

English bulletin December 1, 2016

ELECTIONS – WHAT COMES NEXT ?

We've seen two shocking election results recently: the defeat of the referendum for the peace accords in Colombia, and the election of Donald Trump in the USA based on a racist and xenophobic campaign. What does it mean?

It means that voters in the two countries are alienated from their governments – quite simply, they do not trust the government. And they are angry.

So what comes next? Do we slide back into war or into fascism? Or do we return to the people, listen to their fears and anger, and organize them in the sense that Martin Luther King told us?: “**The supreme task is to organize and unite people so that their anger becomes a transforming force.**”

CPNN, this month, finds ample evidence that the **fightback to defend peace and human rights** is underway in both countries. It begins at the local level, as it must be if it is to be sustainable. And it is being led by young people, as it must be if it is to have the energy to succeed.

Already, there are plans for a massive **march of women** to take place in Washington on the day after the inauguration. We “will send a bold message to our new administration on their first day in office, and to the world that women’s rights are human rights.

We stand together, recognizing that defending the most marginalized among us is defending all of us.”





Thousands of students have staged walk-outs on college campuses across the United States, signalling their commitment to maintain “**sanctuary campuses**” to protect immigrant students. At the same time, the mayors of the largest American cities have pledged to maintain their policy of refusing to work with federal deportations. These include **Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York**. Not to mention entire states that are part of the sanctuary movement, including **California and New York**.

If you are out on the street talking to people, there is a **new sense of urgency and commitment** to get involved. “We’ve got a lot more work to do, now that Trump has been elected . . . more than ever, we need to work together for peace.”

People, especially youth, are training in methods of nonviolence, realizing that they will be put to the test in the coming times. For example, in **Tucson, Arizona**, students are taking the Kingian Nonviolence training program, which aims to “institutionalize and internationalize nonviolence.”

In Colombia, young people are training “to build capacities and to form ‘**Leaders animators**’ in the territory who can then promote a political culture of pardon and reconciliation.” Also, there is the development of **Municipal Peace Councils**, the Municipal Councils of Transitional Justice . . . to form the network of peacebuilding strategy at the municipal level.” This month, CPNN articles about these initiatives come from the Colombian departments of **Magdalena Centro, Cesar, Valle de Cauca and Antioquia**, some of the most populous of Colombia’s 32 departments.

Traditional peace and justice organizations, such as **Search for Common Ground**, **Pace e Bene**, **Nonviolent Peaceforce** and **American Civil Liberties Union** are deeply involved. But the energy is coming from young people to an extent that we have not seen since the revolutionary 60's. It is they who will determine the direction and the power of the movement.

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| <p>HUMAN RIGHTS</p>  <p>USA: 'Sanctuary campus' protests demand universities protect immigrants</p> | <p>WOMEN'S EQUALITY</p>  <p>Enough is enough: Oxfam seeks to end violence against women and girls once and for all</p> | <p>DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION</p>  <p>Tabling for peace in the USA: A new sense of urgency</p> | <p>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</p>  <p>47 of the world's poorest countries are aiming to hit 100% renewable energy</p> |
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TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



Niger: Niamey opens a forum on the culture of peace through religious dialogue in the subregion

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION



Antioquia, Colombia: Young people united by a Territorial Peace!

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



The International Society Culture of Peace: Solidarity concerts in Athens and Mytilini / Lesbos

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



Mexico: Sixteenth National Congress of Mediation inaugurated in Tlalnepantla

English bulletin November 1, 2016

RENEWABLE ENERGY IS ON THE MOVE!

Renewable sources of electricity overtook coal last year to become the largest source of installed capacity in the world, according to the [International Energy Agency](#).

[A recent graph is spectacular](#) showing how the cost of solar energy has come down while the volume deployed has gone up. In 1975 a silicon solar energy module cost over \$50 per watt, while now it is less than \$1 per watt. The milliwatts installed have risen from 1 to 115,000! Since 2000 the deployment of solar has doubled seven times.

And the trend promises to continue. Dubai recently received a bid for solar installations that would produce electricity at 3 cents per kilowatt hour, four times less than the average price paid for residential electricity in the United States. And the Middle East is not alone. Projects with similar low rates are reported from Mexico and China.

Last year, for the first time, global investment in renewable energy surpassed investment in fossil fuels. [This year's graph](#) shows \$286 billion dollar investment in renewable energy (mostly solar panels and wind mills) compared to \$130 billion for fossil fuels. Developing as well as developed countries are involved, including China (over \$100 billion), India (over \$10 billion), South Africa, Mexico, Chile, Morocco, Turkey and Uruguay (all over \$1 billion).

To some extent the change is simply driven by the profit motive of investors. Presumably that is the case for the **great investment by China**. The Chinese are not only making the largest investment in the world (by far!) but they are advancing renewable energy in other regions besides their own, for example, in **Latin America**.

At the same time, sometimes the investment comes from small startup companies such as the **Spanish Renewable Energy Cooperative**. Also the change is due to political decisions of investors. For example, **Roman Catholic institutions** around the world have recently decided to divest from fossil fuel extraction, joining a large list of religious institutions that have made the same decision.


In some cases, the political decision is national. **Switzerland** has just adopted a new law which phases out nuclear power and puts the emphasis on cutting energy consumption and increasing the production of renewable energy. The generation of non-hydro renewable power is to grow from 1.7 TWh last year to 11.4 TWh by 2035 (nearly tenfold).

Cities are also involved. This is especially important since, according to the **International Renewable Energy Association**, cities accounting for 65 per cent of global energy use and 70 per cent of man-made carbon emissions. **In the United States**, Boulder, Colorado, announced that the community will move to 100% renewable electricity by 2030, while Utah's Park City has committed to the same target by 2032. Meanwhile, Los Angeles' City Council has directed its staff to develop a plan for 100% renewable energy.

There are some surprising technical advances involved in the shift to renewable energy. For example, **the government of France** has

decided to invest in 1000 kilometers of autoroutes composed of solar panels!

Despite the fact that the **climate accord negotiated by the Member States of the UN in Paris** does not promise to solve the problem of global warming, the growing progress in renewable energy may ultimately solve much of the problem.

| SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | WOMEN'S EQUALITY | DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION | HUMAN RIGHTS |
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| Urban leadership in the US for renewable energy | India: Buddhist nuns bike Himalayas to oppose human trafficking | El Salvador: March rejects ongoing violence and calls for a culture of peace | 40,000 Create Human Chains to Protest Violence in Honduras |

TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



Greece: Union pushes for access to education for all refugee children

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION



Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo: The commemoration of the International Day of Peace

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



March of Hope gathers 20,000 in historic Jerusalem rally

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



From pacifism to nonviolence in Berlin

English bulletin October 1, 2016

. . . PEACE DAY 2016 . . .

There are indications that millions of people took part in this year's International Day of Peace. For example, in the United States, **Campaign Nonviolence** mobilized more than 600 actions in all 50 states. Last year, according to **Peace One Day** "an estimated 1.5 billion people were exposed to Peace Day messages through activities ranging from dances to media campaigns."

These mobilizations carry on an important tradition. At the beginning of this century, UNESCO and the United Nations mobilized **75 million people** to sign the "Manifesto 2000" as part of the International Year for the Culture of Peace with the greatest number of signatures in India, Brazil, Colombia and South Korea. In 2005 and again in 2010, there was a mobilization for the UN International Decade for a Culture of Peace and we published reports from a **thousand civil society organizations** around the globe.

In recent years, the most universal mobilization for peace has been carried out at the local and national level for the International Day of Peace, September 21. During the International Peace Decade, detailed reports were gathered and published by the NGO Pathways to Peace. Their **annual report in 2009** described 700+ events. However, in recent years, we have

complained that there has not been **an adequate survey of its global scope**. of Peace Day events.

Therefore, this year CPNN has undertaken such a survey, using the International Day of Peace as the key word for a search in Google News during the week before and after 21 September, and by searching in a wide range of languages, including English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Ukrainian, Portuguese, Italian, and German. We have come up with 182 events in 85 countries.

Looking at **the maps** generated by this survey, we may remark the following:

1) The celebration is universal. The maps are filled from every region: **USA/Canada, Latin America/Caribbean, Western Europe, Africa, Arab States, Russia/Ukraine**, and **Asia/Pacific**. Gaps, such as Scandinavia and Eastern Europe can be explained by our failure to enlarge the search to include all of the national languages in these regions, not to mention the many national languages in Asia.

2) The celebration is especially intense in some of most conflictual regions of the world, such as the Ukraine, Kashmir/India/Pakistan, and Colombia/Venezuela. To this list we may add the United States.

Looking at the events listed from the Ukraine, one is struck by the fact that there is a more or less equal number of celebrations reported in the national language (from the western part of the country) and in Russian (from the eastern part of the country). Many of the articles describe a longing for the shared peace that they had in the past and have lost following the installation of a

right-wing government in recent years. For example, from the [Lutsk gymnasium №4z](#) in the West Ukraine: “Previously, the streets of our country were peaceful, but the events today in the east of our country are effecting everyone, including students and teachers.” From [Kovelchany](#) “Now the concept of peace is more than ever important for our country.” And from [Dnipropetrovsk](#) in the East Ukraine: “Every day we help peaceful people affected by the war – displaced and wounded. This is the reality of peace and unity in our country today”

Looking at the events listed for Peace Day from India and Pakistan concerning Kashmir, we find references to recent bloodshed. From [Mirpur, Pakistan](#) : “The participants strongly condemned the increased human rights abuses by the Indian occupational forces in occupied Jammu & Kashmir.” And from [Doraha, India](#) “The volunteers condemned the attack on Indian soldiers at Uri Brigade Headquarters.”

The [news is good from Colombia](#). . So it is not surprising that there are many positive celebrations of the Day of Peace associated in this country that is emerging from a half century of civil war. For example, in [Tunja, Boyaca, Colombia](#) : “To commemorate the international day of peace, the biggest event took place in San Pablo de Borbur where at least 300 young leaders from 14 to 28 years old met to share experiences during the First Meeting of Youth for Peace of Western Boyaca. They are young leaders from the municipalities of Chiquinquirá, Buenavista, Coper, La Victoria, San Miguel de Sema, Pauna, Quípama, Muzo, Briceño, Caldas, Maripí, Otanche, Tununguá, San Pablo de Borbur y Saboya.”

On the other hand, the articles from their neighbor, Venezuela, are divided along the conflict lines. Here is another country which,





like the Ukraine, has suffered from America/European support to overthrow a left-wing government. For example, from **Maiquetia, Vargas, Venezuela** : “The people of Vargas . . . marked the beginning of activities of the International Week of Peace, in response to the guidelines of the President of the Republic, Nicolas Maduro, to reject the intentions of those who, from the right, want to promote the culture of violence to destabilize the country.”

The most extensive mobilization we could find was in the United States. The remarkable mobilization of Campaign Nonviolence is possible because of a growing awareness in that country of what they call an “**epidemic of violence** ” Participants in one of the day’s events protest the “**ongoing US wars, proxy wars and military occupations, armed drones, US war crimes, and the increasing Pentagon budget,**”

3) The largest number of events involve children, especially schoolchildren, in every part of the globe. A particularly moving example comes from Colombia where adults will soon vote in a referendum to ratify the peace accords. The rector of one of the schools sponsoring a mobilization of school children for Peace Day in **Cartegana** explained that ““Adults talk of ‘Yes or No’ because they are the ones who can vote in the plebiscite, but the children were not asked about this although it is they who will inherit a country at war or at peace.” She added that “what we say on this day is that children can also decide about peace.”

In the year 2000, 40% of the population of Colombia signed the Manifesto 2000, promising to promote a culture of peace in their daily lives. Now the people of Colombia are voting to ratify the peace accords and mobilizing their children to decide for peace.

May they serve as our example in the gathering struggle to replace the culture of war by a culture of peace.

| FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION | WOMEN'S EQUALITY | DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION | HUMAN RIGHTS |
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| <p>Celebration of the International Day of Peace around the world</p> | <p>Africa: CEDEAO: Women are called on to establish a durable peace</p> | <p>Mexico: Mancera opens the International Forum of 'Mayors for Peace'</p> | <p>The Elders welcome Myanmar peace conference</p> |

TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



United Nations:
Inauguration of the
Parliamentary Multi Track
Initiative Council

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



USA: Standoff at
Standing Rock: Even
Attack Dogs Can't Stop
the Native American
Resistance

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



600+ Campaign
Nonviolence Events
Across USA Next Week!

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



Snowden
the Year

English bulletin September 1, 2016

. . . CITIES ONCE AGAIN . . .

Once again this month, we find cities in the lead for the various components of a culture of peace, including sustainable development, tolerance and solidarity, democratic participation, peace activism and disarmament.

Before going into detail, we should celebrate the formal signing of the **peace accord for Colombia**, which has been under negotiation for several years and which has been followed, **step-by-step**, by CPNN, as well as the progress **towards a peace accord** to end 47 years of war between the government of the Philippines and the communist movement National Democratic Front.

The **city council of Rennes, France**, has voted unanimously to endorse a project working towards **food sovereignty**. This is the second city of France to take such an approach, the first having been the city of Albi. The project involves a partnership with the NGO “Incredible Edibles.” In presenting the project, Councilman Theurier stated, “The approach of Incredible Edible can offer spaces to garden for residents, can strengthen social ties, and promote the greening of the city. It offers free food and promotes the development of urban agriculture and therefore food autonomy of cities. Above all, it can educate for the protection of the environment and recreate the link between people in city and those in food production areas. As the urban population continues to grow, issues related to agriculture – including the preservation





of the land – are less tangibly perceived by many of our fellow citizens. Recreating this link is a necessity for the future.”

The **Mayor of Madrid, Spain**, argues that cities can overcome the formal frameworks that keep nation states from resolving key issues. Madrid, for example, has negotiated its own accord with the United Nations to welcome refugees. It has instituted participatory budgeting which can help to end democratic apathy. And **as we have noted earlier**, Madrid’s response to terrorism is to promote a pro-peace education. As the mayor says, “It starts at school. We want children to learn the value of dialogue and mediation, and for them to learn to solve their own problems among themselves.”

The Culture of Peace Commission of **Ashland, Oregon (USA)** continues to show the way for promoting peace at the level of the city. It has established a ” **Community Peacebuilders Network**” which lists “all of those local groups and individuals, from all sectors of our community, that have already decided to join us.” The Commission plans to hold periodic conferences “encouraging collaborative solutions as we work toward our goal of creating an interconnected web of peace, justice, sustainability and inclusion in our local area.”

The newest city peace commission is that of **Santos, Brazil**. The commission supports the Mayors for Peace Network, as well as activities of civil society, such as the “Paz na ponta do Giz” project of ABraSOFFA that promotes the concepts of peace within schools. A key role of the commission is to make the subject of PEACE a priority on the agendas of all leaders of the city (whether formal, such as the mayor and city representatives, or informal such as leaders that influence citizens’ decisions).

Finally, the UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) have **announced the five finalists** for the **City Peace Prize** which will be awarded during their annual conference to be held in Bogota, Colombia in October. Appropriately (given the signing of the peace accords), two of the cities are in Colombia: Palmira and Cali. Palmira uses a music competition to promote peace, while Cali is training community peace workers. The other cities are Canoas, Brazil, which has established “peace territories,”, Shabunda, DRC Congo, which has created “Permanent Peace Committees”, and Kawagan, Philippines, for their programme “From Arms to Farms” for the demobilization of former rebel soldiers.

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| <p>DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION</p>  <p>Iranian Women Won More than a Medal at the Olympics</p> | <p>WOMEN'S EQUALITY</p>  <p>Peru: #NiUnaMenos: 50,000 protest violence against women in Lima</p> | <p>FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION</p>  <p>Historic Peace Accord for Colombia Is Signed in Havana</p> | <p>HUMAN RIGHTS</p>  <p>UN: National Human Rights Institutions will play a more strategic role in education</p> |
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TOLERANCE
AND
SOLIDARITY



Global Youth
Rising 2016 –
Reflections

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT



Rennes, France:
210 000
inhabitants move
towards food self-
sufficiency!

DISARMAMENT
AND SECURITY



Breakthrough in
Philippine peace
process

EDUCATION FOR
PEACE



Three Decades of
Peace Education
in the Philippines

English bulletin August 1, 2016

PEACE EDUCATION AROUND THE WORLD .

History is not always reflected in the headlines of the mass media. Sometimes it is the “slow news” – events that are not considered newsworthy – that accumulate and change the course of history. A good example is slow but steady progress in peace education, which we salute in this month’s bulletin.

The website of the [Global Campaign for Peace Education](#) gives us a good overall view of the extent of peace education in the world today. One can begin simply with [the list of their national and local endorsing organizations](#), who come from over 50 countries and all six continents.

This month we feature recent articles reprinted by the Global Campaign for Peace Education from around the world: from Myanmar, Bosnia, United Kingdom, Rwanda, Georgia, United States and the Seychelles.

In [Myanmar](#), the Ministry of Education and UNESCO are jointly implementing the “Education for Peace and Development in Northern Rakhine State” project. Teachers, principals and education officers have been trained in life skills for peace and conflict transformation

In [Bosnia](#), the United World Colleges of Mostar are celebrating their 10th anniversary. UWC Mostar was the first school having

students from across the country being taught by the same teachers and in the same classroom, unlike the segregational educational system still prevailing in the rest of the country.

In the U.K., Quakers will host a ground-breaking national conference for teachers to learn how to equip pupils to handle conflict in a constructive way and to develop critical thinking skills. Educationalists from more than 80 schools across Britain will attend Learning Through Peace at Friends House in London.

The **Rwanda Peace Education Program** is coming to a close after three years of building sustainable peace in communities across the country. The conclusion will be marked by a Peace Week that includes various activities to share the success of the program and encourage all Rwandans to be champions of peace in their own villages and families.

In Georgia, The European Intercultural Forum has just finalised the narrative report of their 1st training course in the frame of the Training Programme “Education for Peace – Developing Competences for Peace Education in the Youth Field”. The project aims to strengthen the competences of youth workers and youth educators and empower young people to become proactive agents of peaceful change via local community initiatives addressing societal conflicts.

In the U.S., the Ashland (Oregon) Peace Commission works with the city’s schools and their MindUp Curriculum which offers peace education tools that encourage listening and compassion and promote an environment of understanding, as well as with the Medford-based Resolve Center for Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice.

The **University of Seychelles** has announced that it is planning to set up an international centre for peace studies and diplomacy with the expert guidance and experience of Seychelles' founding President Sir James Mancham. The proposed professor of peace studies will provide both academic leadership and proven negotiating skills. The centre will be a hub of information and also a meeting place for practitioners and scholars alike. Conferences will be a feature of the centre's activities. Under the auspices of the UniSey, it will offer a Master's Degree in peace studies for local as well as international students, together with opportunities for doctoral and post-doctoral research.

Just to complete our tour of the world, we mention four other recent CPNN articles about progress in peace education in Colombia, Brazil, Japan and Ivory Coast.

The **Colombia Minister of Education**, Gina Parody, speaking at the meeting of secretaries of education from across the country, invited them to teach a new generation of peace, preparing children and young people to consolidate peace. Among her remarks was the following: "For the first time, the government has allocated a larger budget for education of our children and young people, that the budget for war. We are convinced that it is in the classrooms that the new generation will begin to rewrite the history of Colombia as a country in peace."

In **São Vicente, Brazil**, a team of educators is carrying out a program of Training for Peace Education of 60 hours for professionals from all the public education units in partnership with the Secretary of Education.

In **Hiroshima**, the Mayors for Peace Network organizes in partnership with the Hiroshima Peace and Culture Foundation

and the Hiroshima University, a summer program that provides students with a general understanding of the nature and attributes of war and peace by illuminating various aspects of wartime experiences, including the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, and, at the same time, by exploring contemporary issues related to world peace in the era of globalization

In **Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast**, the Deputy Director for Africa of UNESCO, Edouard Firmin Matoko announced the creation of a school for the Culture of Peace. Called the “Pan-African center for research and advanced training in the culture of peace”, its objective will be “ capacity building of decision-makers in the values of peace and citizenship”.

Finally, there are two major events coming up where peace educators and others interested in peace are invited to come and advance their international links. The Congress of the **International Peace Bureau**, the oldest global peace network, founded in 1891/92, will take place at the end of September this year in Berlin, while the 9th international conference of the **International Network of Museums for Peace** will be held in Belfast in April 2017.

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



The Global Campaign for Peace Education

WOMEN'S EQUALITY



Tunisia moves closer to achieving gender equality in politics

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION



Culture of Peace: Artistic Creations by African Youth

HUMAN RIGHTS



Malaysia: Tenaganita Still Fighting for Women Workers' Rights, 25 Years On

TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



Petition: Another Route to Peace

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Africa: Sustainable development: The future of the land is in green energy

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



Florianópolis, Brazil: World Peace Forum: a space to build a better world

DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION



Londrina, Brazil: Fifth Municipal Conference on Culture of Peace

English bulletin July 1, 2016

. . . PEACE IN COLOMBIA . . .

The government of Colombia and the FARC guerilla movement have agreed on a **ceasefire and plan for demobilization**. The bilateral ceasefire and surrender of the weapons will begin with the signing of the final peace agreement (expected in July) and this last point will have a term development of 180 days. A monitoring group composed of delegates from the UN will be created by the FARC and the Colombian government to verify the delivery of the guns. Also announced was the creation of areas and camps for demobilized guerrillas and commitment by the authorities to combat paramilitary groups, by means of a special unit of the Colombian police.

As stated by the **UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon**, “Today the Colombian peace process validates the perseverance of all those around the world who work to end violent conflict not through the destruction of the adversary, but through the patient search for compromise.”

According to analysts, “What remains between now and a final, conflict-ending peace accord are details. Some of these will be thorny, and may require weeks or even a few months to unravel. But the hardest parts of the FARC peace process are now in the past.”

Already, **the first United Nations observers** have arrived to help with the demobilization process.

The Colombia people are celebrating but still fearful, as described by **Amada Benavides, Fundación Escuelas de Paz**: “Today at 12:39 when President Santos and the FARC leader signed the agreement, all of us, our partners and myself, only can to cry. After 60 years of war, we not really believe what it happened in that moment. Many of us never think in could seeing this moment. At night, we had a workshop about Women, Diversity and Peace, and the feeling turned between hope, fear and anxiety. Hope for the possibilities the agreement has. Fear for many populations is not yet convinced in the benefits of peace; and anxiety for all the work we have in this moment. Peacebuilding moment starts just now. Today we need more support than ever.”

Last month the government and FARC signed **an agreement to ensure that their peace accords will be binding** on future governments of Colombia. This is important because there is already an opposition movement in Colombia headed by an ex-president who say they will try to overturn the accords.

As we have often said, peace is too important to be left alone in the hands of the national government. What is important is that it is being taken up by people at all levels in Colombia.

A key role is played by teachers and the movement for peace education, as in a **recent meeting in Bogota**: “Participants . . . included teachers, academics and trainers who shared their experiences and daily reflections. Together, they reaffirmed that there will be no peace unless there is **peace education** to transform the culture, and this requires a renewal of pedagogy.”

Artists and cultural actors have an important role to play, as described by **the Director of a theatre in Medellin**: “We have to disarm our words because they are still loaded with violence. That will take a lot of pedagogy and here culture can help a lot. We need to heal, to seek the truth, to have some kind of repair,”

Colombian women, under the banner of “**One Million Women for Peace**,” are demanding a greater role in the peace process, saying that “Peace in Colombia Is Impossible Without Us”. The newly-formed bloc aims to create a community movement to provide popular backing for the peace process. The movement brings together farmers, artists, journalists, youth and political representatives of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities.

It is especially important to establish peace at the level of local government. For example, the city of Cali, Colombia, has established a “**Plan for Peace and Peaceful Coexistence**”. It is a guide prepared by the Peace Advisory Council, in consultation with different social actors such as the High Council for Peace and Human Rights of the Government of Valle, the Archdiocese, universities along with staff of the mayor’s office in Cali and agencies such as the Post-Conflict Advisory Council.

As **stated by Raul Castro, who mediated the accords**, “The achievement of peace in Colombia represents a hope for millions of people on the planet, whose main concern continues to be human survival in a world shaken by violence and wars. Peace is not a utopia; it is a legitimate right of every human being and of all peoples. It is a fundamental condition for the enjoyment of all human rights, particularly the supreme right to life.”

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION



Ceasefire between FARC and the government of Colombia is sealed in Cuba

WOMEN'S EQUALITY



Guatemalan Women Healing Toward Justice: Speaking tour

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



Ivory Coast: UNESCO announces the creation of a school for the Culture of Peace in Yamoussoukro

HUMAN RIGHTS



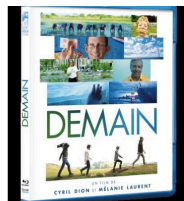
'March of Silence' in Uruguay sends message of remembrance to South America

TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



Togo in the struggle against terrorism: The "Pacific Magazine" plays its part

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



The film "Demain", a manifesto?

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



The Elders welcome Paris conference as step towards two-state solution for Israel-Palestine

DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION



The Peace Prize for city initiatives in conflict prevention, resolution or peace building

English bulletin June 1, 2016

. REFORMING THE UNITED NATIONS .

Since its creation over 70 years ago, the United Nations has been the hope of mankind “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.” But more and more, we are losing hope that in its present form it can succeed. This was especially evident in recent weeks when the great powers did not bother to send high-level delegations to the UN’s Humanitarian Summit despite the fact that 60 other countries sent their heads of state. While Germany was represented by its Chancellor Angela Merkel, **the other great powers were essentially absent**: Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States, Russia and China.

Therefore, it is not surprising that there is a rising chorus of demands for reform of the United Nations.

The most dramatic and far-reaching demand comes from Africa. This month the Pan-African Parliament, with representatives from the 54 countries of Africa, has called upon the African Union to support its demand for a new UN body, a **United Nations Parliamentary Assembly**. The Parliament’s President explained that “It is long overdue that ‘We, the Peoples,’ as the UN Charter begins, have more say in global affairs. For this purpose, a UNPA needs to be established.” This could become a powerful voice for peace. Instead of reflecting the policies of Member States with their military budgets and military policies, the proposed Assembly

would be composed of representatives of bodies directly elected by the people and without direct responsibility for military institutions.

Another call for extensive reform comes from a group including former UNESCO Director-general Federico Mayor. Their **joint declaration calls for a “new UN System”** with a General Assembly of 50% of States representatives and 50% of representatives of civil society, and adding to the present Security Council and Environmental Council and a Socio-Economic Council. In all cases, no veto but weighted vote.

Many calls for reform consider that the present Security Council, with veto powers by the five Permanent members, the victors of World War II, is outmoded and ineffective in dealing with today’s global problems.

There are ongoing meetings of the **Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform**, but they are complicated by rivalries among the Member States. At the most recent meeting at the beginning of May, India called for additional Permanent members, including themselves, Brazil, Japan and Germany, thus including the losers as well as the winners of World War II. But immediately there were objections from India’s rival Pakistan and from Japan’s rival North Korea, as well as from another group of 13 countries led by Italy. Another proposal was put forward by Ireland for a new category of Security Council members with an 8 year term. They proposed 6 seats in this category, with 2 each from the African and Asia-Pacific group, and 1 each from WEOG (Western Europe and Others Group) and GRULAC (Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries).

At the recent Humanitarian Summit, [the Arab League](#), which consists of 22 member states, including Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, called for limitation on the veto power of the Permanent Security Council Members, echoing a similar demand by Turkish President Erdogan. This, too, was complicated by inter-state rivalries as their remarks were directed only against the use of the veto by Russia with regard to the war in Syria.

The Elders, the group of former heads of state and international agencies that was formed several years ago around Nelson Mandela, has made a [series of recommendations regarding reform of the Security Council](#). They call for a new category of Council members with longer terms to counter-balance the five Permanent members, a pledge to restrict the use of their veto and more involvement of the civil society,

Another proposal of the Elders is for a more independent UN Secretary-General. This proposal is echoed in conclusions of the recent [United Nations High Level Thematic Debate on Peace and Security](#), and it is already being implemented to some extent in [new procedures to choose the next Secretary-General](#).

But the question remains: are these proposals radical enough to enable the UN “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war?” In the view of the CPNN coordinator, we need a more radical approach; see [his blog](#).

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform

WOMEN'S EQUALITY



Peace in Colombia Is Impossible Without Us, Women Declare

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



Paris: A standing orchestra !!!

HUMAN RIGHTS



Red carpet film festival asserts Gaza's pride and talent

TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



Mali: The struggle against terrorism: Towards the creation of a global network of Ulemas

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Tens of Thousands Take Part in Global Actions Targeting World's Most Dangerous Fossil Fuel Projects

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION



Colombia celebrates agreement to legally bind the peace accord

DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION



For the first time, a Peace Plan for Cali, Colombia

English bulletin May 1, 2016

. NONVIOLENCE IS MAKING HISTORY .

Nonviolence is in our news these days. Let us begin by recalling the words of the great tactician of nonviolence, Martin Luther King, speaking of Mahatma Gandhi: “nonviolent resistance is not a method for cowards; it does resist. If one uses this method because he is afraid or merely because he lacks the instruments of violence, he is not truly nonviolent. This is why Gandhi often said that if cowardice is the only alternative to violence, it is better to fight... nonviolent resistance ... is not a method of stagnant passivity... For while the nonviolent resister is passive in the sense that he is not physically aggressive toward his opponent, his mind and his emotions are always active, constantly seeking to persuade his opponent that he is wrong. The method is passive physically but strongly active spiritually. It is not passive non-resistance to evil, it is active nonviolent resistance to evil.”

Perhaps the most active practitioner of this approach today is the Nonviolent Peaceforce. They have recently been **nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize** in recognition of their teams “on the ground” in the various “hotspots” around the globe. In addition, they are actively trying to convince the United Nations and various governments to adopt **nonviolence as a paradigm** shift: “One of the most dramatic shifts will have taken place when everyone realizes that, the assumption that an armed actor will not yield to anything except a weapon has been proven to be untrue.”

All of this is part of the **long-term strategy** announced recently by Nonviolent Peaceforce: “We protect civilians in violent conflicts through unarmed strategies. We build peace side by side with local communities. We advocate for the wider adoption of these approaches to safeguard human lives and dignity.”

Another major practitioner of nonviolence is the **Mennonite Central Committee**, which recently publicized initiatives in seven countries on four continents.

Meanwhile, Pax Christi and other activists recently convened a **meeting at the Vatican** to enlist the Catholic Church in the approach of nonviolence, requesting that the church reverse its support for “just wars.”

We should also mention the **Nonviolence Charter** which has now been signed by 104 organisations from 33 countries, as well as the new initiative that we mentioned last month for **nonviolent cities**.

In celebrating Earth Day this month, the **Campaign Nonviolence** reminds us that to protect our planet we need to live “nonviolently” with such practices as sustainability, renewable energy, lowering meat consumption, and supporting local food.

One of the major tactics of nonviolence is mediation. Recently, we have featured articles on the **training of police for mediation**, as well as specific initiatives in **Mexico** and **Bolivia**.

These initiatives may not be featured in the headlines of the commercial media, where violence is considered more

newsworthy, but in the long run the initiatives for nonviolence are making history, while violence is only impeding it.

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| <p>EDUCATION FOR PEACE</p>  <p>Nonviolent Peaceforce: A paradigm shift?</p> | <p>WOMEN'S EQUALITY</p>  <p>Bahrain Women Association conducted a workshop on peace</p> | <p>DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY</p>  <p>Disarm! World Congress 2016 of International Peace Bureau</p> | <p>HUMAN RIGHTS</p>  <p>USA: Prisoners in Multiple States Call for Strikes to Protest Forced Labor</p> |
| <p>TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY</p>  <p>Landmark Vatican conference rejects just war theory, asks for encyclical on nonviolence</p> | <p>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</p>  <p>On Earth Day, Commit To The Great Turning</p> | <p>FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION</p>  <p>2016 World Press Freedom Index – leaders paranoid about journalists</p> | <p>DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION</p>  <p>Democracy Spring: Thousands Descend on US Capitol, Over 400 Arrested</p> |

English bulletin April 1, 2016

. . CULTURE OF PEACE CITIES . .

The culture of peace is increasingly promoted at the level of the city according to the articles we have been publishing so far this year in CPNN.

At the highest level, the mayor of Madrid, Manuela Carmena, and the mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, are planning to hold an **international forum against violence and for peace education**. Along with Brussels, their cities have suffered the most from terrorist attacks in Europe. While nation states promote military responses, they propose education for non-violence.

While nation states continue to make nuclear weapons, the network of **Mayors for Peace**, with over 6,900 cities in 161 countries, continues to prioritize the struggle for nuclear disarmament. We recently published an article from one of their member cities, **Wellington, New Zealand**.

The network of **International Cities of Peace**, with 130 member cities in 40 countries, has recently announced an alliance with the newly formed network of Compassionate Cities that includes 70 cities in almost 50 countries that have affirmed the Charter for Compassion, which promotes a culture of peace at the local level.

In the United States there is a growing movement of cities that undertake the transformation to a culture of peace.

In New Haven, Connecticut, this is the fourth year that the City Peace Commission, an organ of city government, has published a report on [The State of the Culture of Peace in New Haven](#). The report identifies priorities for action by the city. Two of their priorities have been featured in recent CPNN articles: restorative justice in the schools, and welcoming refugees.

The city of [Ashland, Oregon](#), has recently established an official City Culture of Peace Commission, and among its tasks is a similar annual report on the state of the culture of peace in their city. Other tasks include the training of peace ambassadors, peace education in schools, a directory of community resources that promote a culture of peace, and a monument containing the World Peace Flame.

Civil society organizations in [Wilmington, Delaware](#), are developing a “strategic vision, plan and resource document that will bring peace to Wilmington. The plan will deal with the actions needed to transform a culture of violence to a culture of peace. The plan would include input from civic groups, city and state governments and agencies, churches, students, the elderly, and general public.”

A new initiative aims to create a [network of Nonviolent Cities](#), modeled after an initiative in Carbondale, Illinois. Its goals are similar to those of New Haven, Ashland and Wilmington: “Nonviolent cities would work to end racism, poverty, homelessness, and violence at every level and in every form; dismantle housing segregation and pursue racial, social and economic integration; end police violence and institutionalize police nonviolence; organize to end domestic violence and teach nonviolence between spouses, and nonviolence toward all children; work to end gang violence and teach nonviolence to

gang members; teach nonviolence in every school; pursue more nonviolent immigration programs and policies; get religious leaders and communities to promote nonviolence and the vision of a new nonviolent city; reform local jails and prisons so they are more nonviolent and educate guards and prisoners in nonviolence; move from retributive to restorative justice in the entire criminal justice system; address local environmental destruction, climate change, and environmental racism, pursue clean water, solar and wind power, and a 100 percent green community; and in general, do everything possible to help their local community become more disarmed, more reconciled, more just, more welcoming, more inclusive, and more nonviolent.”

The practices promoted by culture of peace cities include **mediation**, **restorative justice** and **participative budgeting**, as described in previous CPNN articles.

DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION



USA: Working on creating a culture of peace in Ashland

WOMEN'S EQUALITY



Education International and other Global Union Federation delegations begin their work at the 60th Session of the UN Commission on

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



United Kingdom: Thousands call for Britain's nuclear deterrent Trident to be scrapped

HUMAN RIGHTS



2015: When Global Governments Trampled Human Rights in Name of National Security

TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



GLOBAL YOUTH RISING: Empowering passionate activists and peace workers from around the

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Fishing ban in remote Pacific waters is working, report finds

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION



Guantanamo could be turned from a war facility to a peace park

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



Romania: Systemic Peacebuilding, Conflict Transformation & Post-War Recovery and Reconciliation

English bulletin March 1, 2016

.. THE STRUGGLE OF AFRICA ..

There is an epic struggle for the heart of Africa between the forces of the culture of war and those of the culture of peace. On the one hand, attacks by Boko Haram, Al Qaida, ISIS, and Al-Shabaab get the headlines in the commercial media, not to mention potential for civil war in Burundi and the fratricidal war in Southern Sudan, On the other hand, if the many recent articles in CPNN about initiatives for the culture of peace are an indication, it is the culture of peace that is gaining!

African Union: [Burundi agrees to accept African Union human rights monitors](#)

African Union: [26th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly concludes with gratitude to Ebola fighters and peace as priorities of the continent](#)

African Union: [Retreat of the Pan-African Network of the Wise](#)

Senegal: [The feminist Bineta Diop: United against war in Africa](#)

Tunisia: [Appeal for massive participation in the first international meeting on education for peace](#)

Cameroon: [Community radio in the service of peace education](#)

Morocco: Muslims Advance Consensus for Citizenship for All: The Marrakesh Declaration

Mali: Elaboration of a national program for culture of peace: Experts at work

Ethiopia: AAPI Convenes 2nd Arts4Peace Forum in Addis Ababa

Congo (DRC): Declaration of the Youth Clubs of the Congo Peace Network

Congo (DRC): Goma, Nord Kivu: Third edition of the Amani Music Festival

Sierra Leone News: Minister urge delegates to develop a culture of peace





The Gambia: 'African countries must unite'

South Africa: African women organize to reclaim agriculture against corporate takeover

Chad: Commemoration of the National Day of peace, peaceful coexistence and national harmony

As Nestor Bidadanure describes in his article on [How to Achieve the Freedom Promised](#): "In Africa, the decolonization in the legal sense has not been followed by an ideological break with the colonial model of governance by some of the political elite. . . The colonial practice of divide and rule is continued today as the favorite political weapon of extremist elites."

He concludes that “The Culture of Peace should be considered and taught as an ideal that ties together and strengthens that which has been torn apart. It is the antithesis of Radical Identity Populism, a theory of inclusion and reconciliation with which we can achieve the freedom promised, an Africa at peace with herself and with the world. It considers the differences within a nation to be a precious resource. It reminds us that there is no national identity except the diversity, both cultural and human, of all its citizens.”

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| <p>WOMEN'S EQUALITY</p>  <p>26th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly concludes with gratitude to Ebola fighters and peace as priorities of the continent</p> | <p>DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION</p>  <p>US: New Haven Peaces Out. A Bit</p> | <p>DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY</p>  <p>Burundi agrees to accept African Union human rights monitors</p> | <p>HUMAN RIGHTS</p>  <p>US: We come to the gates of Hancock Drone Base today to install a memorial of Jerry Berrigan.</p> |
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TOLERANCE
AND
SOLIDARITY



Muslims Advance
Consensus for
Citizenship for All:
The Marrakesh
Declaration

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT



France expects to
have 1000
kilometers of solar
routes within 5
years!

FREE FLOW OF
INFORMATION



Colombia:
National Meeting
on Education for
Peace

EDUCATION FOR
PEACE



Tunisia: Appeal for
massive
participation in the
first international
meeting on
education for
peace

English bulletin February 1, 2016

PEACE: ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS ?

As we enter the new year of 2016, we may ask if the culture of peace continues to advance on all the fronts that we covered in **the various CPNN bulletins of 2015**:

WELCOME THE REFUGEES (December): Despite the political resistance to refugees in Europe, there are also social movements in defense of the refugees. This was expressed recently by rallies throughout Europe marking the Global Day of Action against Racism. The **Madrid Rally** was held under the slogan: "We are all migrants and refugees, we all have rights." Another slogan was "No to NATO!", making it clear that the influx of refugees is largely due to the military interventions by NATO in Africa and the Middle East.

CULTURE OF PEACE IN LATIN AMERICA (November): There are peace initiatives underway throughout Latin America. The November bulletin describes actions in Cuba, Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Chile, Colombia and Honduras. Last month 500 delegates from 18 countries and 34 education trade unions in Latin America met in Costa Rica in the **third meeting of the Pedagogical Movement** to renew the cohesion and agenda for the future of education in Latin America.

COLOMBIA PREPARES FOR PEACE (September): The biggest news for peace in Latin America last year was the progress of the

peace process in Colombia. As indicated in [the chronology published this month](#), we can expect the signing of peace accords in the month of March.

NEEDED: POLITICAL WILL AT COP21 (August): Although experts regret the lack of political will at the Climate Summit (see [last month's bulletin](#)), the year 2015 has seen “[amazing advances in renewable energy](#),” which raise hopes that we can reverse the process of global warming and climate change despite the failure of the nations to curb their reliance on fossil fuels.

CONFRONTING TERRORISM WITHOUT VIOLENCE (July): The mayors of Paris and Madrid, the cities of Europe that have suffered the most from terrorist attacks have announced that they will hold an [international peace forum](#) in response. Rather than promoting military responses, they propose education for non-violence. Similarly, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon has released a [UN plan of action to confront violent extremism](#) that calls for cultural rather than military measures. Since “extremism flourishes when human rights are violated, political space is shrunk, aspirations for inclusion are ignored, and too many people – especially young people – lack prospects and meaning in their lives. . . . [we need to emphasize] the critical elements for success: Good governance. The rule of law. Political participation. Quality education and decent jobs. Full respect for human rights. . . a special effort to reach out to young people and recognize their potential as peacebuilders.” The latter element is addressed in detail in the recent resolution 2250 of the United Nations Security Council on [Youth, Peace & Security](#).

MOVEMENTS FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY (June): Six hundred representatives of native communities around the world recently gathered in Shillong, northeastern India, for **Indigenous Terra Madre** (ITM), an event that helps forge a global network of indigenous peoples, activists and their supporters. “The truth is that 500 million small household food communities feed 70 percent of the world, yet they are treated the worst of all”

THE ANTI-AUSTERITY SPRING (May): **The Prime Minister of Portugal** has said that the first measures of his government this year will begin to end the country impoverishment and social decline due to the policy of austerity. He came to power in the recent elections as a socialist candidate opposing austerity and is governing in coalition with the marxists parties and the communists. In Spain, Podemos which gained a large vote by opposing austerity is now trying to make a similar coalition with left political parties.

WOMEN, EQUALITY AND PEACE (April): **African women, organized in Dzomo la Mupo**, the Voice of the Earth, associated with the African Biodiversity Network, are reclaiming traditional agricultural practice, opposing the commercialization of farming: “Women also have to teach young girls and young women about seed and food sovereignty and the importance of soil because they’re the ones who will remain to pass that on.”

PEACE THROUGH TOURISM (March): A **World Summit on Sustainable Tourism** in November adopted a World Charter for Sustainable Tourism +20 incorporating the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations. The Charter also claims the preservation of the actual quality of the destinations and the tourism industry and the ability to meet the

tourist as priorities, as well as the need to promote alternative forms of tourism.

LISTEN TO THE INDIGENOUS (February): We recently republished “**15 Indigenous Rights Victories That You Didn’t Hear About in 2015.**” “Good news. Sometimes, it comes in the form of a cancelled hydro dam that spares 20,000 people from the burden of displacement. Other times, it takes the shape of a simple court admission that Indigenous Peoples do actually make the best conservationists. . . Indigenous rights victories give us all pause to celebrate, to reflect and to rejuvenate our own quests for justice.” And Chile has created a **Ministry of Indigenous People**, a National Council and Indigenous People’s Councils. Representatives of the ethnic groups Aymara, Quechua, Atacameños, Diaguitas, Kollas, Rapa Nui, Kawesqar, Yaganes and Mapuche were consulted.

TRUTH COMMISSIONS (January 2015): In December, the final report of the Canadian Truth Commission was published. **The writer reflects** that “We, as a country, are just now starting to come to terms with the sobering realization that the systematic destruction of indigenous cultures, languages, family structures, lands and ceremonies amounted to cultural genocide. . . But change is possible. We can change, we are changing, and I am very hopeful that this momentum we have collectively generated will continue. I am excited about the future that lies ahead of us and I am proud to be part of this country that is embracing this cry for change and reconciliation.”

DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION



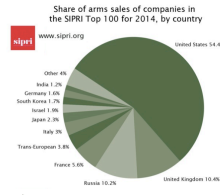
International Peace Forum Proposed by the Mayors of Madrid and Paris

WOMEN'S EQUALITY



African women organize to reclaim agriculture against corporate takeover

DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY



Global arms industry: West still dominant despite decline; sales surge in rest of the world, says SIPRI

HUMAN RIGHTS



15 Indigenous Rights Victories That You Didn't Hear About in 2015

TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY



President Creates Ministry of Indigenous People in Chile

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Native Cultures Push For Sustainable Food Solutions

FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION



The peace process in Colombia: A Chronology

EDUCATION FOR PEACE



US: The First Mural Museum in the World is a Culture of Peace Museum

English bulletin January 1, 2016

COP21: GOING BACKWARDS OR BEGINNING ?

There are many contradictory opinions about the results of the Paris Climate Agreement, so CPNN turned to two of the most independent and scientific authorities, James Hanson, the former Nasa scientist, who first alerted the world to climate change in 1988, and Naomi Klein, Canadian author, social activist, and filmmaker known for her political analyses and criticism of corporate globalization (see CPNN review of her most recent book, [This Changes Everything](#)).

According to [James Hanson](#) the agreement is a complete fraud, diverting us from the real cause of global warming. which is the continued reliance on oil and coal. According to his most recent research, if we do not radically cut this reliance, “the sea level could soon be up to five meters higher than it is today by the latter part of this century [which] would inundate many of the world’s cities, including London, New York, Miami and Shanghai.

According to [Naomi Klein](#), the Paris agreement takes us backwards. At least the Kyoto Accord of 1997 included binding language, while the Paris Accord does not. And Klein makes the link between the reliance on oil and the disastrous wars of recent years: “Do we think Iraq would have been invaded if their major export had been asparagus [as journalist Robert Fisk once asked]? Probably not. We wanted that prize in the west, Iraq’s oil. . . This destabilized the whole region, which was not

particularly stable to begin with because of earlier oil wars and coups and support for dictatorships.”

But there were other actors in Paris in addition to the representatives of national governments. The cities of the world were there, as were indigenous elders, African women and non-governmental organizations such as Greenpeace, and perhaps they can pick up where the national governments are failing.

ICLEI, “the world’s leading sustainability network of over 1,000 cities, towns and metropolises” pledged to continue their own actions “to make their cities and regions sustainable, low-carbon, resilient, eco-mobile, biodiverse, resource-efficient and productive, healthy and happy, with a green economy and smart infrastructure.” “Our pilot of the Transformative Actions Program (TAP) 2015 has brought forward 125 applications to demonstrate ambitious, crosscutting, and inclusive local action plans that have the potential to contribute to keeping global warming below 2°C.”

A meeting of **indigenous elders** in Paris released a statement saying, among other things, that “We are all responsible and we are all capable of creating a new path forward with new sources of energy that do not harm the people or the Earth. We are obligated to all take action now to protect what is left of the Sacredness of Water and Life. We can no longer wait for solutions from governmental and corporate leaders. We must all take action and responsibility to restore a healthy relationship with each other and Mother Earth.”

Wanjira Mathai, daughter of Nobel Peace Laureate Wangari Maathai, brought news to Paris about a new movement called AFR100 — the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative —

[that] aims to restore 100 million hectares (386,000 square miles) of degraded and deforested landscapes in Africa by 2030.






And **Kumi Naidoo**, the Director of Greenpeace, while recognizing the shortcomings of the Paris Agreement, sees it as the beginning of a long road. It is the new generation that must take up the cause: “We need substantial, structural, systemic change – and this change can only be led by the youth, who are not infected by the political pollution of the past.”

That leads us to another agreement this past month that did not receive headlines, but which was led by those of the new generation who seek “substantial, structural, systemic change.”

Romeral Ortiz Quintilla tells us how she and others from the **United Network of Young Peacebuilders** launched a campaign to develop “a global framework that would recognize and guarantee the role of youth in peacebuilding and violence prevention.” They developed partnerships with key stakeholders such as the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth to the Peacebuilding Support Office, Search for Common Ground, World Vision and UN agencies such as UNDP, among others. As described previously in CPNN, two years ago, they came to the UN in New York to lobby for the effort.

On December 9, as a result of their efforts, the UN Security Council adopted resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace & Security. The resolution calls on Member States to “facilitate an enabling environment for youth to prevent violence, and to create policies which support youth socio-economic development and education for peace equipping youth with the ability to engage in political processes.”

Welcoming the adoption of the resolution, Romeral and UNOY now call on every young peacebuilder to join them in the next steps.

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| <p>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</p>  <p>Naomi Klein: We are going backwards, COP21 is the opposite of progress</p> | <p>WOMEN'S EQUALITY</p>  <p>Eight ways 2015 was a momentous year for girls</p> | <p>DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY</p>  <p>2015 Black Solidarity Statement with Palestine</p> | <p>HUMAN RIGHTS</p>  <p>Reconciling Canada: Hard truths, big opportunity</p> |
| <p>TOLERANCE AND SOLIDARITY</p>  <p>Chad: Commemoration of the National Day of peace, peaceful coexistence and</p> | <p>DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION</p>  <p>ICLEI Declaration to the Ministers at COP21, Paris, France</p> | <p>FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION</p>  <p>Porto Alegre, Brazil: Fifteenth anniversary of the World Social Forum</p> | <p>EDUCATION FOR PEACE</p>  <p>Latin America: Pedagogical Movement: new phase, new impetus</p> |

