

## EDITORIAL

### You are reading the first issue of the ICIP electronic magazine, PER LA PAU/PEACE IN PROGRESS



The magazine, which will initially be published seven times a year, in Catalan and English (and in the future, also in Spanish), aims to provide analysis and viewpoints. Its objective is to stimulate opinion and spread ideas, especially those fostered at the ICIP and in similar centres. In short, it will strive to be a medium that generates opinion, stimulates debate and has an effect on ideas and action, at a national and international level.

To that end, the magazine is targeted at two major groups of readers. First, the sectors stipulated in the Law establishing the ICIP: the academic community, public administrations, the peace movement and civil society. Second, professional sectors interested in the areas in which the ICIP works (particularly the media) and specialised public opinion.

Like all magazines, it has a pre-planned structure. As well as the editorial, it contains four main sections: In depth - which focuses on a specific issue, with articles, interviews and a section providing hints for finding out more; The Platform - consisting of various opinion articles; Recommended reading, with reviews of books, reports, websites and organisations, and News, featuring relevant items about the Institute and elsewhere.

Deciding to dedicate the first issue to twenty years of disarmament campaigns and to the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty in particular, on its tenth anniversary, was easy.

First, because we express our gratitude for work of the peace movement, which was successful in placing the subject on the agenda and forcing states to accept the desirability of prohibition and the urgent need for it. This is reminiscent of the humanitarian law and laws of war that came about as a result of the campaigns after the battle of Solferino. Second, because it is a campaign and a success that has had a great deal of influence on other campaigns. And third, because it enables us to consider the entire disarmament and arms limitation agenda in the future. We hope that the choice of subjects and authors is of interest to our readers.

Our final words here concern the title. *Per la pau* or *Peace in progress* means that peace is a process - an ongoing, constant, day-by-day task. The results depend on the work done by individuals and institutions, which is not always co-ordinated and indeed cannot always be co-ordinated. It is everyone's responsibility. Our magazine therefore aims to contribute to making people anxious and concerned. As Freire would say: "we must be restless in seeking peace, in making peace".

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## IN DEPTH

### INTRODUCTION

#### **The Mine Ban Treaty review conference and the disarmament agenda**



The first monograph feature of *Peace in Progress* magazine looks at the disarmament and arms control agenda, in the context of the second mine ban treaty review conference, which is taking place in the city of Cartagena in Colombia, in November. We therefore start with a general overview of the subject and assess the importance of nuclear weapons compared to small and light weapons, with the article by Rafael Grasa. Maria Josep Parés then presents the objectives and challenges facing the Cartagena Conference, and considers the choice of Colombia as the venue for the Conference.

After a treaty has been signed and ratified, the objectives of international coalitions are broadened. First, they need to ensure that the treaty is implemented effectively (that the states finance it and that the fieldwork is done, often directly by NGOs that are members of the coalition). Second, they have to continue campaigning on issues that were not included in the final version of the text. Javier Alcalde looks at two vehicles related to the mine ban treaty: the Landmine Monitor and the Geneva Call's Deed of Commitment. Tica Font then looks at the possible flaws in the recent cluster bombs treaty. Finally, Jordi Armadans gives us an overview of the disarmament campaigns over the last 20 years, both in Spain and internationally.

To complete this special monograph issue, we include an interview with Doug Weir, the co-ordinator of the international network against depleted uranium weapons. This initiative aims to learn from other successes of international civil society, such as the campaigns against landmines and cluster bombs.

## IN DEPTH

## CENTRAL ARTICLES

**The disarmament and arms control agenda****Rafael Grasa**

Lecturer in International Relations at the UAB and President of the ICIP



Disarmament has been on the recent international agenda since the development of the idea of collective security and attempts to prohibit war, specific weapons and behaviour during conflict by legally binding agreements. It is often thought that the abolition of weapons, either completely or those of a particular type, would prevent arms races and the security dilemma that causes them. The United Nations Organization is based on this idea, and set an objective that is still valid today: general and complete disarmament. However, the nuclear arms race during the cold war led to the appearance of another concept, which was more pragmatic and limited in scope - arms control.

Both items are currently on the agenda, despite the major changes in the situation as a result of new types of armed conflicts (basically internal) and the appearance of new types of violence linked to small arms in particular. Indeed, one of the changes is that there is no automatic link of causality between the presence of weapons - transferred through legal channels - and violent deaths. For

example, the transfer of weapons from Latin America and the Caribbean only accounts for 6% of the total figure, while the region accounts for 42% of the world's homicides caused by firearms. Let us take a look in more detail.

Let us start with how words are used. The limited general definition of disarmament usually involves putting an end to a country's military capacity, while partial disarmament may entail the disposal of some types or categories of weapons, or a general reduction in their numbers. Disarmament often involves prohibiting the possession or production of weapons. Arms control, which entails seeking agreements so that states manage their arms co-operatively, does not necessarily entail eliminating and/or prohibiting any category of weapon.

During the Cold War, there were more arms control agreements than disarmament agreements. Since the end of the Cold War, both disarmament and arms control have once again been on the agenda, especially in terms of small arms. This can be seen in the year that now coming to a close, especially in the nuclear field. The efforts being made in this area are worthwhile, as apart from horizontal proliferation (i.e. new nuclear powers), vertical proliferation in the arsenals of the countries possessing nuclear weapons remains a key area: there are still 23,000 nuclear weapons in the world. However, the Obama "boost", involving a proposal with Russia to reduce nuclear weapons that is limited in terms of quantity and quality, and the hopes placed in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference to be held in May 2010 make next year one of opportunity and hope.

However, there are two items that merit concern.

The first is the lack of effectiveness of the Conference on Disarmament, the only forum for multilateral disarmament negotiations used by the international community since 1979. Its agenda covers almost all areas of disarmament and arms control. Its annual conference ends with plenty of resolutions, but to date, with little content. The 2009 session saw some improvement, as the United States changed its vote on some points and a substantial agenda was approved for the first time in 12 years (CD/1864), but what is uncertain, i.e. is not automatic, is whether the agenda will continue to be driven forward in 2010. The Conference needs to be reformed or perhaps replaced.

The second is even more important. To put it bluntly, traditional arms control models do not work well for small arms. The traditional models were based on certain assumptions: that most arms production is controlled and/or authorised by governments; that most arms transfers are the result of decisions made by governments; and that the states receiving weapons do not produce or transfer significant amounts of arms. These assumptions are to a large extent true for weapons of mass destruction and "large" conventional weapons, but are not true for small arms. These weapons, which cause the most deaths, have two significant distinguishing features. First, more clients acquire them: government bodies (military and police forces) and non-governmental organisations (private security, traffickers, and individuals). In some cases, these clients can increase the risk of violence and instability. Second - and crucially - most of the trade and transfers of these weapons does not depend on the primary cycle (which is based on production), but instead on secondary transaction cycles involving accumulated stocks, without any new production taking place. This market, which is sometimes legal and often illegal, encourages purchases by non-governmental players and arms which are legal in theory. However, it leads to a lack of transparency that makes distinguishing between legal and illegal transfers difficult. As a result, neither states nor governments can control everything in these circumstances. This means that measures for transparency are essential and in the future, so is a workable treaty on the trade and transfer of weapons.

In simple terms, both academics and the movement are of the same opinion: disarmament and arms control are vital for the future, but not only in the nuclear sphere.

## The Second Mine Ban Treaty Review Conference - the Summit on a Mine-Free World, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

**Maria Josep Parés**

General co-ordinator of the Moviment per la Pau NGO and member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines



The signing of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction by 122 countries in 1999 was a historic landmark for international humanitarian law for many reasons.

It was the first time that a significant number of countries, impelled by international civil society (hundreds of NGOs, large and small, from all over the world, under the umbrella of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines or ICBL) prohibited a weapon that at that time was part of the arsenals of practically all armies and which were being used regularly. However, it is a weapon that attacks civilians' lives, physical well-being and security indiscriminately.

This treaty, which is not subject to reservations, is based on the principles of international humanitarian law. 156 states are now party to the treaty<sup>1</sup>, and a range of measures to monitor its application and effectiveness are planned. To that end, the States, international organisations and the ICBL, have met in preparatory sessions and at the annual meetings of the States Parties, as stipulated in article 11, every year since it came into force in March 1999.

Article 12 also states that Review Conferences will be held every five years to review the operation of the Convention. The First Review Conference was held in Nairobi (Kenya) in 2004 and led to the Nairobi Action Plan<sup>2</sup>. The States undertook to take measures in various areas, including universalizing the Convention, destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines, clearing mined areas and assisting victims. This document became the road map to be followed by the States during 2005-2009, as well as the guide used by civil society to monitor the application of the Treaty.

The Second Review Conference is to be held this year, in Cartagena (Colombia)<sup>3</sup> between November 30 and December 4. Participants will include politicians from the highest level and the operation of the Nairobi Plan Action will be reviewed, as well as the situation of each aspect covered by the Treaty. A new Action Plan for the next five years must also be produced. There are many challenges to be faced by the international community and the organising country.

The venue chosen for the conference is significant. It is often seen as recognition for a country's work on the landmines issue, or helps raise awareness of the subject in the country or region. Colombia was a controversial choice because while its government has been strongly committed to organising the event, some sectors of civil society were not in agreement, as they felt that the Colombian government wanted to use the beauty of Cartagena as a backdrop and to present a situation that is very different to the real conditions in the country, in order to obtain political benefits.

Colombia is involved in an armed internal conflict in which non-State actors continue to use landmines and booby traps; it is the only country in America and one of the few countries in the world where mines are laid every day; between 1990 and June 2009, the total number of recorded victims of landmines, unexploded ammunition and explosive devices was 7,885, of which 35% were civilians<sup>4</sup>.

The Colombian government must respond to issues that it has so far avoided, such as landmine removal for humanitarian reasons. Numerous communities (including many indigenous populations) live with the danger of landmines and their members are victims. In October, a leader of the Embera Katio people in the state of Cordoba, with which the Moviment per la Pau has very close links, trod on a landmine and died. Communities like these have been asking the government to help them remove the landmines and to allow the international community to work in the area, so that they are no longer subject to this threat.

These and other crucial subjects, such as compliance by many countries with the 10-year period (stipulated in article 5 of the treaty) for destroying all anti-personnel mines in areas under their control will be discussed in Cartagena. Moviment per la Pau will be there to play an active role both as a member and an official representative of the ICBL and as an NGO that has been working with co-operation projects since 2004, and to make its own small but significant contribution.

1. To consult the complete list, see: <http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Universal/MBT/States-Parties>

2. <http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Library/News-Articles/The-Treaties/Nairobi-Action-Plan>

3. The annual meetings of States Parties are held alternately in Geneva (at the United Nations offices in the city) and in a country affected by landmines, while the Review Conferences are held in affected countries.

4. <http://lm.icbl.org/index.php/publications/display?url=lm/2008/countries/colombia.html>

## What happens when a treaty has been signed?

### The case of mines: The *Landmine Monitor* and the Geneva Call

Javier Alcalde

Specialist, ICIP research area



In the case of landmines, after the signing of the treaty (in December 1997, although it came into force on 1 March 1999), the network of NGOs (ICBL) was given an institutional structure, and the structure was decentralised (until that point it had to some extent been dominated by Anglophones) and a highly functional website was also created. New objectives were also designed and major efforts made to produce a mean for verifying the Convention. Every year, the Landmine Monitor reports remind us that a lot of work has been done, but that there is still a lot to do.

Each Landmine Monitor report contains over 1,000 pages, and between 60 and 100 people are involved in its publication, which is in the six official languages of the United Nations (English, Arabic, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish and French). It is presented every year at the meeting of the states party to the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines. Initially, it contained a chapter on every country in the world, but

in recent years it has focused on affected countries. The 2008 report contains information on 120 countries and covers the following areas: countries' ban policy, their use, production, transfer and storage of mines, demining, risk education on explosive devices (given to 8 million people in 2007), victim assistance and financial support for mine action (which fell by 9.5% compared to 2006, despite Spain's contribution increasing by 25%).

There have been six major successes in the implementation of the mine ban treaty: (a) The production of anti-personnel mines has declined considerably and the trade has practically ended (in 2007, mines were only known to have been used by Russia and Myanmar- neither of which are member states of the Convention - and non-state armed actors in 9 countries); (b) many stockpiled mines have been destroyed; (c) large areas of land have been cleared of mines and prepared for productive use (122 km<sup>2</sup> were cleared around the world in 2007); (d) internationally, there are less and less victims of mines; (e) the use of mines has ended in countries where it was very common, such as Angola and Sri Lanka; and (f) the treaty has been reinforced with the inclusion of new countries, and even non-signatory states and non-state armed actors are responding to international pressure and behaving in accordance with the spirit of the treaty.

In this phase, there is a special focus on non-state armed actors. As in other conventions, only states can be party to the Mine Ban Treaty. Non-state actors cannot participate in treaty negotiations or sign them, although calculations suggest that today, anti-personnel mines are a weapon that is used mainly by non-state armed groups. For this reason, a specific document for them has been created: the Deed of Commitment. In March 2009, the Geneva Call organisation obtained the first signature on the Deed of Commitment to the Geneva Call for a total prohibition of anti-personnel mines and co-operation in action against landmines.

A few days before the first meeting to review the treaty (in Nairobi in 2004), the Geneva Call organised in a parallel meeting for non-state actors in Geneva - the first meeting of signatories to the Deed of Commitment to the Geneva Call, to reassert that non-state actors are one of the most important areas of work for NGOs working in the landmines area. The Non-status armed actors are aware of the impact of this commitment in terms of international credibility and legitimacy.

39 armed groups in Burma/Myanmar, Burundi, India, Iran, Iraq, the Philippines, Somalia, Sudan, Western Sahara and Turkey have now agreed to co-operate with the initiative against landmines using this mechanism. In November 2008, 16,000 landmines had been destroyed by groups that are signatories to the Deed of Commitment.

The Geneva Call is also a pioneer in a field that as yet has received little attention, and covers the potential synergies between various networks working in interrelated areas. In other words, there is a need for effective co-ordination between campaigns with shared objectives both in Spain and internationally. Examples of this are regular exchanges of information, participation in joint events and exchanging effective strategies. If a campaign's success has positive effects for other campaigns in the same sector, designing strategies fostering co-operation between networks with related objectives should be considered. As mentioned above, the Geneva Call and its recent decision to use the contacts and experience it has gained in recent years to include protection of women and children in situations of armed conflict in its work with non-state actors is a model for good practice. In specific terms, this involves adding the commitment not to use child soldiers to the declarations signed on anti-personnel mines, for example. Going beyond landmines, the objective is to make non-state armed actors comply with the standards of international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

## Despite treaties, can we be sure that the manufacture of prohibited weapons does not persist?

Tica Font  
ICIP Director



The countries that signed the mine ban treaty have made a commitment not to manufacture, sell, use, or stockpile mines, and to destroy those they possess. This commitment has only been made by the countries that signed the treaty. The countries that did not sign are free to manufacture, export, and use mines in their territory or in the territories where they operate. Companies manufacturing mines in countries that have signed the treaty cannot produce them inside the country itself, but can transfer technologies or hold shares in companies in other countries so that mines continue to be produced, exported and used.

Mines and cluster bombs are cheap weapons that require intermediate technologies. These two factors mean that for the governments of leading arms-producing countries, if public opinion wants prohibition, prohibiting their manufacture in the country itself is no major problem. In the Spanish arms industry, the economic volume generated by mines production is insignificant.

These factors - costs and low technology - are crucial in the international distribution of arms production. While countries in the industrialised world manufacture weapons requiring high technology, low or intermediate technology weapons are produced in emerging or developing countries such as Israel, Brazil, Egypt and South Africa. These countries are increasingly significant players in arms production and exportation.

The biggest arms trade fair in Latin America, LAAD, took place between 14 and 17 April 2009. The show was held in Rio de Janeiro and was attended by leading Spanish arms production companies, including EXPAL (which is part of the Maxam group). After the fair, EXPAL announced that it had signed a cooperation contract with IMBEL and ENGEPRON, two Brazilian companies manufacturing explosives and ammunition.

Of the two contracts, the bigger cause for concern is the one that Expal has signed with Imbel. Imbel is a company that supplies the Brazilian army with portable weapons, ammunition, explosives and communication equipment. Why is this contract a cause for concern? Although its terms have not yet been disclosed, because of the similarities in production between the two companies, it is possible that a technology transfer may take place, so that Imbel manufactures cluster bombs with technology developed by Expal, as the latter cannot produce these weapons in Spain due to Spain having signed the Ottawa and Oslo treaties.

The signing of the Treaties by the Spanish government means that two Spanish companies manufacturing mines and bombs, Expal and Instalaza, have to cease producing and exporting them. However, the Spanish government must go further and prohibit by law any type of relationship between Spanish citizens and mines and cluster bombs. This means Spanish financial institutions' financing of and shareholdings in military industries outside Spanish territory. It is unacceptable that while Spain undertakes not to manufacture and sell this type of weapon, Spanish banks finance production in other countries that have not signed the treaty.

Brazil is a country that has not signed the treaty against cluster bombs. Brazil also has an explosives industry capable of producing these bombs and exporting them. For this reason, one might think that with the signing of this cooperation contract between Expal and Imbel, the Spanish company is passing on the technology to manufacture cluster bombs to the Brazilian company. It needs to be made clear at this point that we are not saying that this has happened. But what is also true is that current legislation would allow it.

If this trend continues, this is a matter for grave concern, because as disarmament and control campaigns are successful in industrialised countries and commitments are made by governments, the industry transfers production to countries that are not party to any international commitments. The rich and industrialised countries produce sophisticated and expensive weapons, while developing countries produce intermediate weapons, which are cheaper and cause the most harm to human life. As a result, the most socially controversial weapons will continue to reach destinations that they should not reach.

## Civil society and disarmament: 20 years of campaigns

Jordi Armadans  
Fundació per la Pau



The last 20 years have been fruitful and given grounds for hope in the disarmament arena. They have been fruitful because of the results obtained and hopeful in terms of the indications on how and where to move forward. This is a brief review of the campaigns for arms prohibition and control, and so that the article does not become too long, we have left out the campaigns on the rest of the armaments cycle (peace campaigns, campaigns against military research, BBVA without arms) and those against global militarism (conscientious objection, refusal to do military service, refusal to pay taxes for military purposes, schools for conscientious objection, against militarism on public holidays, anti-warship campaigns, etc.) which have also have a significant impact in Spain.

The second half of the twentieth century saw a considerable militarization of the economy, politics and international relations, which led to an arms race that span out of control. Despite some limited agreements on nuclear weapons, disarmament remained a goal rather than a tangible result. However, the end of the Cold War led to a change: while the much-desired 'peace dividend' did not come to fruition, neither governments, nor the media nor public opinion was able to ignore the new situations that were developing. First, many previously hidden conflicts became much more visible, as did serious humanitarian crises caused by armed conflicts. Second, it became apparent that the arms trade was as opaque as it was free of controls. Finally, it became obvious that nuclear weapons are not the only weapons, and in practical terms, are not the most serious cause for concern.

In this context, various international NGOs concerned at the humanitarian impact of anti-personnel mines established the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) in 1992, which was a major step forward in the classic struggle for disarmament: it did not aim for all-encompassing or unachievable objectives, but instead focused on very specific aims (prohibiting mines), while following a carefully-planned strategy and working with other actors (diplomats, governments, the press, etc.) and thinking in global terms. Thanks to the efforts of the Campaign and the governments involved, the 'Ottawa Process' was brought to a successful conclusion with the adoption of a Convention that prohibited mines. Two months later, it received the Nobel Prize Peace.

As for the arms trade, various public initiatives demanded the adoption of a European Code of Conduct based on the Common Criteria established in the early 1990s. The Code was finally adopted in 1998 and 10 years later, it became a Common Position, which is binding on EU member states.

The IANSA network was presented publicly during the II Hague Conference in 1999. It aims to focus attention on small arms which are in fact the most lethal weapons. The Control Arms Campaign (promoted by Amnesty International, IANSA and Oxfam) subsequently created a new framework for global action, which after unceasing work led to some progress. For example, on 30 October this year at the United Nations, 153 states approved a resolution calling for moves towards a Treaty regulating the arms trade, a milestone which we would have thought impossible just ten years ago.

Based on the experience of campaigns against landmines, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) was formed in 2003. Working outside the UN, and with support from some governments, it succeeded in beginning a diplomatic process in 2007, which a year later would lead to the adoption of a Convention prohibiting cluster bombs.

Although there are various precedents in Catalonia and in Spain, the most direct is the creation of the Campaign Against the Arms Trade (C3A) in 1988, with the support of the CDDT, *Fundació per la Pau and Justícia i Pau*, among other organisations.

A few years later, the Spanish government made its first commitment to taking direct action in the political arena, in addition to condemnations and awareness-raising. In the mid-1990s, four NGOs (Amnesty International, Greenpeace, Intermón and *Metges Sense Fronteres*) answered the call of Vicenç Fisas and started the "Secrets that kill" campaign, which called for government transparency in the arms trade. The campaign helped to raise the media profile of the problem and to create a framework for a stable relationship between the political world and NGOs on the arms trade which would ultimately have an impact. Indeed, after two more campaigns (Farewell to Arms and Arms under control, the Spanish response to Control Arms) and all the work done by NGOs, groups and researchers on dissemination, condemnation and action, the Arms Trade Law was approved in 2007, and was the first legal instrument to prevent much of the lack of transparency that had surrounded the arms trade in Spain since 1986.

There has also been involvement in and monitoring of the two international disarmament processes that have been successfully concluded. In 1995, various NGOs were behind the 'End Mines' campaign, and 2008 saw the birth of the

Barcelona CMC (*Fundació per la Pau, Justícia i Pau* and *Moviment per la Pau*) which with Greenpeace was responsible for most of the denunciations and impact on the government. Despite initial doubts, the Government has in fact met its obligations: it has signed and ratified the treaties and destroyed its stockpiles.

In short, the last twenty years have been important for disarmament and the breakthroughs made have been driven by civil society. This shows the capacity for change that can be generated. It is also an optimistic sign for overcoming the injustices and violence that surround us.

## IN DEPTH

### THE INTERVIEW

#### Interview with Doug Weir



The co-ordinator of the international network against depleted uranium talks to us about various aspects related to depleted uranium, and the organisations and institutions working on this problem.

#### 1. Why was the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons (ICBUW) established?

The campaigns against depleted uranium (DU) in Europe, the USA and Japan have gone from strength to strength and formed networks since the late 1990s, when concern over the possible impact of uranium weapons began. By 2003, a great deal of progress had been made in the debates on the best way of dealing with this issue, and the founder members of the Coalition were beginning to see that the international campaign to ban landmines had to establish a very important precedent. This was the trigger for the launch of an international coalition to campaign for a treaty prohibiting the use of uranium in all non-nuclear weapons. Since then, this stance has been justified by the success of the Cluster Munition Coalition and by our own achievements.

#### 2. What have been the main successes so far?

The ICBUW has done a great deal of work in the international arena. This has led to two resolutions by the United Nations General Assembly, which were both approved by large majorities. The second of these texts was approved in 2008; it highlighted serious health concerns about uranium weapons, and called on the UNO agencies to update their studies on the potential impact of uranium on health. It was approved with 141 states voting in favour and 5 against.

We have also worked closely with members of the European Parliament. The Parliament has approved several resolutions on uranium weapons; of those, the most thorough and wide-ranging was the one passed in May 2008. The text called for a moratorium covering the entire EU, and for more studies and projects raising awareness of the risks, and was supported by 94% of the European MPs. A resolution based on this text has recently been presented to the Latin American Parliament, which approved it.

Elsewhere, our activists have had considerable success in national arenas, especially in Belgium, where a law prohibiting uranium weapons came into force on 21 June this year. We anticipate that Costa Rica will soon follow Belgium's example. We have also received support from EUROMIL - the umbrella group for European military personnel associations, His Holiness the Dalai Lama and recently, from the Norwegian government, which has started to finance part of our research work.

However, the most important thing is that these successes have contributed to placing uranium weapons on the international disarmament agenda and to making a Convention on uranium weapons a realistic possibility.



### **3. What lessons have been learnt which will be useful in future campaigns?**

For me, there are two main lessons; first, you should never underestimate what you can achieve on a limited budget and second, that precision and transparency of figures must be the main priority in any campaign. A third could be that you should always stay focused on your message. The area we work in is very complex, and it is too easy to get distracted in scientific and technical debates. It is also very easy to forget our message, which is quite simple - it is immoral to pollute the environment with toxic and radioactive waste, when you are well aware of its potential to harm human and environmental health.

### **4. What are the main challenges for the future?**

In September 2010, the UN General Assembly will again debate the issue of uranium weapons. The result of the debate will depend on the position taken by the World Health Organisation (WHO). So far their position on uranium weapons has been political rather than scientific. This is completely inconsistent with their responsibility to protect public health and as you would expect, many governments and even NATO hide behind the WHO's position. Until the WHO accepts that depleted uranium is carcinogenic - which is supported by an enormous and growing body of peer-reviewed data and also by the IARC, its own agency specialising in cancer — progress will be difficult.

Another challenge is extending the precautionary principle to uranium weapons. Obviously, it is impossible to analyse uranium using humans, but tests with cells and animals show that it can cause a great deal of harm. Nevertheless, some governments are unwilling to take action until we can present them with a direct causal link between exposure and damage to health. But demanding that is equivalent to not understanding the nature of the threat; as with asbestos, environmental pollution by uranium ammunition is a long-term threat to the health of the civilian population. This threat may take many years to become apparent - we simply cannot wait that long or wait for these weapons to be used again. If uranium was a cosmetic, a medicine or a consumer product, its toxicity levels would have been enough to prohibit it but just because it is a weapon, the governments say that these criteria don't apply to it.

### **5. Would you like to say anything else to our readers?**

So far, Spain's international response to the issue of uranium weapons has been disappointing. In the two votes at the UN, it has adopted a pro-NATO position and abstained. In 2008, while Austria, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Switzerland and the Netherlands were among the 141 states that expressed their concern and demanded more research, Spain (and Portugal) fell into line with Turkey and Russia, the main exporters of uranium, and some pro-NATO states that are candidates for EU membership, and abstained on this issue.

We currently believe that this situation is unlikely to change without a forceful response from civil society. For the ICBUW, it will be a pleasure to support all organisations, interested in promoting the Spanish government's acceptance of the position of both the European Parliament and of many of its European neighbours. We would extend a warm welcome to any NGO wanting to join our Coalition. Visit [www.bandedpleteduranium.org](http://www.bandedpleteduranium.org) for more information.

## IN DEPTH

### FINDING OUT MORE

**Javier Alcalde Villacampa. International disarmament campaigns: a review of the issue. Office for the Promotion of Peace and Human Rights, 2009. Peace and human rights materials collection; 14.**

This working material provides an overview of the situation in four of the most important international campaigns for disarmament and human security: anti-personnel mines, small arms and the arms trade, children soldiers and cluster bombs. The text looks at international processes and the participation of Catalan and Spanish civil society in them, and stresses the need to increase co-operation between the various initiatives.

**Maxwell A. Cameron; Brian W. Tomlin; Robert J. Lawson (Eds.). To Walk without Fear: The Global Movement to Ban Landmines. Oxford University Press, 1998**

A classic work, written mainly by the key players (activists, diplomats and academics) in the global movement that achieved the prohibition of anti-personnel mines. The book was written just after this milestone was achieved and the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the international campaign and its co-ordinator Jody Williams in 1997.

**John Borrie. Unacceptable Harm: A History of How the Treaty to Ban Cluster Munitions Was Won. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, 2009.**

This book, which focuses on the cluster bombs prohibition process, will be published in December 2009. The author, who has experience in the academic, research and diplomatic spheres, witnessed all the negotiations at first hand and is one of the most authoritative voices in the community of activists and diplomats to produce a report of this scope.

**Jody Williams; Mary Wareham; Stephen D. Goose (Eds). Banning Landmines: Disarmament, Citizen Diplomacy, and Human Security. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2008.**

Ten years after the signing of the anti-mines treaty, the leaders of international civil society who played a leading role reflect on the post-treaty phase of the campaign, offering their experience for initiatives in the future, as well as acknowledging their errors. The book also provides a first-hand analysis of the links between the anti-personnel mine process and the cluster bomb process.

**Javier Alcalde Villacampa. The international campaign to prohibit cluster bombs: the Oslo Process. Fundació per la Pau, 2009. (in Catalan)**

The report details the background and process which led to the ratification of an international treaty prohibiting cluster bombs in just over two years. It looks at how the process moved forward from its beginnings, promoted by the Norwegian government, and the signing of the treaty at the Oslo Conference in December 2008. It also considers the creation and the work done by the international network of NGOs behind the campaign, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC).  
[http://www.fundacioperlapau.org/arxiu\\_documental/documents/proces\\_oslo.pdf](http://www.fundacioperlapau.org/arxiu_documental/documents/proces_oslo.pdf)

**Landmine Monitor.**

<http://www.icbl.org/lm>

This is the most important report on verification of states' compliance with the mine ban treaty. It is produced by a network of researchers in international civil society, and published every year in the six official languages of the United Nations.

**Disarmament insight.**

<http://disarmamentinsight.blogspot.com/>

This blog was begun in March 2007 by John Borrie of the UNIDIR and Patrick McCarty of the Geneva Forum. The starting point for the blog was to pass on the results of the UNIDIR project "Disarmament as Humanitarian Action: Making Multilateral Negotiations work (DHA)". It continues to monitor key disarmament processes and provides a viewpoint which acts as a bridge between the diplomatic community in the disarmament arena and humanitarian activists on the ground.

**Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty.**

<http://www.apminebanconvention.org/review-conferences/second-review-conference/>

Official Website of the Second Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty. Contains information on the Cartagena Conference in November 2009, including the schedule of activities and official documents.

## PLATFORM

### Climate change and armed conflicts

**Mabel González Bustelo**

Head of the Conflicts and the Environment campaign, Greenpeace Spain



For many years, climate change was seen as an environmental problem, but one aspect which was given little consideration is its possible relationship with the number and intensity of armed conflicts in the world. This has started to change. In recent years, a growing number of academics and institutions have begun to analyse the possible consequences of climate change for the frequency and distribution of violence in the world. The UN Security Council debated this issue for the first time in 2007, as a threat to peace and global security.

The most recent reports make it clear show that climate change will have the harshest consequences for people who live in poverty, in developing or unstable countries and in those that are poorly governed. Furthermore, in these cases climate change will be combined with economic and socio-political problems to increase the risk of violence. There are four basic risk factors: political instability, economic weakness, food insecurity and large-scale migrations.

According to the organisation International Alert, there are 46 countries in the world where climate change, combined with problems of this nature that already exist, will lead to a high risk of violent conflicts. 2,700 million people live in these countries. In another 56 countries, there will be a high risk of instability due to the inability of their Governments and state structures to meet the challenges of the new conditions. 1,200 million more people live in these countries. This means that in much of the world, climate change may have a direct effect on peace and stability if combined with other vulnerability factors that are already present.

Although the present vulnerabilities and new conditions will combine in different ways in different countries and regions, there are some key factors that should be taken into account. An essential factor will be the availability of water. More than 400 million people currently do not have stable and secure supplies of this resource, and this number will increase in the future. This will probably lead to tensions in fast-growing countries such as India and China, where demand is growing much faster than the supply available. This is also the case in the Middle East, where there is already tension over the management of hydrographic basins shared between different countries.

The change in global temperatures and the change in rainfall patterns will affect harvests, leading to a reduction in places like southern Africa and central and southern Asia, which already suffer from food insecurity. The projected rise in sea levels as a consequence of the melting of the icecaps will affect populations living in coastal areas, and reduce the availability of land in areas such as southern Asia. Many of the 200 million people living in coastal alluvial areas will be affected by this rise.

In areas like the Sahel, desertification is already affecting the availability of arable land and therefore food. The rise in temperatures and longer warm seasons will also enlarge the regions affected by diseases such as cholera and malaria, which could lead to more epidemics.

The conflict in Darfur (Sudan) has been described as the first climate change war. No conflict has one single cause, and factors such as a history of government neglect, institutional weakness, the proliferation of weapons (especially among young people), the lack of formal and informal mechanisms for negotiating access to resources and the distribution of power between different groups have come together. All this is in addition to the encroachment of the desert, with the consequences for the retreat of arable land and the exhaustion of water sources, which has led to competition for access to these resources among farmers and shepherds who had traditionally shared them.

Organisations such the International Federation of the Red Cross and Oxfam have warned of an increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters as a consequence of this phenomenon. In 2007, more than 20 African countries and 11 in Asia suffered from the worst flooding in decades. The number of tropical storms and hurricanes and their intensity has also increased.

A final risk factor is that large numbers of people are very likely to move and migrate as a response to scarcity and loss of ways of life. Forecasts suggest that people will leave rural areas that can no longer provide enough to live and move into the cities, and even to other countries. Although migrations are not in themselves necessarily sources of conflict, they may be if they lead to an increase in poverty and urban exclusion - often linked to

violence - or if the people involved go to other places where the population already lives in precarious conditions and they are seen as competitors for scarce resources.

Obviously, climate change is not and will not be the only source of tension. But it may have serious consequences for global peace and security, especially in areas where its effects are added to conditions of poverty and inequality, and a history of violence, political instability and bad government. The latter is very important, as inefficient and weak state structures will be less able to promote adaptation, or to negotiate an equitable outcome for all the social groups affected.

The lack of legitimacy is a key factor in the weakness of states: when citizens do not receive answers to their problems, it is easier to seek solutions by violent means. That is why climate change is a further risk to the weakness being faced by numerous countries and populations around the world.

## The universal jurisdiction is curtailed in Spain

**Antoni Pigrau Solé**

Professor, Department of Public International Law. Rovira i Virgili University



Spanish law, by means of Article 23.4 of the Judicial Power Organic Act, has acknowledged the principle of the universal jurisdiction for crimes of varying severity for some years, and it is particularly applicable to the most serious crimes (genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity). In Spain, anyone with Spanish nationality can bring a penal action, even if they are not the direct victim of the crime. This has led to Spain becoming the jurisdiction of choice for numerous victims from various countries when making claims which would not be heard in their countries of origin.

As a direct result of political pressure from countries including China, the United States and Israel, which have been affected by several cases opened in the Audiencia Nacional Court, the Spanish Government, with the support of other parliamentary groups, has reformed article 23.4, with the sole objective of restricting the scope of the universal jurisdiction. The reform, was approved by the Congress on 7 June and by the Senate on 7 October, with some minor amendments. It is pending

publication in the Official State Bulletin.

This development can be criticised from many perspectives, which cannot all be considered in detail here. They can be summarised as follows:

- \* The reform was carried out surreptitiously, during the approval of a law which has little to do with this subject - the Law reforming the procedural legislation for the establishment of the new Judicial Office.

- \* In technical terms, the reform was hasty, and mixed up different penal principles, including those of the State's passive personality and its protective principle. It also failed to consider the consequences for other crimes such as drug trafficking and piracy, as it will also restrict the pursuit of perpetrators of these crimes. Furthermore, the wording is extremely inadequate in some points, which means that a challenge on the grounds of unconstitutionality is possible, due to its incompatibility with obligations assumed in the past under the terms of various international treaties.

- \* As regard the contents, it severely limits the scope of the universal jurisdiction in two ways. The first of these is the requirement that "the alleged perpetrators must be proven to be in Spain or there must be proven victims with Spanish nationality, or some proven significant connection with Spain". The second is the stipulation that a case cannot be heard in Spain if proceedings concerning the same events have begun in another competent country or in an international court, and it must be closed in Spain when there is evi-

dence of other proceedings concerning the events reported beginning in another competent country or in an international court. This is at variance with the priority given to States vis-à-vis the International Criminal Court (ICC).

At this point, it is vital to stress that genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity are always unacceptable under all circumstances, even when they take place elsewhere in the world and even when there are no victims or perpetrators from the country concerned. No means of pursuit is superfluous in an international situation in which the prevailing norm in these cases is to turn a blind eye to what is taking place.

Despite the fact that the reform has not completely closed off all avenues to the universal jurisdiction, some cases that are open and which have been built up after a great deal of effort and no little risk to the judges, lawyers and victims concerned, will be dismissed. In short, with this law Spain will have increased the impunity and facilitated the freedom of movement of alleged criminals, and satisfied the countries that protect them. This is precisely the opposite of Spain's stated intention when it ratified the ICC Statute.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### **The culture of peace and public education: a comparative study of various textbooks in third year secondary education in Catalonia.**

*The culture of peace and public education: a comparative study of various textbooks in third year secondary education in Catalonia.* Barcelona: Catalan Federation of NGOs for Peace, 2009



This publication by the Catalan Federation of NGOs for Peace welcomes the inclusion of Education for Citizenship in the school curriculum, providing that this subject does not become a mere statement of good intentions, but is instead taught with consistency in its content, methodology, attitudes and also educational times and structures. In other words, it should increase critical awareness and enable learning of how to think and act in other ways.

The study, written by members of peace NGOs, analyses six textbooks in third year secondary education textbooks, using ten indicators relating to the concept and practice of peace, the idea of violence and the view of conflict. The book's conclusions suggest that the materials analysed can be improved from the perspective of positive peace, that there is no common conceptual framework, the gender perspective is absent and the methodologies used are mostly intellectual or cognitive. The authors recommend reinforcement of a methodology that is socioaffective, participative and co-operative, and work based on local conditions in order to subsequently increase the levels of intervention.

As well as the results of the analysis of the texts, the study provides a conceptual framework for each of the ten indicators that provide a means of covering the subject based on a culture of peace. The guide is therefore a tool for reflection and work by teachers teaching Education for Citizenship; a subject that must include all the content and proposals of Education for Peace.

### **SustainableSecurity.org**

<http://sustainablesecurity.org>



The Oxford Research Group (<http://oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk>) is a well-known institution in the arena of security and the construction of peace and development, among other areas. The list of its collaborators in its various programmes is truly impressive: an example of this is the team of twenty people committed to the programme on human security and the Middle East.

Recently, a new website was launched on the eighth anniversary of 11 September 2001 - SustainableSecurity.org (<http://sustainablesecurity.org>) which is a platform helping to understand the real threats to the planet in the twenty-first century, as well as the policies that must be implemented to confront the profound causes - the roots - of these threats. Its objective is therefore to make the best thought and the best analysis from as sources as varied as possible accessible to everyone.

In specific terms, the website is organised around four interconnected factors and/or forced behind global insecurity:

- \* Climate change
- \* Competition for natural resources
- \* International militarization
- \* Poverty and social exclusion

## 2009 Atlas of Militarism in Spain

JM Delàs Centre of Peace Studies. *2009 Atlas of Militarism in Spain*. Barcelona: Icaria, 2009



It is gratifying to find a publication that is useful for professionals, activists and informed citizens, or one which aims to be. Until now, none had been published that provided an overall analysis of militarism in Spain. The Delàs Centre, with over 10 years experience in studying this area, has rectified this situation. It is not analysed at universities, but with a plural civil society that is eager for studies, the stricter side of antimilitarism, takes the form of the publication of the Atlas, which does not shy from condemnation where necessary.

The eight chapters of the book cover expenditure on arms, the industry, the trade, financing, defence policy, military operations, and an overview of military life and disarmament campaigns. While produced by different researchers from the centre, they all follow the same pattern: an introduction, relevant comments and conclusions, thereby facilitating understanding. Worthy of special mention is the extensive use made of tables, graphs and maps which as well as summarising the information, make it extremely clear.

## Security and the War on Terror

Alex J. Bellamy; Roland Bleiker; Sara E. Davies; Richard Devetak (eds.). *Security and the War on Terror*. New York: Routledge; Taylor and Francis Group, 2008.



This interdisciplinary compilation of essays explores contemporary security politics with regards to the current 'war on terror.' Its contributors come from a predominately Australian Schools background, providing a critical understanding of anti-terrorist politics while wishing to offer concrete and practical responses. The book presents how the attacks of 9/11 challenged dominant security and strategic thinking of threats within the Western world due to its asymmetric nature and unpredictability. Yet the authors demonstrate how the response to these acts, through the American led 'war on terror,' followed the traditionalist school of dualism and militarism, which dominated American foreign policy during the Cold War. The individual contributions then appeal to arguments and elements located within international law, international ethics, feminism and post-modernism to discuss the inter-level consequences of such realist embedded policies against international terrorism.

## Zamenhof: the author of Esperanto

Boulton, Marjorie. *Zamenhof: the author of Esperanto*. Barcelona: El Llamp, 1987.



Now is a good time to look at the historic figure of Ludwik Łazarz Zamenhof, the creator of the universal auxiliary language. The 150th anniversary of his birth falls on 15th December. And last September was the 100th anniversary of the Barcelona international congress, opened by the then acting mayor Francesc Layret, at which king Alfonso XIII awarded Zamenhof the Order of Isabella the Catholic. Indeed, at that time, he received many prizes and met politicians from the highest levels wherever he went. A Floral Games poetry contest in Esperanto was held at the congress, and the winner was one Carles Riba.

More than anything else, Zamenhof was a man of peace, who suffered from anti-Semitism as a child and who unlike others who became firmly committed to Zionism, he rejected nationalism and created an easy and neutral means of communication. He devised Esperanto as a Utopian ideal, which he in fact first conceived of as an adolescent.

Marjorie Boulton's biography is not the first, or the last, or even the most accurate. But as Jordi Carbonell i Pinyol, the translator of the Catalan version says, it could perhaps be the one with the most inspired balance between erudite documentation and the emotive nature of the subject, and it is undoubtedly one of the most well received among the Esperanto community. The author tells us how Zamenhof had to rebuild his entire

language project from memory, as his father (who earned his living as a censor) destroyed the first draft while he was studying medicine, to prevent him from having problems in the future. We are also surprised to learn the extent to which he was a charitable and humanitarian doctor, who did not charge the poorest peasants for his services. In short, it is a book that gives an insight into the life story of someone who inspired (and continues to inspire) pacifist action around the world.

## Women and war

Cynthia Cockburn. *Women and war*. Barcelona: Icaria, 2009.



Cynthia Cockburn is a well-known researcher who in recent years has focused on studying gender issues in armed conflicts and peace processes. She is also a committed activist in the international anti-militarism network Women in Black. This has given her access to other female anti-war activists and in her own words, has led to a research from within that has a specific objective: to reinforce and provide information for the women's organisations that she studies.

For two years, she compiled the experiences and thoughts of women in places as far-flung as Sierra Leone, Colombia and India, and from women on the two sides of a conflict (Israel-Palestine and ex-Yugoslavia). The differences that emerge and the debates on pacifism are linked with what she calls localisation: the various positions created by different perspectives on war.

Despite this, the author provides an initial outline of transnational anti-militarist feminism and its theoretical contributions. She says that it is impossible to understand war without considering women's perspectives, because gender relations operate within the arena of militarism and war. Militarism therefore reinforces patriarchy and militarism needs patriarchy: men make war, but war also makes men. A reading of this book shows that working effectively towards demilitarisation and peace involves revising and changing masculinities and the relations created by patriarchy.



## NEWS

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### **The United States Institute of Peace celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary**

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary in October 2009. This is an independent non-party political institution created by the United States Congress, to implement an idea conceived of by the United States' founding fathers: "if we need a War Department, it will also be necessary to create one for Peace".

The USIP has three main objectives: a) to prevent and resolve violent international conflicts; b) to promote post-conflict stability and development; and c) to increase conflict management capacity, tools, and intellectual capital worldwide. To do so, it strives to empower people and institutions by means of knowledge, resources and efforts to build and consolidate peace all over the world.

In the last twenty-five years its growth has been impressive:

- \* Its employees have increased from 3 people to 151.
- \* It has published 148 books (the first in 1991) and over 400 publications.
- \* It has awarded 2046 grants (since 1986)
- \* It has hosted 549 visiting lecturers
- \* It has recently worked in the field in Afghanistan, the Balkans, Colombia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Nepal, Nigeria, Sudan, Pakistan, the Palestinian Territories and Uganda.

#### **The Treaty of Lisbon and other European Union news**

The recent ratification of the Treaty of Lisbon by the Czech Republic makes the 1 December the most likely date for its entry into force. Some of the most visible changes in the new treaty are in the institutional sphere, with the creation of a President of the European Union Council. The High Representative for Foreign Policy will also become Vice-President of the Council. This reinforcement of the EU's outer layer is even more apparent with the creation of the European External Action Service, which is planned to have over 130 embassies, thereby becoming the world's largest diplomatic network. In the midst of all this political and diplomatic commotion, Spain assumes the EU presidency during the first six months of 2010. Such a stormy scenario could make the presidency a gift, but it could also be a poisoned chalice. We will see how things have developed in July 2010.

#### **Agreement to produce an Arms Trade Treaty**

Friday 30 October was a historic day: the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, agreed on a clear schedule for negotiating an Arms Trade Treaty, to control the transfer of conventional, small, light and heavy weapons. July 2012 is the date scheduled for the conference to approve the treaty. A key factor was the United States, which has traditionally been opposed, voting in favour, with other 152 countries. However, other major exporters and importers such as Russia and China were part of the group of 19 countries that abstained. Zimbabwe voted against.

There is still a long time to wait and numerous large hurdles to be overcome, in which procedural rules, and those relating to voting systems in particular, will be determining factors. The ICIP will monitor the situation and provide regular updates during the 32 months until the conference.

Finally, mention must be made of the leading role played by civil society, and especially by the Control Arms campaign <<http://www.controlarms.org/en/>>, which has been striving to achieve this result since 2003. The campaign consists of Amnesty International, Oxfam International and the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), of which the Fundació per la Pau is a member <[www.fundacioperlapau.org](http://www.fundacioperlapau.org)>.

## **Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. Copenhagen, 7-18 December 2009**

Climate change has entered the international arena with a major impact on the mass media. In specific terms, policies on climate change, and the reduction and/or neutralisation of greenhouse gas emissions in particular, have been at the centre of the international agenda since the preparation of the Rio de Janeiro conference (1992) and the signing of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, and have therefore been the focus of national and state policies. These commitments were subsequently clarified by the Kyoto Protocol. Indeed, the central item on the Copenhagen conference agenda is the replacement of the Protocol with a new commitment to corrective policies from 2012 onwards.

These policies are subject to agreements, objectives and schedules that are established internationally but must be complied with and implemented at a national level, with the obvious risk of failure to comply, or a breach of one or several phases of the implementation process.

The Convention and the Protocol divide the world into two groups: the developed countries and southern or developing countries. The countries in Annex I will be encouraged to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions from year 2000 to 1990 levels. Under the terms of the Convention, the developed countries will provide economic assistance to the southern countries. It is to be anticipated that these countries will co-operate in the arenas of science and technology transfer, so that countries in the south can adopt technologies that do not harm the climate, while they adapt to the possible impact of climate change.

The ICIP will soon look at the subject in detail in several publications.

United Nations Climate Change Conference website <<http://en.cop15.dk/frontpage>>.

Internacional Institute for Sustainable Development website <<http://www.iisd.org/>>.

## **Registration opens for the Forum 2010**

Registration is open and communications and activities can be presented for the Forum 2010 to be held in Santiago de Compostela between 9 and 13 December 2010. The Forum 2010 is an initiative promoted by the Galician Seminar of Education for Peace and the Fundació Cultura de Pau. It takes place under the auspices of the UNO and UNESCO.

The forum's main objectives include an analysis of the state of today's education, research and culture of peace while exchanging experiences and good practice. It also aims to consolidate peace networks and to promote legislation fostering education and the culture for peace.

Forum 2010 website <<http://www.foro2010.org/index.php/ca/inici.html>>

## NEWS

### ICIP NEWS

#### **The ICIP begins the second series of conferences on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict**

To mark the international seminar held behind closed doors 30 November and 2 December, the ICIP has organised a second series of conferences on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

While the first issue analysed the roots, development and human, social and economic costs of the conflict, and how it is viewed by external observers, this time it is the turn of Palestinian and Israeli Camp David negotiators and Palestinian and international humanitarian workers in Gaza to analyse the initiatives that are being undertaken to overcome the conflict and build peace.

The first of the public conferences, which will consider the Camp David negotiations, will be held on 30 November. The participants are Shlomo Ben-Ami, ex-Israeli Foreign Minister and head of the Israeli delegation at Camp David; Saëb Erakat, Palestinian diplomat and head of the Palestinian delegation at Camp David; Alberto Spektorowski, lecturer at the University of Tel Aviv and adviser to the Ben-Ami ministry during the Camp David negotiations and Hussein Agha, member of St. Antony's College Oxford, and an expert in conflicts.

#### **The ICIP begins its blog with a post on the international fishing situation in Somalia**

The Institute's Director, Tica Font, starts the debate on the ICIP blog, which aims to be a forum for reflections on the culture of peace.

The International Catalan Institute for Peace (ICIP) has begun its blog "The ICIP Blog", a forum for ideas and reflections on the culture of peace. The ICIP will thereby strengthen its Internet presence and open a new communication channel for stimulating debate in society on subjects relating to the culture of peace. The blog can be consulted at: <http://blocs.gencat.cat/blocs/AppPHP/ICIP/>.

The first post to be published, written by Tica Font, the ICIP Director, is entitled "Mercenaries against Somalian pirates" and is an open reflection, full of unresolved issues, on whether the State should be involved in the protection of private businesses or activities, such as the fishing fleet fishing in Somalian waters, and the various aspects to be considered.

The ICIP blog also includes a section with links to other blogs by members of the ICIP Board of Governors and to organisations and institutions linked to the Institute, as well as a number of interesting links about the culture of peace.

As well as a blog, the ICIP also has a profile on the social networks Facebook <<http://www.facebook.com/icip.perlapau>> and Twitter <<http://twitter.com/ICIPeace>>.

#### **The first three issues of the ICIP Working Papers collection are published**

The International Catalan Institute for Peace (ICIP) has published the first three issues in the ICIP Working Papers collection, which can be consulted on the ICIP website. The first issue, written by Rafael Grasa and Arnau Gutiérrez Camps, is entitled Conflict prevention and decentralized governance <[http://www.gencat.cat/icip/cat/butlleti\\_0/pdf/icipwp2009\\_01.pdf](http://www.gencat.cat/icip/cat/butlleti_0/pdf/icipwp2009_01.pdf)>. The second is Freedom from double jeopardy - the ne bis in idem rule - in the inter-American system of human rights and in comparative law, by Priscila Akemi Beltrame; and the third, written by Albert Caramés, talks about Elections in 2009? Progress and obstacles to the construction of peace in the Côte d'Ivoire.

The next issues scheduled are Hezbollah's Identities and their Relevance for Cultural and Religious IR, by Pol Morillas, and The Quest for Regulating the Global Diamond Trade, by Frankziska Bieri.

#### **Carlos Castresana analyses the current situation in Guatemala at the first ICIP debate**

**The judge and United Nations commissioner took part in the dinner and talk organised by the International Catalan Institute for Peace (ICIP).**

Carlos Castresana, a United Nations commissioner and president of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) participated in the dinner and talk organised last month by the ICIP, as part of the ICIP Debates. Castresana looked at the current situation in Guatemala and elsewhere in Latin America, with thirty guests, including José María Mena, the ex-Director of Public Prosecutions of Catalonia, leading figures in the peace movement and NGOs, from the academic and political world, experts in international law and journalists.

Carlos Castresana (born Madrid, 1957) has worked as a lawyer, magistrate, judge and a public prosecutor. He was assigned to the Catalonia and Madrid High Courts, and to the Special Anti-Drug and Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office and has been a Supreme Court Prosecutor. In September 2007, the United Nations General Secretary appointed him a commissioner of the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG), and Under-Secretary-General, a post he will hold until September 2011.

Castresana filed the original complaints made in 1996 on behalf of the Progressive Union of Prosecutors against the military juntas of Argentina and Chile, which began what came to be known as the "Pinochet Case" in the Spanish High Court.

#### **Thomas Nash, the next guest**

The next ICIP Debate, a breakfast with Thomas Nash, co-ordinator of the international coalition of NGOs against cluster bombs, will take place on 23 November. Nash will look briefly at the subject of "Breakthroughs in disarmament and human security: an assessment and perspectives" and the debate will then be opened to the floor.

### **The UN, the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia and the ICIP organise a course for mediators on indigenous peoples and the construction of peace**

The Catalan Government's secretary for Institutional Relations and Participation, Josep Vendrell, and the head of the Peace and Security department of the UN Staff College, Svenja Korth, opened the course on Indigenous peoples and peace: a collection of best practices, on Monday 9 November. The workshop, organised jointly by the Generalitat's Office for the Promotion Peace and Human Rights, the UN Staff College and the International Catalan Institute for Peace (ICIP), brought officials working on peace missions all over the world to Barcelona.

The workshop was for UN and Generalitat personnel, academic staff and those working in organisations in civil society, and was the result of an agreement between the Generalitat and the UN Staff College to make Catalonia the Spain's leading United Nations training centre. The objective was for participants to share their experiences and identify the best practices in the field of the construction of peace and indigenous peoples and to analyse experiences in countries including Bolivia, the Philippines, Guatemala, Peru and Kenya.

### **The ICIP and the Catalan Federation of NGOs hold the Peace Movement congress**

**The *Pati de Lletres* in the Faculty of Philology at the University of Barcelona was the venue for the event.**

On 13 and 14 November, the International Catalan Institute for Peace (ICIP) and the Catalan Federation of NGOs for Peace held the "Peace Movement Congress" in order to consider and debate the movement's current approaches, to identify new conditions, future challenges and possible adjustments to new focuses and strategies in order to increase their transformational effect in the social and political arena.

Neus Sotomayor, president of the Catalan Federation of NGOs for Peace, Xavier Badia, director of the Office for the Promotion of Peace and Human Rights of the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia, Andreu Felip, director of the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia Agency for Cooperation and Development, and Jordi Armadans, president of the Catalan Committee for the Promotion of Peace, opened the congress.

The opening lecture, "We can make peace", was given by Vicent Martínez Guzmán, director of the Chair in Philosophy for Peace at Universitat Jaume I in Castellón, and Rafael Grasa, the ICIP president, talked about "The ICIP and the Challenges of Constructing Peace".

On Saturday 14, several simultaneous working groups were organised (culture and education for peace, disarmament, militarization and security, conflict and peace processes) and Arcadi Oliveres, president of *Justícia i Pau* and the president of the International University of Peace of Sant Cugat del Vallès, gave a lecture on "The Situation of the Peace Movement in Spain".

#### **Background**

In February 2006, the Department of Institutional Relations of the Generalitat (Government) of Catalonia organised conferences on "The Peace Movement in Catalonia" to raise awareness of its history since the foundation of Pax Christi in 1953, which marked the beginning of the Movement. The Conferences provided cohesion and strength for the Peace Movement as a whole, and were the driving force behind new projects. Since then there have been important changes both internationally and in Catalonia, which in some ways could affect the general focus of the Peace Movement.

The Conference Programme PDF < [http://www.gencat.cat/icip/pdf/Triptic\\_MovPau\\_nov09.pdf](http://www.gencat.cat/icip/pdf/Triptic_MovPau_nov09.pdf) >

Rafael Grasa, ICIP President  
Tica Font, ICIP Director  
Javier Alcalde, Issue Co-ordinator  
Guifré Miquel, E-Review co-ordinator

#### **This issue involved the participation of:**

Pablo Aguiar, Javier Alcalde, Jordi Armadans, Rosa Bergés, Catherine Charret, Tica Font, Mabel González Bustelo, Rafael Grasa, Elena Grau, Guifré Miquel, Maria Josep Parés, Antoni Pigrau, Doug Weir

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