



RESOURCES

Conferences and Training Workshops

Global Peace Forum 2008 (25-27 April, Cairo): This three-day programme of Tomorrow People Organisation is open to anyone 'interested and involved in building and maintaining peace in the regions of the world affected with wars and different forms of discrimination and oppression'. Taking part will be graduate students, researchers and practitioners in peacebuilding, and representatives of NGOs, communities and government officials active in the field of peace and conflict resolution. The forum mainly aims to introduce young participants to the knowledge, skills and resources they will need to change attitudes in their communities and promote global peace. Details available at www.tomorrowpeople.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=103&Itemid=182

Fifth Global Conference: War, Virtual War and Human Security (5-7 May 2008 Budapest, Hungary): Is war an extension of politics by other means; the locomotive of technology? Is it humankind in its most natural state; or is society turning to an aversion to war? This multi-disciplinary conference seeks to provide a challenging forum to explore the nature, purpose and experience of war, and its impacts on human security in communities across the world. One of its several themes examines peacebuilding and the role of conflict resolution; another looks at non-state actors and NGOs in war. The conference is part of the 'Probing the Boundaries' research project. Details available at www.interdisciplinary.net/ptb/www5/cfp.html

Development and Conflict: Integrating a Conflict Perspective into Programming (19-23 May, Birmingham, UK): Responding to Conflict presents this introductory course for development, relief and humanitarian

aid workers operating in conflict or a situation of potential conflict, who want to understand the relationship between relief, development and peacebuilding, and to improve their interventions. Participants will look closely at ways to incorporate conflict sensitivity into the design and implementation of programmes. Details available at www.respond.org/

International Civilian Peace Keeping & Peacebuilding Training Programme (8-20 June, Stadtschlaining, Austria): Austria's Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution organises 'Child Protection, Monitoring and Rehabilitation', a specialisation course for professionals who work with children and who want to develop expertise in child protection, monitoring and rehabilitation in crisis areas. Details available at www.aspr.ac.at/ipt.htm

Summer Peacebuilding Programme (5 May-3 June, Virginia, U.S.): Eastern Mennonite University offers the Summer Peacebuilding Institute, a place to share ideas and deliberate the urgent issues of our time – equitable development, protection of human rights, sustainable management of the environment, and global security. Participants join faculty staff and invited guests to discover common interests through classroom interaction, luncheon presentations, weekend seminars and special interest groups. Four sessions, each with six intensive courses running concurrently, will be offered for academic credit or as professional training for practitioners at various experience and skill levels. Details available at www.emu.edu/ctp/spi/courses#II

Summer Institute on Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution (14 June-12 July, Santa Cruz & La Paz, Bolivia): This intensive four-week programme organised by the Alliance for Conflict Transformation. It aims to raise awareness and build skills in negotiation,

conflict analysis and assessment, and cross-sectoral approaches to peacebuilding and conflict resolution. It also introduces participants to career opportunities. Learning takes the form of brief lectures, case studies, field trips and simulations. Details available at <http://conflicttransformation.org>

The Culture of Reconstruction: Inter-disciplinary Perspectives on the Aftermath of Crisis (25-27 June, Cambridge University, UK): Professionals working in post-conflict and post-crisis situations are invited to share experiences and ideas at this conference. Panel topics include accountability; reconstructing culture; ownership and capacity building; and guilt and legitimacy. Details available at www.crash.cam.ac.uk/events/2007-8/postconflict.html

International Summer Academy on Human Security (20-30 July, Graz, Austria): The special focus of this project is 'the influence of transnational terrorist and criminal organisations on the peacebuilding process in the Western Balkan region'. The HUMSEC network aims to bring the scientific discourse closer to civil society, to strengthen democratic principles and to raise awareness of the threats of transnational terrorist and criminal organisations. Topics include poverty and corruption, law enforcement, protection of victims and the role of the media and civil society. Participants are selected on the basis of interests and motivation. Details available at www.summeracademy.etc-graz.at

Understanding Conflicts: Cross-cultural Perspectives (19-23 August, Aarhus, Denmark): Interdisciplinary research covering concepts and cultural images of conflicts is the focus of the forum which will bring together leading international figures in fields as diverse as conflict research, psychology and religious studies. The Aarhus conference is planned as the first in a series of international interdisciplinary meetings that will unite researchers working on the analysis and transformation of conflicts. Abstracts are solicited for 60 conference sessions. Details available at www.understandingconflicts.net

Web Pages and E-Communications

The Peacebuilding Commission (PBC): This new inter-governmental advisory body of the United Nations supports peace efforts in countries emerging from conflict and is a key addition to the capacity of the international community in the broad peace agenda. The PBC sees its role being, first, to bring together all relevant actors, including international donors, international financial institutions, governments and troop-contributing countries; second, to marshal resources; and third, to advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery and highlight gaps that threaten to undermine peace. The new website offers information about the UN Peacebuilding architecture, including the Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Fund and Peacebuilding Support Office. It is a resource for UN-related documents and reports on peacebuilding as well as related internet links. The Peacebuilding Fund bulletin is available here, as well as detailed information about countries benefiting from the Fund. The PBC website can be found at www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding/

The Peacebuilding Initiative's Sierra Leone Portal: Described as a 'demand-driven' tool, the portal delivers news, reports and analysis of peacebuilding in Sierra Leone with an emphasis on the four priority areas identified by the government in consultation with the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC): capacity building, democracy and governance, justice and security sector reform, youth employment and empowerment. As one of the first countries on the PBC agenda, Sierra Leone was selected to demonstrate that coherent and responsive information management enhances the work of policy makers and practitioners. This year, the portal will be complemented by the creation of a thematic portal with background on the evolution of peacebuilding, key actors and debates. The Peacebuilding Initiative (accessed at www.peacebuildinginitiative.org) is a project of HPCR International in



partnership with the UN Peacebuilding Support Office and in cooperation with the Programme on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research at Harvard University.

International Crisis Group E-mail Newsletter: A weekly (Friday) e-newsletter with a summary of ICG activities in the past week, giving an overview of reports and articles published in the past seven days. Recipients can tailor the newsletter for coverage of their countries and regions of interest. ICG is generally recognised as the world's leading independent, non-partisan, source of analysis and advice on the prevention and resolution of deadly conflict to governments and intergovernmental bodies like the UN, European Union and World Bank. Visit www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?action=subscribe&l=1 to sign up.

Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition: This website offers extensive news coverage and analysis of Zimbabwe as well as links to other Zimbabwean NGOs and news sources. More than 300 civil society organisations formed the Crisis in Zimbabwe coalition in response to the ongoing crisis of governance and legitimacy under the rule of Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF). It operates as a nerve centre, helping civil society initiatives with strategic planning and coordination of national programmes. Five semi-autonomous committees coordinate advocacy, finance, human rights, civics education and peacebuilding. It is accessed at www.crisis.co.zw

Somali Civil Society (SCS) Website: This website aims to serve as a medium for information exchange and as a resource centre, publicity forum and advocacy platform for the SCS to make its rights campaign known globally. It offers a directory of Somalian civil society organisations, news, information about events and jobs. It is supported by Oxfam Novib, and the European Community Somalia Unit. It is accessed at www.somali-civilsociety.org/home/

Book Notices

Killing Civilians: Method, Madness and Morality in War

Hugo Slim

Columbia University Press 2008

ISBN: 978-0-231-70036-8

For many perpetrators of war – and even for the civilians themselves – the difference between ‘civilians’ and the wider enemy in war ‘is a distinction that is not ... clear, meaningful or right’ observes Hugo Slim. He questions why unarmed, supposedly harmless bystanders so often turn out to be victims in war – suffering massacres, rape, displacement, famine, and disease – and finds that political and military leaders make civilians their targets. The impulses range from the genocidal to lust for power, revenge, Machiavellian ‘necessity’, plunder and even calculated recklessness associated with ‘collateral damage’. There are rarely totally innocent bystanders in wartime, Slim concludes. An estimated 60% of the world's weapons-bearers are civilians. What more of the civilians who do not wear uniforms but who carry ammunition or provide food, shelter and other comforts? Ordinary people get sucked into organised violence with relative ease. In the last part of the book, Slim suggests ways in which others may be converted to the ideology of limited warfare with its central concern of civilian protection. Simply repeating that civilian suffering is illegal and wrong, as many human-rights groups tend to do, will do little to change potential perpetrators, he argues.

Annual Review of Global Peace Operations

Centre on International Cooperation

Lynne Reinner 2008

ISBN: 978-1-58826-564-7

Unique in its breadth of coverage, *Annual Review* presents the most detailed collection of data on peace operations – those launched by the UN, by regional organisations, by coalitions, and by individual nations –

that is available. Features of the 2008 volume include:

- A summary analysis of the trends and developments in peace operations through 2007;
- A discussion of the nature and implications of 'peacekeeping partnerships' among institutions involved in field operations;
- Incisive analyses of all peacekeeping missions on the ground in 2007;
- In-depth explorations of key missions, focusing on those that faced significant challenges or underwent major developments during the year;
- Extensive, full-colour maps, figures, and photographs.

The editorially independent *Annual Review* is a project of the Centre on International Cooperation at New York University supported by the Peacekeeping Best Practices Section of the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations and in cooperation with the International Peace Academy.

Born of War: Protecting Children of Sexual Violence Survivors in Conflict Zones

Edited by Charli Carpenter

Kumarian 2007

ISBN 978-1-56549-237-0

Born of War examines the human rights of children born of wartime rape and sexual exploitation in conflict zones. Detailing the effect of armed conflict on these children's survival, protection and membership rights, the case studies suggest that these children constitute a particularly vulnerable category. They face risks such as discrimination, infanticide, and loss of health care, education and other rights guaranteed to all children under international law. The contributors have the stated goal of using research to advocate for greater consideration of this group in international human rights discourse and practice where their experiences have so far been ignored. Case studies from Bosnia-

Herzegovina, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Uganda and East Timor show that every community responds to these children in different ways. The exploration into why this is so reveals much that contemporary humanitarianism will find valuable. Find out more at www.kpbbooks.com/details.asp?title=Born+of+War

Darfur: A Short History of a Long War

Julie Flint & Alex de Waal

Zed Books 2008

ISBN 9781842779507

Darfur has become synonymous with genocide and humanitarian crisis. In media accounts, the conflict has been simplified to pictures of sprawling refugee camps and lurid accounts of rape and murder. Yet behind these images lies a complex and fascinating story of a remote and remarkable region of Africa. *Darfur: A Short History of a Long War* is the definitive guide to the conflict. The book provides a short history of the region, and traces the origins, organisation and ideology of the infamous *Janjawid* and other rebel groups, including the Sudan Liberation Army and the Justice and Equality Movement. It also analyses the confused responses of the Sudanese government and African Union. This updated edition also features an analysis of how the conflict has been received in the international community, the halting peace talks and attempts at peacekeeping.

Guerrillas: War and Peace in Central America

Dirk Kruijt

Zed Books 2008

ISBN 9781842777398

Three parallel wars were fought in the latter half of the 20th century in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua. These wars were long and brutal, dividing international opinion sharply between U.S. support for dictatorial regimes and the USSR's sponsorship of guerrilla fighters. This study of the 'guerrilla generation' is based on in-depth interviews with guerrilla *comandantes*

and political and military leaders of the time. *Guerrillas* covers the movement's origins in poverty, oppression and exclusion; its tactics in warfare; the ill-fated experiment with Sandinista government in Nicaragua; and the subsequent 'normalisation' of guerrilla movements within democratic societies. The story told here is vital for understanding contemporary social movements in Latin America.

Terrornomics

Sean Costigan & David Gold, editors
Ashgate 2007
ISBN 10: 0754649954; 13: 978-075464995

'Economic warfare is a key component of terrorism today. Given the complexity of the global threat posed by transnational terrorist groups, the need for nuanced management and an expanded policy toolkit in countering terrorism is a pressing concern ...' So reads a typical review of *Terrornomics*, edited by Sean Costigan, Director of Strategic Initiatives at the Centre for Security Studies in Zurich, and David Gold, associate professor of International Affairs at The New School, U.S. They present contributions from scholars and practitioners who examine concepts, terms, case studies and policy recommendations to advance the reader's understanding of contemporary financial counter-terrorism and terrorist funding efforts.

Beyond State Failure and Collapse: Making the State Relevant in Africa

George Klay Kieh Jr, editor
Rowman & Littlefield 2007
ISBN 0739108921

There is a consensus in scholarly literature that the post-colonial state in Africa has failed. States like Liberia, Sierra Leone and Somalia are considered to have collapsed. Various arguments have been proffered to explain the dynamics of state failure and collapse, but the phenomenon is woefully under-researched. This volume focuses on prescriptions for reconstituting the post-colonial state in Africa with essays on nine African states.

Politics of Ethnic Cleansing: Nation-State Building and Provision of Insecurity in Twentieth-Century Balkans

Klejda Mulaj
Rowman & Littlefield 2008
ISBN 0739117823

What are the causes and consequences of 'ethnic cleansing' in the 20th century Balkans, especially in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s? *Politics of Ethnic Cleansing* provides a thorough analysis of the phenomenon on a large scale, filling an important gap in conflict-and-peace studies literature. Examining the expulsion of ethno-national minorities, the analysis takes in an eclectic discussion of nationalism, politics and security. Klejda Mulaj sets an agenda for policy making and research, making specific proposals for resolving ambiguities in international humanitarian law related to 'ethnic cleansing'; for rethinking humanitarian intervention to restore the long-term viability of the target states; and for repudiating the argument for forced homogenisation as a conflict resolution strategy. Mulaj is a visiting tutor at Goldsmiths College, University of London, and a post-doctoral fellow for the Centre for International Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Documents and Reports

Corruption and the Extractive Industries in Africa

Oil revenues of up to \$5 billion are foreseen for African countries in the next five years as the United States prepares to double its oil imports from the continent to an estimated 30% in the next decade. However, resource exploitation has delivered perverse outcomes – widely referred to as the 'resource curse'. A strong consensus has emerged that much of the problem can be explained by corruption and that fighting it is the best way to make resource exploitation contribute to development in Africa. But at best, success in combating corruption appears to be

modest. At worst, it may be used to support rival developmental agendas. This paper argues that claims that greater transparency of revenue flows will go a long way to reversing the 'resource curse' may be superficial and misleading. The paper discusses rival views of corruption in the extractive industries, potential consequences of corruption, particularly environmental degradation and the rights of local communities affected by mining, and the challenges and pitfalls of anti-corruption initiatives. The author is André Standing, who leads a project on the governance of Africa's natural resources for the Institute for Security Studies in South Africa.

***OECD Journal on Development:
Development Cooperation Report 2007***

Faithful to tradition, the 2007 report is characterised by open reporting which has been at the heart of the work of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) from its inception. It looks forward to key international events in 2008 and gives comprehensive statistics on development cooperation over the past year with some analysis of what the data mean. Its main chapters offer key lessons on the effective management of aid and examine how human rights, gender and the environment can be addressed within a locally owned approach to development. The last chapter gives a short introduction to the aid programmes and performance of DAC members. Details available at www.oecd.org/dac/dcr

***The Road to Harmony:
How to Share Resources***

Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the United Nations' University for Peace (UPEACE) in Costa Rica and Latin American researchers explored non-violent ways to settle conflicts over nature during this five-year programme called 'Conflict and Collaboration in Managing Natural Resources in Latin America and the Caribbean'. The idea of learning from collaboration was a key focus. The report draws on the findings of 30

research projects relating to disputes in 11 countries to gather information about experiences in socio-environmental conflict resolution where a collaborative approach is being tried. The 74 researchers tackled an assortment of situations and issues: conflicts that arose as a result of pollution, deforestation, mining and hydroelectric projects, access to protected areas, rural-urban planning and zoning, ownership of traditional lands, and fisheries management. As for future challenges, the programme highlights important research issues that still need to be addressed, notably social inequalities and empowering weaker players. It also shows how many socio-environmental conflicts appear at first glance to be uniquely local when they are really framed within globalised processes. Too frequently, the report shows, the 'institutionalisation of inequity' – for example in unfair trade agreements – is at the root of injustice and environmental damage. Details available at www.idrc.ca/uploads/user-S/11924765971Road_to_Harmony_e.pdf

***The Zimbabwe Peoples' Charter,
Adopted at the Peoples' Convention,
Harare, on 9 February 2008***

The charter is the declaration from a convention bringing together about 3,000 delegates representing Zimbabwe's major civic organisations. It follows an 'all-stakeholders conference' in September 2007 at which civil society effectively turned its back on Zimbabwe's election process and the parties contesting a national election on 29 March 2008. An abbreviated version:

We, the people of Zimbabwe – after deliberations among ourselves and with the full knowledge of the work done by civic society organisations and social movements, and with an understanding that our drawn-out struggle for emancipation is in need of a people-driven solution – hereby declare:

Political environment

Our political environment since colonialism and after our national independence in 1980 has remained characterised by:



- A lack of respect for the rule of law;
- Political violence, most notably that which occurred in the early to late 1980s in the provinces of Midlands and Matabeleland, and that which occurred in the years from 1997 to present day, where lives were lost as a result of government actions undertaken with impunity;
- A lack of fundamental rights and freedoms, including freedom of expression and information, association and assembly, all characterised by the militarisation of arms of the state and government.

The people shall have a political environment in which:

- All people in Zimbabwe, including children, are guaranteed without discrimination the rights to freedom of expression and information, association and assembly, and all other fundamental rights and freedoms as provided under international law to which the state has bound itself voluntarily;
- All people in Zimbabwe live in a society characterised by tolerance of divergent views, cultures or religions, honesty, integrity and common concern for the welfare of all;
- All people in Zimbabwe are guaranteed safety and security, and a lawful environment free from human rights violations and impunity;
- All national institutions including the judiciary, law enforcement agencies, state security agencies, electoral, media and human rights commissions, are independent and impartial and serve all the people of Zimbabwe without fear or favour;
- There exist free and vibrant media which place emphasis on freedom of expression and information, and a government which guarantees the independence of private and public media;
- All people in Zimbabwe live in a society which embodies transparency and with an efficient public service and a belief in a legitimate, people-centred state;

- Never again shall we let lives be lost, maimed, tortured or traumatised by the dehumanising experiences of political intolerance, violence and lack of democratic government.

Elections

Fully believing that all elections in Zimbabwe remain illegitimate and without merit until undertaken under a new democratic and people-driven constitution, the people shall have all elections under a new people-driven constitutional dispensation characterised by:

- Equal access to the media;
- One independent, impartial, accountable and well-resourced electoral management body;
- A process of delimitation free of political control, and accurate, fair, transparent and undertaken with full public participation;
- A continually updated and accurate voters' roll open and accessible to all;
- Transparent and neutral location of polling stations, agreed in a national consultative process devoid of undue ruling party or opposition party and government influence, and accessible to all, including those with special needs;
- Voter education with the full participation of civic society that is both expansive and well timed in order to allow citizens to exercise their democratic right to choose leaders of their choice to the full;
- International, regional and local observers and monitors being permitted access to everyone involved in the electoral process;
- An electoral court, which is independent and impartial, well staffed and well resourced, to address all issues relating to electoral processes, conduct, conflicts and results in a timely manner.

Constitutional reform

A new constitution of Zimbabwe must be produced by a people-driven, participatory process and must in it guarantee:

- That the Republic of Zimbabwe shall be a democracy, with separation of powers, a justiciable Bill of Rights that recognises civil, political, social, economic, cultural and environmental rights;
- Devolution of government authority to provinces and to local government level;
- A multi-party system of democratic government based on universal suffrage and regular free and fair elections and the right to recall public officials;
- The right to citizenship for any person born in Zimbabwe: birth certificates, national identity documents and passports shall be easily available for all citizens;
- A credible and fair election management body and process;
- An independent, impartial and competent judiciary;
- The protection of labour rights and the right to informal trade;
- The protection and promotion of the rights of people living with disabilities;
- Independent and impartial commissions which deal with gender equality, land, elections, human rights and social justice;
- An impartial state security apparatus.
- The people shall have a constitutional reform process, which is characterised by the following:
 - Comprehensive consultation with the people of Zimbabwe wherein they are guaranteed freedom of expression and information, association and assembly;
 - The collection of the views of the people and their compilation into a draft constitution that shall be undertaken by an all-stakeholders' commission composed of representatives of government, parliament, political parties, civil society, labour, business and the church, with a gender and minority balance;

- A transparent process of the appointment of the all-stakeholders' commission members as well as their terms of reference;
- The holding of a national referendum on any draft constitution.

National economy and social welfare

The colonial and post-colonial periods resulted in massive growth in social inequality and marginalisation of women, youths, peasants, informal traders, workers, the disabled, professionals and ordinary people generally. Our national economy belongs to the people of Zimbabwe and must serve as a mechanism through which everyone shall be equally guaranteed the rights to dignity, economic and social justice which shall be guided by the following principles:

- People-centered economic planning and budgets at national and local government levels that guarantee social and economic rights;
- The obligation on the state, provincial and local authorities to initiate public programmes to build schools, hospitals, houses, dams and roads and create jobs;
- Equitable access to and distribution of national resources for the benefit of all people of Zimbabwe;
- A transparent process of ownership and equitable, open and fair redistribution of land from the few to the many;
- The right of the people of Zimbabwe to refuse repayment of any odious debt accrued by a dictatorial government;
- Protection of our environment from exploitation and misuse, whether by individuals or companies...

The charter goes on to make proposals for committing to a national value system that recognises the humanity of all individuals in society, around equal treatment of women in all spheres of society, and around empowering youth. It is adopted by 39 civic organisations representing a wide array of sectors.



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