

# Cross the Lines # 40

*Grenzen Overschrijden  
Franchir les lignes*



May - August 2010



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## ***Together for Transformation – Men, Masculinities and Peacebuilding***

*On the occasion of the International Women's Day of Peace and Disarmament (May 24)*

*By José de Vries*



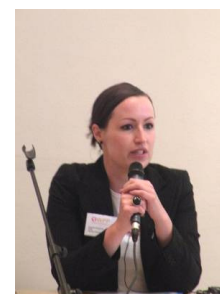
### *The IFOR Women Peacemakers Program*

Every year the Women Peacemakers Program (WPP) of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR) celebrates the *International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament* - May 24 – with an international publication (May 24 Pack) and a public event in the Netherlands.

This year, the May 24 celebration took place on May 27 in The Hague. Approximately 60 people attended the expert meeting *Together for Transformation* in The Hague to discuss the relevance of including a masculinities perspective in debates about gender and peacebuilding and the contributions men can make in relation to the topic of women, peace and security. To facilitate participation of WPP's network in the field, the expert seminar was broadcasted live via the Internet, with the IFOR/WPP Information Officer directly responding to questions and comments received via email.

After the opening by the moderator of the day, Lenneke Hoedemaker, the speakers and participants were officially welcomed by Annemieke de los Santos, coordinator of the National Action Plan for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She spoke about the increased awareness on the importance of gender in the field of peace and security, but noted that this often remains on the level of women's active participation in these processes. While this is extremely important, she emphasized that we also need to acknowledge that in situations of conflict men's identities are linked to guns, violence, strength and power and that the deconstruction and reconstruction of these gender roles in conflict should receive attention as well. She noted that men's involvement in this is important.

In her speech to welcome the panellists and the audience, IFOR/WPP Program Manager **Isabelle Geuskens** focused on why IFOR/WPP believes that to move forward in terms of engendering peace, *masculinities* needs to be addressed. Since 2002, the WPP has been organizing trainings on gender, active nonviolence, and peacebuilding, which strengthened women's confidence as peacebuilders, as well



as their knowledge and skills. These same women noted however, that they are lacking support from men in their work. After a thorough thinking process, the WPP decided to organize a pilot Training of Trainers for male peacebuilders, from the perspective that male trainers are in a good position to reach out to other men - as men can identify with other men, which was initiated in 2009.

Isabelle explained that IFOR/WPP also considers the need to review the practice of war itself from a radical gender perspective as crucial. This involves asking critical questions about the way boys and men are socialized into militarism and recognizing that men also suffer during war.

### Statements from Different Fields of Expertise

In the first session, moderator *Lenneke Hoedemaker* invited the six invited expert speakers to share their insights and experiences – each from their own field – on the topic. **Klas Hyllander** (Secretary-General of Men for Gender Equality in Sweden<sup>1</sup>, and chair of the interim working group of the Regional MenEngage Europe Network<sup>2</sup>) introduced the concept of masculinities and elaborated on the current involvement of men and men's organisations in gender equality and the eradication of violence.

**An Vranckx**, a representative from the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA<sup>3</sup>), spoke about the Latin American experience with peacebuilding and masculinities and challenged some existing assumptions on reasons behind the high homicidal rate in Latin America. In her statement, **Patricia Muñoz Cabrera** from Women in Development Europe<sup>4</sup>, focused on the need to rethink, deconstruct and reconstruct masculinities through intersectional analysis<sup>5</sup> and elaborated on how different categories, such as race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, class and gender (masculinities and femininities) interrelate in a system of oppression within societies. She was followed by **Donald Steinberg**, Deputy President of the International Crisis Group<sup>6</sup>, and recently appointed to the United Nations Civil Society Advisory Group on Women, Peace and Security, who elaborated in his speech on the discriminatory aspects of peace agreements (that are “gender-neutral”) which are negotiated without the inclusion of women on meaningful levels in these peacebuilding processes. **Dubravka Zarkov**, from the Institute of Social Studies<sup>7</sup>, elaborated in her statement on sexual violence against men (SVAM) in wars, focusing in particular on the war camps in former Yugoslavia (where SVAM was “invisible” in the public eye) and the Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq (in which SVAM was highly visible in the media). And finally, **Rosan Smits**, a Research Fellow of Clingendael Institute<sup>8</sup>, was given the floor to speak about gender in policy frameworks.

### Interactive Debate

After the coffee break, there was space for the speakers to respond to each other, as well as for the audience to ask questions and give feedback. The diverse background from the speakers, as well as the audience, proved to be a good mixture as shown by the lively and fruitful discussions.

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<sup>1</sup> For more information, please visit: <http://www.mfi.se/>

<sup>2</sup> MenEngage is a global alliance of NGOs and UN agencies that seeks to engage boys and men to achieve gender equality.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.menengage.org/>

<sup>3</sup> The International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) is the global movement against gun violence - a network of 800 civil society organisations working in 120 countries to stop the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons (SALW). <http://www.iansa.org/>

<sup>4</sup> Women In Development Europe (WIDE) is a European feminist network of women's organisations, development NGO's, gender specialists and women's rights activists. WIDE monitors and influences international economic and development policy and practice from a feminist perspective. For more information, please visit: <http://www.wide-network.org/>

<sup>5</sup> Intersectionality is a sociological theory suggesting that—and seeking to examine how—various socially and culturally constructed categories of discrimination interact on multiple and often simultaneous levels, contributing to systematic social inequality.

<sup>6</sup> For more information, please visit: [www.crisisgroup.org](http://www.crisisgroup.org)

<sup>7</sup> For more information, please visit: [www.iss.nl](http://www.iss.nl)

<sup>8</sup> For more information, please visit: [www.clingendael.nl](http://www.clingendael.nl)

In response to critical questions from the audience, the panellists noted and elaborated on several factors and strategies related to the meaningful inclusion of women in peacebuilding processes and the inclusion of a gender and masculinities perspective in peacebuilding. Some of the factors and strategies mentioned included provision of training for women and men, lobby and advocacy for the enforcement of gender-sensitive legislations, taking specific measures to facilitate women's participation in peacebuilding processes (e.g. securing women's physical protection, establishing a system of quota for women's participation in peace negotiations), awareness raising on the different realities and experiences of women and men in conflict, and critical examination of definitions and concepts used in the field of women, peace and security

Upon finalizing the intense and highly inspirational debate, it was noted that change takes time as well. There are many men's organizations, as well as women's organizations working on the issue of gender justice in societies and in peacebuilding, which is encouraging. There is a need to learn to work together – on all levels – in order to bring transformative changes in societies.

Isabelle Geuskens, IFOR/WPP Program Manager, concluded the expert seminar, by thanking the panellists and referring to Martin Luther King Jr, who reminds us that active nonviolence is not about blaming people or perpetrators, but about exposing the oppressive system. We should strive towards a world in which women and men work together to broaden narrow and repressive gender notions as to challenge the patriarchal system which disadvantages women and men in multiple ways.

**Notes:**

A more detailed report on this seminar can be downloaded from our website: [www.ifor.org/WPP](http://www.ifor.org/WPP)

Mid 2010, the IFOR/WPP will publish the report on the first part of the ToT cycle that took place early December 2009. For more information on this, please keep track of our website: [www.ifor.org/WPP](http://www.ifor.org/WPP)

Donald Steinberg of the International Crisis Group, submitted another article in relation to this expert seminar. The article "The United Nations and Women: Walking the Walk on Empowerment?" can be read here: <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/publication-type/commentary/steinberg-the-united-nations-and-women-walking-the-walk-on-empowerment.aspx>

The expert seminar was broadcasted live via the internet. The broadcast can still be viewed online. To view the seminar, please visit: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/yogiemonk>

***Sacrifices made every day by Ordinary Women for Justice and Peace***

*By Dorothy Attema*



Jude started working with the Moro Indigenous People (IP) women of Mindanao in 2008. She is a trained nurse and in her work she used to visit communities deep into the villages of IP Moro people in Mindanao. During those visits she realized hardly anybody reached out to the women in those villages, since the villages were in areas that were not easily accessible. During her visits, she answered questions from the women related to domestic violence, interfaith peacebuilding and women's rights issues, as well as the rights of indigenous people. From organizing informal short sessions she transitioned to working full time on mobilizing and empowering the Indigenous Moro women of Mindanao. Jude is a member of AKKAPKA in the Philippines. AKKAPKA is an organization that is well known for their nonviolent activism in the Philippines.

I spoke with her about her work and the challenges she faces in this – another example of a woman making a real difference in her community in the fight for justice and peace.

*What made you leave your former employment and start working with the Moro women?*

I decided to start working with the Moro women since I am also an Indigenous woman. I felt that if I wouldn't reach out to them, nobody else would. I don't mind travelling deep into the villages to reach out to them. I feel privileged that I have some useful knowledge that I can share with them and I feel compelled to do so. The government is supposed to reach out to the Indigenous people but currently there is hardly anything done to reach out to the needs of the Moro women.

*Could you elaborate a bit on the work that you do with the Moro Indigenous Women?*

I mobilize the Indigenous people's community to be involved in the interfaith dialogues. I also work on the inclusion and meaningful participation of Moro women in interfaith peace dialogues and advocate for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which addresses this issue. We mobilize the indigenous people to fight for their rights in Mindanao.

*How do you do this?*

We look for ways to coordinate and lobby the government to be part of the discussions and the dialogues. We raise awareness on government levels on the issues that indigenous people and in particular women are dealing with. We find it important to establish collaboration with the government and we find it crucial to make the voices of the Moro women themselves heard.

*What kind of challenges do you face in your work?*

Sometimes, I receive death threats. We mobilize indigenous communities and help them to raise awareness on the problems they face in their lives. However, bringing this in the open is not always received well by some people, for instance by policy makers and politicians on higher decision making levels. Some people feel these issues should not be brought to daylight. They fear this might jeopardize their position or they might lose some of the power they have. I am an indigenous woman myself and I have to admit that I am afraid quite often, of being killed, due to my eagerness to expose the injustice in society and to hold the government accountable for their mistakes. I feel often discriminated against.

In spite of this, I will continue my work since I notice within the communities the willingness and openness to cooperate. I feel that if I stop my work, hardly anybody else will support and reach out to the IP's, due to their remote location and the language barrier.

### ***Engaging Men in Gender Equality: Concerns addressed during the CSW 2010***

*By José de Vries*



*“The principle of shared power and responsibility should be established between women and men at home, in the workplace and in the wider national and international communities. Equality between women and men is a matter of human rights and a condition for social justice and is also a necessary and fundamental prerequisite for equality, development and peace. A transformed partnership based on equality between women and men is a condition for people centered sustainable development.[...].”*

*The Platform for Action emphasizes that women share common concerns that can be addressed only by working together and in partnership with men towards the common goal of gender equality around the world.”*

The Beijing Platform for Action (Article 1 – Article 3)

For years, there has been recognition that the empowerment of women and the establishment of gender-just societies should not be the work of women activists alone, but that there is a need for women and men to work in partnership.

Considering the current work IFOR/WPP is doing in partnership building between male and female peace activists<sup>9</sup>, I paid specific attention to the current views on engaging men in gender justice issues, in my attendance of the 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) ‘15-year Review of the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action’, took place from 1-12 March 2010 in New York. At the CSW, many activists reiterated the need for women and men to work together in partnership on achieving gender justice.

Others, however, raised concerns as well on potential backlashes against women due to the engagement of men in the fight for gender equality. Over the years, the WPP has heard different concerns being raised by women activists, which I saw reflected in the discussions and workshops at the CSW. The concerns circle around the fear (sometimes backed-up by actual experience) of men taking over or hijacking the gender-equality agenda, leading to a decrease in attention for women’s rights and needs. Another concern is about increased competition for the scarce resources and funding possibilities that are out there, with the risk of resources being channeled away from women’s organizations and women’s rights work. Women activists also mention that male gender-justice activists might end up dominating political spaces and professional positions that focus on gender-equality issues, for instance through the appointment of men as gender specialists at higher decision-making levels—where they then take over the few spaces that are accessible to women. Some women activists fear that by appointing a man, women’s voices and concerns will be silenced, forgotten or depoliticized at those levels. Concerns regarding the differences in recognition, respect and status that women’s and men’s organizations receive for their gender justice work are sometimes raised as well. Some feel that male activists acquire a higher status for the work they are doing than women activists. Some of these concerns will be discussed more in detail below.

The issue of competition for resources was raised for instance by Mary Ellsberg of the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW)<sup>10</sup>. In her closing remarks during the workshop “Engaging Men in Gender Equality: Putting the Words into Practice”, she noted how feminists for years have emphasized that men need to be involved and support their work. She mentioned that currently, however, donors seem to applaud and prioritize programs that focus particularly on the inclusion of men in gender equality as “the best way for reaching gender equality”. This might result in funding being channeled to men’s organizations to the exclusion of women’s organizations and their access to funding. Mary Ellsberg emphasized the need to establish and maintain strong dialogue and partnerships between the women’s and men’s movements to ensure that working for gender equality does not lead to backlashes against women. She noted that accountability is crucial if the women’s and men’s movements are to stand side by side in increasing justice and freedom for everyone.

Others also raised accountability issues several times during the 54<sup>th</sup> session of the CSW. A female representative of Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE),<sup>11</sup> raised her concern about men being invited as experts on gender equality, at the expense of women. She noted that “women have been

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<sup>9</sup> In 2009, the WPP initiated a Training of Trainers pilot project for 19 male peace activists from 17 different countries, entitled “Overcoming Violence - Exploring Masculinities, Violence and Peace”. The first training took place in December 2009 in the Netherlands, and focused on the theory and practice of gender-sensitive active nonviolence, the theory of masculinities and its relation to violence, and participatory and gender-sensitive facilitation. During the first six months of 2010, the 19 trainees that participated in this first ToT will organize - with the support of a female peace activist - a community project or training focusing on gender-sensitive active nonviolence. In 2010, a second ToT will be organized to consolidate trainees’ learning and to address further training needs. For more information, please visit: [www.ifor.org/WPP](http://www.ifor.org/WPP)

<sup>10</sup> For more information, please visit: [www.icrw.org](http://www.icrw.org)

<sup>11</sup> For more information, please visit: [www.wave-network.org/](http://www.wave-network.org/)

working for years on gender equality issues, but nowadays, in spite of the extensive experiences of women activists, men are often being invited as experts on gender equality issues, instead of women". She encouraged these men who are invited as experts to consider either sending a representative from a women's organization or asking her to join him, in order to raise the visibility of women as well and to ensure recognition for the work that women have been doing. She encouraged men to take a pro-active stance in avoiding these backlashes against women.

Satish Kumar Singh, Deputy Director of the Centre for Health and Social Justice in India and convenor of the India-based network Men's Action for Stopping Violence Against Women (MASVAW), noted that gender is often reduced to being discussed in terms of the need for gender mainstreaming within organizations, rather than addressing it in terms of power relationships. A holistic approach, in which power dynamics are addressed on various levels and between various groups (including for instance religion and caste), is crucial for social and transformative change, without backlashes against certain groups in society. Social-rights groups need to stand and work together in this respect.

The need to raise awareness about power and power dynamics was also noted by Gary Barker, Director for the Gender, Violence and Rights Team of the ICRW and co-chair of the MenEngage Alliance, during the workshop "Principles of Partnership and Accountability between Organizations Working with Women and Men for Gender Equality". Referring to the fact that men's movements and male gender activists are building on what feminist movements have achieved, he noted that, while entering those spaces that women activists have fought for, men's gender justice activists need to be aware of the (implicit) power that men have, given to them by patriarchal societies. He emphasized that, in order to avoid backlashes against women, it is crucial that men become more aware of how power is being used in societies. Men need to analyze how men use power and to ensure that their work does not reinforce and re-affirm notions of patriarchy and power imbalances between women and men. Gary Barker noted in this regard that in order to truly challenge patriarchy and the way gender is conceptualized, it is crucial to acknowledge and address the complexity of men as well. Not all men are powerful and dominant on the same levels and it is therefore important to recognize that within the category 'men' there are men who are powerful and others who are relatively powerless.

The various men's groups that focus on eradicating violence and promoting gender justice demonstrate that there are many men who oppose men's violence and gender inequalities. Yet, there is still a long way to go. As Michael Kimmel noted during the Global Symposium "Going to Scale: Engaging Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality" in Rio de Janeiro,<sup>12</sup> men's organizations shouldn't be "prematurely self-congratulatory" for being involved in gender-equality work. Men's organizations should also be open to engaging with, acknowledging, and learning from the work and experiences of feminist organizations and support their work.

As was recognized in the Platform for Action 15 years ago, women and men need to work in true partnership towards the common goal of gender equality around the world. Partnerships between women's and men's organizations could serve as a space for cross-gender dialogue and collaboration, in which the complexities of gender inequalities can be exposed, challenged and transformed. Caution and care are required to use these spaces in ways that serve and benefit everyone. All stakeholders, including men's and women's organizations as well as donors and governments, are responsible for preventing backlashes against women. Through the acknowledgement of one's own and each other's responsibilities in this process, joining and coordinating efforts, men's and women's organizations can make progress towards a more gender-just future.

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<sup>12</sup> This conference took place from March 29 – April 3, 2009. For more information, please visit: [www.engagingmen.org](http://www.engagingmen.org).



## 10th Anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325

October 2010 marks ten years since the passage of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. The landmark resolution calls for international security institutions to address the different impacts of conflict on women and men, and to engage women fully in conflict resolution, peacemaking and peacebuilding. This will be a year of commemorations of this historic achievement as well as assessments of the effectiveness of implementation to date. The theme for this anniversary year is “Women Count for Peace”.

Leading up to the occasion of the celebration of the 10th anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 a variety of activities are taking place in order to highlight the importance of this resolution.

IFOR's WPP, in collaboration with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) and the MenEngage Alliance, and in partnership with country mission/s to the UN and in collaboration with relevant UN entities are currently working on the organization of an expert group meeting, scheduled to take place during the 1325 10+ celebrations in New York. This meeting is planning to examine the different factors that (could potentially) facilitate or hinder men's involvement in advocacy and action around the women, peace and security resolutions.

The WPP will keep you posted on this event via her website: [www.ifor.org/WPP](http://www.ifor.org/WPP)

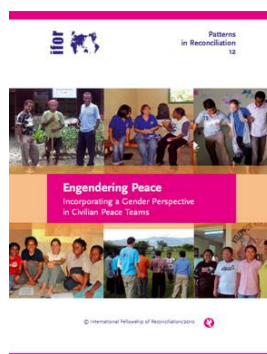
The GNWP, a coalition of women's groups and other civil society organizations from various parts of the world, has taken the initiative to compile a list of events taking place around the world on the celebration of this Resolution. Several members of IFOR's WPP also have become a member of the GNWP and are highlighted in this list. To learn more on events taking place, please visit: <http://www.gnwp.org/10th-anniversary-events>

For information on other events, visit for instance:

<http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/1325plus10/>

<http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/1325plus10/global-open-day/>

## Resources



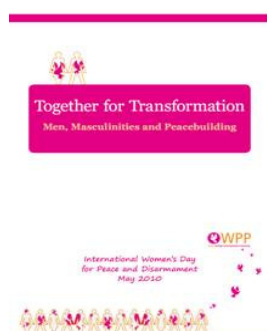
### Engendering Peace - Incorporating a Gender Perspective in Civilian Peace Teams

By IFOR Women Peacemakers Program

This publication is the result of a one-year pilot study, which explored the field of civilian-based peace keeping from a gender perspective. The study focused on the work carried out by those organizations that provide unarmed international accompaniment in the form of peace teams to persons, groups or communities threatened by political violence in conflict-affected situations.

For more information and to download the publication, please visit:

[http://www.ifor.org/WPP/mainstreaming\\_pilot.htm](http://www.ifor.org/WPP/mainstreaming_pilot.htm)



### Together for Transformation – Men, Masculinities and Peacebuilding

By IFOR Women Peacemakers Program

This publication hopes to contribute towards further understanding of masculinities and the inclusion of a gender perspective within the peace and security agenda. It shares some of WPP's own experiences with their Training of Trainers program with male peacebuilders. It features the story of a male ally who looks back at the days when he was not yet on board in terms of the 1325 agenda, introduces you to gender theory of war in an article by Cynthia

Cockburn, reflects on the link between militarization, masculinities and guns and focuses on how gender can work against men as well.

For more information and to download the publication, please visit:

[http://www.ifor.org/WPP/wppmaterials\\_newsletters.html](http://www.ifor.org/WPP/wppmaterials_newsletters.html)

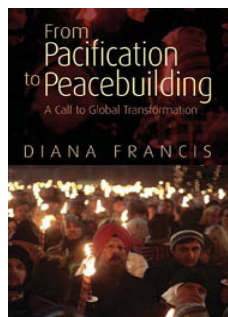


### **The United Nations and Women: Walking the Walk on Empowerment**

*By Donald Steinberg, International Crisis Group*

This submission to IFOR/WPP's celebration of the International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament discusses the role of women within the United Nations and provides recommendations for changes to be made.

To read the article, please visit: <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/publication/type/commentary/steinberg-the-united-nations-and-women-walking-the-walk-on-empowerment.aspx>



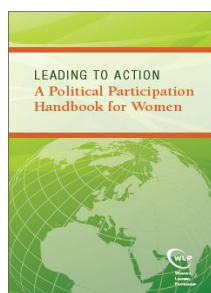
### **From Pacification to Peacebuilding - A Call to Global Transformation**

*By Diana Francis*

In her new book, Diana Francis argues that the dominant culture of power, resting on coercion and violence, must be displaced by the principles of interdependence, kindness and nonviolent solidarity. She calls upon peacemakers worldwide to embrace and develop the practice of nonviolent power, rejecting the culture and institutions of war and working with movements around the world for global demilitarisation and 'positive peace'.

For more information on how to order the book, please visit:

<http://www.plutobooks.com/display.asp?K=9780745330266>



### **Leading to Action: A Political Participation Handbook for Women**

*By Mahnaz Afkhami & Ann Eisenberg*

This publication was developed to empower women to become democratic and participatory leaders. Whether the goal is to be elected to office, support a campaign, encourage women to vote, or secure better legislation for the community, this handbook helps women hone their skills to take the next political step.

For more information on how to order the book, please visit:

<http://www.learningpartnership.org/en/publications/training/ta>

**50.50**  
inclusive democracy



### **Women Conscientious Objectors: An Anthology**

*By War Resister's International*

Conscientious objectors are generally seen as male — as are soldiers.

This book breaks with this assumption. Women conscientiously object to military service and militarism. In doing so, they redefine antimilitarism from a feminist perspective, opposing not only militarism, but also a form of antimilitarism that creates the male conscientious objector as the 'hero' of antimilitarist struggle.

To read an article on the book, please visit:

<http://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/vanessa-alexander/listening-to-our-conscience>



### **Global Peace Index**

*By Institute for Economics and Peace*

This is the fourth edition of the Global Peace Index (GPI). It has been expanded to rank 149 independent states and updated with the latest-available figures and information for 2008-09.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.visionofhumanity.org/wp-content/uploads/PDF/2010/2010%20GPI%20Results%20Report.pdf>

### **Calender**



#### **13-16 September 2010: Interfaith Peacebuilding – the need for a gender perspective**

The WPP will bring together pioneering progressive theologians, women rights and peace activists from different spiritual traditions and different regions, to analyze -using a gender-perspective- the multiple roles of religion in current conflicts, both as cause of war and as incentive to peace building. The registration for this conference has closed. The WPP will keep you updated on the developments via our website: [www.ifor.org/WPP](http://www.ifor.org/WPP)

#### **30 September 2010: Walk a Mile in Her Shoes**

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® asks men (and women) to literally walk one mile in women's high-heeled shoes. It's not easy walking in these shoes, but it's fun and it gets the community talking about something that's really difficult to talk about: violence toward women and girls. Gender based violence does not just affect women. It affects the men who care about them, their families, their friends, their coworkers, and their communities.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.walkamiletoronto.ca/sponsors.html>

#### **October 2010: 1325+10**

October 2010 marks ten years since the passage of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. The landmark resolution calls for international security institutions to address the different impacts of conflict on women and men, and to engage women fully in conflict resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. This will be a year of commemorations of this historic achievement as well as assessments of the effectiveness of implementation to date. The theme for this anniversary year is "Women Count for Peace".

For more information, please visit: <http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/1325plus10/> or <http://www.gnwp.org/category/unscr1325>

#### **19 November: World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse**

Created in 2000, the World Day's objective is to be a focal point and a rallying call for creating a culture of prevention of abuse and violence. Every 19 November, an international coalition commits to commemorate and/or support the Day by organizing local/national activities and events.

For more information, please visit: [http://www.woman.ch/index.php?page=2010-world-campaign-coalition&hl=en\\_US](http://www.woman.ch/index.php?page=2010-world-campaign-coalition&hl=en_US)

#### **25 November – 10 December Campaign: 16 Days of Violence Against Women. Structures of Violence: Defining the Intersections of Militarism and Violence Against Women.**

This year marks the 20th 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign, and with this important landmark, the Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL) is considering new ways to utilize the campaign for transformative change. CWGL envisions that a theme on the intersections of militarism and violence against women will be a multi-year project. We look forward to launching the

campaign in 2010 and using it as an opportunity to collect information about individual and collective experiences of militarism, which will help us to develop a more robust strategy for future campaigns. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/kit10/theme.html>

### 13 - 15 January 2011: 2nd European Conference on Politics and Gender

The Second European Conference on Politics and Gender, will be held at Central European University, Budapest, between 13-15 January 2011. The deadline for proposals is June 18. For more information, please visit: <http://www.ecprnet.eu/sg/ecpg/>



**WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM**  
International Fellowship Of Reconciliation

*Cross the lines is produced three times a year in Dutch, English, French, German, Spanish and Russian.*

*A contribution of Euro 10, GBP 5 or USD 10 will help us spread the news about women's initiatives for peace among groups and individuals unable to pay. Cheques may be made out to 'IFOR/Women Peacemakers Program' in British pounds (drawn on a British bank) or in US dollars (drawn on a US bank). Payment may also be made by VISA or MasterCard, or by transfer of Euros to IFOR's Postbank account 2704182 (in the name of Stichting IFOR).*

*The Women Peacemakers Program (WPP) is an initiative of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR). Since 1919 IFOR has pioneered spiritually-based active nonviolence. For more information about WPP, contact editor José de Vries ([j.devries@ifor.org](mailto:j.devries@ifor.org)).*

*For information about IFOR or the IFOR branch in your country, please contact the IFOR international secretariat:*

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