

NEWSLETTER No.14

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Celebrating 10 Years of the Nobel Peace Center, Oslo

The Nobel Peace Center in the heart of Oslo was inaugurated in 2005 following a vote in the Storting (Norwegian parliament) in 2000 to establish such a Center as an independent foundation, to be partly funded by the Ministry of Culture. In the first decade of its existence, the Center has become one of the most popular museums in the country with nearly 1.6 million visitors. More than 7,200 school classes (averaging two every day) have participated in educational programmes of the Center. It was created to provide a broad insight into every aspect associated with the 'world's most prestigious prize' through a varied programme consisting of exhibitions, educational workshops, debates, seminars, visits by Nobel Peace Prize laureates, etc.

All these activities are documented in a substantial and sumptuously illustrated volume entitled *Peace at Heart: 10 Years of Dedication to the Nobel Peace Prize*. The 160-page book, published by the Center, was edited by Bente Erichsen, its director, with Linda Netland, director of information and education. The Center was conceived by Geir Lundestad in the early 1990s, when he was director of the Norwegian Nobel Institute and his account of how it came about opens the volume. Olav Njølstad, his successor as director, and as chair

of the Center, highlights its unique significance as a meeting place for peace. Director Bente

Erichsen shares her views on the success of the Center in attracting visitors and inspiring them for peace, while architect David Adjaye offers reflections on designing the Center. Liv Astrid Sverdrup, director of exhibitions (and INMP board member), in a long and well-illustrated section, reviews the more than 60, mainly photo but also art, exhibitions that have been created since the Center opened; a comprehensive list with details of all temporary exhibitions (2005-2015) is included at the end of the volume. In contrast, a mere two pages are devoted to the permanent exhibitions.



Photo: Johannes Granseth / Nobel Peace Center

Comments (invariably enthusiastic) by visitors, children, students, teachers, prominent Norwegians and international diplomats are also included as are interviews with key sponsors and partners, and congratulatory messages from Nobel peace laureates, most of whom have visited the Center.

One of its main attractions is the large exhibition that is made every year, in record time, as soon as the new laureate is announced in October and that is opened by him or her on 11th December, the day following the award ceremony in the Oslo City Hall, nearby. The whole hectic process is described and documented in a long and fascinating section, entitled 'Picturing peace', also by Sverdrup who is responsible for this important and popular annual exhibition. As she notes, it enables the visitors 'to meet the laureates every day, all year round'. The story of Malala's uniform is particularly poignant. It is followed, aptly, by a section on education, learning peace, and the children's peace center. In a section entitled 'A heart that beats for peace', Linda Netland presents a selection of photographic highlights from the ca. 500 events, of the most diverse kind, that have taken place at the Center during its first decade and that are testimony to both its significance and popularity.

The 'Nobel' name represents beauty, creativity, excellency, and inspiration, qualities which also characterise this celebratory publication which does full justice to the Center in Oslo that is dedicated to peace through showing the inspiring work of the world's 'champions of peace'. In this way the Center also ensures that Oslo is a city of peace all year round and not just on and around 10th December. The story of the first decade of the Nobel Peace Center should be of great interest to peace educators, especially when involved in displays, exhibitions and museums.

Nobel Peace Laureate Joseph Rotblat in POLIN Museum, Warsaw

One of the most interesting and beautiful museums to open its doors in recent years is POLIN, Museum of the History of Polish Jews. The museum was formally founded in 2005 by the City of Warsaw, the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, and the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland. The core exhibition on one thousand years of Polish Jewish history was inaugurated in 2014. The museum is located in an area which was once the heart of Jewish Warsaw, and which the Nazis turned into the Warsaw Ghetto during

World War II; it faces the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes which commemorates the ill-fated Warsaw Uprising in 1943. Nearby, in Willy Brandt Square, is the Willy Brandt 'Kniefall' [Genuflexion] Monument that commemorates the German Chancellor's gesture during his 1970 visit when he knelt in front of the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes and which rapidly became a symbol of reconciliation between Poland and Germany.



POLIN Museum

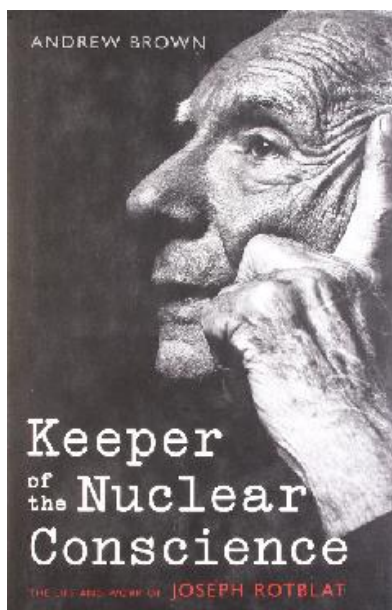
Later this year, POLIN is planning to open a new, imaginative and inter-active exhibition space called *In A Good Company* which consists of a salon with 25 armchairs, each symbolically representing a prominent personality selected from the rich history of Jews born in Poland whose work has been crucial for Polish, Jewish as well as global culture. The armchairs will be equipped with tablets containing multimedia presentations on the life and work of their protagonists who have been chosen from the fields of culture, science, and social life. In addition, display cabinets with books and artefacts concerning each famous personality will enable the visitor to further explore their lives and accomplishments.

Visitors thus find themselves 'in a good company' of outstanding figures and, in a way, will become part of their milieu to better appreciate their merits and engage in conversation.

Among the personalities singled out is the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Professor Joseph Rotblat, the only nuclear physicist to walk away from the Manhattan Project during World War

II (for the development of an atomic bomb) when it became clear that Hitler-Germany was not developing such a weapon. He spent the rest of his life in England, working for a world free of nuclear weapons, and of war, mainly through the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs which he co-founded, and which organisation shared the 1995 prize with him.

Professor Rotblat was an early sponsor of the appeal for the creation of a Chair in Peace Studies at the University of Bradford, which was the first university to award him an honorary doctorate in 1973 when the Chair was inaugurated. Later, he also became a supporter of the Peace Museum in Bradford. Following his death in 2005, he left his collection of books on war and peace to the library of the university while many personal artefacts came to the Peace Museum. In February 2016, a team from POLIN visited Bradford in order to make images of artefacts and scan documents for use in the forthcoming salon in Warsaw.



Ernst Friedrich's *War Against War*

War Against War is a milestone in the literature on peace and peace education. First published in 1924 by Ernst Friedrich (with captions to the photographs which fill the book in four languages), it has seen many reprints during the next ten years, and again since the 1980s.



It has been estimated that about half a million copies of the book have been sold. Its lasting power and significance is also shown by the publication of a Japanese edition. This appeared in Tokyo in 1988 thanks to the efforts of Chikara Tsuboi, the promoter in Japan of European peace museum pioneers Jan Bloch and Ernst Friedrich. No other book dared to show the reality of war as emphatically as Friedrich's, and its clear anti-militarist tone and message made the book famous and also controversial, eliciting much hostility. Generations of young people, in particular, were deeply affected by being confronted with the stark reality of war, with all its horrors and barbarity, through photographs which mainly showed the battlefields of World War I and the bodies of dead and mutilated soldiers. It is therefore not surprising, and indeed appropriate, that during these years when the centenary of that catastrophic war is being commemorated, this unique and startling document has been made available again.

Published by Christoph Links Verlag in Berlin in 2015, this is an especially welcome edition since it also includes, for the first time, an extensive, 30-page account of the life and work

of its remarkable author, with striking photographs. Entitled ‘I know no “enemies”’, it is largely based on a biographical memoir with the same title written by Tommy Spree, Friedrich’s grandson. This fuller account was published in 2000 by the Anti-War Museum in Berlin. In 1982, with the help of the city authorities and fellow teachers, Spree had succeeded in re-establishing the museum that Friedrich had created shortly after *War Against War* was first published; the Nazis destroyed the museum in 1933. In an equally long and valuable introduction to the new edition, historian Gerd Krumeich calls Friedrich a ‘genius of communication’ whose book broke a long-standing taboo by showing images of the most horrific facial injuries which had never been shown before. He argues that, sadly, war is still all around us and that, as before, the media refrain from showing its ghastly reality.

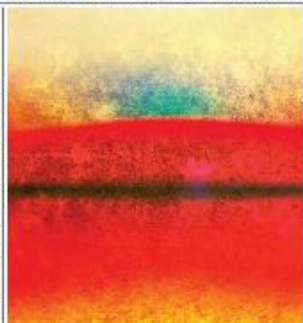
This is also the finding of David Shields in his new book, *War Is Beautiful: The New York Times Pictorial Guide to the Glamour of Armed Conflict* (powerHouse Books). Following an analysis of thousands of front-page combat photos (and particularly full-colour photos), since 2001 of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, he concluded that the newspaper has been complicit with power and government by sharing unquestioning accounts of war, and offering visual images that hide the true horror and human consequences of war. While during the Vietnam War the paper showed graphic and often shocking photos that depicted the reality of that bloody conflict, America’s 21st century wars have been presented at a distance, with little visual documentation of how modern armed conflict cruelly damages real people.

WAR IS BEAUTIFUL

The New York Times Pictorial Guide to the Glamour of Armed Conflict

By DAVID SHIELDS

There is a certain beauty to war. It is a spectacle of power and violence, a display of human ingenuity and cruelty. It is a time when the world is united in a common purpose, when the boundaries of nations and cultures are blurred. It is a time when the human spirit is tested, when the limits of our endurance are pushed to their very limits. It is a time when the world is a stage, and we are all actors in a grand, and often tragic, play.



EARLY PRAISE

David Shields' new book, *War Is Beautiful*, is a masterpiece of visual journalism. It is a collection of the most powerful and moving images from the front pages of the New York Times, from the Vietnam War to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. It is a book that will change the way you think about war, and the way you see the world.

REVIEWS

War Is Beautiful is a book that is both a work of art and a work of journalism. It is a book that is both a celebration and a condemnation of war. It is a book that is both a warning and a call to action. It is a book that is both a masterpiece and a masterpiece.

He found that with only a very few exceptions, the NYT has rather aggressively supported every American military misadventure since World War II, taking a rather bellicose, masculine, militaristic posture claiming that war is a sacrifice worth making, and that war is noble and dignified. He found that 70% of the photographs met his definition of ‘glamorizing, aestheticizing, anesthetizing’ photographs, with the other 30% being just ‘blandly neutral’. His book reproduces 64 key images. For an insightful interview with Shields, [see the article](#) entitled ‘Does Even the New York Times Glamorize Modern Armed Conflict?’ by Robin Lindley at the website of History News Network (HNN).

Exhibition on Leading Photojournalist of Vietnam War

Fifty years ago, in 1966, the Welsh photojournalist Philip Jones Griffiths arrived in Vietnam as a freelance photographer; following several years of work there, he published the first of his trilogy of photo-books on Vietnam.

Vietnam Inc (1971) contained some 260 images showing what was really going on in the war; they amounted to a scathing indictment of American involvement in Southeast Asia. Time Magazine praised it as ‘the best work of photo-reportage of war ever published’ but most American papers had refused to publish his pictures which were considered too graphic, disturbing, and subversive. However, this book – now regarded as a classic – is credited with turning public opinion in the U.S.A. against the war. Noam Chomsky later commented, ‘If anybody in Washington had read that book, we wouldn’t have had these wars in Iraq or Afghanistan.’

In 1966 Jones Griffiths had just joined the Magnum Photo Agency of which he would later become president, confirming his reputation as a world-class photojournalist whose powerful images changed minds. His interest in and sympathy for Vietnam would continue for the rest of his life, as shown by two further books, *Agent Orange* (2003), and *Viet Nam at Peace* (2005).



During almost half a century, Philip Jones Griffiths (1936-2008) travelled the world photographing in more than 100 zones of conflict. As in Vietnam, his inclination always was to identify with the local inhabitants, civilians, and victims rather than the invaders or alleged liberators. His work gave a voice to the underdog, a perspective which came naturally to a proud Welshman who never ceased to view the world from a Welsh – anti-colonialist, ‘David against Goliath’ – perspective.

A major retrospective exhibition celebrating his life and work, entitled ‘A Welsh Focus on War and Peace’, was held from June until December 2015, at the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth. This is also where his rich archives are preserved, in the *Philip Jones Griffiths Foundation for the Study of War* that he established shortly before his death. A documentary, ‘Philip Jones Griffiths: Vietnam War Photographer’ has recently been made by the Welsh-language TV Channel S4C to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the start of his work in Vietnam. In a further tribute, a prize to encourage young British photojournalists working in international conflict zones is being instituted by the Foundation. For more information, see ‘The incredible images captured by a Welshman that helped end war in Vietnam’ [here](#). A revealing and moving 15-minute interview can be seen [here](#).

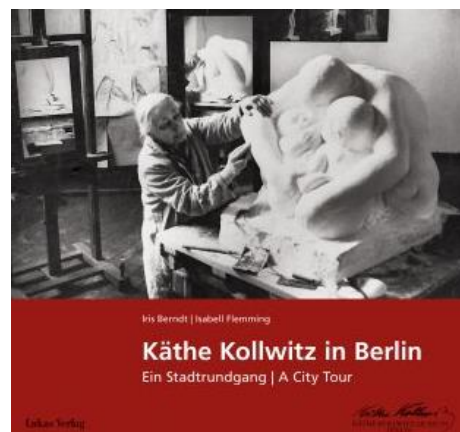
Kaethe Kollwitz City Tour, Berlin

The anti-war art – drawings, etchings, lithographs, woodcuts, and sculptures – of the

German artist Kaethe Kollwitz (1867-1945) ranks among the most important such work of the 20th century. In the aftermath of World War I, her artistic genius created unforgettable images which mourn the death of soldiers (including her own, youngest son, one of the first to die, aged 18), and urge the living to protest war and armaments and strive for their abolition. A close friend of Ernst Friedrich, her drawing of a human face expressing feelings of utmost pain, horror, and fear graced the cover of the many popular editions of his book that were published by the International Federation of Trade Unions (Amsterdam) under the title *No More War!* Her equally poignant image of a mother trying to protect her child was used in publications and posters of the women’s campaign against the development of chemical warfare during the 1920s and 1930s.

One of the largest collections of her work outside Germany is in the Sakima Art Gallery peace museum in Ginowan-City, Okinawa. The Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery in Detroit, Michigan is currently showing an exhibition of her work, twenty years after it organised a similar one. Much of her work is on permanent display in the excellent Kaethe Kollwitz Museum in Cologne, and also in the museum devoted to her in Koekelare (Flanders, Belgium). The latter is near the village of Vladslo where her impressive and moving statues of a grieving father and mother can be seen in the World War I German military cemetery (where her son is buried).

The largest Kaethe Kollwitz museum, opened in 1986, is in Berlin, the city where she spent most of her life and which she regarded as her home.



Her own house was destroyed by bombing in 1943, only a short time after she had left the city because of the dangerous, deteriorating war-time conditions. The museum is the first of thirteen subjects that are documented and illustrated in a new (German-English bilingual) publication, *Kaethe Kollwitz in Berlin: Ein Stadtrundgang/A City Tour* (Berlin: Lukas Verlag, 2015, pp. 56). This guide, which is very welcome and attractively produced, was commissioned by the Kaethe Kollwitz Museum in Berlin and the Society of the Friends of the Museum. Apart from the museum, other places included in the tour are the locations of art academies where she studied; studio spaces (where she also exhibited); addresses associated with fellow artists, and family members; streets, squares and statues in her honour and which keep her memory alive; her grave, etc. This Kaethe Kollwitz trail is an excellent companion to the Berlin Peace Trail booklet that was published in 2014 as part of the Discover Peace in Europe [project](#). INMP produced the trail for The Hague. The Kaethe Kollwitz Museum is the last of the 15 locations included in the booklet.



Kaethe Kollwitz Museum in Berlin

Kollwitz was born on 8th July 1867 (in Königsberg, Prussia – now Kaliningrad, Russia – where Immanuel Kant was also born). The 150th anniversary of her birth in 2017 will be a cause for celebration; this new publication will enable many admirers to follow her footsteps in Berlin, and will help others to discover a great artist and anti-war activist whose life and work for peace and social justice continue to inspire people around the world.



Drawing by Kaethe Kollwitz

Dayton International Peace Museum Launches Peace Heroes Walk Around the World

In May 2015, the Dayton International Peace Museum inaugurated a Peace Heroes Walk. Following its success, the museum is now in the process of initiating similar walks elsewhere in the U.S.A. and beyond in a project entitled ‘Peace Heroes Walk Around the World’ (PHWATW). Its purpose is to promote peace literacy, i.e., the knowledge and skills required for nonviolent responses to problems and conflicts. The walk promotes peace literacy in two ways, through education and fundraising.



2015 Peace Heroes Walk, Dayton

When a local community holds a walk, people learn about the three ideals that guide the behaviour of peace heroes: a recognition of our interconnectedness, the promotion of justice, and a rejection of vengeance. Knowing and striving to live by these three ideals is critical to peace literacy. At the same time, the walk is also designed to raise money in order to support important peace education projects (including supporting peace museums and their networks).

Supporting such peace education projects and initiatives is also central to peace literacy.

The Dayton International Peace Museum shares the view of the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo that not everyone can be a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, but everyone can be, and should aspire to become, a peace hero. The museum defines a peace hero as an everyday person who accepts risks and succeeds in making the world a less violent and more just place. During a Peace Heroes Walk – which is not a march or protest – teams of people carry posters. Each poster displays the image of a peace hero selected by the team. As people gather and mingle before the start of the walk, they learn about the peace heroes being celebrated; see that peace heroes come from all walks of life; and discover the three ideals that guide the lives of these peace heroes. During the walk, which does not have to be long, people of diverse ages, races, social background, and faith traditions join together to celebrate and learn from the different role models of peace as represented by the peace heroes whose images are being held aloft.



That there are many similar opportunities to engage in peace education also outside the peace museum is shown by the imaginative and very successful ‘Windows for Peace’ project

inaugurated in 2014 by Liska Blodgett, founder of Peace Museum Vienna, when it started displaying large photographs (with captions) of peace heroes, both known and unknown, in the windows of shops and houses in surrounding streets. In this way, many people are being exposed to peace education, also when the museum is closed, and including many who may even be unaware of its existence. In a variation on this theme, placards with images of peace women who were involved in the Women’s International Congress in The Hague in April 1915 were held aloft by two dozen activists (mainly women) at the gates of the Peace Palace in The Hague one hundred years later. While Dr. Aletta Jacobs, the originator of that important congress (founding of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, WILPF) was honoured by the unveiling of a bust inside the Peace Palace, her fellow women peace campaigners who wanted to halt the world war then taking place were thus also receiving public recognition. This festive celebration was organised by Petra Keppler, who is active in the women’s and peace movements in the city, and who is currently also taking care of the day-to-day business of the INMP secretariat in The Hague.

Much of the information about the 2016 PHWAW above is based on a recent memo from Jerry Leggett, Executive Director, Dayton International Peace Museum who is welcoming expressions of interest in co-organising a walk. One can contact Jerry Leggett [here](#). For more information, as well as a video clip and photo highlights of the May 2015 walk in Dayton, please click [here](#). The museum has installed a new exhibition on peace literacy during the ‘season of nonviolence’, 31st January – 30th April 2016. For details, please click [here](#).

Yi Jun Peace Museum, The Hague

The Yi Jun Peace Museum in The Hague is a most important heritage site for all Koreans. The historic building commemorates the tragic death there of Korean diplomat Yi Jun during the Second Hague Peace Conference (1907) from which the Korean delegation was excluded as a

result of Japanese pressure. The museum was inaugurated in 1995 by the Yi Jun Academy Foundation (established in 1993 by Mr. Kee-hang Lee and Mrs. Chang-joo Song) on the 50th anniversary of Korea becoming independent again following the end of World War II. Coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the death of Yi Jun, the museum's displays were renovated in 2007 with support from the Korean Ministry of Patriot and Veteran Affairs, as well as the Korean Independence Hall. Currently, major construction work is taking place in the large hall on the ground floor which has remained empty for many years. The hall's renovation will add considerably to the display space available and will also necessitate a reconceptualization of the whole museum. The opening of the expanded and renovated museum is scheduled to take place in July 2017; in the meantime, the museum will still be able to welcome visitors.



Gathering in front of the Yi Jun Peace Museum

Since its opening the museum has seen a great number, and variety, of visitors – in the first place from Korea. A remarkable visit took place on 1st December 2015 when 160 final year cadets from the Korean Naval Academy visited the museum in the presence of Admiral Jong-sam Kim and other senior officers. The group also visited Yi Jun's monument and tomb at the cemetery in The Hague where, while paying their respect, they used the opportunity to clean and polish the monument.



Polishing of the Yi Jun statue at the cemetery

The visit of two ships from the Korean Navy to The Netherlands was without precedent. In preparation of the visit to the museum, its director Mrs. Chang-joo Song (Mrs. Lee) had been invited the previous day to give a lecture entitled 'The Korean Independence Movement in The Hague and Yi Jun, 1907' on board one of the naval ships. The well-received lecture was for many an eye-opener about the life and tragic fate of a great hero of the Korean independence movement and about his precious legacy in The Hague. The Naval Academy's visit also included a programme with Dutch veterans of the Korean War (1950-1953) to express thanks for their participation and sacrifice.

Please note that during the last year the museum's e-mail address has changed to yijunpeacemuseum@gmail.com; its website address is www.yijunpeacemuseum.com.

Exhibition on Conscientious Objectors & Deserters in Nazi-Germany

From 9th January until 30th June, the Dutch Museum for Peace and Nonviolence is showing an exhibition entitled 'Repression and Liberation' in its permanent exhibition space at the Resistance Museum in Gouda. On display are copies of letters and photographs of conscientious objectors and deserters from Nazi-Germany. The courageous young men who took a principled stance against the war crimes of their state often paid the highest price – execution. This impressive and moving display is based on original research that was initiated in 1989 by the curator of the Peace Library & Anti-War Museum in Berlin-Brandenburg, together with a team of some twenty collaborators. They unearthed photos and

farewell letters in family archives which document a forgotten and dramatic story which families sometimes resisted to be reminded of because of feelings of pain, and (misconceived) shame. The Museum for Peace and Nonviolence maintains close links with the museum in Berlin and several of its other travelling exhibitions have previously been shown in various locations in the Netherlands.

The exhibition is timely: this year is the centenary of the introduction of conscription in Great Britain during World War I, when many young men likewise refused to take up arms on grounds of conscience, and were imprisoned, harshly treated, and their families socially ostracised. Among the many current exhibitions is 'Choices – Then and Now', by the Peace Museum in Bradford that is shown in the Playhouse theatre in the city. For details about the 16,000 conscientious objectors in Britain during World War I, see the [website](#) of the Imperial War Museum. Commemorating them in exhibitions, conferences and other events also offers an opportunity to draw attention to the countless young men who today are fleeing the brutal wars in their countries, particularly in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria, to avoid being conscripted (and to kill and be killed).



Imperial War Museum

Historians without Borders

Issues concerning the presentation and interpretation of history are important in many peace museums and have been the subject of numerous papers at INMP's international conferences. Peace museums often deal with events which are not, or not fairly or responsibly,

dealt with in school textbooks or the media, causing controversy, both domestically as well as internationally. Also, unlike traditional war museums, peace museums tend to portray wars and international conflict from transnational and global, rather than narrow nationalistic or militaristic perspectives, thus contributing to efforts to achieve truth, reconciliation, and peace.

The importance of history in conflict prevention and resolution (and its abuse in fostering fear, hate and aggression) recently prompted Finnish historians to establish *Historians without Borders*. The founding conference took place in Helsinki in June 2015 and was addressed by Nobel peace laureate and former Finnish President, Martti Ahtisaari. He will also open the first international conference of the new organisation that will be held at the University of Helsinki 19th – 20th May 2016 under the title 'Historians without Borders: The Use and Abuse of History in Conflict'. It is being supported by the University, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Finnish Institute for International Affairs. Among the keynote speakers is Dr. Bernard Kouchner, former French Foreign Minister and Health Minister, and co-founder of *Doctors without Borders* (Nobel peace laureate 1999).



Prominent historians from around the world feature as speakers in such workshops as, 'Writing a common history for Israel and Palestine'; 'The presence of history in East Asia: Why can't bygones be bygones?'; 'Turkey and Armenia 1915'; 'Colonial history or history of colonialism'. The conference also aims to set up an international network of *Historians without Borders*. For more information, click [here](#).

Book publication: *Introducing Peace Museums*

Single-author monographs on peace museums are a rarity, and it is therefore pleasing to see the

publication of *Introducing Peace Museums* by Joyce Apsel. This volume, part of the series ‘Routledge Research in Museum Studies’, is the first comprehensive scholarly study on the subject and will be of great interest to the growing international community of academics, activists, artists, educators, curators and other museum professionals who are involved in the promotion of a culture of peace through peace museums.

The author writes, ‘This volume aims toward encouraging critical peace museum studies, analyzing issues of content and purpose. What are the distinguishing features of peace museums? How do they differ from memorials and atrocity sites and from the broader category of museums for peace?’ She argues that what is distinctive about peace museums is ‘that their content and activities display histories and images that promote cultures of peace’; they are ‘centers that foster an understanding of and provide an education about a culture of peace’.

Apart from introductory and concluding chapters, the book consists of four chapters which each present a case study of the peace museums in Bradford (UK), Kyoto (Japan), Gernika (Spain), and Dayton (US), respectively, with a fifth chapter on the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo (Norway) and the Peace House La Filanda (near Bologna, Italy). Apsel aptly calls her book ‘a peace museum sampler’. She has consulted not only much of the published literature on the subject but her study is also informed by visits, sometimes multiple ones, to the institutions selected. They have provided her with opportunities to speak with their founders and directors, and also with other staff members, volunteers, and visitors. An attractive feature of the hardback book are the illustrations, particularly a section with 16 full-colour plates; perhaps this is one explanation for the rather elevated price of £ 90. For more information, click [here](#).



Joyce Apsel is Master Teacher of Humanities in the Global/Liberal Studies Program at New York University, and was formerly director of education at the Anne Frank Center USA. She is also a long-standing board member of INMP, and is its NGO/Department of Public Information representative at the UN in New York. INMP is grateful for her efforts which very recently resulted in the renewal of its UN/DPI affiliation and for having authored this pioneering publication.

Peace Education Through Peace Museums

The December 2015 issue of the *Journal of Peace Education*, the leading journal in the field that is sponsored by the Peace Education Commission of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), is a special issue devoted to ‘Peace education through peace museums’.



It contains the following articles: ‘Museums for peace: agents and instruments of peace education’, by Roy Tamashiro and Ellen Furnari; ‘Passing on the history of “comfort women”: the experiences of a women’s museum in Japan’, by Mina Watanabe; ‘The promotion of peace education through guides in peace museums: A case study of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University’, by Yoshiko Tanigawa; ‘From clouds of chemical warfare to the blue skies of peace: the Tehran Peace Museum, Iran’, by Elizabeth Lewis and Shahriar Khateri; ‘Interfaith dialogue at peace museums in Kenya’, by Timothy Gachanga and Munuve Mutisya. The articles are preceded by an introduction by guest editors Peter van den Dungen and Kazuyo Yamane.

The journal is published by Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group. For more information on the special issue (vol. 12, no. 3) please go [here](#) where first page previews/abstracts can be seen.



Women’s Peace Network, Bonn

In November, the Women’s Peace Network (*Frauen Netzwerk Fuer Frieden*, FNF) in Bonn was one of the recipients of the annual award of the Else Mayer Foundation. The Else Mayer Award is named after one of the pioneers of the women’s liberation movement in Germany, and honours extraordinary women whose social engagement has been exemplary. FNF was singled out for its social engagement during the past almost twenty years. On behalf of FNF, the prize was received by its president-founder, and INMP member, Heide Schuetz. The same foundation had earlier (2013) provided financial support for the installation of a Bertha von Suttner statue in the city center, on the square named after her.



Heide Schuetz (middle) and other winners of the 2015 Else Mayer Award

For its 20th anniversary, the Network is preparing a symposium on ‘Gender, women, and peace’ that will take place in Bonn on 24th September. This event will be part of the Bonn Peace Days around International Peace Day (21st September). It is fortuitous that the archives of the Network are currently being professionally catalogued following an offer from the Foundation ‘Archives of the German Peace Movement’ as part of a three-year project on the women’s peace movement in Germany. For more information, also about various activities of FNF during the second half of 2015, see its December newsletter [here](#).

Tehran Peace Museum (TPM)

The 20th Conference of State Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) was held from 30th November to 4th December 2015 in The Hague, the Netherlands. Two representatives of the Tehran Peace Museum and the Society for Chemical Weapons Victims Support (SCWVS) were among the participants and attended some of the plenary sessions of the conference and the CWC coalition's meetings as well as side events.

During this conference, an exhibition titled "Messengers of Peace" was displayed as a side event of the conference. This exhibition which is derived from the Oral History Project of the TPM, showcases 10 stories of chemical weapons victims or other professionals and their efforts for achieving peace.

TPM was also active during the fall to commemorate some international days such as

International Children's Day (8th October), International Day of the Girl Child (11th October), International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development (5th December). For more information visit the TPM's [website](#).



“Peace Counts” exhibition in Tehran

On the occasion of the World Science Day for Peace and Development, a “Peace Counts” workshop was held by the TPM on 8th November in the Shahid Rajaei University in Tehran. Also the faculty of Law and Political Sciences of Allameh Tabatabai University in Tehran hosted the "Peace Counts" exhibition 13th – 20th December.

The “Peace Counts” exhibition includes 25 posters; each one introduces a different peace builder from around the world. The exhibition is part of the international “Peace Counts on Tour” project of the German Berghof Foundation and has been displayed in many countries.



Introduction of “Study Group of Museums for Peace” in Japan

By Ariyuki Fukushima, Curator of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

I would like to briefly introduce a study society which focuses on the activities of peace museums and museums for peace in Japan.



Hiroshima Peace Park with Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

A “Study Group of Museums for Peace” was established in 2007 by several young researchers living in the Kansai area (around Kyoto and Osaka) since at that time there were only a few occasions to discuss issues on peace-related museums from the researchers’ perspectives. We started the regular meetings by activities such as reading books, undertaking fieldwork and exchanging presentations among the post-graduate student members who were writing dissertations.

When the 6th conference of the International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP) was held in both Kyoto and Hiroshima in October 2008, Study Group members joined the event from its preparatory stage. Several young researchers who participated in the conference subsequently became members of the group. Since then, there has been a steady stream of new members.

Since the first gathering in Kyoto on 12th March 2007, and until the end of 2015, 29 meetings have been held. They were initially mainly organised in Kyoto and Osaka but are now often held in Hiroshima after one of the key members of the group moved to the peace city in 2011.

Because this group has neither laid down rules nor collected membership fees since it started, the exact number of participants is not clear. About forty people are currently on our mailing list. The various group sections each have from several to more than ten participants. A website of the Study Group is under construction.

The study fields of the members are diverse: history, museology, pedagogy, media studies, peace studies, anthropology, constitutional

studies, area studies and so forth. The members consist of not only researchers and university students but also museum curators.

Since museums for peace contain various kinds of themes, and require expertise in diverse areas, it is anticipated that members of the “Study Group of Museums for Peace” will increasingly be called upon to join in debates and discussions. Up to now, our meetings have been held twice a year but we are considering increasing their frequency.

Chukiren Peace Memorial Museum in Japan

By Nobuo Serizawa, Secretariat of the Museum

Chukiren is an abbreviation of Chugoku Kikansha Renrakukai or the Association of Returnees from China. About 600,000 Japanese soldiers were detained in Siberia after the end of WWII and about 1,000 soldiers were transferred to China where they were imprisoned as war criminals. Since they killed many Chinese people, they were prepared to be punished. However, they were treated humanely in prison and later they thanked Chinese people for changing them from devils to humans. Nobody was executed or imprisoned for life at the Special Military Trial in 1956. This was because Chinese Prime Minister Zhou Enlai made judges change the original ruling draft three times saying that it would not be possible to stop the chain of acts of hate by punishment and revenge.



Library of Chukiren Peace Memorial

Only 45 among 1,062 people who had been under indictment were sentenced to imprisonment for a definite term. All the others were not prosecuted. Their internment for five years in Siberia and six years at a Chinese “prison” were included in the prison term. They

established the Association in 1957, one year after they were allowed to return home. They worked hard for peace by testifying to their cruel acts in China. However, the Association was disbanded in 2002 because of its members’ elderly age. Nevertheless, members continue to work hard by carrying on their messages, collecting data, and making exhibitions. A monument ‘Apology to Anti-Japanese Martyrs’ was built by former Japanese soldiers in 1988 at Fushun War Criminals Management Center Exhibition Hall in Fushun, Liaoning province, in the north-eastern part of China. An in-depth article on the museum can be found [here](#). For more information concerning our activities, please contact us at: Chukiren Peace Memorial, 1948-6 Kasahata, Kawagoe City, Saitama 350-1175 Japan.



Apology Monument to Anti-Japanese Martyrs

A Peace Museum Project at Meijou University in Nagoya, Japan

By Yasuhiro Shibui, Prof. of Economics

There used to be an arsenal of the Japanese army in Takaki that was opened in 1941 in a farm of the Faculty of Agriculture of Meijou University. The headquarters at that time are still being used today as the main building of the farm. Cartridges, bullets, balloon bombs, etc. were produced at the arsenal and about 4,150 students were forced to work as of August 1945. About 1,000 students among them were from various parts of Japan and there was a corps of women volunteer workers from Kanazawa and

Hamamatsu. A pumpkin bomb which was a fake atomic bomb similar to the one in Nagasaki in terms of the size, shape and weight was dropped there.

The place where students were mobilized for military service, and where a fake atomic bomb was dropped is used as a college building. Visitors to the building learn many things: study is only possible in a time of peace; Aichi is related to Hiroshima and Nagasaki; the reason for the US air raids was that there had been military factories in Aichi; survivors of the air raids produced goods for civilian use, etc. The author thinks that this war remain should be kept as a peace museum and has been working hard to preserve it together with colleagues and students.



An Army star can still be seen on the college building today



2017 INMP conference in Belfast

We are delighted to be able to report that, as this issue was being finalised, it has been decided that the 9th conference of INMP will be held in Belfast (Northern Ireland, UK) from 10th-12th April 2017 in cooperation with local partners including 'Visit Belfast', the municipality, university, etc. Further details, such as the theme of the conference, provisional programme, registration fee, and call for papers will be announced in the near future on the website and in the next newsletter. The gathering will coincide with the 25th anniversary of the founding of INMP at the inaugural conference in Bradford (UK) in 1992.



DEADLINE NEWSLETTER No.15

The next newsletter will be published in June 2016. The deadline for spring submissions is 1 May 2016 (max. 500 words with one or two photos.) Please send your text and images to news@inmp.net.

You can subscribe to our quarterly newsletter by sending an email to news@inmp.net providing your name and that of the organization you work for (if applicable).