

Table of Content:

👉 VOICE FROM THE FIELD: JOINING FORCES: ENGAGING MEN AS ALLIES IN GENDER-SENSITIVE PEACEBUILDING

👉 VOICE FROM THE FIELD: THE BATTLE NEXT DOOR: AN INSIDER’S EXPERIENCE WITH COLOMBIAN MILITARY DISCOURSE

👉 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS

1. Announcement: May 26 2011: Faith Based Peacebuilding: The need for a Gender Perspective – Religion: A Threat for Women’s Rights or a Driving Force for Social Change and Women’s Peace Activism? / Vredesopbouw vanuit religieus denken: de noodzaak van een gender perspectief. Religie: Een bedreiging voor vrouwenrechten of een drijvende kracht voor sociale verandering en vredesactivisme van vrouwen?
2. Press Statement: Condemning the Assassination of Another Human Rights Leader, Florita “Nang Flor” Caya – Mindanao – The Philippines
3. Press Statement: World Press Freedom Day: May 3, 2011
4. Press Statement: Bineta Diop named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by TIME Magazine

👉 CALLS

1. Call for Applications: WPP Middle East ToT: “Together for Transformation: Gender-sensitive Nonviolence for Sustainable Peace”
2. Call for Action: Egyptian Military Sentences Blogger to Three Years in Prison
3. Call for Applications: Women’s PeaceMakers Program (WPM) - Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ)
4. Call for Proposals: 2012 AWID Forum
5. Call for Participation: European Year 2013 to End Violence Against Women – Coalition

👉 RESOURCES

1. Teaching Model: Nonviolent Transformation of Conflict
2. UN Women Summary of Strategic Plan Consultations
3. Peace Brigades International: Breaking Cycles of Repression: Ending Impunity
4. Community Radio Times – The Pacific
5. Peacemaking in Asia and the Pacific: Women’s Participation, Perspectives and Priorities
6. Tunisia - New Gender Parity for Elections & Leadership
7. Women and Access to Justice: Resources
8. Translation United Nations Security Council Resolution in Local Languages
9. Protecting Civilians: too important to be left to the military

👉 JOB OPENINGS

1. Resisting And Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms - Program Associate – Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) – Canada
2. Country Director – Danish Refugee Council - Central African Republic
3. Director of U.S. Development – Nonviolent Peaceforce - Minneapolis, USA

👉 FIND US ON FACEBOOK

VOICE FROM THE FIELD: JOINING FORCES: ENGAGING MEN AS ALLIES IN GENDER-SENSITIVE PEACEBUILDING

Between March 30th and April 5th the New Tactics in Human Rights, in collaboration with IFOR's WPP, hosted an online dialogue entitled "Joining Forces: Engaging men as allies in gender-sensitive peacebuilding".

Activists and organizations, which the WPP has worked with over the years, joined the dialogue, to share their experiences and ideas on this topic. The dialogue provided an excellent opportunity for participants from all over the world to discuss the concept and practicalities of engaging men as gender-sensitive male allies in the peacemaking process. In thinking about overcoming violence and building peaceful communities, working with men and concepts of masculinities can help to challenge destructive, violent mindsets and institutions.

The discussion was structured around four themes; 1) Why should men and women be involved as allies in peacebuilding? ; 2) What does integrating a masculinities perspective in peacebuilding imply?; 3) What kind of engagement are we looking for and how do we achieve this? and 4) What are the challenges, opportunities and next steps? Discussants were also invited to share relevant training and resource material related to the topic.

The participants in the dialogue agreed on the need for women and men to work together as allies in peacebuilding efforts. Too often gender is understood as being a 'women's' issue. Yet, both women and men are affected by gender socialization. Men also suffer in societies, in which a real man is defined as being tough, violent and dominant. Therefore, men also gain from challenging the gender stereotypes which harm men's interactions with one another and women. Both men and women contribute to the maintenance of the status quo, therefore sustainable approaches in peacebuilding necessarily involve both sexes.

Ultimately, peacebuilding and the deconstruction of gender roles rely on changing the cultures of patriarchal institutions and systems. Gender-sensitive men can act as powerful role models for gender equality and are in a good position to reach out to other men.

The participants cited a variety of ongoing challenges to integrating a masculinities perspective in peacebuilding, which included:

- Getting men to recognize their privilege and the way that it harms women and themselves
- Combating the early processes of socialization that creates harmful masculinities
- Women's reluctance to include men for fear of being patronized or disempowered
- The tendency among both men and women to conceptualize women's rights as secondary to military movements for issues such as independence.
- Maintaining the effects of any gender-sensitive training and sustaining the relationships between men and women activists

In response to these challenges, they came up with the following opportunities and next steps:

- Clarity of meaning, guidelines, and specific communication between men and women can help address issues of paternalism and concerns about the power dynamic. Furthermore, a clear structure facilitates opportunities for all group members to participate.
- Networking and working with other "ally" organizations assists with issues of sustainability
- Similarly, conducting gender-sensitive training in cycles rather than single events also helps with maintaining the movement, along with using social media tools.

- Existing documentation, in addition to writing new documents and pledges offer opportunities for dialogue and serve as tools to demand change
- There are opportunities for men and women to unite to broaden resistance to military action when working together

A report on the dialogue was written by New Tactics in Human Rights. This is a project of the [Center for Victims of Torture](#). For more information, please visit: <https://www.newtactics.org/>

To read the report, please visit: <https://www.newtactics.org/en/dialogue/joining-forces-engaging-men-allies-gender-sensitive-peacebuilding>

VOICE FROM THE FIELD: THE BATTLE NEXT DOOR: AN INSIDER'S EXPERIENCE WITH COLOMBIAN MILITARY DISCOURSE

"The crazy part ... is not [that] there was combat (we live in a war zone); it's the news stories that came out the day after. These news stories paint[ed] a picture of the peace community and civil society as [being] targeted by the guerilla[s] with the military as their selfless saviors. The military would have everyone believe that had it not been for their presence, the guerilla[s] would have attacked the peace community. In reality, it was the military encampment that drew the guerrilla attack that put us all at risk.

"When I talked to some of my neighbors in the peace community about the news stories they responded with anger and frustration, but not with surprise ... Spin has become the new weaponry of the Colombian state to do away with those they stigmatize as the enemy. As one of my neighbors commented, 'The radio is the military's biggest rifle.'"

Read the article "The Battle Next Door: An Insider's Experience with Colombian Military Discourse", by Isaac Beachy. Isaac Beachy is a U.S. citizen and peace activist who has worked as an accompanier with the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) for ten months. Please visit: <http://www.cipamericas.org/archives/3889>

The article was sent to IFOR/WPP by Fellowship of Reconciliation – USA. For more information, please visit: <http://forusa.org/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND STATEMENTS

- 1. Announcement: May 26 2011: Faith Based Peacebuilding: The need for a Gender Perspective – Religion: A Threat for Women's Rights or a Driving Force for Social Change and Women's Peace Activism? / Vredesopbouw vanuit religieus denken: de noodzaak van een gender perspectief. Religie: Een bedreiging voor vrouwenrechten of een drijvende kracht voor sociale verandering en vredesactivisme van vrouwen?**

[English below]

We zitten momenteel enkele weken voor de 2011 Mei viering , ter ere van de Internationale Vrouwendag voor Vrede en Ontwapening! Dit jaar organiseren we n seminar op 26 Mei in de Idazaal (www.idazaal.nl) in Den Haag, van 14:00 tot 18:00 uur.

We zullen ons richten op vredesopbouw vanuit religie en interreligieus denken; de rollen van vrouwen hierin, de moeilijkheden die zij tegenkomen in hun vredeswerk en strategieën die ze (kunnen) gebruiken om hiermee om te gaan.

Samen met de “Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network”, het Platform Vrouwen en Duurzame Vrede, en Cordaid, zullen we weer een geweldige en inspirerende dag neerzetten!

De middag zal beginnen met een plenair debat (in het Engels), met de volgende gastsprekers:

- Hansuli Gerber – International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR)
- Cassandra Balchin – Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID)
- Farida van Bommel – Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network
- Cordaid

Na het plenaire debat en netwerk gelegenheid, zullen er twee verschillende workshops gelijktijdig plaatsvinden.

- Inzet voor vrede: religie en spiritualiteit als inspiratiebron (*georganiseerd door het Platform Vrouwen en Duurzame Vrede - <http://www.vrouwenenduurzamevrede.nl/>*). Voertaal: Nederlands)
- Interreligieuze Vredesopbouw: Een voorbeeld van de Filippijnen: Mindanao ‘Tri-People Peace’ (*georganiseerd door ‘Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network - <http://mwpn.org/en/about/>*).

Meer informatie over de workshops kunt u op onze website – www.ifor.org/WPP - vinden. Voor vragen en registratie kunt u een email sturen naar: j.devries@ifor.org

Let op: registratie voor de workshops is verplicht – er zijn beperkte plekken beschikbaar.

English:

Currently, it’s less than one month before our 2011 May celebration, on the occasion of the International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament! This year we will organize a seminar on on May 26 at the Idazaal (www.idazaal.nl) in The Hague, from 14.00 – 18.00.

This year we focus on faith-based and interfaith peace building, women’s roles in this and strategies to deal with the obstacles women face in their peace work.

We teamed up with the Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network, Platform Women and Sustainable Peace and Cordaid, to ensure this year’s celebration will be as inspiring as last year!

The afternoon will start with a plenary debate (in English) with the following guest speakers:

- Hansuli Gerber – International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR)
- Cassandra Balchin – Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID)
- Farida van Bommel – Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network
- Cordaid

After the plenary debate, and informal sharing, two different workshops will take place simultaneously:

- *Peacebuilding: Religion and Spirituality as a Source of Inspiration*
(by Platform Women and Sustainable Peace. Language: Dutch)
- *Interfaith Peacebuilding: A Case Study from The Philippines: Mindanao Tri-People Peace*
(by Multicultural Women Peacemakers Network)

For more information on the day, please visit: www.ifor.org/WPP or send an email to WPP Information Officer José de Vries (j.devries@ifor.org).

Please note that registration for the workshops is required, limited places are available.

2. Press Statement: Condemning the Assassination of Another Human Rights Leader, Florita “Nang Flor” Caya – Mindanao – The Philippines

The Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA) condemns in strongest possible terms the April 27 dastardly assassination of Florita “Nang Flor” Caya (58), General Manager of a local indigenous peoples’ organization (UTCEL) and Vice-President of a national rural peasant women organization (LAKAMBINI-PAKISAMA Confederation).

To read the press statement, please visit: www.ifor.org/WPP

For a direct link, please use:

<http://www.ifor.org/WPP/PRESS%20STATEMENT%20on%20the%20killing%20of%20Flor%20Caya.doc>

3. Press Statement: World Press Freedom Day: May 3, 2011

To mark the World Press Freedom Day, 3 May 2011, the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) is calling on communicators to use new media responsibly in order to strengthen press freedom and communication rights worldwide. Open access to the Internet, social networks, and new-generation digital devices raise significant concerns related to accountability, privacy, and security, says WACC.

To read the press statement, please visit:

<http://www.waccglobal.org/component/content/article/2611:wacc-calls-on-communicators-to-use-digital-media-responsibly-and-ethically.html>

4. Press Statement: Bineta Diop named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by TIME Magazine

TIME named Ms. Bineta Diop, Founder and Executive Director of Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS), to the 2011 TIME 100, the magazine’s annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world. Ms. Diop of Senegal has led numerous peacebuilding initiatives in Africa with a focus on the protection of women during armed conflicts and their inclusion in peace processes. In carrying out her work, Ms. Diop has led teams to observe elections in post-conflict areas such as Liberia and has facilitated women’s participation in peace negotiations, notably in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

To read the press statement, please visit: <http://www.fasngo.org/assets/files/Bineta-Diop-TIME-100.pdf>

CALLS

1. Call for Applications: WPP Middle East ToT: “Together for Transformation: Gender-sensitive Nonviolence for Sustainable Peace”

Deadline for Applications: May 23, 2011, 5 p.m. C.E.T

IFOR’s WPP has opened its Call for Applications for the upcoming Training of Trainers in the Middle East, entitled “Together for Transformation: Gender-sensitive Nonviolence for Sustainable Peace” The purpose of the IFOR Women Peacemakers Program (WPP) Training of Trainers (ToT) is to train male and female peacebuilders from the Middle East region in gender-sensitive active non-violent peacebuilding.

Specific objectives of the ToT are:

- To train male and female trainers on gender-sensitive active nonviolence (GSANV);
- To explore the concept of *masculinities* and *femininities* in relation to issues of violence and peace;
- To establish community/ country-based teams who can multiply gained skills and knowledge;
- To establish a pool of male and female GSANV trainers in the Middle East region

For further information, including criteria for applicants as well as the application format, please visit: http://www.ifor.org/WPP/education_skills.htm

2. Call for Action: Egyptian Military Sentences Blogger to Three Years in Prison

Egyptian activist Maikel Nabil Sanad, a critic of the military in Egypt, was just sentenced by a military commission to three years in prison. Sanad was charged with "insulting the military institution and publishing false news about it" and "disturbing the public security." Since the revolution, there have been serious concerns about the way the military has dealt with dissent. We've seen reports of arbitrary detention, sexual assault and torture. Sanad had openly criticized the role of the military both before and during the revolution, outlining cases of torture and other abuses. Now he's in military prison.

Sign the petition urging support for Sanad and other Egyptian activists fighting for freedom:

http://actions.humanrightsfirst.org/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=3773

Read more on his case on the website of War Resisters International: <http://www.wri-irg.org/node/11403>

Download the support email, developed by War Resisters International: <http://www.wri-irg.org/node/12728>

3. Call for Applications: Women's PeaceMakers Program (WPM) - Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ)

Deadline 1st of June, 2011

The Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice (IPJ) at the University of San Diego in California is currently accepting applications for its Women PeaceMakers Program (WPM). The WPM program is designed for leaders from conflict-affected countries around the world who are transforming conflict and assuring gender-inclusion in post conflict recovery through in human rights advocacy and peace building efforts they lead. These are women whose stories and best practices will be shared internationally; they are women who will have a respite from the frontlines work they do.

For more information, please visit: <http://peace.sandiego.edu>

4. Call for Proposals: 2012 AWID Forum

Deadline: May 27, 2011

Through the 2012 Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) Forum, we aim to explore how economic power is impacting on women and the planet, and to facilitate connections among the very diverse groups working on these issues from both human rights and justice approaches so that together we contribute to stronger, more effective strategies to advance women's rights and justice.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.forum.awid.org/forum12/call-for-proposals/#download>

5. Call for Participation: European Year 2013 to End Violence Against Women – Coalition

The European Women's Lobby (EWL) has initiated a broad European advocacy movement, gathering NGOs and decision-makers, lobbying for an EU comprehensive action on violence against women and for 2013 to be the European Year on combating and preventing violence against women.

To read more, please visit: <http://www.womenlobby.org/spip.php?article1594&lang=en>

RESOURCES

1. Teaching Model: Nonviolent Transformation of Conflict

Nonviolent action can be effective even in acute conflicts. *Teaching Model: Nonviolent Transformation of Conflict* presents a framework for use by instructors in teaching students the basic theoretical and historical background of nonviolent action and successful practice of it. The model assumes a twelve-week term for teaching one topic, or module, per week for final-year undergraduates, but it can also be adapted for graduate work. Each module contains a note to lecturers discussing crucial background needed to lead a class on the topic, expected outcomes in student learning, concepts relevant to that particular module, suggested class activities and exercises, and recommended readings on each topic. The framework allows instructors to add resources from their own country and to encourage students to write case studies about local nonviolent campaigns and document breakthroughs by area non-governmental organisations. 139 pp. ISBN 9977-925-45-3.

To download the publication, please visit: <http://www.upeace.org/library/publications.cfm>

2. UN Women Summary of Strategic Plan Consultations

Over the last six months, UN Women has been preparing for its first Strategic Plan with guidance from a variety of partners including governments, civil society, academia and the UN system. This report highlights key programmatic themes, strategies, ideas for partnerships and other useful feedback for the development of UN Women's strategic plan.

To read more, please visit: http://www.gearcampaign.org/news_events/news/un-women-summary-of-strategic-plan-consultations/

3. Peace Brigades International: Breaking Cycles of Repression: Ending Impunity

Peace Brigades International (PBI) is an international NGO that has been protecting human rights and promoting nonviolence since 1981. On request, they send teams of international volunteers to areas of repression and conflict to provide an international presence and protective accompaniment to local human rights defenders, civil society organisations and communities whose lives and work are threatened by political violence. Their work is based on the principles of nonviolence, non-partisanship and non-interference in the internal affairs of the organisations we accompany and the belief that transformation of conflicts cannot be imposed from outside.

Impunity exists when a country fails to investigate and punish crimes. PBI has learned from 28 years of providing an international presence and protective accompaniment of those whose lives are at risk, that silence is the cloak of impunity.

In the publication “Breaking Cycles of Repression: Ending Impunity”, PBI has documented stories from impunity from various parts of the world. The document closes with 9 recommendations to the international community.

To read the document, please visit:

http://www.peacebrigades.org/fileadmin/user_files/international/files/special_report/en_impunity_final_v2.pdf

4. Community Radio Times – The Pacific

Through the development, production and distribution of a range of women's media initiatives femLINKPACIFIC continues to demonstrate and advocate for the use of appropriate and accessible information and communication technologies to enable gender inclusive, social, economic and political empowerment.

FemLINKPACIFIC, the operators of femTALK 89,2FM Fiji and the Pacific's first mobile women's suitcase Radio Station, has released the first edition of its newsletter “Community Radio Times”. It contains articles on Nadi rural women leaders engaging in policy dialogue, femLINKPACIFIC's annual young women's media skills and policy advocacy training and on the celebration of International Women's Day, amongst others.

To read the publication, and others, please visit:

<http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.cfm?si=main.resources&cmd=forumview&cbegin=0&uid=menitems&cid=149>

For a direct link to the newsletter, please use:

<http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/resources/main/files/FemLINKPACIFIC%20Community%20Radio%20Times%20Edition%201%20of%202011.pdf>

5. Peacemaking in Asia and the Pacific: Women's Participation, Perspectives and Priorities

This collection of articles explores the reasons for women's under-representation in peace processes, in terms of both participation in peace processes and gender content in agreements. The publication puts forward the experiences of women from the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Timor Leste, India, Solomon Islands and Nepal, highlighting the benefits and obstacles to their participation in such processes. It contains practical recommendations on how to make international norms a reality in peacemaking as well as how to strengthen women's participation in, and contribution to, peace processes and agreements.

To read the report, please visit: <http://www.hdcentre.org/publications/peacemaking-asia-and-pacificwomens-participation-perspectives-priorities>

6. Tunisia - New Gender Parity for Elections & Leadership

In a regional breakthrough, parties must present equal numbers of male and female candidates in Tunisia's July vote. The gender parity ruling "is the first in the Arab and Muslim world, which should encourage Tunisian women to involve themselves more in political life", Laarbi Chouikha, a political analyst, said. The decision by authorities preparing the July 24 constituent assembly poll after the uprising that toppled Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, the north African nation's long-serving president, has been hailed as a regional breakthrough.

To read more, please visit:

<http://english.aljazeera.net/news/africa/2011/04/2011421161714335465.html>

7. Women and Access to Justice: Resources

A bibliography on Women & (access to) justice retrieved from the Royal Tropical Institute's Portal on Gender, Citizenship and Governance. The resources include e-publications and websites, starting with the latest addition.

To read the bibliography, please visit: <http://search.kit.nl/vivisimo/cgi-bin/query-meta.exe?v%3aproject=kit-portal-GCAG&v%3asources=portal-GCAG&query=keyword%3ajustice&sortby=date&>

8. Translation United Nations Security Council Resolution in Local Languages

The PeaceWomen Project has been compiling existing translations, and advocating for new translations of SCR 1325 since February 2003. Through the efforts of partner civil society organizations, the UN system, governments, and dedicated individuals, the number of available translations of SCR 1325 is currently over 100.

To read more, please visit: http://peacewomen.org/translation_initiative/security-council-resolution-1325

9. Protecting civilians: too important to be left to the military

Civilian protection requires simple, straightforward dialogue and negotiation with the people who can control whether other people are safe or not. And it works. As soon as you bring guns, tanks and air support into the picture, you are talking about something which more often than not does not work

To read the article on OpenDemocracy by Tim Wallis, please visit:

<http://www.opendemocracy.net/tim-wallis/protecting-civilians-too-important-to-be-left-to-military>

JOB OPENINGS

1. Resisting And Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms - Program Associate – Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) – Canada

Closing date: May 9, 2011

Recognizing that religious fundamentalisms are gaining ground all over the world with particularly negative consequences for women's rights, the Resisting and Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms (CF) initiative aims to contribute to greater strategic thinking, dialogue and advocacy on religious fundamentalisms by women's rights organizations and movements.

The Resisting and Challenging Religious Fundamentalisms (CF) – Program Associate is a full-time position, reporting to the CF Manager, that provides programmatic and research support, coordinates the production and dissemination of CF materials, and provides administrative and logistical support for initiative activities, events and meetings

For more information, please visit: <http://www.awid.org/Get-Involved/Jobs-at-AWID/Resisting-and-Challenging-Religious-Fundamentalisms-Program-Associate>

2. Country Director – Danish Refugee Council - Central African Republic

Closing date: May 26, 2011

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is advertising the position of Country Director for the Central African Republic (CAR) to manage its ambitious program. In terms of operations, DRC is one of the largest INGOs in the Central African Republic, operating out of 3 Field offices in the North, 6 sub offices and the capital office (Bangui) with a complex funding portfolio. The program strategy for 2011 covers the sectors of Protection, including Child Protection (DDR), Food Security, Early Recovery, WASH and Emergency Education. The primary donors are currently UNHCR, UN Emergency Response Fund, EC, UNICEF, UNDP, PBF, WFP, FAO, French embassy, SIDA, World Bank to come.

It is crucial to DRC that that the applicant is experienced, competent, proficient in French and in English and able to work in a difficult working environment.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.drc.dk/about-drc/vacancies/current-vacancies/>

3. Director of U.S. Development – Nonviolent Peaceforce - Minneapolis, USA

Closing date: May 31, 2011

The mission of Nonviolent Peaceforce is to promote, develop and implement unarmed civilian peacekeeping as a tool for reducing violence and protecting civilians in situations of violent conflict. Nonviolent Peaceforce is currently seeking a Director of U.S. Development.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/development-director>

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

The WPP is happy to share with you that we are on Facebook as well! Please find us there to remain updated regularly on news and resources related to women, gender, peace, and conflict resolution and gender sensitive active nonviolence. Find us under: IFOR Women Peacemakers Program or use the following link: <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=587816573#!/pages/IFOR-Women-Peacemakers-Program/116880715001196>

Editor Cross the Lines: José de Vries