



7TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MUSEUMS FOR PEACE

The 7th International Conference of Museums for Peace took place 4-7 May in Barcelona, one of Europe's most attractive and popular cities, and one, moreover, with a thriving peace culture. The conference was hosted by the Barcelona International Peace Resource Center which is housed at the spacious and historic Mountjuic Castle, with spectacular views over the city and sea below.

Reflecting the recent, ongoing transformation of the castle from a site of war and violence in the past (until recently, the castle belonged to the Ministry of Defence, and also housed a large army museum) to a centre for civic engagement and peacemaking, the theme of the conference was 'the role of museums in the transformation of a culture of war & violence to a culture of peace & nonviolence'.



The deteriorating economic and financial situation in Spain in recent years has necessitated a slowing down of the conversion project, so that, exceptionally, the number of participants had to be limited to sixty. Peace museum experts and peace educators came from 15 different countries, the majority from Europe, but also from Asia (China, Japan, Korea) and the USA. The conference, consisting mainly of plenary and parallel sessions, and some workshops, addressed such issues as 'designing museums for peace and human rights', 'experiences with designing and exchanging travelling exhibitions', 'culture of peace and human rights education in museums', 'monuments and memorials as centres for building a culture of peace', 'from militarism to a culture of peace',

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Read all about the joyous opening ceremony of the renewed Tehran Peace Museum on page 2.



The story of the prize-giving ceremony of an artistic contest at the Association of Italian Peace Museums on page 8.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF TEHRAN PEACE MUSEUM

Tehran – After almost three years of hard work, the new building of the Tehran Peace Museum is now open to visitors.



The inaugural ceremony for the Tehran Peace Museum was held on 29 June 2011 on the anniversary of the gas attack against the Iranian-Kurdish town of Sardasht by Saddam Hussein's regime in 1987. This day is commemorated in Iran every year as the national day of campaigning against chemical weapons.



Erfan Eskamaei ©

International guests including Mr. Koichiro Maeda, Director of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, citizen representatives of Hiroshima, and Iraqi survivors of gas attacks against the Iraqi-Kurdish town of Halabja were among the participants in the inaugural ceremony. Many Iranian civil society representatives, peace activists, war veterans, survivors of chemical weapons attacks, artists, authors, and school children were also invited to the event which was held in the conference hall of Tehran City Park (Park-e-Shahr) where the Tehran Peace Museum is located.



Erfan Eskamaei ©

After short speeches by Mr. Ayazi, the Vice-Mayor of Tehran, Mr. Maeda, and Ms Shizuko Tsuya, President of MOCT (a Hiroshima-based NGO for humanitarian and peace activities), the message of the Tehran Peace Museum was read by one of the Iranian survivors of chemical weapons attacks. Then all participants visited the Peace Museum on the northern side of the City Park to witness the planting of an olive tree by special guests while at the same time forty doves were released to mark the birth of yet another centre for fostering peace.



Finally, the Tehran Peace Museum was formally inaugurated by the Vice-Mayor of Tehran and the Director of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum followed by a tour of the Museum accompanied by all the guests.



Erfan Eskamaei ©

The project for establishing the Tehran Peace Museum was initiated in 2007 by members of an Iranian NGO (Society for Chemical Weapons Victims Support) and with the support of the Tehran Municipality. The Tehran Peace Museum has been conducting its activities since 2007 and during the refurbishment of its main building from a temporary office in the City Park.



Erfan Eskamaei ©

BERTHA VON SUTTNER IN KYOTO

An exhibition on Bertha von Suttner was held at Kyoto Museum for World Peace from August 10 to 28. Panels on Bertha von Suttner called *Ein Leben für den Frieden* (A life for peace) were borrowed from the Austrian Embassy in Tokyo and precious exhibits were provided by Dr. Peter van den Dungen of the University of Bradford and Professor Osamu Itoigawa of Aichi Gakuin University. It was co-sponsored by the Anzai Science & Peace Office and Kyoto Museum for World Peace.



The exhibition was organised to celebrate the publication of the first Japanese translation of Suttner's famous novel called *Lay Down Your Arms* (1889). It was published in Tokyo this spring in two volumes and was also exhibited at the exhibition. It took almost eight years for several translators to finish the translation and they enjoyed the exhibition and also Dr. Peter van den Dungen's lecture entitled *Towards a Bertha von Suttner Peace Museum in Vienna* given on August 20 at Kyoto Museum for World Peace. The panels were published as a pamphlet by the Anzai Science & Peace Office so that visitors would be able to keep it. It is hoped that the exhibition will be held at other museums for peace in Japan in the future.



PEACE MUSEUMS IN SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS



We are pleased to announce that the Gernika Peace Museum has been included in a secondary school textbook which highlighted their work on Peace and Human Rights. This comes on top of the appearance of the Samarkand International Museum of Peace and Solidarity in another textbook.

This illustrates that there is an increase in the appearance of peace museums in textbooks. Until recently, museums that were used to illustrate topics in textbooks were restricted to famous art museums, such as the Louvre.

Publishers are increasingly in charge of writing textbooks and we have heard that they are evaluating the work of different peace museums for the education of secondary school students.

Many students have little interest in exploring the topics discussed in class outside of the classroom. The introduction of peace museums in school textbooks will hopefully help reverse this trend and increase the exposure of children to the important work of peace museums.

REPORT ON THE INMP ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

Barcelona, May 2011



The fourth annual meeting of the board of the International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP) was held in Barcelona (Spain), 3 and 6 May 2011, during the seventh International Conference of Museums for Peace. The meeting was attended by 11 board members (from America, Asia, and Europe) and by the Secretariat Administrator.

The board meeting was opened before the start of the conference. Its programme was reviewed as well as the future of the Barcelona International Peace Resource Center, host of this conference, and of Montjuïc Castle (its venue) in connection with the forthcoming municipal elections.

After the implementation of the new registration for organizations and individuals to formally join the INMP last year, Nike Liscaljet informed the board of the number of registered associates. Invitations to register are being spread to all INMP contacts and the board will actively recruit associates.

The website content was discussed, in particular what should be changed, included or deleted. The outcome will be implemented as far as possible on the current website and overall within the new website, still under construction.

Since the last board meeting two INMP brochures, business cards and a postcard have been made. They are attractive and will be used for PR purposes. It was decided to publish a conference volume which would also be at the same time INMP's next annual publication. In the first instance, it will appear as an online edition. The editorial committee will collect conference papers and explore possible publishers. The first newsletter was published on the last day of

the conference and well received.

The INMP is looking for funding in order to keep the secretariat in function and commence new projects. In this connection, priority issues are improving the website, expanding membership (and thus income) and exploring funding sources. Plans for a project in 2013 in The Hague, entitled 'Philanthropy and Peace – Then and Now', celebrating the centenary of the inauguration of the Peace Palace, are under consideration. The project would comprise a travelling exhibition, symposium, publication, and school project. It was agreed that Nike Liscaljet would remain employed for three days a week for at least the remainder of the year in order to help with fundraising issues.

An ad hoc committee chaired by Clive Barrett organised and supervised the nominations/elections process of the Executive Board and Advisory Committee, the results of which he reported during the meeting. The General Coordinator is appointed by the Executive Board.

The initial idea for the next conference (in 2013 in The Hague) was abandoned in favour of holding conferences every three years (2014), thus allowing more time for their preparation. A small committee was set up in order to draft a statement inviting applications from potential hosts to organise the next conference. It would be published on the website, with a deadline for submissions. The board would then review the applications received and announce the venue for the next conference.

Other issues addressed included the policy on issuing statements (reiterating last year's decision); conference finances; a conference questionnaire. The board meeting resumed after the conclusion of the conference and noted the high quality of presentations and interventions during the conference, as well as its efficient organisation. It was agreed that the conference had been productive in many ways and also, in the experience of all participants, very enjoyable. The board expressed its gratitude to participants, and all those involved in the organisation of the conference, in the first place our host, Jordi Capdevila, director of the Barcelona International Peace Resource Center.

7TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MUSEUMS FOR PEACE (Continued)



'possibilities for the transformation of fortresses (and war museums) into museums for peace', 'presentation of new museums for peace and renewal projects'.

Being prevented from opening the conference in person, Federico Mayor, president of the Foundation for Peace in Madrid (and former Spanish Minister of Education, and former Director-General of UNESCO) sent a warm video message that stressed the important role of museums in the development and promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence. In the following plenary session, entitled '5,000 Mayors for Peace – 5,000 Cities for Peace', the mayor of San Sebastian, the vice-mayor of Granollers, and the Commissioner of Cooperation, Solidarity and Peace of Barcelona City Council outlined the municipal peace initiatives of their respective cities. These excellent and inspiring presentations were complemented later by an impressive round table in which the directors of half a dozen leading NGOs working for peace and human rights in Barcelona and the Catalan region outlined the programmes and activities of their institutions and organisations.

Participants were offered an extensive visit in the castle with expert guidance from Jordi Capdevila who, as director of the Barcelona International Peace Resource Center, generously hosted and efficiently organised the conference. He also arranged an excursion by bus to the city's most important sites. Following the end of the conference, most participants also joined the whole day excursion to the beautiful and historic city of Girona, as well as to Figueres, home of the world-famous Salvador Dali museum.

At the conclusion of the conference, brief but very welcome presentations concerning possible venues for the holding of the next, 8th, conference were made by the chairman of the No Gun Ri International Peace Park in Korea, and the director of the Uppsala House of Peace in Sweden.

It is intended that selected papers from the conference will be published, in the first instance in digital format, and to be made available on INMP's website (where also the video message from Federico Mayor can be seen).



ANNOUNCEMENT

THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MUSEUMS FOR PEACE

Date:
September 2014

Venue:
No Gun Ri Peace Park, South Korea



Host:
No Gun Ri International Peace Foundation

Info:
Details on the dates, theme, registration, etc. will be announced on our website and in following newsletters.

PEACE MUSEUMS AT THE 2011 APPRA CONFERENCE

The 2011 Conference of the Asia Pacific Peace Research Association (APPRA) was held on October 14-16, at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace in Japan.

With 870 participants the conference was a great success. The conference included two sessions with presentations related to peace museums which were chaired by Kazuyo Yamane (INMP Executive Board member) and her colleague Ryotaro Katsura (Ritsumeikan University, Japan).

The first of these sessions was introduced by a presentation on the making of the Asia Pacific Network of Museums for Peace (more information about this network will be announced on the INMP website and in the newsletters in the near future). The focus of the first session was on experiences in museum education and display. The focus in the second session related to peace museums was more directed at ways to exhibit cultural memory and politics in a peace museum.

The INMP is looking forward to a long-lasting and peaceful cooperation with the APPRA. On 26 and 27 November there will be a meeting of the Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace in which Kazuyo Yamane will take part, while Professor Ikuro Anzai (INMP Advisory Committee member) will attend a meeting of the Japanese Association of Museums for Peace on 17 and 18 November.

During the APPRA Conference Professor Anzai gave an impressive keynote speech, which can be read here on the INMP website. In his speech Professor Anzai, among other things, briefly revealed the history of nuclear power development. He spent his boyhood in Fukushima, so it is no surprise that he has been there several times after the recent disaster to monitor the situation and advice the population on protective measures. As an academic at Tokyo University he suffered in many ways for his scepticism regarding nuclear power, but his early warnings have proven to be correct.

He concluded his speech with a proposed agenda for peace researchers, suggesting the following 5 points:

- 1) The definition of Peace should not only include the 'Absence of war', but also the 'Absence of violence'.
- 2) Construct a comprehensive aid system for the people in disaster areas.
- 3) Develop a method to sense dangerous social signs in the earliest stage, including signs in the fields of structural and/or cultural violence.
- 4) Elucidate the whole story of the Fukushima tragedy not only from short term, but also long term point of view in world history.
- 5) Is it ethically acceptable for us to enjoy nuclear energy and to leave risks (hard to estimate) to hundred generations to come with no chance to obtain their consent?

MUSE

If you want to read more about the Japanese Citizens' Network of Museums for Peace please visit the website of the Tokyo Air Raids and read Muse Newsletter.

PEACE MUSIC BRADFORD RADIO



INMP associate Betsy Kawamura was interviewed last March by Ben Mussanzi of BCB Radio, Bradford, UK, for his Peace Music radioshow. She was asked about her concepts of peace and non-violence and why she works on women's issues. It was broadcast on 23 July, just after the tragedies

in Norway, and it is a coincidence that Betsy chose *Norwegian Wood* by The Beatles to open the show. She also talked about Japan, Congo and a workshop at PeaceJam (a youth programme supported by 12 Nobel Peace Laureates) about female child-soldiers. The Podcast is available here (Daytime Music Saturday 23 July).

ESTABLISHING THE NO GUN RI PEACE PARK

Activities for revealing the truth of the No Gun Ri Massacre and review of the establishment of the No Gun Ri Peace Park.

The No Gun Ri Massacre refers to an incident committed during the Korean War in which civilians were killed by U.S. soldiers between July 25 and 29, 1950 near the village of No Gun Ri, located in Hwanggan-myeon in central South Korea. It is estimated that around 400 unarmed innocent civilians and refugees were killed by the machine gun fire of U.S. soldiers.

What is noteworthy about the incident of mass killings is the fact that the victims were at the center of all the activities for revealing the truth of the massacre. Although the victims were viewed as supporters of anti-Americanism by some people and thus faced a lot of difficulties, in 2011 they received an official statement of regret from then-U.S. President Bill Clinton. In that process, the No Gun Ri Massacre has come to be known as a good example of showing historical reconciliation. The activities of the victims to reveal the truth of the hidden massacre naturally developed into social movements, enhancing human rights and peace in general. The process of these activities can be roughly categorized into five steps:

1. Taking literary approaches to reveal the truth of the No Gun Ri Massacre (publication of novels)
2. Educating the public about the No Gun Ri Massacre and making it into public issues
3. Launching academic research and holding cultural events
4. Establishing the No Gun Ri Special Act and No Gun Ri Peace Park
5. Promoting the core lessons of the No Gun Ri Massacre, 'Value of Human Rights and Peace'

Rather than being just a memorial place for victims, the No Gun Ri Peace Park aims to become a true peace park where people from all around the world can share the message of human rights and peace. Due for completion before the end of 2011, the site of the No Gun Ri Massacre is expected to become a mecca for cherishing the value of human rights and peace and a base camp for the peace movement in Asia. Dr. Koo-do Chung, who sent this report, also hopes that the No Gun Ri Peace Park can become a

hub of the international peace movement and thus contribute to the enhancement of world peace.

NEW PEACE BUILDING WEBSITE

A new website in English run by the *Asahi Shimbun* newspaper company in Japan has been launched. "Memories of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Messages from Hibakusha" covers about 200 first-hand experiences of A-bomb survivors in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. By the end of the year, 370 accounts shall be available on the website.

More than 350 volunteers from all over the world helped to translate the survivors' accounts from Japanese into English. They are a silent survivors' pleas for 'a World without Nuclear Weapons'.

One of the editors of the project had the following to say: "My name is Yoshiko Tanigawa, an independent peace activist living in Japan. I have been working as a volunteer guide for Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University and as a volunteer translator for MUSE. I have been assisting the chief editor of this English website for the past several months. We worked hard to provide the best translations, which convey the reality of what the survivors experienced, as vividly as possible in English. Creating something filled with human value is as important as the value of the completed result.

I have been experiencing the survivors' agony by reading their accounts and witnessing such peace building process through assisting the director. Lots of native English-speakers have been supporting us by proofreading these accounts so thoroughly. I recognized that they were strongly moved and shocked by knowing and confirming how cruel and evil it was to drop the bombs. They seemed to be devoting themselves so deeply to this project, going beyond their personal conditions and their initial motivations. Their reactions touched me, too.

I believe that this website has the power and compassion to evoke our imaginations. It whispers 'Let's listen to the voices of the nameless peoples and let's create a safe future for everyone.'"

ASSOCIATION OF ITALIAN MUSEUMS FOR PEACE

Report on the prize-giving ceremony of the artistic contest “War and Captivity in Russia 1941 – 1945. Soldiers’ suffering and their hopes and wishes to live in peace” - 10 June 2011, Milan.

After a brief presentation by Pietro Carulli (president of the Associazione Museo Italiano per la Pace) and Pietro Fabbris (ex-president of the Italian National Union for Veterans of Russia), Tina Levati (counselor of the Association) welcomed all students, professors and other individuals attending, including Mr. Franco Morea (tenor-artist who was also a jury member) and Dr. Maria Fratelli (director-curator of Padiglione di Arte Contemporanea - Museum of Contemporary Art in Milan).



Many students from the Caravaggio Artistic High School participated in the artistic contest entitled “War and Captivity in Russia 1941 – 1945. Soldiers’ suffering and their hopes and wishes to live in peace.” In her speech, Tina Levati emphasised that peace is a style of life which must be in the hearts and minds of people and that the world has great need for those who choose to live a peaceful life. She told the students that when Milan has a museum for peace, their work will be displayed there and that they will be able to say “we have contributed with our works to create an Art Museum for Peace”. She then let them know how moved she was by their works and that they had succeeded in commemorating her father and all the men to whom this contest was dedicated.

Following Tina’s speech Emanuele Carlo Ostuni read a poem on the subject of peace. Piera

Caramellino then gave a brief presentation of the 7th INMP international conference that Anna Piccinini attended on her behalf in May 2011 and spoke of Anna’s experiences from the meeting. She also made an announcement concerning the creation and aims of Associazione Museo Italiano per la Pace, as well as its future programmes.

Finally, after several short films on the subject of peace were shown, the prizes were given out to the students for their excellent work. The jury had such trouble classifying the prizes that they decided to give 20 prizes, and small gifts of appreciation to everyone. The 57 works of art received will remain at the Associazione Museo Italiano per la Pace for future exhibitions.



TOWARDS A MUSEUM OF HOPE



Jorge Perez © MICR 2011

A changing museum for a world in motion.

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum in Geneva is closed for transformation

works until Spring 2013.

Its new permanent exhibition will be organised around three independent thematic areas designed by internationally renowned architects from different cultural horizons:

Defending human dignity (Gringo Cardia, Brazil),
Reconstructing the family link (Diébédo Francis Kéré, Burkina Faso)

Refusing fatality (Shigeru Ban, Japan)

The design of the exhibition is overseen by Atelier Oï (La Neuveville, Switzerland).

In the “On the spot” area, a large interactive globe will show the latest news from the field.

For more information and pictures, please visit www.micr.org

NEW PUBLICATION



Exhibiting the war. The future of World War II Museums in the Netherlands.

Esther Captain & Kees Ribbens

An English full-text document is available for downloading at: <http://www.niod.knaw.nl/documents/publicaties/exhibitingthewar.pdf>

The NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Amsterdam has recently published a new book on the current and future state of World War II museums in the Netherlands. This publication by dr Esther Captain and dr Kees Ribbens has now been translated into English.

In “Exhibiting the War” the war museums and memorial centres in the Netherlands occupy a central place. The book is an exploration of organizations that diverge a great deal in terms of professionalism, available means, and range. Both renowned institutions and less well-known small museums influence how the Second World War is represented. The collections of World War II heritage in these museums emphasize the importance that Dutch society attaches to this historical period.

Taking the dynamic significance and presentation of war heritage as their main focus, the authors provide an outline of how to reflect on war museums and their collections in the coming years. They highlight the importance of collective discussion and continued cooperation between war museums, but also with other heritage institutions, with researchers, and other parties concerned.

Dr. Kees Ribbens

works at the NIOD, the Institute for War-, Holocaust-, and Genocide Studies. He is the author of “War on five continents. New Dutch & the histories of the Second World War.” (2008, with J. Schenk and M. Eickhoff) (in Dutch).

Dr. Esther Captain

works at the NIOD and the Centre for the Humanities at the University of Utrecht. She is the author of “War heritage overseas. The heritage of the Second World War in Aruba, Curaçao, Indonesia and Surinam.” (2010, with G. Jones) (in Dutch).

150 YEARS GERMANY - JAPAN



日独交流150周年
Jahre Freundschaft
Deutschland – Japan

“That was hell. Hiroshima - Nagasaki 1945” is an exhibition of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum in the Erich Maria Remarque Peace Center in Osnabrück (Germany). Opened on 1 September 2011, the exhibition is an official event that took place on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of friendship between Germany and Japan, under the patronage of Federal President Christian Wulff and Crown Prince Naruhito.

In August 1945 more than 200,000 people died from atomic bombs dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which were completely destroyed. The exhibition at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum documents the bombing and its lasting consequences on the basis of numerous photographic plates, film and sound recordings and interviews with witnesses/survivors.

SECRETARIAT ADMINISTRATOR: FIRST EXPERIENCES

In the previous newsletter I introduced myself as the new and first employee of the INMP, based at our office in The Hague, The Netherlands. You could read about my first experiences with the network, its members and the first tasks I was given. The newsletter was published during the 7th International Conference of Museums for Peace in Barcelona, six months ago.

Six months that feel like so many more and the conference already seems such a long time ago. I keep learning more and more about the INMP and the range of tasks is rising fast with this job. I have now added fundraising as one of my main concerns.



The conference in Barcelona was a great experience for me in all its aspects; from working with the board members and local organisation on such a large scale, bringing the INMP office to Montjuïc Castle, to meeting all of you and seeing your enthusiasm, and of course the excursions. I will never forget the experience. It was my first time in Barcelona, but it will not be my last.

Things at the office have not been standing still either. The focus is still on getting more individuals and organisations to join the network and let more people know about the INMP and its goals. I am getting used to telling people about my job and the existence of Museums for Peace. In early September I spent my Sunday at a Peace Boat event in Amsterdam and did some networking on behalf of the INMP.

Last but not least, I have been joined by an intern, which is also new for me. His name is Tom Smith and he is a former intern from the Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation (another NGO in the same building as INMP). Tom is very interested in the work of the INMP and, as long as his time allows him, is spending one day a week with me at the office looking for funding and new projects to explore.

Do you want to help spread the word of the INMP, enlarge the network, initiate more activities and get more items in the newsletter? Start today and order INMP brochures for display at your Museum for Peace, use your network and motivate individuals and organisations to join our network, share your ideas with the network and write news articles about your activities or simply inform me of upcoming events and exhibitions! Send an e-mail to secretariat@museumsforpeace.org with your contribution. I would also like your brochure for display at the secretariat and advertise your upcoming exhibition in the newsletter and on the website. Please send your information by e-mail or brochures to the secretariat in The Hague.



AGENDA

Temporary Exhibitions

Erich Maria Remarque Peace Center (Germany)
Opening 10 November 2011
Borderline cases - Refugees 1933-1940

Gernika Peace Museum (Spain)
20 October 2011 – 26 February 2012
Flying prohibited: Children and armed conflict

DEADLINE NEWSLETTER 3



The publication of the next newsletter is planned for May. The deadline for submissions is **1 April 2012**. Please send your text and images (separate) to news@museumsforpeace.org **Subscribe** to our biannual newsletter by sending an e-mail to news@museumsforpeace.org providing your name and that of the organisation you work for (if applicable).