



CONFLICT HEALING



NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT



HUMAN RIGHTS



PIONEERS FOR PEACE



PHOTO: EUROPEAN COMMISSION, 2005

The Right Livelihood Award is also called the Alternative Nobel Prize. It was founded in 1980 to honour and encourage people who fight for a solution to the great problems of our time and for a better future. These people throw off the straitjacket of conventional ideas, they think the “unthinkable” and inspire us with their courage, their compassion and their hope. They often take great personal risks while fighting for their convictions: They face prosecution, imprisonment, even torture, and yet they continue. Of course, not everyone of us can be a hero, but at least we can learn about those who are. This is what “Pioneers for Peace” is all about: “Knowledge is the first step”, as award recipient Kvinna till Kvinna has put it.

The aim of this brochure is to further peace and global security. It was sponsored by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and addresses young people – as it is your tomorrow we are talking about. It wants to motivate you to stand up for your convictions and to take action yourselves if you want something to be changed. It does not matter who you are – whether you are a student or a politician – everyone can make a difference.

Everyday, while we grow up, our world seems to become more complex, so let’s just hold on to simple claims like:

I want to live in a safe world.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Margot Wallström". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Margot Wallström

Vice-President of the European Commission

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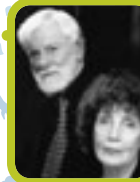


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» CONFLICT HEALING

What is peace? Is it the mere absence of war? Troops laying down their weapons and leaders shaking hands over a peace agreement, smiling into the cameras of journalists? Or is it more: justice, reconciliation, participation?

Whatever you may call it, the fundamental question remains the same: How can people ever return to normal life when neighbours have been killing each other?

Although operating in different conflicts and in different ways, Johan Galtung, the Kamenge Youth Centre, Gush Shalom and Kvinna till Kvinna have the same goal: to create the circumstances under which former enemies trust each other again to make a normal life possible.

► THE PHOTO WAS MADE DURING A RARE MOMENT OF HUMANITY IN A WAR ZONE, WHEN AN IRAQI WHO HAD BEEN TAKEN PRISONER BY AMERICAN TROOPS WAS ALLOWED TO HOLD HIS 4-YEAR-OLD SON.

The art of making peace – an interview with Johan Galtung

– **What is a conflict and how can it be resolved?**

– A conflict means that parties have incompatible goals. It is not to be confused with violence – as is often done. To resolve it, the first step is to try to understand exactly what the parties want. Then you have to sort out the legitimate goals from the illegitimate ones: That means as mediators we do not compromise on slavery, terrorism or state terrorism! And the third and final



step is the tricky one: a kind of artistic effort to bridge the different parties' legitimate goals and try to find a formula with which all sides can live.

– **We talk about violent conflicts between states or different groups in a state. But what about our daily conflicts – quarrelling with parents and friends: Is there any difference compared to conflicts in which people kill each other?**

– There is no particular difference. You can come very close to killing with words. You can hurt and harm in either case: So identify the underlying conflict and try to solve it! Take a teenager, for instance, who wants to move out of his family home and his parents think he is not ready for it. One possible solution – which would cost a little bit of money – is that he gets a separate entrance to the house. In other words, he is half in half out. And all that is needed is a little bit of architectural imagina-

RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARD 1987: JOHAN GALTUNG, NORWAY



tion. But remember: Conflict transformation is not a question of the two sides sitting down together and being nice to each other. The conflict would still be there: He wants independence; they want control. And the gap between independence and control has to be bridged.

– Is there anything young people from countries outside the conflict could contribute to make peace?

– You could demand from your schools to teach you mediation skills. You can contact pupils in states in conflict and discuss their country’s situation with them. But you have to have some kind of idea of what the solution is: To believe that you get peace just because you have a camp bringing together Israeli and Palestinian children is very naive. If you create good relations that is fine, but the conflict is still there and will explode one day or the other. ●

JOHAN GALTUNG RECEIVED the Right Livelihood Award in 1987. He is regarded as the founder of the academic discipline of peace research: He is not only famous as a scholar, but has mediated in around 60 conflicts, among others in Israel and Palestine as well as in former Yugoslavia.



What does it take to end a conflict according to Galtung? Compare what he says with the work of Kamenge Youth Centre (see next page)! Discuss!

BOOKS >>

Johan Galtung, *Transcend and Transform* (Pluto Press, 2004)

Johan Galtung, Carl G. Jacobsen and Kai F. Brand-Jacobsen (edit.), *Searching for peace* (Pluto Press, 2002)



Soccer and computing – an African path towards respect and peace

Life is not easy in the impoverished northern neighbourhoods of Bujumbura, Burundi's capital: Shattered by years of murderous civil war between Hutus and Tutsis it is filled with ethnic hatred, upheaval and death. Refugees, soldiers, rebels, different ethnic groups, political ideologies and economic and social backgrounds do not create a safe place to grow up in. But against all odds there is also hope for a better future for the young people of Kamenge.

At the beginning there was a dream: In 1991 three Italian Xaverian missionaries laid the cornerstones for a centre, where the neighbourhood youths could meet. Their

Have you ever helped solve a violent conflict or quarrel or stopped one from becoming violent? What did you do? If not, imagine such a situation and how you would act!



Music is the key: Visit www.rightlivelihood.org/recipe/abreu.htm and learn about the work of José Antonio Abreu who furthers the integration of Venezuelan youth by using their love for music.



basic idea was that, through shared activity, people can learn to live together in mutual respect and peace. It is hard to hate your goal-keeper even if he is a Tutsi!

Claudio Marano and his colleagues, who founded the Centre, have had to overcome more problems than just violence and ethnic conflict. Alcoholism, drug abuse, prostitution, AIDS, unemployment, crime and hopelessness are part of daily life out in the streets. After more than a decade, Kamenge Youth Centre has now about 20,000 members. Dozens of full-time workers and volunteers organise 20 to 40 activities each day with over 1000 participating youths. They attend meet-



Do you know anyone who comes from Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda or the Democratic Republic of Congo? Ask them about their countries and why they are here!

ings, religious events, play sports, use the library's 14,000 books and study together. Maths, physics, biology, French, English, Spanish, computing, sewing, human rights – subjects and courses that not only aim at education, but they also bring people together. Here, diversity is not seen as an obstacle. Instead, it is viewed as offering a chance for democracy and a tomorrow free from the atrocities of the past.

The Centre has been attacked and looted. Workers have been threatened and members killed. Nevertheless they continue to fight for a new society built by those who refuse to have their lives torn apart: the youths of Kamenge. ●

THE POPULATION OF BURUNDI consists of about 85 percent Hutus and 14 percent Tutsis with the Tutsi minority having been in control since 1962. Ten years later repression was close to genocide and many Hutus sought refuge in Rwanda and Tanzania.

In 1993, the first democratically elected president of Burundi was assassinated. A civil war between the Tutsi dominated military regime and different Hutu rebel groups followed. At the same time, the country was also drawn into the armed conflict in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo.

In 1999, Nelson Mandela took over the role as mediator between the different parties. Negotiations were problematic but finally led to the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement. It provided for military reform and democratic transition. During the last years, fights – even massacres – have continued, but in 2005 a vast majority voted “yes” to a new constitution with new power sharing agreements.

The Burundian conflict is characterised by a large number of killings with many civilian victims. Massacres of both Hutus and Tutsis have taken place on a number of occasions. Since 1993 probably more than 200,000 people have been killed, with further hundreds of thousands displaced or having become refugees.



SOURCES AND LINKS >>

www.cejeka.com (homepage of Kamenge Youth Centre)

www.pcr.uu.se/database (free resource of information on armed conflicts of the world provided by the Department of Peace and Conflict Resolution, University of Uppsala, Sweden)

www.crisisweb.org (International Crisis Group, provides background and up-to-date information on conflict developments in countries around the world)



◀ URI AVNERY ON A PEACE DEMONSTRATION

State of Palestine. Its volunteers support the peace process wherever they can. Their presence in situations of conflict, undoubtedly, does much to prevent the mistreatment of Palestinians.

Gush Shalom and its founders Uri and Rachel Avnery organise political education campaigns against the further extension of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. They have conducted hundreds of demonstrations and a huge number of direct actions in response to day-to-day emergencies, many in cooperation with other peace and human rights organisations. They participate in the rebuilding of houses destroyed by the occupation army, and fill trenches, which cut off Palestinian villages. They demonstrate against new “hilltop outposts” of the settlers on Palestinian land and they also harvest olives on behalf of villagers who are prevented by the settlers and the army from entering their groves. ●

Canaan – A promise of blood?

Sometimes we think there will always be pictures in the news that tell about just another bloody day in Israel/Palestine. So zap to another channel and forget about it! Finally, tomorrow will bring us the same terrorism over and over again.

Looking away is easy. But there are people, both on the Israeli and Palestinian side, who know that peace and an end to terrorism can only be achieved through justice and reconciliation – aims that won't be reached without non-violent action. These people stand up for their convictions and try to bring people together for a constructive dialogue about their future.

Gush Shalom, the Israeli Peace Block, fights against national and religious hatred and for a life in close partnership with a sovereign

What happens in Israel/Palestine right now? Search the newspapers and the links given on this page for information about the last years' peace process!



Build your own opinion!

Do you know of any other peace groups or organisations that deal with the Israel/Palestine conflict?

Search the internet and you will find different approaches to this topic as well as different points of view. Start with the links on the website of the Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information!

THE ROOTS OF THE CONFLICT between Israelis and Palestinians are buried deep in the past: Jewish people lived in Canaan, the biblical name for Israel/Palestine, until the first century A.D. when the Romans forced them to leave. During the 19th century their wish to return to Israel became stronger. In 1917, a British declaration stated that the Jews were to be given a home in Palestine, but not at the expense of the rights of other peoples.

As a result of World War II and the Holocaust the number of Jewish immigrants to Israel increased significantly. Finally, the United Nations decided that Palestine was to be divided: One part was to belong to the Jews and the other to the Arabs. In 1948, the state of Israel was proclaimed. It expanded until the new state occupied 77 percent of the of the Palestinian territory, including the larger part of Jerusalem. More than half the native Palestinian population was forced to leave their lands. In the 1967 war, Israel occupied the remaining territory of Palestine. This included the rest of Jerusalem. The war led to a second exodus of Palestinians, estimated at half a million. The year 1987 then saw a mass uprising against the Israeli occupation – the so-called first Intifada. Six years later, the Oslo Agreement between the Israeli Government and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) provided new hope for the peace process but it did not solve the problem. In 2000, the al-Aqsa-Intifada began, starting a new cycle of violence.



SOURCES, LINKS AND BOOKS >>

www.un.org/depts/dpa/qpal/ [the United Nations' Question of Palestine site supplies information and links. You will also find a good summary of the history of the conflict and its issues with direct links to the texts of resolutions]

www.pcr.uu.se/database [free resource of information on armed conflicts of the world provided by the Department of Peace and Conflict Resolution, University of Uppsala, Sweden]

www.gush-shalom.org [homepage of Gush Shalom]

www.ipcri.org [website of the Israel/Palestine Centre for Research and Information]

Book tip: Uri Avnery, *My Friend, the Enemy* (Zed Books, 1986)



PHOTO: ANDREW REID/KVINNA TILL KVINNA

Kvinna till Kvinna and the local organisations it works with regard women not only as victims but as important forces for change in society. Democracy, reconciliation and peace are the final aims and the paths towards them are plentiful: research and education, legal services, training, health care and direct protection against violence and discrimination.

Kerstin Grebäck and Anna Lidén from Kvinna till Kvinna emphasize that the empowerment of women is a question of democracy. It is peace work they do, not humanitarian work. They believe that there must be more for everybody in this world than the bare struggle for daily survival. Or how would you feel as a girl whose only possibility to find support and security in life is to get married at 15?

I was like a wild animal I lived in total fear, every day ready to run away!

BOSNIAC WOMAN IN WEST MOSTAR

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation was founded in 1993 in response to the war in the Balkans and the atrocities committed against women. It helps women recover both physically and psychologically from the violence they have endured. But this is just the beginning of its work:



*Discuss
the roles of men
and women in wars and
post-conflict situations. Is
rebuilding societies a
gender issue?*

Things are worse now than at the end of the war. I am losing my strength. It has been such an uphill battle for so long. The only thing that keeps me going is the other women at the center.

WIDOW FROM SREBRENICA
– LEFT WITH FOUR SMALL CHILDREN

The Balkans, Middle East and Caucasus are regions where the effects of war are present everywhere. Sixteen field-coordinators at offices in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, Georgia and the Middle East support more than 100 local organisations. Kvinna till Kvinna is building an extensive network of women throughout Europe and Western Asia and stimulates the forming of new groups. The organisation also informs internationally about the war's effects on women and women's important role in the work of constructing a new democratic society.

●

Read about the **Soldiers' Mothers** on page 16 to learn about men as victims in conflicts! Check also the website of UNICEF (www.unicef.org) and find out about children and their suffering in conflicts!

Can you imagine a situation similar to the Balkans – people who have lived together for many years starting to kill each other – happening in your country? How? What could be done to prevent it? If you cannot, why not?

Find out about the following **Right Livelihood Award** recipients: **Serb Civic Council** (www.rightlivelihood.org/recipe/serb-cc.htm) and **Katarina Kruhonja & Vesna Terselic!** (www.rightlivelihood.org/recipe/kk.htm). What did they do to strengthen peace, reconciliation and democracy in the Balkans?

SOURCES AND LINKS >>

www.iktk.se (homepage of Kvinna till Kvinna with further links to the organisations it supports)

www.peacewomen.org (website that provides information on women, peace and security issues and women's peace-building initiatives in areas of armed conflict. You will also find further links here)



» NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

In 1989, when the iron curtain fell, it looked as if the nuclear arms race had finally come to an end. Indeed, the United States and Russia significantly reduced their arsenals. However, the end of the 1990s saw the existing nuclear-weapon states further develop nuclear arms and other states acquire them. The threat may have other backgrounds now, but it is still there.

Israel, North Korea, India and Pakistan – there are countries that have begun their own nuclear arms programs, a menace that is directed against their closest neighbours,

PHOTO: BOY AT GRAVESTONE IN NAGASAKI, FROM JOE O'DONNELL, JAPAN 1945: A U.S. MARINE'S PHOTOGRAPH FROM GROUND ZERO (VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2005; WW.VANDERBILTUNIVERSITYPRESS.COM); IMAGE OF MUSHROOM CLOUD COURTESY OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY/NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION. PHOTO MONTAGE BY JOAN KIRSTIN STEPHENS.

Inescapable

The walls are too close. The cell is small and there is no one to talk to, just him and his thoughts. He has spent more than eleven years here, alone, a so-called traitor to his country. But not to mankind.

"It is not we who are opposed to nuclear arms who break the law but the governments which have chosen to create this greatest threat to humanity. The struggle against these weapons is not only a legitimate one, it is a moral, inescapable struggle."

MORDECHAI VANUNU

Mordechai Vanunu, a former technician in the secret Israeli nuclear facility at Dimona, does not regret what he revealed to the Sunday Times in 1986: the true power of Israel's nuclear stockpile with 100 to 200 nuclear warheads and the country's capability to build thermonuclear devices more powerful than atomic bombs. There are some secrets that must be revealed – whatever it may cost.

Five days before the Sunday Times' article appeared, Vanunu was brutally kidnapped in Rome and brought to Israel in chains, where



Would you have done the same?

maybe with an even greater risk to run out of control than the Cold War. And who knows, which other countries – or terrorist groups – might join them soon in their attempts to dominate and threaten other nations with the most destructive weapon the world has ever seen?

But there are people working against the logics of the nuclear arms race. Mordechai Vanunu, a technician in the Israeli nuclear power plant of Dimona, the activists of Trident Ploughshares and David Lange, the former Prime Minister of New Zealand, risked their jobs and freedom in their struggle towards a nuclear-free world!



Do you know of any famous fighters for peace and human rights who were arrested by their governments?

Find out about Ken Saro-Wiwa, Right Livelihood Award recipient in 1994!

www.rightlivelihood.org/recipient/saro-wiwa.htm

he faced trial under a blanket of secrecy: He was sentenced to 18 years in prison, of which he was kept 4177 days in solitary confinement. Amnesty International described this punishment as inhumane, but all protests were ignored by the Israeli government.

In April 2004 Vanunu was released from prison. Yet, he is still not free. His life continues to be severely restricted: In 2005, he was not allowed to travel or to talk to foreigners and foreign journalists. ●

▼ ON THE WAY TO COURT, VANUNU TOLD ABOUT HIS KIDNAPPING

PHOTO: SUPPLIED BY THE UK CAMPAIGN TO FREE VANUNU



Find out about Mordechai Vanunu's situation today! Start with the following links: www.vanunu.freeserve.co.uk (homepage of the Campaign to Free Vanunu and for a Nuclear Free Middle East), www.amnesty.org (on the website of Amnesty International you will also find information about Vanunu and his punishment.)





PHOTO: TRIDENT PLOUGHSHARES

◀ VICTORY AT COURT – ULLA RØDER, ANGIE ZELTER & ELLEN MOXLEY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY HAD BEEN FOUND NOT GUILTY

strategic nuclear force, the Trident submarine-launched intercontinental ballistic missile system, in a peaceful, open and fully accountable manner. Whatever they do, they never conceal it. They even call the police from their own mobile phones after the action is completed.

In 1996 Angie Zelter with a group of other women used ordinary hammers to disarm a Hawk Jet. This action prevented it from being sent to Indonesia, where it would probably have been used in attacks on East Timorese villages. The women argued that a person

Judged! – Nuclear weapons at court

T Trident Ploughshares accuses the Government of the United Kingdom of breaking international law. If the state does not follow the law it is the duty of its people to take action and to prevent a crime that Trident Ploughshares calls the threat of mass murder.

Angie Zelter, Ellen Moxley and Ulla Røder have spent a lot of time in prison – deliberately, you may say. They do not regard themselves as special in any way; they are women who have families, children and friends. But they are compassionate and, in fighting for their convictions, they are professionals, too.

They belong to a group of activists enacting the biblical prophecy to “beat swords into ploughshares”. Their aim is to disarm Britain’s



What kind of action is appropriate for the citizens of a country who are aware that their government deploys weapons of mass destruction that if used would certainly break major international laws?

“We therefore do not use masks for hiding our identity, or run away from the police or engage in totally secret actions. [...] as soon as the action has taken place then the activists will remain by the scene of disarmament to take full responsibility for their action.”

PARAGRAPH 2 , THE NONVIOLENCE AND SAFETY GUIDELINES, TRIDENT PLOUGHSHARES' HANDBOOK

may use reasonable force to prevent a crime. After six months in prison, the jury found them not guilty.

Three years later, Angie Zelter, Ellen Moxley and Ulla Røder put a Trident-related research laboratory out of action. Again, they were acquitted in court.

Trident Ploughshares' actions have led to many hundreds of trials and each is significant: They challenge the very legitimacy of nuclear weapons and raise the question of who is the real criminal – the Trident Ploughshares activists or the government?

Trident Ploughshares also concentrates on education. They visit schools to promote active global citizenship and non-violence as well as to inform about nuclear weapons. They say that such devastating arms will always violate international humanitarian law and that even the readiness to use them is a prohibited threat. ●

IN 1996 THE INTERNATIONAL Court of Justice issued its Advisory Opinion on the question: “Is the threat or use of nuclear weapons in any circumstance permitted under international law?”

97. “... the Court is led to observe that it cannot reach a definitive conclusion as to legality or illegality of the use of nuclear weapons by a State in an extreme circumstance of self-defence, in which its very survival would be at stake.”

78. “States must never make civilians the object of attack and must consequently never use weapons that are incapable of distinguishing between civilian and military targets.”

94. “The Court would observe that none of the States advocating the legality of the use of nuclear weapons under certain circumstances, including the “clean” use of smaller, low yield, tactical nuclear weapons, has indicated what, supposing such limited use were feasible, would be the precise circumstances justifying such use; nor whether such limited use would not tend to escalate into the all-out use of high yield nuclear weapons.”

105, 2 F. “There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.”



What do you think? Are nuclear weapons illegal?

SOURCES, LINKS AND BOOKS >>

www.tridentploughshares.org (homepage of Trident Ploughshares; if you click on “Correspondence – Government and Military” you enter the Dialogue and Negotiation Section where you will find Trident Ploughshares’ letters to and from the UK government)

www.icj-cij.org (website of the International Court of Justice)

Book tip: Angie Zelter, Cinders McLeod (Illustrator), *Trident on Trial* (Luath Press, 2001)



“Nuclear weapons do not offer security: they increase insecurity. If countries like New Zealand can safely stand aside from nuclear weapons, there is hope that one day every country in the world can.”

DAVID LANGE IN “NUCLEAR FREE NEW ZEALAND”, 1986

“The weapon has its own relentless logic, and it is inhuman. It is the logic of escalation, the logic of the arms race. Nuclear weapons make us insecure, and to compensate for our insecurity we build and deploy more nuclear weapons.”

SPEECH NOTES BY DAVID LANGE, “NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE MORALLY INDEFENSIBLE”, MARCH 1985

Middle Earth – A Nuclear Free Zone

This is about a Prime Minister who led his country on its own way towards security. This is about hope that one can withstand the arms race between nuclear forces and that security need not be based on a most uncertain trust in the most destructive weapons the world has ever seen.

David Lange was born in New Zealand in 1942. He practised as a lawyer and defended peace activists in court. When he was 41 years old, he became New Zealand’s Prime Mini-

ster. In 1984 his government passed legislation, which banned nuclear-powered and armed vessels from New Zealand territory. Of course, the USA was very displeased by this development in the South Pacific, but David Lange withstood all US pressure and continued on his path towards a nuclear free world. Since then the nuclear issue has remained a main obstacle in the relationship between New Zealand and the USA. ●



NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND DISARMAMENT

History: Hiroshima and Nagasaki

The USA developed the first atomic weapon during World War II out of fear that Nazi Germany might develop it first. August 6, 1945, the USA dropped their “Little Boy” – the nickname of the bomb – on the Japanese town of Hiroshima, killing approximately 80,000 civilians outright and over time many more. Three days later, the bombing of Nagasaki followed. Japan surrendered shortly after.

The official statement by the US Government under President Harry S. Truman was that the bombs were intended to put a quick end to the war. But some historians have interpreted them as a warning to the Soviet Union that had just entered the war in Asia. Opinions differ greatly about whether or not the bombings were justified.

Which countries have nuclear weapons?

There are seven nations that admit to owning nuclear weapons.

The internationally recognized “nuclear weapons nations” include: the United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France and China, as well as India and Pakistan, which conducted nuclear tests in 1998 and thus announced their possession.

In addition, Israel is known to own nuclear warheads [see text about Vanunu on page 10], Iran is suspected to have the potential to build them, and North Korea has claimed to own them.

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty


This Treaty opened for signature at the UN in 1968. It declares that only the US, Russia, China, France and the United Kingdom may lawfully possess nuclear weapons and that they must seek to reduce and eliminate their arsenals. Currently, 189 nations are parties to the treaty with the holdouts of India, Israel and Pakistan. North Korea revoked its signature.


SUSPECTED TOTAL NUMBERS OF WARHEADS

The following is a rough estimate

USA	10 200–10 600
Russia	8 000–17 000
China	390–400
France	350
United Kingdom	180–300
India	60–90
Pakistan	24–52
Israel	100–200
North Korea	2–3



Search  the Internet for information about the NATO Nuclear Doctrine! What does it say?

 In 2005 an international conference at the United Nations reviewed the Non-Proliferation Treaty. What were the outcomes? Is the treaty still of any value?

SOURCES, LINKS AND BOOKS >>

<http://disarmament2.un.org/education> (website of the UN where you can download power point shows and publications about disarmament. You will also find information about conventional, biological and chemical weapons here)

www.cdi.org/issues/nukef&f/database (Center for Defense Information, USA, provides, among other things, figures about nuclear arsenals)

www.nuclearweaponarchive.org (“A Guide to Nuclear Weapons”, provides facts and figures)

www.ipb.org (International Peace Bureau, Nobel Prize winner, 1910. Here you will find many useful links as well as information about IPB’s programmes on conflict, disarmament, human rights, peace etc.)

<http://en.wikipedia.org> (free encyclopaedia)

Book tip: David Lange, Nuclear Free: The New Zealand Way (Penguin Books, 1990)



PHOTO: EDDIE OPP/KOMMERSANT

» HUMAN RIGHTS

“All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.[...] No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”

ART. 1 AND 5, UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, 1948

Although the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in which almost all states are represented, Amnesty International documented human rights abuses in 155 countries in 2003. Political or non-judicial killings of civilians took

◀ MASS GRAVE IN CHECHNYA

In the army now!

You are not interested in doing military service? Why not? You need not fear regular beatings, abuse, humiliations, lack of food and near slave-like treatment.

Could you imagine a situation in which you cry desperately for the help of your mother?

Probably you feel quite embarrassed by this thought. But you are not a soldier in the Russian army on your way to Chechnya and to a war, where an idea like human dignity is hard to uphold.

In 1989, five women wanted their sons to return home from military service in order to resume their studies. They were just mothers, who loved their children and tried to protect them from militarism, injustice and the forced

labour in the “construction batallions”. But they have become more: an NGO* that fights for human rights, for a democratic reform of military structures and for peace.

Hundreds of mothers organised by the Committee went to Chechnya to take their sons away from the war. They negotiated with the Chechen fighters and obtained the release of “Prisoners of War”. The Soldiers’ Mothers helped with the rehabilitation of “deserters” and their protection at court. Often, they are the only hope for the thousands of soldiers who are treated cruelly by their officers and who face unfair trials, which could sentence them to years in prison.●

*NGO = Non-Governmental Organization. These are organizations that are not part of the local, state or federal government and that are initiated by citizens.

place in at least 47 countries, and in 58 countries ordinary people were held in detention without charge. Cases of torture were documented in 132 countries.

Violations of human rights generate new suffering, new hatred, new conflicts. Can we ever live in a peaceful world if human rights are not universally respected?

The Russian Committee of Soldiers' Mothers and the Paraguayan activist Martín Almada are examples of heroes risking their lives to give the victims a voice and to get the perpetrators of atrocities punished.



▲ PEACE MARCH. RUSSIAN AND CHECHEN MOTHERS TOGETHER AGAINST THE WAR

THE SOVIET UNION CONSISTED

of a number of republics, with Russia being the largest. In 1991, the USSR broke up, but the Autonomous Republic of Chechnya-Ingushetia remained under the authority of Russia. In 1999 the Second Chechen War began between Chechens fighting for an independent state and the Russian government under Vladimir Putin. The president calls the Russian military effort a “campaign against terrorism”.



“A war against terrorism” – excuse or necessity? Discuss the wars in Chechnya, Iraq and Afghanistan! Take into account links to September 11th and the school massacre in Beslan!

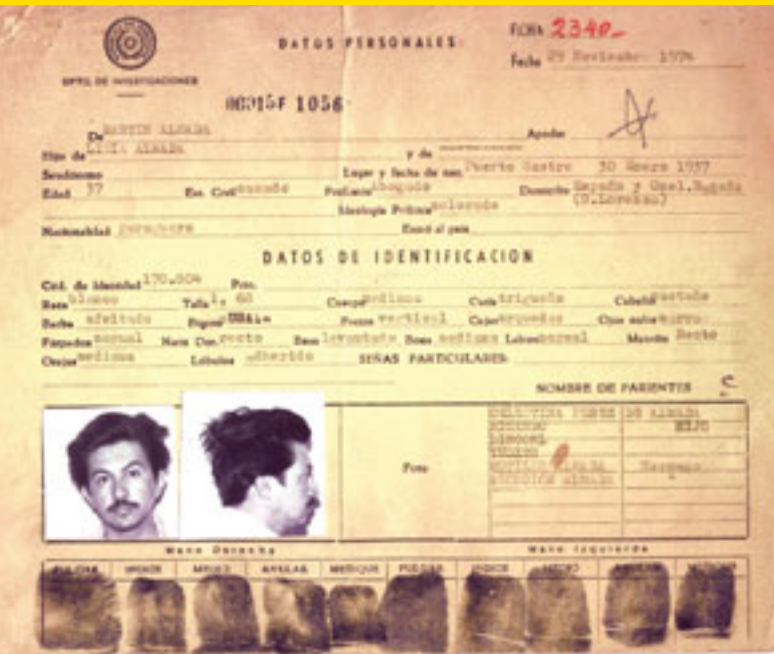
SOURCES, LINKS AND BOOKS >>

www.ucsmr.ru (homepage of the Soldiers' Mothers)

www.pcr.uu.se/database (free resource of information on armed conflicts of the world provided by the Department of Peace and Conflict Resolution, University of Uppsala, Sweden)

www.amnesty.org (Amnesty International provides information about the human rights situation in Russia and Chechnya)

Book tip: Anna Politkovskaya, *Putin's Russia* (Harvill Press, 2004) (provides detailed information about the situation of soldiers in the Russian army)



◀ IN THE ARCHIVES, ALMADA FOUND HIS OWN FILE. IT HELD INFORMATION ABOUT HIS TIME IN PRISON AND HIS ALLEGED COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES.

of systematic terror and repression against political opponents. Almada was one of its victims: He spent three years in prison, where he was tortured for one month. Following a campaign by Amnesty International, he was finally released in 1977 and went into exile.

In spite of all the pain he had suffered, Almada did not choose to spend the rest of his life sitting at home and waiting for other people to take action. Instead, when Stroessner was overthrown, Almada immediately returned to Paraguay and began to work for a transition to democracy and for bringing torturers to justice. Thanks to his commitment, General Ramon Duarte Vera, the chief torturer under dictator Stroessner, was sentenced to 16 years in prison.

The Archives of Terror

Police Station, Lambare, December 22, 1992: Martín Almada opens the file with the number 2340. It contains a yellow paper card with his name, his photo and fingerprints. It is one of more than 700,000 files, which, according to Paraguay’s police and government, do not exist. He recalls the time he spent in prison, the torture, and how they ripped off his nails. He doesn’t have to read the file to remember, but the world must, because the world was not there to bear witness. Yet, it must know what the Condor did.

Operation Condor was a coordinated intelligence operation between six Latin American dictatorships, including Paraguay under Alfredo Stroessner. It started in 1954 as a plan



In 1992, Martín Almada discovered the “Archives of Terror” at the Police Station in Lambare. These documents not only proved the state’s reign of terror, but also the involvement of other nations’ secret services through Operation Condor. They played an important role in the case against General Pinochet, the Chilean dictator who is responsible for the death, imprisonment and torture of thousands of people.

Almada now works to achieve the extradition of Stroessner from Brazil. He is also launching an “Operation Anti-Condor”: the cooperation of defenders of human rights all over Latin America. Almada is not only active in the field of human rights, he also fights against poverty, which he regards as the main source of violence. He is equally committed to the protection of the environment: The use of solar energy is one of his major goals. He knows that, in a world in which things are interlinked, many different paths can lead to solutions for a safer future. ●



*Find out about **Júan Garcés**, Right Livelihood Award recipient 1999, and about his long-standing efforts to end the impunity of dictators!
www.rightlivelihood.org/recip/garces.htm*



Compare what Almada did with the work of Memorial, a Russian human rights organisation, which received the Right Livelihood Award in 2004! Which basic ideas do they have in common? You can find information on Memorial on www.rightlivelihood.org/recip/2004/memorial.htm and on their homepage www.memo.ru.

Bianca Jagger Nicaragua



PHOTO: LEIF R. JANSSON/SCANPIX

As a teenager in Managua, I witnessed first hand the terror that Somoza's National Guard inflicted on the Nicaraguan people. During that period, all I could do was participate in student demonstrations to protest against their human rights violations. I felt powerless in the face of atrocities. I left my native country armed with a French Government's scholarship to study Political Science in Paris, and since my divorce in 1979 I have campaigned for human rights, social and economic justice worldwide.

I believe individuals can make a difference. Your voices are vital, I urge you to speak up for the rights of hundreds, thousands, millions throughout the world who suffer under unspeakable oppressive circumstances, with no one to shield them, no one to speak for them, no one to remember them!

WWW.RIGHTLIVELIHOOD.ORG/RECIP/JAGGER.HTM

RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARD 2004: BIANCA JAGGER, NICARAGUA

Wangari Maathai The Green Belt Movement, Kenya



PHOTO: CLEMENS SCHARRE

I would like to call on young people in particular to take inspiration from this prize. Despite all the constraints they face, there is great satisfaction, honour and hope in serving the common good. What my experiences have taught me is that service to others has special rewards.

When we plant trees, we plant the seeds of peace and seeds of hope. We also secure the future for our children."

WANGARI MAATHAI WHEN SHE RECEIVED THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

WWW.RIGHTLIVELIHOOD.ORG/RECIP/MAATHAI.HTM

RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARD 1984 – NOBEL PEACE PRIZE 2004: WANGARI MAATHAI, KENYA

The idea of 'right livelihood' is an ancient one. It embodies the principle that each person should follow an honest occupation, which fully respects other people and the natural world. It means being responsible for the consequences of our actions and taking only a fair share of the earth's resources.

Jakob von Uexkull, a Swedish-German writer, philatelist and former Member of the European Parliament founded The Right Livelihood Award in 1980. He first approached the Nobel Foundation with the suggestion that it establish two new awards, one for ecology and one relevant to the lives of the poor majority of the world's population. He offered to contribute financially but his proposal was turned down. He then decided to set up the Right Livelihood Awards, presented in the Swedish Parliament on the day before the Nobel Prizes and often referred to as the Alternative Nobel Prize.

The Right Livelihood Award and its prize money of SEK 2,000,000 (approximately € 220,000 or US \$ 250,000) is usually shared by four recipients who fight for the protection of the environment, for human rights, justice and peace and against material and spiritual poverty.

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YOU ARE WELCOME to visit our website www.rightlivelihood.org. Here you will find information on the award as well as on all recipients with further links to their homepages.



Right Livelihood Award Foundation

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