



International Network of
Museums for Peace

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‘Celebrating Peace Philanthropy and Furthering Peace Education – In the Footsteps of Andrew Carnegie’

Submitted at the symposium in the Peace Palace in The Hague, 2-3 September 2013

1. The Hague, International City of Peace and Justice, is a most appropriate venue to celebrate and to further peace philanthropy. During the centenary celebration of the Peace Palace on 28th of August 2013, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon mentioned this symposium in his table speech in the spirit of his well-known statement that *“The world is over-armed and peace is under-funded”*.

2. Celebration is an act of remembering and learning. In this symposium, we *remember* that one hundred years ago the Peace Palace opened its doors as the ‘Gift of Andrew Carnegie’, offering a suitable home for the Permanent Court of Arbitration and its Library. This place reminds us of the multiple dimensions of peace philanthropy that continue to serve Carnegie’s goals - the abolition of war and the strengthening of international law:

- *Peace philanthropy can take the shape of direct investment in institutions aimed at peace education, prevention of violent conflict and promotion of international law*
- *The Carnegie-Wateler Peace Prize, created by the Hague banker Johan Wateler in 1916 after the example of Alfred Nobel, is the second oldest regular award to ‘champions of peace’*
- *The new Visitors’ Center of the Peace Palace is largely financed through the ‘Bank GiroLoterij’, created in 1970 by Willem ‘Bip’ van Lanschot as a multiplier of his war veteran fund (National Fund for Peace, Freedom and Veteran Care, short: vfonds)*

3. This symposium highlights the growing diversity of new philanthropists who are taking the lead in funding peace today. We *value* the growing share of young and women business leaders, non-Western donors and the millions of men and women who join resources in strategic funding. This tendency reflects the participation of women at all levels of peace talks and decision making, as prescribed by international law.

4. In the footsteps of Carnegie, the symposium *connects* new peace philanthropy initiatives with the pledges of major philanthropists who endorse and encourage world causes. Some of them were invited to speak and have expressed their interest. Joint challenges are to strengthen the peace dimension of global projects, and to encourage public involvement. Examples are:

- *Educational programmes, for instance for global health promotion*
- *Food and water assistance, prevention of water conflicts*
- *Safeguarding the environment with a view on global justice*
- *Protecting the Rule of Law and rebuilding of post conflict states or regions*

INMP Secretariat
Phone/ Fax:
+31-70-3450202

Bertha von Suttner Building Laan van Meerdervoort 70 2517 AN The Hague The Netherlands
info@inmp.net secretariat@inmp.net www.inmp.net
ABN-AMRO BANK IBAN: NL67ABNA0566174871 BIC: ABNANL2A



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5. A *key lesson* is that peace philanthropy requires risk investment, while peace education encourages people to take such risks in a variety of ways. In particular, initiatives like “lottery systems which support public goals” play a pivotal role in raising awareness about global problems, by encouraging lottery buyers to contribute to the costs of solutions. Examples are:

- *Lottery / vfonds co-financing of the Peace Palace Visitors’ Center as a new educational provision*
- *Strategic funding of peace campaigns, aimed at public involvement in nuclear disarmament or international criminal justice*
- *‘Peace through Service’, businesspeople offering their scarce time and rich skills*
- *Artists using their creative talents and sharing revenues of concerts or movies*
- *Funding peace research centers and implementing monitoring tools directly*

6. We consider this Statement of Intent the beginning of a dialogue:

- *Through our networks, we will encourage peace philanthropy as a way to enhance sustainability and protect vulnerable initiatives of peace education, especially in cities and regions that are affected by war and traumatic memories*
- *As regards The Hague, a next milestone is 2015 when the centenary of the first International Women’s Congress offers another mayor opportunity to celebrate peace philanthropy in the past and urge the need for it today*
- *This will be followed in 2016 by the centenary of Wateler’s Peace Prize testament, which offers an occasion to continue and deepen the process of celebration*

7. This Statement serves to heighten awareness of the vital importance of continued giving for initiatives to create and sustain cultures of peace. A concrete policy recommendation, offered by the symposium participants to the government of the Netherlands, is being spread in English and Dutch.

The symposium was initiated by the International Network of Museums for Peace - INMP, in cooperation with the Carnegie Foundation. The Statement and the Recommendation are being published as a working document on their websites.

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