specifically "to learn about the work of the United Nations as the world's peace table". Many of these students have earned the right to attend this conference academically and financially. The Hague Appeal for Peace was invited to speak about peace education and its Global Campaign, and other NGOs were invited to present their peace work as well.

According to Patricia Yonka, some of these former 'YVUN student ambassadors' have gone back to their schools and local communities and started grassroots projects in education. Others have presented at two American Montessori Society National Conferences, Boston'04 and Chicago '05. This is also planned for 2006 Houston Conference.

You may find general information on Montessori schools methods, resources and programs at:
<http://www.montessori.edu/>

Peace and Disarmament Education, from Niger to the Ivory Coast

Our partner from Niger, Idi Cheffou, reported: "I have the pleasure to inform you that I am presently in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire in a series of conferences on peace." In Yamoussoukro (October 24), the central theme was women's participation, and a workshop on '*Youth and the culture of peace*' took place after the women's debate. "I chaired the workshop with youth on the integration of peace and disarmament education in the formal, non-formal and informal sectors. The workshop turned out to be wonderful, as many know about our experiences in Niger with the UNDDA/Hague Appeal for Peace Project of Peace and Disarmament Education. Hundreds of people have been asking for a copy of our guides on peace and disarmament education in schools...We are having a meeting with ONUCI (United Nations Office to Cote D'Ivoire) to discuss the possibility to import our experiences to Cote d'Ivoire. I am excited to help with syllabus design and teacher training... I was in Agadez (Niger) as planned for a week this month, and we managed to train a good 45 teachers, including the inspectors and pedagogical advisors; the results were excellent. We have a bigger project with *UNDP Niger* to train more teachers in the regions of Agadez and Tahoua. It is part of the *Peace Consolidation Project*

that was officially launched this month and concerns DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration) of approximately 3,160 ex-combatants.”

You may contact Idi at cheffou_idi@yahoo.fr

Disappointment on the Brazil Gun Referendum

You may have heard the disappointing news, the Brazil gun referendum resulted in a 64% vote against banning the sale of guns. The question was: “should the commerce of small arms and ammunition be prohibited?” From an electoral college of over 122 million voters and about 18% abstentions, 64% answered NO and 36% YES. The Brazilian referendum was the first time any country has put its national gun laws to a popular vote. Brazil has the highest number of gun deaths in the world, around 38,000 a year (more than 100 a day). This is a higher rate than in many conflict zones. It is also the second largest producer of guns in the hemisphere.

Nevertheless, the YES-vote campaigners point out that the referendum was only one aspect of the 2003 *Disarmament Statute*, and they will be continuing to work hard to ensure that the existing restrictions are implemented and that the debate continues to develop. “The financial and marketing power of the gun lobby and the gun industry in Brazil won in the end,” said Rebecca Peters, Director of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA). “We are disappointed at this lost opportunity to take a dramatic stand against gun violence, but we know the country’s strict new guns laws will continue to help save lives.” Additionally, IANSA and its Brazilian colleagues have done a fantastic amount of media work, both before and since the result, and have been quoted extensively in the Brazilian and international press which helps a growing awareness.

For further information on IANSA, got to <http://www.iansa.org/>

Mayors for Peace and Nuclear Abolition

The joint statement by mayors and members of parliaments/congresses calling on governments to initiate negotiations to abolish nuclear weapons is now available in five languages. To date it has been endorsed by 80 mayors and 120 legislators from New Zealand, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, the European Parliament, France, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Latin American Parliament, the Marshall Islands, Norway, Philippines, Russia, Sweden, Tanzania, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Please encourage your mayor and your member of parliament to endorse the statement.

Check the endorsers at: <http://www.gsinitute.org/pnnd/jointstatementendorsers.htm> and their statement, translated in five different languages as follows:

English: http://www.gsinitute.org/pnnd/jointstatement_001.htm

French: <http://www.gsinitute.org/pnnd/jointstatementfrench.htm>

Japanese: http://www.gsinitute.org/pnnd/docs/Joint_statement_Japanese.pdf

Korean: http://www.gsinitute.org/pnnd/docs/Joint_Statement_Korean.pdf

Portuguese: <http://www.gsinitute.org/pnnd/Jointstatementportuguese.htm>

Spanish: <http://www.gsinitute.org/pnnd/jointstatementspanish.htm>

Events, courses, workshops and fellowships

European Peace Education, a Three-part Colloquia Series, Columbia University, New York City

For those who don't know him yet, Prof. Dr. Werner Wintersteiner is a distinguished teacher trainer at the Department for German, Klagenfurt University, Austria. He is the founding director of the Klagenfurt University Centre for Peace Research and Peace Education, an active member of our Global Campaign for Peace Education, and is also on the editorial board of the "*Journal of Peace Education*." He is currently a Fulbright Scholar at the Peace Education Center, Columbia University, which sponsors a free three-part colloquia series featuring Prof. Dr. Werner Wintersteiner.

- Wednesday November 9, 2005, 3-5pm: *Peace Education in Europe: Achievements and Perspectives* (History, Contents, New Developments...)
- Thursday November 17, 2005, 3-5pm: *Bertha von Suttner: Lessons for Peace Educators Today* (1905-2005: Centenary of the first female Nobel Peace Prize Winner)
- Tuesday November 29, 2005, 3-5pm: *Peace Education Teacher Training* (Experience of EURED, the European Network of Peace Educators)

For more information on the sessions above please visit www.tc.edu/PeaceEd/pe-europe.htm

Annual Peace Education Conference in Canada, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Nov 21-28, 2005

This conference is organized by the Canadian Centers for Teaching Peace (CCTP); it is considered a significant part of the Canadian Culture of Peace Program. The 2005 theme is "*Advancing a Peace Education Strategy: What Is Needed to Support and Help Peace Educators in All Walks Of Life*". This is an excellent forum to showcase your programs, build your networks, and learn important new things that will benefit you and your organization.

You can get more information at <http://www.peace.ca/CanadianAgenda2005.htm>.

Economics of Non-violence and the Vision of a Sustainable World International Conference, New Delhi, December 5-7

This conference will address the root causes of violence from an economic perspective. Several dignitaries including the President, the Vice President and the Prime Minister of India are expected to participate in the Conference. Themes will include: economics of non-violence and sustainability; globalization versus galloping poverty; spiritual foundation for developing a 'new model of economic system'; discussion about the relevance of Indian ancient model of economic system; a healthy and educated society as the key to economic prosperity; convergence of values (spiritual, political and economic). In addition to the six plenary sessions mentioned above, there will be six workshops.

For more information and/or to register, you may contact the organizers by e-mail at slgandhi@hotmail.com, anuvibha@datainfosys.net or pmopeeth@epatrika.com.

Global Youth Conference on Democracy and Political Participation Youth Movement for Democracy, Dec. 13-15, Sao Paulo, Brazil

A global network of young democracy activists is taking shape... Youth groups in every part of the world are working for fair elections, greater transparency, government accountability and political transformation. At the global level their efforts have been largely disconnected... until now. Connect with a global community of youth sharing inspiration, ideas and solidarity, share your point of view in the Essay Contest and participate in the conference on democracy and political participation.

For more information, please go to: <http://www.ymd.youthlink.org> (note that their website is available in English, Portuguese and Spanish)

First UPEACE Institute University for Peace, Costa Rica, January 9-27, 2006

The Institute consists of ten three-week short courses in different areas of relevance to peace and conflict studies, including courses on Media and Peace; Leadership; Culture, Religion, Conflict and Peace; and War and Film, among others. These courses will be facilitated by international professionals with extensive expertise in each of these areas. Institute courses will be attended by UPEACE graduate students from 40 countries, and are also open to others, for graduate credit or for training purposes. Taking advantage of the beautiful weather during the month of January in Costa Rica, this initiative also brings the opportunity for Institute participants to experience a country that opted not to have an army, and has a remarkable environmental record.

For more information and registration: <http://www.upeace.org/institute/index.htm>

World Social Forum 2006 Karachi, Pakistan, January 24-29, 2006

“Every year the world’s government and corporate elite gather in the Swiss resort town of Davos for the World Economic Forum where they discuss and devise future plans to use globalization as a tool to serve their own interests. Five years ago, community organizers, trade unionists, youth, academics and representatives of other concerned sections of society met in Porto Alegre, Brazil, to rethink and recreate globalization to benefit the people of the world and created WSF. This forum provides common people an open platform to discuss strategies of resistance to corporate globalization and to present constructive alternatives. The first meeting of the WSF in 2001 held in Porto Alegre witnessed a congregation of some 20,000 men and women from around the world. It crossed the 118,000 in Mumbai, India in 2004 and 133,000 at the 5th WSF held in Porto Alegre in January 2005.” As in the past WSF congregations, prominent international personalities like Nelson Mandela, Noam Chomsky, Naomi Klein, Arundhati Roy, Chicko Whittacker, besides Mahathir Muhammad of Malaysia are also expected to participate.

For more information go to: www.wsf2006karachi.org or email at: sectt@wsf2006karachi.org

World Assembly Glasgow, Scotland, June 21-25, 2006

The CIVICUS World Assembly is a forum for international civil society representatives to get together, exchange ideas, experiences and build strategies for a just world. This forum will be composed with high-profile speakers and grassroots activists from all over the world.

For details and registration visit: <http://www.civicusassembly.org/English/Home/Home.aspx>

Human Rights Delegations for Young Leaders Summer 2006 Programs in Bosnia, Cambodia, Guatemala and Rwanda

Global Youth Connect, an international human rights organization, is currently recruiting young leaders (ages 18-25) to participate in human rights delegations during the summer of 2006. Human rights delegations are a unique, first-hand opportunity to cross cultural boundaries and learn about the daily reality of human rights as experienced in a complex and increasingly globalized world. The four program locations are as follows:

Bosnia, June 26-July 15: This delegation will explore the roots of conflict and the dynamics of justice, reconciliation and peacebuilding as experienced in Bosnia. In particular, participants will gain experience in conflict resolution and transformation and deepen their understanding of the post-conflict challenges faced by Bosnians today, especially youth.

Cambodia, July 16-August 15: Participants will learn about the historical roots of conflict and genocide in Cambodia. We will examine how current human rights challenges, especially landlessness, are impacting the country, particularly their effect on the lives of Cambodian youth. We will connect with young Cambodians and get involved in collaborative projects to support the development and rebuilding process already underway.

Guatemala, July 1-31: This delegation will analyze the roots of historical and current violence in Guatemala as well as seek to better understand how this violence, both past and present, has impacted the people of Guatemala. In particular we will focus on connecting with youth in indigenous communities in the Western Highlands as well as reflect on how policies and practices in the U.S. have affected the lives of ordinary Guatemalans. Spanish proficiency is required.

Rwanda, May 21-June 19: This program will explore the roots of the 1994 Rwandan genocide and how this legacy of violence has impacted the country and its people, particularly Rwandan youth. Participants will learn more about the current situation in Rwanda, connect with young Rwandans, and get involved in collaborative projects aimed at promoting peace and reconciliation.

To apply, you must be 18-25 year-old, possess U.S. citizenship or residency, or you must be a full-time student at a U.S. college or university. The deadline for applications is December 2, 2005.

For more information on the program details, costs, and how to apply, please visit the website:

www.globalyouthconnect.org/participate

2006 Oak Human Rights Fellow at Colby College Applications Deadline: January 13, 2006

The Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights was established in 1998. Each year, it hosts an Oak Human Rights Fellow to teach and conduct research while at residence in the College and organizes lectures and other events centered on the fellow's area of expertise. Thus, this fellowship is offered to human rights activists as an opportunity to spend a semester as a scholar-in-residence at Colby College. In conducting their annual search, the college relies heavily on nominations from NGOs, academics, journalists, and human rights lawyers, since these are the people most likely to know of the work of on-the-ground professionals. For the fall of 2006, the Oak Institute seeks a human rights practitioner working on environmental issues that affect the rights of individuals and communities.

For more information, visit www.colby.edu/oak

Echoing Green Fellowship

Application deadline: December 1, 2005

The global nonprofit Echoing Green is launching a search for visionary new leaders who want to start their own organizations to create lasting social change. Through the prestigious two-year Echoing Green Fellowship, emerging social entrepreneurs have the chance to receive up to \$90,000 in seed funding and technical assistance to launch organizations that address the root causes of society's most difficult problems.

For more information, visit www.echoinggreen.org

Peace Resources

Youth Peace-builders, a Tool for Evaluation

The United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY) has developed this useful evaluation tool for young peacebuilders. It proposes questions for reflection on three levels: personal, team, and project in its social context. Evaluation is an important tool for improvement in the planning, realization or concluding stage of peacebuilding work.

What is good youth peace work? is available at <http://www.unoy.org/downloads/11001.pdf>
You can also find other valuable resources on UNOY website at <http://www.unoy.org/>

New Millennium Development Goals Website for Youth

Recognizing that there are 2.8 billion people under the age of 25 and that youth participation in finding solutions to global problems is vital to the future of our planet, the Outreach Division of the United Nations Department of Public Information launched a new website for youth on the Millennium Development Goals on October 17th, which was also the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

The new website was designed by the United Nations Cyberschoolbus, a UN educational web site and can be accessed at www.cyberschoolbus.un.org/mdgs/index.html or www.millenniumcampaign.org/youth.

“Missing Pieces” now available in Arabic, English, French and Spanish Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue

Launched during the Second Biennial Meeting of States on small arms in New York in July 2005, *Missing Pieces* presents a framework for States to tackle the arms trade and gun violence in the months and years ahead. Drawing on the experiences and accumulated knowledge of a wide range of experts, government officials and practitioners, policy recommendations have been identified on a range of aspects: national regulation of private ownership and use of weapons; recognizing the contribution of a gender perspective on small arms violence; controlling international transfers of small arms and ammunition; taking weapons and ammunition out of circulation; assisting survivors of gun violence; addressing the motivations and means to acquire firearms; and reforming the justice and security sectors.

“Missing Pieces: Directions for reducing gun violence through the UN process on small arms control” is now available in English, Arabic, French, and Spanish.

To download online, go to: <http://www.hdcentre.org/?aid=133> or, for hard copies please email widmer@hdcentre.org (specify language and number of copies).

Human Security Report Released

The *Human Security Report* was released on October 17th by the University of British Columbia and the Liu Institute for Global Issues. This three-year study reveals evidence of a major decline in conflict-related deaths worldwide: the number of armed conflict has dropped 40% since 1992, and the average number of direct conflict death per conflict per year dropping from a peak of 38,000 in 1950 to just 600 in 2002. It also reveals that wars are not only far less frequent today, but are also far less deadly. It claims that terrorism is currently the gravest threat to international security, that 90% of those killed in today's wars are civilians and that women are disproportionately victimized by armed conflict.

Analyzing the causes of the improvement in global security since the early 1990s, the Report argues that the UN played a critically important role. The study authors assert the increasing use of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacekeeping missions. However, much remains to be done as wars and widespread human rights abuses continue around the world, from Darfur to Iraq, Nepal, Colombia or the Congo, to name a few.

The report can be downloaded at www.humansecurityreport.info and will be published by Oxford University Press this November 2005. You can also contact Andrew Mack at andrewmack@attglobal.net, and/or Zoe Nielsen at zoe.nielsen@ubc.ca.

2005: Year of Disasters and World Governments' Failure

“The South Asian earthquake is the latest in a year of some of the worst disasters ever seen, yet governments have failed to respond adequately and lives have been lost as a result”, said international agency Oxfam last week. Oxfam’s new briefing paper, *2005: Year of Disasters*, finds that the number of people affected by natural disasters has climbed dramatically over the last decade with tens of millions of people affected in the past year alone. It says that the response to these emergencies has been characterized by, “an uneven, often late and sometimes inefficient international humanitarian performance that has been undermined by inadequate funding for the UN’s vital appeals”.

To read more view: http://oxfam.org/eng/pdfs/doc051018_2005yearofdisasters.pdf

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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