

**MUSEOS POR LA PAZ:
UNA CONTRIBUCIÓN AL RECUERDO, LA
RECONCILIACIÓN, EL ARTE Y LA PAZ
Actas del V Congreso Internacional
de Museos por la Paz.
Gernika-Lumo 1-7 de mayo de 2005**

BAKEAREN ALDEKO MUSEOAK:
OROIMEN, ADISKIDETZE, ARTE
ETA BAKEARENTZAKO EKARPEN BAT
Bakearen aldeko Museoen
Nazioarteko V. Kongresuko aktak.
Gernika-Lumo, 2005eko
maiatzaren 1etik 7ra

*MUSEUMS FOR PEACE: A CONTRIBUTION
TO REMEMBRANCE, RECONCILIATION,
ART AND PEACE
5th International Museums
for peace Conference Papers.
Guernica-Luno, 1-7th May 2005*



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INTRODUCCIONES • SARRERAK • INTRODUCTIONS

❖ RAUL ONAINDIA

Gernika-Lumoko Udaletxeko Turismo Zinegotzia

Lehenengo eta behin, Gernika-Lumoko alkatea gaur hona etorri ez izana zuritu nahi nuke. Poztasun bat da guretzat zuek guztiok, munduko hainbat lekutatik etorri ondoren, hemen egotea gurekin.

Iaz Gernika-Lumok UNESCOren "Bakearen Hiria" saria lortu zuen. Gernika-Lumok urte asko daramatza bakearen alde lanean. 1987an Gernika Gogoratuz, Bakearen Aldeko Ikerketa Zentroa sortu zen Gernikan. Orain dela gutxi ospatu dituzte bere Nazioarteko XV. Jardunaldiak. Gernika-Lumo bake hiri bat da eta horren adierazlea da ere, Alemaniarekin eginiko berradiskidetzearen aldeko lana. 1998an Udalak, Gernikako Bakearen Museoa zabaldu zuen. Gaur egun Euskadin eta Espainian jarraian martxan dagoen museo bakarra da hau.

Guretzako ohore haundi bat da 1937an desegin izan zen hiri baketsu honetan gaur zuek egotea. Ziur nago, egun hauetan zehan gure herria, gure kultura eta hemen bakearen aldeko lan guztia apreziazteko aukera izango duzuela.



❖ PETER VAN DEN DUNGEN

General Coordinator of the International Network of Museums for Peace

Ladies and gentlemen, colleagues and friends, On behalf of the International Network of Peace Museums it is my privilege and very pleasant task to extend a warm welcome to you all - and also to wish you an enjoyable, productive and inspiring conference.

When the first meeting of this kind was held in England in 1992, museums from 10 different countries were represented. Today, museums from nearly 30 different countries are gathering here. It is gratifying and encouraging to see how the peace museum idea has been spreading, and how the network of peace museums is now spanning the world. This is clearly shown by the fact that participants at this conference have come from countries as far apart as Argentina and Australia, Cambodia and Croatia, Sweden and South Africa. The Americas, Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe and the Middle East are all represented with an institutional diversity that comprises peace museums, anti-war museums, human rights museums, and museums of historical memory. This diversity of museums and memorial sites may raise the question, 'what is a peace museum?', 'what defines a museum as a peace museum?'. And are we talking of museums of peace, or museums for peace? Is there a difference, and if so, is it significant? This is not the time to engage in this discussion; suffice it to say that this is an ongoing debate, even in the ranks of the membership of the Network. Both the concepts of peace, and of museum, are not uncontested, and have been subject to new interpretations and definitions, resulting in more complex understandings of both 'peace' and 'museum'. When joined together in the expression 'peace museum', it is hardly surprising to find that the family of peace museums is a colourful one. No doubt also at this conference the debate will continue, just as the family of peace museums will continue to grow.

Since most participants here are involved for the first time in an International Conference of Peace Museums, it may be useful to say a few words about the origins and history of the International Network of Peace Museums. It was founded in 1992 during an international conference which brought together, for the first time, directors and staff of peace and anti-war museums and related institutions. The meeting was held in the University of Bradford (England), and was convened by the 'Give Peace a Chance' Trust, a small Quaker charity involved in peace education work. The aim of the network is to bring peace museums and related institutions from around the world, as well as interested individuals, in closer contact and to promote the exchange of information, materials, and exhibits; to jointly produce exhibitions; to disseminate knowhow, etc. The network also aims to promote the creation of new peace museums. Following the first meeting, three more conferences have been held. The second took place at the Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution - since the year 2000 also home of the European Museum for Peace - in the famous castle in the small Austrian town of Stadtschlaining in 1995. The third conference, co-organised by leading Japanese peace museums, was held in Osaka and Kyoto in 1998 under the title 'The Contribution of Museums to Peace Education'. It is a particular pleasure for me to express a warm welcome to the chief organiser of that conference, and director of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan

University, professor Ikuro Anzai. The fourth conference, entitled 'From War Remembrance to Peace Education', was held in Ostend (Flanders, Belgium) in 2003. Proceedings of the first and third conferences are available. Network members also stay in touch and exchange information through an occasional newsletter. So far, fifteen issues have been published; the most recent one appeared in October 2002. The newsletter is sent to some 125 peace museums and related institutions, as well as to individuals active in peace museums, and in peace education and peace culture. The Network was also responsible for the preparation of the first directory of peace museums entitled 'Peace Museums Worldwide'. This was published in 1995 by the Library of the United Nations in Geneva. A second, expanded edition appeared in 1998. It is hoped that a third edition can be published in the near future. In December 1998, the Network was approved as a NGO associated with the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations in New York. I am happy to acknowledge here the work and support of Joyce Apsel, who is among us, of New York University, and former director of the Anne Frank Centre in New York, for representing the Network at UN headquarters. Plans and ideas for the strengthening of the Network through professionalisation and institutionalisation will be discussed in the session dedicated to this subject later in the week.

At this opening session of the conference it is necessary to express great gratitude to all those who have enabled us to come together here for the next several days. In the first place, all of us, but the International Network of Peace Museums in particular, owes a great debt of gratitude to Mrs. Iratxe Momoitio, the chief organiser of this 5th conference, and director of the Gernika Peace Museum. Without her vision and commitment over the past two years we would not be meeting here. She would be the first to acknowledge the wholehearted dedication and boundless energy of the Gernika Peace Museum staff, as well as of a team of volunteers, who have closely worked with her to make the conference happen. And last but not least, we should not forget the good people of Gernika and the municipal authorities, firstly, for their support of this conference and the welcome extended to its participants, and, secondly, and even more importantly, for having made their small town a pioneer in the development of a culture of peace and reconciliation.

The world knows, sadly, all too many places that are associated with war, violent conflict, and acts of great inhumanity and suffering. And as we are well aware, such places are not limited to past history. Almost on a daily basis, we hear of new acts of cruelty of man against his or her fellow human beings. An entire category of museum is dedicated to the 'Remembrance of the Victims of Public Crime'; several of its member institutions are participating in this conference. The best among these museums see their task as consisting of much more than mere remembrance - important as 'not forgetting' is. As the Spanish-American philosopher Georges de Santayana so memorably said, 'Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it'.

Closely linked to remembrance - if we are concerned about building a culture of peace and nonviolence where human rights are respected - is reconciliation. Otherwise, remembrance is likely to result in revenge, retaliation, retribution - in other words, in feelings of hatred which

will set in motion a process which is likely to perpetuate violence and war. Ideally, remembrance goes - and isn't this an appropriate image? - 'hand in hand' with reconciliation, which is to say, with peacemaking. For any one interested in the theory and practice of reconciliation and peacemaking, Gernika has for many years already been an important point of reference. Even before the Gernika Peace Museum was established, the Gernika Peace Research Foundation - Gernika Gogoratuz - was created in 1987 with a focus on conflict resolution, reconciliation, peacemaking. Of great significance is the fact that the centre was created by a unanimous decision of the Basque Parliament. The year of foundation, 1987, was also the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Gernika. It is surely no coincidence that these two institutions - peace museum and peace research centre - are close neighbours in the town since their work is fully complementary: research - education - training - outreach. In other words, between them, they address all the vital aspects which together comprise the building of a culture of peace and nonviolence. The message which goes forth from this town is one which should be heard everywhere, and most urgently, where human life and human dignity have been violently destroyed. It was only just and fair that last year Gernika was honoured with UNESCO's City of Peace Prize for the European region.

Peace museums occupy a special place in the global movement to develop a culture of peace, in global efforts at peacebuilding. In the case of peace museums, 'peacebuilding' is not just metaphor but concrete reality. Peace museums are, in essence, buildings - physical spaces and rooms - dedicated to the pursuit of peace. They are the most visible and tangible representation of the idea of peace. The mere fact of their establishment, of their creation and existence, can be seen as an expression of confidence, of hope and belief that peace is possible. But, of course, equally important is what goes on inside peace museums, inside these peace buildings. This is where the metaphor takes over and where the building of peace involves programmes of education, training, awareness-raising of the visitor - so as to help her or him understand better the way the world functions, or doesn't function, and to help the visitor appreciate how a culture of peace and nonviolence can replace the present culture of war and violence, and to encourage the visitor to play his or her role in this vital task.

Peace museums are the most recent addition to the peace 'infrastructure' of our time. Hardly any peace museums existed before the second half of the 20th century. Then, with the advent of the nuclear era following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki - Gernika's writ large - the first peace museums arose. Today, it seems legitimate to speak of a worldwide peace museum movement - the drive to create peace museums in all parts of the world. This conference is proof of this.

I mentioned a moment ago that hardly any peace museums existed during the first half of the last century. In fact, hardly ANY buildings specifically dedicated to peace existed during this time. In this connection, it is interesting to reflect for a moment on what happened exactly 100 years ago. At the beginning of the 20th century, the American tycoon of Scottish origin, Andrew Carnegie - in some respects, the Bill Gates of his time - donated 1.5 million for the construction of a temple of peace, where disputes between states could be, and hopefully

would be, settled peacefully by means of arbitration. 100 Years ago, in 1905, a competition was opened for architects to submit plans for the construction of this unprecedented building. Two years later the first stone was laid and in 1913 was opened what we know today as the Peace Palace in The Hague, the seat of the International Court of Justice, the chief legal arm of the United Nations. For most of the first half of the last century, the Peace Palace, together with the Nobel Institute in Oslo (which opened at the start of the same century), was about the only building specifically dedicated to peace. Today, the situation is much more encouraging, not least because of the existence of peace museums - as well as, of course, peace research centres, peace studies departments, NGOs dedicated to peace work, etc. We should also not forget the many international organisations working for peace, as well as government departments, municipal authorities, and other official and private bodies.

It is time to conclude. Today is Labour Day - an annual celebration of work and workers. We are all workers, modest as our efforts may be, in what is undoubtedly the most important labour of all, that of building a culture of peace and nonviolence. We must be patient and determined, and not give up hope or lose courage. No less a philosopher than Immanuel Kant proclaimed his belief in the possibility of establishing lasting peace - but he also warned that this was the most difficult task that humanity was faced with. This conference provides us with a great opportunity to share our hopes and experiences, and to renew our commitment to the great labour in front of us. Thank you very much.



❖ IRATXE MOMOITIO

Coordinadora General del V Congreso Internacional de Museos de la Paz.
Directora del Museo de la Paz de Gernika.

Estimados colegas ,

En primer lugar daros la más cariñosa bienvenida. ONGI ETORRIAK GERNIKARA / BIENVENIDOS A GERNIKA / WELCOME TO GERNIKA .

Es un honor para todos nosotros poder recibir a gente de tantos países del mundo unidos todos en este deseo de compartir experiencias, proyectos hablando de paz, de memoria, de arte, de reconciliación.

Este Congreso que organiza la Fundación Museo de la Paz de Gernika y que yo he tenido el placer de coordinar, no hubiera sido posible sin el trabajo constante a lo largo de más de un año de todo el equipo de la Secretaría Técnica formada por Maite, Iranzu, Naiara, Javi y, sin, por supuesto, el apoyo constante y la ayuda del personal del Museo y del centro de Documentación formado por Olga, Ainara, Idoia, Alazne, Ana Tere, Leire, Andrea, Ibon, Marta y Olaia, así como de los voluntarios que nos están ayudando estos días. A todos ellos y a nuestros Patronos (Ayuntamiento de Gernika-Lumo, Diputación Foral de Bizkaia, Gobierno Vasco) y colaboradores, sponsors ESKERRIK ASKO / MUCHAS GRACIAS.

Por supuesto que debo agradecer enormemente el apoyo constante, las sugerencias tanto del coordinador del a red Internacional de Museos de la Paz, el Sr Peter van den Dungen, como el de todos los miembros de los diferentes comités (asesor, científico y de honor) que de una forma desinteresada han puesto su granito de arena. Más de año y medio intenso de trabajo, muchas ganas y un gran apoyo han hecho posible este sueño mío que se fue gestando antes del anterior congreso en Ostende y que se materializó proponiendo la candidatura de Gernika como lugar del V Congreso, una noche de mayo al anochecer en un hotel de Ostende. Todavía recuerdo como si fuera ayer el apoyo a nuestra candidatura (más tarde materializada oficialmente) recibido por muchos de vosotros Peter, Kazuyo, Chikara pero también las dudas que volaban en las mentes de todas estas personas de que un museo de la paz tan joven en años de vida y con personas tan jóvenes al frente, se pudiera hacer cargo de organizar y llevar a buen puerto la realización del V Congreso Internacional de Museos de la Paz.

Este Congreso pretende ser un congreso que hable de paz, memoria, reconciliación, arte pero que sirva también para recordar, conocer, andar el camino de la paz, abordar el tema espinoso de la verdadera reconciliación. Es por ello que era muy importante para mí y para el Museo de la Paz de Gernika, que yo dirijo, el poder contar con la presencia de otras dos redes (a las que nuestro museo pertenece) como son El IC MEMO o Comité Internacional de los museos de la memoria y el recuerdo de víctimas de crímenes públicos del ICOM (Consejo internacional de los Museos) y con la celebración del II ENCUENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE ARTE Y PAZ, así como con la presencia de miembros de los museos agrupados en SITES OF CONSCIENCE, y la del presidente de AIPAZ , Asociación española de investigación para la Paz.

Estoy segura de que este primer contacto entre redes será muy fructífero e interesante para todos a corto y largo plazo.

Finalizo los agradecimientos hacia todas las empresas, entidades y personas que de una manera u otra han hecho posible este sueño.

Y vosotros pensareis, ¡el V Congreso Internacional en Euskadi, España y, nada más y nada menos que en Gernika! , el corazón de Euskadi, lugar simbólico para todos los vascos anteriormente y muy especialmente en la memoria del terrible bombardeo que ocurrió un 26 de abril de 1937 durante la Guerra Civil española , el cual es conocido mundialmente gracias al “Guernica” de Picasso. Pero hoy, 68 años y unos pocos días después no conoceréis una ciudad desolada por las bombas y el odio, sino una ciudad nueva, pacífica , que quiere trabajar y que lo hace , poco a poco, a favor de la recuperación de la memoria tapada u olvidada, a favor de la reconciliación y a favor de la paz, una paz que era necesaria aquel 26 de abril de 1937 y que también sigue siendo necesaria en este pueblo vasco hoy en día. Gernika ha sido recientemente reconocida como “Ciudad de la Paz” por la UNESCO título que nos honra, y en el que, junto a muchas otras entidades, el museo ha tenido mucho que ver.

Ahora mismo y sin ánimo de cansaros en este largo pero interesantísimo día que tenemos por delante, quisiera pasar a resumiros brevemente como hemos preparado el transcurso de este congreso.

El Congreso se celebrará en 5 días y medio. A lo largo de estos días tendremos varias sesiones plenarias (especialmente hoy) que abordando los tres temas que abarca el lema del congreso nos acercarán un poco al trabajo que haremos posteriormente. Mañana será un día de trabajo tanto para la red Internacional de Museos que dispondrá de la mañana para tratar, resolver asuntos internos e importantes para su futuro, como para la celebración de la reunión anual del IC MEMO y la celebración de la reunión del grupo de Arte y Paz. La tarde nos servirá para hacer que cada Red (de museos de la paz, de la memoria y de arte y paz) se de a conocer entre ellos y todos. Este día muchos de nuestros colegas del IC MEMO deberán partir a sus lugares de trabajo, por lo que os animo a que aprovechéis a hablar con ellos antes de que partan a sus respectivos países. El miércoles es cuando nos dividiremos en tres grupos, según las preferencias o intereses de cada uno de los asistentes, para –con la ayuda de los excelentes ponentes con los que contamos– profundizar y conocer más del ARTE Y LA PAZ, de LOS MUSEOS DE LA PAZ COMO SEMILLAS DE RECONCILIACIÓN EN EL MUNDO y de la IMPORTANCIA DE LA MEMORIA PARA CONSTRUIR UN MUNDO EN PAZ. De este trabajo que realizaremos este día acabaremos sacando las conclusiones de todo lo oído y tratado y poniéndolas e común ante el plenario al día siguiente. El viernes, clausuraremos el congreso siendo Peter y yo los que hagamos una valoración y un resumen de lo realizado durante estos días. Finalmente contaremos con la presencia del Lehendakari o presidente del Gobierno Vasco que junto con el Diputado General de esta región llamada Bizkaia, y el alcalde de Gernika-Lumo, clausurarán este, espero, maravilloso congreso.

Como sabemos que el estar el día entero de reuniones cansa mucho y que siempre apetece conocer algo del lugar y país que se visita, salpicaremos a lo largo de las sesiones de trabajo actividades culturales y turísticas que nos llevarán a cenar en un Castillo, escuchar las dulces voces de un coro vasco, a saber que es la Txalaparta, que se come en un sidrería, que deporte es el llamado “Pelota vasca”, visitaremos la exposición “Arte Humanista: lugares simbólicos”... y nos acercaremos a maravillosos lugares como es la visita a los pueblos que forman la reserva de la Biosfera de Urdaibai, el últimamente tan famoso Bilbao y su estrella el Museo Guggenheim,

seremos obsequiados con una recepción oficial con el Alcalde de Bilbao, conoceremos la bellísima ciudad de San Sebastián...

En fin, os enseñaremos un pedacito de este tan bello pueblo vasco que es, por desgracia, tan poco conocido internacionalmente por su belleza, amabilidad, historia sino por su interminable conflicto vasco. Pero estamos seguros que tras este congreso vosotros haréis de perfectos embajadores de Euskadi en vuestros respectivos lugares de vida y en todo el mundo.

Queridos amigos todo está preparado para comenzar. Os recuerdo que el éxito de este congreso no sólo radica en nuestro trabajo sino también en vuestra participación, interés, puntualidad, participación y cordialidad. Todo el equipo de gente que estamos trabajando en ello estaremos atentos y dispuestos a ayudaros desde la Secretaría Técnica o cualquier punto de información de las sedes del congreso, en todo lo que podas necesitar. Tenéis a vuestra disposición un Ciber corner (en el horario detallado en el programa) del que podréis hacer uso para, estando lejos, sentirlos cerca de vuestras familias o quehaceres laborales. Sentíos estos días como en casa. Eskerrik asko.

