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Mrs Cole and Dr Shaw attending a local organising committee meeting recently in Freetown.

IPRA 2016 office set up in Freetown ... Other arrangements progressing well!

By Senthan Selvarajah

Arrangements for the IPRA 2016 conference from 27th November to 1st December 2016, including the setting up of an IPRA 2016 conference secretariat, are progressing well in Freetown, Sierra Leone

This conference is hosted by the University of Sierra Leone, in Collaboration with the 10th Dealing with Disasters Conference Series, Northumbria University, UK, and Sakarya University, Turkey on the broad theme of AGENDA FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT: Conflict prevention, post-conflict transformation, and the Conflict, Disaster and Sustainable Development Debate.

Preliminary arrangements have been made for establishing the IPRA Conference secretariat at the former University of Sierra Leone Law School Lamina Sankoh Street building in front of Guma building with internet connectivity. Funding has just been received to equip this conference secretariat. The local conference organising committee is liaising with Sierratel for establishing an online forum to network the participants that will be attending the conference.

Dancing, singing and other cultural programmes will make this conference a very memorable one!

The Sierra Leone Dance troupe will perform a cultural show to welcome the delegates at the opening ceremony of the conference on November 27 and stage a big side performance at the special IPRA 2016 gala dinner and cultural night on the second day November 29 at the Bintumani Hotel. The Iconic Freetown Players headed by Charlie Haffner will also entertain the delegates at the Gala Dinner and cultural night.

“Conference delegates will have the opportunity to visit the positions of the defence, prosecution, witnesses, etc.in the court room of the UN Special Court in Sierra Leone, as well as the Peace Museum; there is indeed a lot on offer beyond the top quality papers to be presented at the conference from participants coming from all corners of the world”, said Mrs Bernadette Cole, Chair of the local organising committee, and Director of Alumni and International Affairs, University of Sierra Leone.

Sightseeing for delegates includes Chimpanzee Park at Bathurst, Lumley beach and also Tokeh.

Also, talks have been initiated with the Director of Road Transport Corporation regarding the arrangements for bus service for the delegates ■

26th IPRA General Conference

Sponsorship, Exhibition & Conference Brochure

The 2016 IPRA conference in Freetown, Sierra will bring together about 800 participants including scholars, experts, civil society activists, human rights activists and peace practitioners from different parts of the world and serve as a great platform and an inspiring occasion for discussion, engagement and networking.

Why Sponsor this 2016 IPRA Conference?

Research conferences have enormous potential of creating positive socio-economic and political development, and therefore Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes increasingly take advantage of sponsoring research conferences as a vehicle to deliver their objectives. This creates a symbiotic relationship, where offering such sponsorships can provide a degree of competitive advantage to the companies while at the same contributing to the furtherance of the overall knowledge exchange objective of the conference. Both national and international companies are starting to recognize the importance of including peace building oriented projects including conference sponsorships in their CSR policies to consolidate peace and contribute to address the causes of conflicts and wars.

The IPRA 2016 conference offers an exceptional opportunity for sponsors to be partners in a noble cause to inspire global peace, and at the same time to be a big fish in a small pond of around 1000 renowned peace scholars, experts and practitioners from different parts of the world. This is a perfect opportunity to promote your organisation in both glamorous and moral ways

Here are some very good reasons why you should sponsor IPRA and express yourself:

- Promote your research, goods, or services among an international audience of influential peace researchers & decision makers.
- Create positive CSR impact and develop positive brand image of your company or organisation
- Enhance your business profile on an international stage
- Perfect time to introduce your new products & services and introduce new ideas
- Connecting you with the participants of interest to you and your business and build new relationships, partnerships and network
- Play a key part in shaping global peace and security

This conference will receive widespread media coverage including television, print and online media services nationally and internationally. We therefore call upon sponsors to come on board to partner with IPRA 2016 and support through one of the following sponsorship packages in a mutually beneficial manner.

- Diamond Sponsor \$10,000
- Gold Sponsor \$5,000
- Bronze Sponsor \$2,500

Diamond Sponsor

Under this sponsorship sponsors will be given a unique opportunity to sponsor a day between 27th November and 1st December 2016 with exclusive branding during the day. This sponsorship will offer an excellent opportunity for maximum brand exposure.

- A speaking opportunity at the opening ceremony event to welcome the participants and say something about their CSR policies
- Sponsor will be given a desk at the reception throughout the conference to disseminate any promotional marketing material
- Sponsor's banner will be hung in the main conference hall
- Sponsor's wall banner will be hung in the registration/ common area
- Opportunity to include sponsor's gift in delegate bags
- Opportunity to include sponsor's flyer in delegate bags
- Corporate logo and profile including one full page advert in the conference brochure and programme

Gold Sponsor

This sponsorship allows five sponsors in an individual manner to sponsor the IPRA 2016 Gala dinner to be held on a day between 27th November and 1st December 2016 with exclusive branding during the dinner. This sponsorship will offer an opportunity for significant brand exposure in the following ways

- A speaking opportunity at the dinner to welcome the participants and say something about their CSR policies
- Sponsor will be given a desk at the reception throughout the conference to disseminate any promotional material
- Sponsor's banner will be hung in the main conference hall
- Sponsor's wall banner will be hung in the registration/ common area
- Opportunity to include sponsor's gift in delegate bags
- Opportunity to include sponsor's flyer in delegate bags
- Corporate logo and profile including one half page advert in the conference brochure and programme

Bronze Sponsor

- Sponsor will be given a desk at the reception throughout the conference to disseminate any promotional material
- Sponsor's banner will be hung in the main conference hall
- Sponsor's wall banner will be hung in the registration/common area
- Opportunity to include sponsor's gift in delegate bags
- Opportunity to include sponsor's flyer in delegate bags
- Corporate logo and profile including one quarter page advert in the delegate brochure

Additional Sponsorships

Conference Bag- \$2500 - Sponsor the conference bag with your logo

Conference Pad and Pen -\$2000 - Sponsor the conference Pad and Pen with your logo

Pull-up banner or Wall banner at Registration Area — \$1000 - You design your banner for us to hang in the registration area

Wall Banner in the main conference hall — \$2000 - You design your banner for us to hang in the main conference hall

- Conference Exhibition Spaces
- Large Space with Three Tables and Three Chairs: \$1000
- Medium Space with Two Tables and Two Chairs: \$500
- Small Space with One Table and One Chair: \$250

BROCHURE/CONFERENCE PROGRAMME ADVERT SPACES

- Full page : \$1000 / Half page: \$500 / Quarter page:250 / Classified: \$100

For more information on sponsorship and exhibition and the form to complete IPRA conference web site: www.ipra2016.org



IPRA Contributes to UN Report on Disarmament Education

By Dr Mathew Bolton, IPRA UN Rep

IPRA's UN team was asked by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) to submit a report on its activities in the field of disarmament and nonproliferation education. In 2002, at the request of the UN General Assembly, the Secretary General issued a study (A/57/124) on the "need for education in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation." It offered 34 recommendations to governments, calling for better training of officials, mainstreaming disarmament education in schools, public advocacy and outreach and working with academia and civil society. Every two years since then, UNODA has gathered information from states, NGOs and universities and issued a progress update to the General Assembly.



Following consultations with members around the world, IPRA's UN team submitted a report to UNODA that outlined the many ways IPRA members – as individuals, institutions or associations – engaged in

a relevant disarmament and non-proliferation education activities in the reporting period. These included expert statements and testimony in multilateral forums; developing peace and conflict studies programs at the undergraduate and graduate level, often with curricula featuring disarmament issues; publishing peer-reviewed research on disarmament; organizing academic and civil society conferences and training workshops; engaging in engaged in public advocacy, outreach, activism, inter-faith dialogue and grassroots organizing; facilitating on-the-job training opportunities with disarmament NGOs; and disseminating educational materials.

UNODA's final report will be released in the fall, following the opening of the new General Assembly session ■



For latest news and updates!

Visit:

iprapeace.org



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IPRA 2016 Earlybird registration, Membership, Grants, Visa, Accommodation

IPRA 2016 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration for the IPRA 2016 General conference, Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 27th November to 1st December 2016, is open to all, including Student & retired scholars.

You don't need to be a member of IPRA to attend the conference, but members enjoy significant discounts on registration fees, registration for the SPECIAL GALA DINNER, as well as other advantages of being part of the association, including the right to vote and be voted for at this IPRA conference and future conferences

If you're not a member, join now and you'll be eligible for the discount. If you join as a regular member, the discount is more than the cost of membership, so joining is free. To join or renew your membership please visit IPRA Peace web site: <http://www.iprapeace.org> ■

CONFERENCE ACCOMODATION

The IPRA 2016 Conference Secretariat has successful negotiated special discount rates with 10 of Freetown's prestigious hotels for participants of this conference. Most of these discounted hotels are between 5 - 10 minutes walk from the main conference venue while shuttle buses will be provided to facilitate easy movement. Some of these hotels have limited number of rooms and so early bookings are highly recommended to benefit from these discounts. Participants can book rooms from these discounted hotels before or after registering for the conference.

You can book your accommodation from these discounted hotels on the conference web site: <http://ipra2016.org/>

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION GRANTS

All those who completed the expressions of interest Travel grants applications online may be shortlisted for travel grants provided by IPRA Foundation or other grant funding bodies the IPRA secretariat is approaching.

The shortlisting for the IPRA Foundation grants is done by Commission conveners and so you are advised to contact the commission conveners of the commission to which you submitted for consideration to know whether you have been shortlisted or not.

More information about other funding for travel grants and about accommodation grants will be provided by the IPRA conference secretariat in due course ■

SIERRA LEONE VISA INFORMATION

All visitors travelling to the Republic of Sierra Leone for the IPRA 2016 General conference, must OBTAIN APPROPRIATE VISA or entry permit. Visa applications must be made through any Sierra Leone Embassy, High Commission or Consulate.

1. Visa Waiver - Visa waivers apply to all participants whose countries have bilateral ties with Sierra Leone. This means countries which offer visa waivers to Sierra Leone will benefit from waiver from SL as well. Participants are advised to find out from their foreign office whether their country has a bilateral tie and visa waiver partnership with Sierra Leone in which case they would benefit from this visa waiver.

2. All confirmed participants must check with their Ministries of Foreign Affairs or consulate sections to know whether there is a Sierra Leone embassy in their countries or the nearest Sierra Leone Embassy or Consulate as they would have to use these channels for visa acquisition. If they do not have any, they would need to process their request for them in Sierra Leone and provide them with visa on arrival.

3. Visa costs - Visa costs is reciprocal, this means that participants to check how much Sierra Leoneans pay for acquiring visas from their respective countries, the same costs applies to them. ■

IPRA 2016 Conference Earlybird registration

The IPRA 2016 Earlybird registration now open, with a very big discount expires on 20th July 2016

Thank you for those who have already registered. Please note that if you register and pay before 20TH July at 23:59 GMT, you qualify for special earlybird fees (see the registration link below)

How to register: Registration for the IPRA 2016 General conference, is open in the following categories: IPRA members from OECD countries, Non-members from OECD countries, Members from non-OECD countries / Student & retired scholar' Non-members from non-OECD countries / Student & retired scholar

To register for the IPRA 2016 General Conference, please select the appropriate option on the online payment form below:

Registration Status	Early Bird registration 20/05 - 20/07/2016	Registration 20/07- 20/09/2016	Registration between: after 20/09/2016
IPRA members from OECD countries	\$200.00	\$250.00	\$300.00
Non-members from OECD countries 2	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$350.00
Members from non-OECD countries / Student1 or retired scholar	\$100.00	\$175.00	\$200.00
Non-members from non-OECD countries / Student 1 or retired scholar	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$250.00

EXTRAS:

- IPRA 2016 Conference Opening Ceremony Cocktail Reception on Sunday 27th November, 2016 at Bintumani Hotel Freetown (FREE TO ALL REGISTERED CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS)
- IPRA 2016 Conference Gala Dinner with side attraction by the Sierra Leone dance Troup, socialising, networking and dancing 29th Nov. 2016: IPRA Members - \$50; Non IPRA members - \$70 (Optional):

1. Anyone wishing to register as a student must send a scanned copy of their Student Card or a letter from their head of department to contact@ipra2016.org by registration date. If you fail to do so by this date, you will be invoiced for the additional amount as above.
2. Resident country of participants will be accepted as country of origin for the purposes of registration fees.
3. IPRA members to send copy of their membership or membership renewal fees receipt together with their conference fee payment receipts to contact@ipra2016.org
4. Registered participants will have a conference refreshments throughout the conference

Start your registration now - Visit: <http://www.ipra2016.org>



Recent activity by Peace Studies, University of New England, Australia



We have held an annual Nonviolence Film Festival since 2009, showing thirty free films to students, staff and the general public. The 2012 festival included an international conference 'Cultivating Peace: Context, Practices and Multidimensional Models', which led to a book (Cultivating Peace: Contexts, Practices and Multidimensional Models, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle) co-edited by Peace Studies staff. That film festival also included an exhibition: 'Transforming The Human Spirit' (with Soka Gakkai International), talks and discussion panels.

Later events have included a Coal Seam Gas Forum featuring parliamentarian Tony Windsor and Assoc Professor Will Rifkin, and an international interdisciplinary conference in 2014, 'Mining in a Sustainable World: Environmental, Social, and Political Economic Issues', involving politicians, policymakers, academics, industry consultants and community advocates. We held another international conference in 2015: Questioning 'peace formation' and 'peace infrastructure'. The conference was remarkable in that all three keynote speakers were women, including a peacebuilding practitioner from Fiji, an academic from the American University in Kurdistan, and a department head from the

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development in Germany. The conference was also groundbreaking in that there was minimal waste (plates and cups were bought from op-shops and will be used in future conferences), the food was organic (organic farming sequesters CO₂ whereas conventional agriculture generally emits it), food scraps were composted, and leftovers were distributed to Parramatta's numerous homeless people. A high bar was set for future conferences.

These events, and Dr Rebecca Spence's peacebuilding work overseas with AusAid and PeaceWorks, demonstrate our commitment to outreach and the nonviolent transformation of local, current and topical conflicts, as well as working towards global and long-term ideals of world peace.

The Mining in a Sustainable World conference resulted in a special edition of the International Journal of Rural Law and Policy, <http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au/journals/index.php/ijrlp/issue/view/303>. Other publications in our extensive list include Bert Jenkins' A Peace Education Curriculum for Bougainville and Marty Branagan's 2013 book Global Warming, Militarism and Nonviolence: The Art of Active Resistance (Palgrave Macmillan, UK) while our staff have been keynote speakers at national peace conferences, regularly presented at international conferences (such as the In-

ternational Peace Research Association ones), and spoken often to local media. We have ordered into Dixson Library hundreds of new books, documentaries, articles and other resources on peace, including 86 books in 2011 alone. We also created a Special Collection in Dixson in 2010, and made a radio series about it with ABC Local Radio in 2011.

We have an Introduction to Peace Studies unit, and units at undergraduate and postgraduate levels which examine post-conflict peacebuilding, reconstruction and reconciliation, conflict transformation, nonviolence, globalization and development issues, and refugee and human rights issues. Increasingly, amidst widespread concern over global warming, we are focusing on environmental peace, with a unit on Environmental Security, and an Environmental Advocacy major in the MA. We also have a large, multicultural cohort of PhD students, and frequent guest speakers, such as Ellen Furnari from Nonviolent Peaceforce, and Norwegian academic Professor Magnus Haavelsrud.

Dr Marty Branagan
Convenor of Peace Studies
University of New England
NSW 2350 Australia

Algiers turned into diplomatic Mecca owing to Libyan conflict

By Laeed Zaghalmi

In the 1960s and the 1970s, the Algerian capital Algiers had the honorific title of the 'Mecca for African revolutionaries'. It was a centre of inspiration and refuge for many African leaders fighting for their countries' independence and liberation; men such as Amilcar Cabral, Nelson Mandela, Kwame Nkrumah and others who had followed and supported the Algerian revolution.

Intense diplomacy

Today, although the historical and geopolitical context has completely changed, Algiers remains a hotspot of intense diplomatic activities, especially in recent days. Sergei Lavrov, the Russian foreign minister visited on Monday. Portugal's foreign minister Augusto Santos Silva had paid a working visit over the weekend. He was preceded by his Danish counterpart Kristian Jensen. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon also came calling this week.

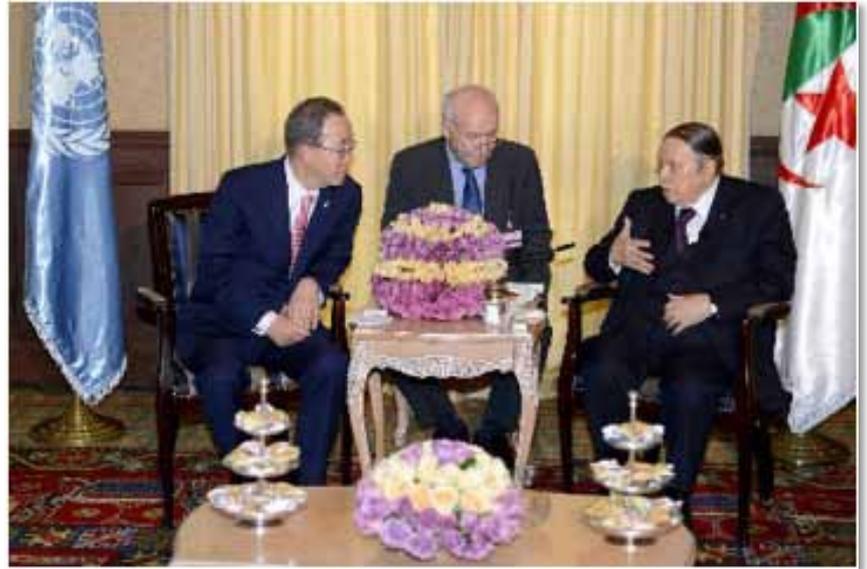
Others who have lately come calling in the Algerian capital are US under-secretary for political affairs Thomas Shannon and neighbouring Tunisia's foreign affairs minister Khemaies Jhinaoui. Earlier, the former emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, and Prince Mohamed Benaif bin Abdelaziz from Saudi Arabia, had dropped by on private visits.

Alarming Security Situation in Libya.

Why is Algeria being so attractive these days to so many international diplomats? What is behind this interest?

Hosni Laabidi, a security affairs expert and director of the Arab-Europe Centre for Studies and Research in Geneva, gives some clues. "The alarming security situation in Libya is a source of [global] worry and concern, and Algeria which shares a 982 km of border with Libya is the only country in the region that knows the reality there well," says the expert.

Speaking to Al Khabar, a leading Algiers-based newspaper, Dr Laabidi argued that "Algeria had a strong relationship with Libya under the leadership of Muammar Gaddafi. It was the only country in the Arab world that offered shelter to Gaddafi's relatives on humanitarian grounds."



ISIS terrorists

Former Algerian ambassador to Mexico and Spain, Abdelaziz Rehabi, says recent US air strikes against ISIS-linked terrorists in Sibratha near Tripoli in Libya and the presence of French forces on the ground are the prelude, if not the continuation, of the scenario of Nato intervention in 2011 prior to Gaddafi's death.

He agrees the enthusiasm by international diplomats to visit Algeria is mainly to listen to the country's views on what is actually happening in Libya. The diplomats' "appetite is to collect as much data and information from a country that has enough experience in dealing with terrorism and how the world will use this to fight terrorism on an international scale," he adds.

Peaceful solutions

Although Algeria's stated position to end conflicts is through negotiations aimed at peaceful solutions – an option ostensibly shared by Western countries – Dr Laabidi observes that on the ground their actions and reactions are too slow to foster tangible results in the short term.

Professor Mohamed Hennad of the National School of Politics based in Algiers is even more skeptical about how to deal with the Libyan crisis. "If nothing is done in practical terms to combat ISIS-linked terrorists, we should expect worse," he warns.

And the possible scenario, he predicts, is a remake of the 2011 Nato military intervention, with its multiple implications for the security of the region.

Ultimately, diplomacy has to answer questions on how to end the ISIS terrorists' annoying presence in Libya; but more importantly what will be the next safe haven?" he poses ■



Louis Kriesberg will be 90 on 30 July 2016

On 30 July 2016, Louis Kriesberg will celebrate his 90th birthday. He is Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Maxwell Professor Emeritus of Social Conflict Studies, and founding director of the Program on the Analysis and Resolution of Conflicts (1986–1994), all at Syracuse University, NY, USA.

Through his teaching, his practical activities in constructive conflict resolution and his numerous scholarly publications Louis Kriesberg has influenced generations of students and scholars in the US and globally. He has also participated at several IPRA conferences in the past. On the occasion of his 90th birthday Lou's pioneering work is honoured in a book:

Louis Kriesberg: Louis Kriesberg: Pioneer in Peace and Constructive Conflict Resolution Studies *Pioneers in Arts, Humanities, Science, Engineering, Practice (PAHSEP)*, vol. 1 (Cham – Heidelberg – New York – Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2016).

Excerpts from the foreword of George A. Lopez, The Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Chair Emeritus in Peace Studies at the Kroc Institute, University of Notre Dame

Louis Kriesberg's remarkable career, spanning seven decades, is characterized by multiple, diverse and continued contributions made to the fields of sociology and peace studies. Within each he became known for pioneering work in social processes, social movements, and patterns for dealing with social conflict in both domestic and international settings. As a sociologist his ability to bring conceptual clarity along-side basic empirical studies permitted him to generate meaningful findings that, in turn, led his work to be widely cited and a cornerstone of the sociology of conflict field.

Lou brought a clearheaded ability to explore with scholarly passion and depth theories and concepts that were just emerging in the field. ... His accomplishments result from his scholarly style that has been inclusive of colleagues, even those with drastically different ideas. He has always been an 'engaged scholar', seeing the boundaries between theory and practice as meant to be bridged. ... Throughout he has aimed at reducing violence by building the educational field of conflict resolution, so that we might - ultimately - realize peace. ... Lou has first and foremost been a committed and amazingly productive sociologist. ... He opened new avenues for his discipline to consider transnational actors and he demonstrated that the institutional paradigm of sociology could also embrace a focus on social movements. ... He brought these skills to the Peace Studies section of the International Studies Association in its early days, and to his work in the International Peace Research Association (IPRA). Most notably, along with fellow sociologist Elise Boulding, Lou shined in the meetings of the Consortium for Peace Research, Education and Development (COPRED). ...

Lou's biographical essay details how he took advantage of opportunities in the mid-1980s to develop what was to become the highly regarded Program on the Analysis and Resolution of Conflict (PARC). ...

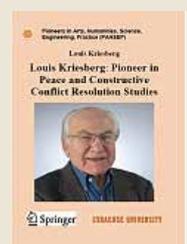


Dr. Louis Kriesberg

By having already engaged different groups of Syracuse faculty in intriguing shared research ventures, particularly regarding US-Soviet relations, Lou set a style of research for the new enterprise as being enriching due to the diversity of faculty interests. And in gathering these experts he also knew that high quality graduate education would emerge from such research. ... Objective observers could not help but be struck how, in his active and incredibly productive scholarly life, Lou Kriesberg has so often been a few steps ahead of his time. While being thoroughly engaged with the literature and the conversation of his era, he was not always swayed by the various fads of the time. He determined the style or substance with which he pursued his own work and activities. His biographical sketch shows him from the early days at the University of Chicago through his continued activity with the programs at Syracuse to be a remarkably collegial individual who is always interested in moving beyond the self-defined – and often too narrow – boundaries that scholars employ. Further, he has exemplified the openness and inquisitiveness so critical to successful scholarship. And finally, he is a scholar of constructive conflict, whose work can actually influence practice and policy. ■

On the occasion of his 90th birthday Louis Kriesberg provides an informative account of his career, tracing the trajectory of his discoveries, contributions, and fumbles as he sought to help the advance toward a more sustainable and just peace in the world. His work contributes to ideas and practices in several areas of conflict studies, notably intractable conflicts and their transformation, reconciliation, conflict analysis, and waging conflicts constructively. Although neither an autobiography nor a memoir, he embeds the course of his work in the context of historical events and in the evolving fields of peace studies and conflict resolution. In addition, he discusses the interaction of those fields with major conflicts. The book includes seven previously-published exemplary pieces on these and other topics, a comprehensive list of his publications, and several photos.

Hans Günter Brauch, AFES-PRESS chairman, Mosbach (Germany)





IPRA Ecology & Peace Commission: 2 New Books

Hans Günter Brauch, Úrsula Oswald Spring, Juliet Bennett, Serena Eréndira Serrano Oswald (Eds.): *Addressing Global Environmental Challenges from a Peace Ecology Perspective*. With a Foreword by Nesrin Kenar, Co-Secretary General, IPRA -- *The Anthropocene: Politik—Economics—Society—Science*, vol. 4 (Cham–Heidelberg – New York – Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishers, 2016).

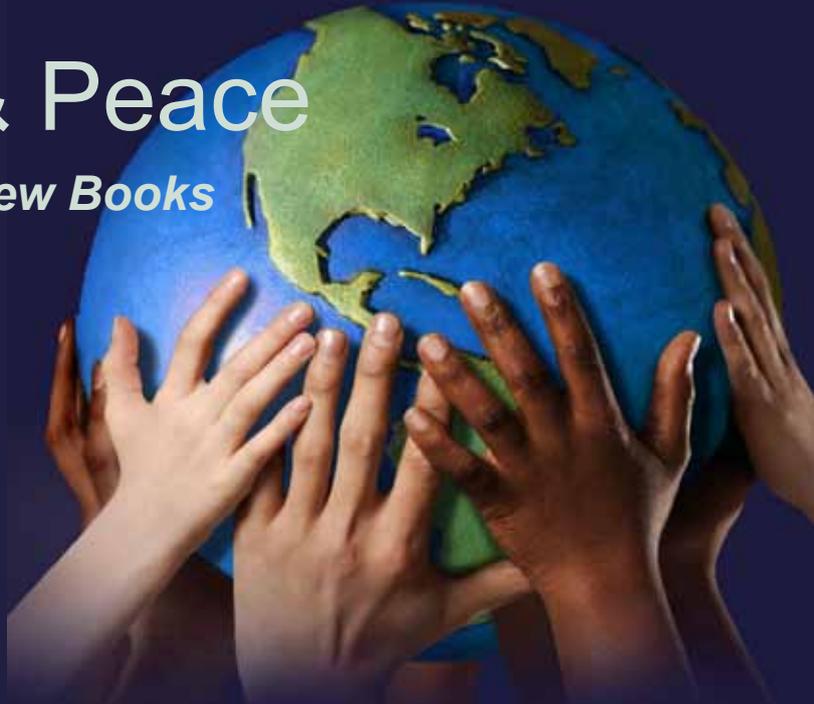
This peer reviewed volume emerged from revised presentations to IPRA's Ecology and Peace Commission during IPRA's 25th Conference in Istanbul in August 2014. It addresses global environmental challenges, focuses on the nexus between biodiversity, water, food, energy, and waste, deals with structural violence, the tyranny of small decisions and emotional dimensions of ecological peacebuilding and offers perspectives on sustainable peace by moving toward sustainability transition. This book applies the peace ecology concept to global environmental challenges in the Anthropocene. The Anthropocene was proposed in 2000 by Nobel Laureate, Paul J. Crutzen, as a new era in earth history that has been deeply influenced by human interventions during the past 70 years. Six chapters address partly the scientific context and specific issue areas of the authors' research. They were trained in different disciplines and represent a variety of interests and foci of ecology and peace studies. Therefore, this selection is rather accidental, and offers a small snapshot of themes that peace researchers are studying. A common interest binds the individual chapters together by authors from Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany and Mexico.

Hans Günter Brauch (Germany) offers a typology of time and turning points in the 20th century; Juliet Bennett (Australia) discusses the global ecological crisis resulting from a "tyranny of small decisions"; Katharina Bitzker (Canada) debates "the emotional dimensions of ecological peacebuilding" through love of nature; Henri Myrntinen (UK/Finland) analyses "preliminary findings on gender, peacebuilding and climate change in Honduras" while Úrsula Oswald Spring (Mexico) offers a critical review of the policy and scientific nexus debate on "the water, energy, food and biodiversity nexus", reflecting on security in Mexico. In closing, Brauch discusses whether strategies of sustainability transition may enhance the prospects for achieving sustainable peace in the Anthropocene.

In the introduction the editors argued that there is a need to overcome over-specialization and to enter into a dialogue between environmental studies and peace research. In their view, 'peace ecology in the Anthropocene' still needs much theoretical reflection to transform it gradually from a conceptual idea into a possible research paradigm what would require a closer cooperation of both environmental and peace scholars.

In the years to come, 'peace ecology' may become a theme of specific degree programmes at universities around the globe, such as 'geo-ecology' had become in geography. Such efforts require transformative approaches from the natural and social sciences with new scientific concepts, approaches, models, and theories that cross the boundaries between the narrow disciplinary analyses and assessments that still prevail in the organization and funding of scientific research.

Úrsula Oswald Spring, Hans Günter Brauch, Serena Eréndira Serrano Oswald, Juliet Bennett (Eds.): *Regional Ecological Challenges for Peace in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Asia Pacific*. With a Foreword by Ibrahim Shaw, Co-Secretary General, IPRA. *The Anthropocene: Politik—Economics—Society—Science*, vol. 5



(Cham– New York – Heidelberg – Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2016).

This second book of IPRA's Ecology and Peace Commission discusses regional ecological peace challenges, focuses on ecological and peace problems in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Asia Pacific and presents case studies on Nigeria, the Palestinian West Bank, Columbia, Mexico, Pakistan, Vietnam and Japan, as well as on US Nuclear Testing in the Marshall Islands. It presents peer-reviewed texts from IPRA's Ecology and Peace Commission. C. Christian and H. Speight (USA) analyse "Water, Cooperation, and Peace in the Palestinian West Bank"; T. Galaviz (Mexico) discusses "The Peace Process Mediation Network between the Colombian Government and the April 19th Movement"; S.E. Serrano Oswald (Mexico) examines "Social Resilience and Intangible Cultural Heritage: Case Study in Mexico"; A. F. Rashid (Pakistan) and F. Feng (China) focus on "Community Perceptions of Ecological Disturbances Caused During Terrorists Invasion and Counter-insurgency Operations in Swat, Pakistan"; M.I. Abazie-Humphrey (Nigeria) reviews "Nigeria's Home-Grown DDR Programme"; M. Yoshii (Japan) examines "Structure of Discrimination in Japan's Nuclear Export" and finally, S. Takemine (Japan) discusses "'Global Hibakusha' and the Invisible Victims of US Nuclear Testing in the Marshall Islands".

These case studies analyse across three continents the conflictive potential, possible peacebuilding, and resilience processes, and their impacts on the environment. In the Mexican case, the resilience through immaterial heritage reinforces interchange, reciprocity, and conflict resolution from the bottom-up. In the case of Japan, there is a transition in process between regional society and regional community. Both authors link traumatic experiences in their country (atomic bombs, nuclear accident) with other existing or possible disasters in poorer countries that lack the technological and institutional know-how to deal with these threats. In the case of Colombia's three decades of war, and in the case of the Swat valley of Pakistan where terrorist and religious fanatics have pushed their countries to a second stage of regional organization, we can see examples of regional complex. In the case of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, coercive relationships maintain the occupation of Palestinian territory, which correspond also to the second stage of regional organization.

In synthesis, southern countries are still in a lower level of regional development and complexity, due to the colonial and postcolonial processes of domination, exploitation of natural resources, terrorist attacks and power inequalities.

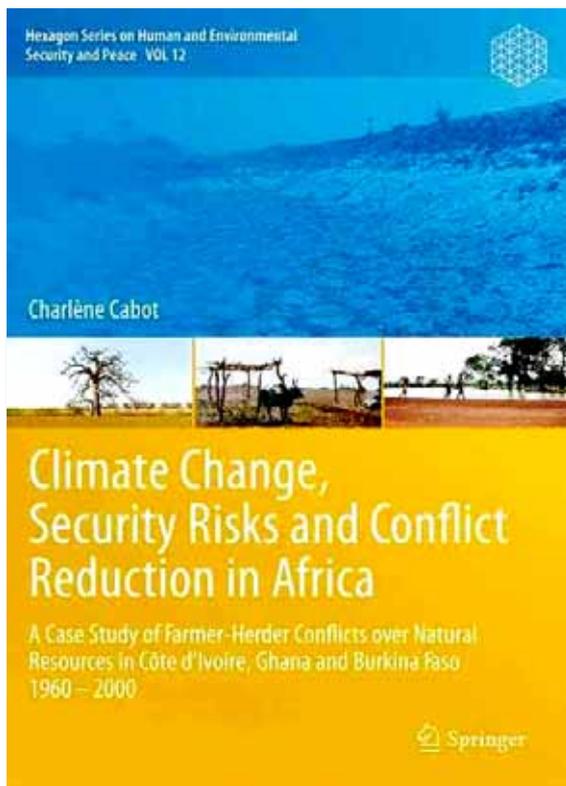
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Climate Change, Security Risks and Conflict Reduction in Africa

By Charlène Cabot

A Case Study of Farmer-Herder Conflicts over Natural Resources in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana & Burkina Faso (1960-2000)



Millions of people are already affected by weather-related shocks every year in West Africa and climate change is highly likely to increase these threats. In the wake of climate change, rising temperatures, increasingly irregular rainfall and more frequent natural hazards will endanger the ways of life of vulnerable population groups in this region and destabilize their human security. A surge in violence and conflicts could take place. One of the conflict constellations could be between farmers and herders.

These groups are highly vulnerable to climate change due to their dependence on natural resources for their subsistence. Furthermore, they are historically prone to enter into conflict over issues of access to natural resources. However, social, economic and political circumstances fundamentally influence environmental conflicts. There might thus be opportunities to face the societal challenges of climate change in a peaceful way and the political and institutional framework could play an important role in reducing conflict and violence. In order to explore such a path, this study analyses the potential of political factors (policies and institutions) for the reduction of climate-change-induced or aggravated conflicts between farmers and herders. After a theoretical demonstration, a case study of agro-pastoral conflicts in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana is conducted.

Charlène Cabot (born 1988 in France) completed her undergraduate studies in Political and Social Sciences at Sciences Po Paris and at the University of Sydney. Ms Cabot subsequently obtained a double Master's degree in International Relations from Sciences Po Paris and the Free University of Berlin with a major in Sustainable Development and Environmental Politics (2011). Ms Cabot joined the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in December 2011. After working in Germany, Senegal, the Central African Republic, Cameroon, and in the Policy and Programme Division at WFP headquarters, she is currently based in N'Djamena (Chad). ■

By Charlène Cabot With Forewords by

- Monique Barbut, Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- Ibrahim Seaga Shaw, Secretary General of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA)
- Hans Günter Brauch, AFES-PRESS, chairman and co-chair, IPRA's Ecology and Peace Commission

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... IPRA Ecology & Peace Commission:

The regional analysis among different conflict areas in three continents indicates various processes of regional consolidation. The reflection may open new ways for peacebuilding and environmental restoration, where the southern countries are not only suffering from hegemonic power of corporate multinational enterprises, but may find through mediation process, self-reliance and social resilience paths to sustainable peace.

All developing and emerging countries analysed in this book (Vietnam, Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Palestine, Colombia and Mexico) have high biodiversity, long-term historical suffering from colonization, exploitation, and military occupation. They have developed strong cultural immaterial resistance to the struggle with adverse conditions imposed by an unjust globalization, where often their weak governments are unable to deal with and to prevent economic, social and environmental crises, letting the people to find ways to peaceful conflict resolution. ■



Forests for Amity, Peace and Joy

By Dr Ravi P Bhatia – Educationist and Peace Researcher. - IPRA Co-Convenor Religion, Spirituality and Peace Commission.

There are countless number of magnificent and beautiful forests all over the world -- the Amazon Rainforest in South America , Black Forest in southwest Germany, Sagano Bamboo Forest in Japan, Forêt de Compiègne in France, Redwood National Forest Park of California and many others. The boreal forests in Russia are the largest forested region in the world covering approximately 12 million square km. Similar forests are found in Africa, Australia, China and elsewhere.

There are also many forests in India such as Molai forest in Assam, Ambujmarh in the state of Chattisgarh and some smaller ones in the northern states of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

Forests are a source of joy and peace apart from their utilitarian aspects that allow life and the ecosystem to survive. The forests comprise trees of various types like the oak, pine, peepal or neem (in India), but also shrubs and various types of plants. Forests are inhabited by a wide variety of birds, butterflies, insects and animals.

When we are near a forest we may feel its gentle call. The forest invites us and seems to be calling us to enjoy its various charms. If we listen to their call we find that various birds and animals calling out in their own particular ways.

Some sounds are pleasant and even musical. Animals like lions or wolves will growl in different ways depending upon the condition they are in and who is approaching them. They may growl seeing a stranger. If they are hungry they will growl in one way but after feeding themselves their sounds become different.

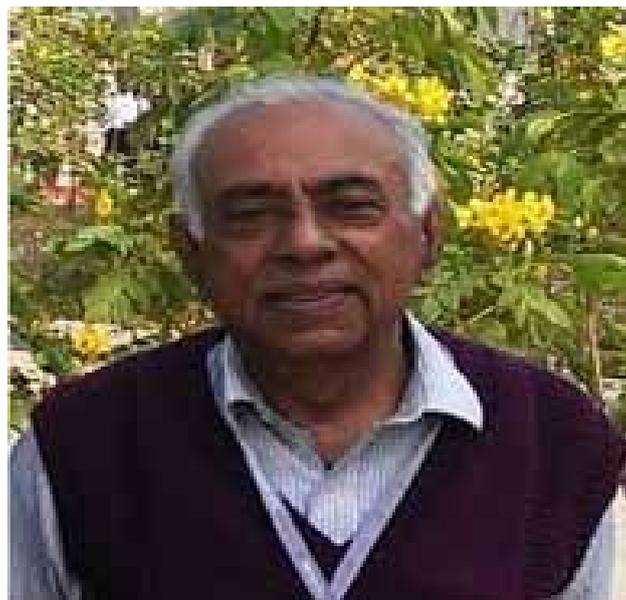
Some forests have a large variety of birds and small animals but there are also other forests which are home to lions, tigers, leopards, elephants, rhinos and wolves etc. Some of these forests have become national parks or safaris where tourists come and enjoy the sights and sounds of these ferocious animals.

Forests are symbols of life. If we did not have forests on the planet Earth it would be difficult to visualise what type of life could be present. But life as we know it would not exist. How is this so? When human or animal life breathes oxygen (O₂) is inhaled and carbon dioxide (CO₂) is exhaled. Forests are able to transform CO₂ again into oxygen.

Forests are full of life – animals, birds, plants, fish and other creatures that make us feel joyful and tranquil. Forests provide fruit, fresh air and firewood for cooking, medicinal plants and of course timber for building homes or furniture. In addition, forests have been helping the tribal communities in many parts of the world to survive and even flourish for centuries.

Tribes and indigenous peoples are found all over the world – in Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Australia, New Zealand and other regions. In India there are a large number of tribal communities living in different regions especially in the Andaman and Nicobar islands far away from mainland India. For these tribal people (Adivasis), forests are and have been their habitats for centuries. They are happy to live in the so called primitive conditions of the forests which provide them food, water, fishing and hunting opportunities. But due to various development activities taking place, the tribal lands are being encroached upon.

Forests are one part of the environment that consists of air, mountains



Dr Ravi P Bhatia

and hills, oceans, rivers, lakes, glaciers among others. If the environment is clean and unpolluted we have a sense of amity, peace and joy. Here peace implies wellbeing, and harmony with nature. If the environment is clean – if the birds sing and rivers flow and butterflies hop around we feel peaceful and happy. A clean forest with healthy trees that bloom and give us fruit and timber are signs of this healthy environment. Trees have symbolized life, shelter and rest for man. A person sitting peacefully in a contemplative stance gains knowledge and spirituality. For Buddha, it conferred enlightenment.

Due to several development activities the world is witnessing climate change and increasing global temperatures, rising ocean-levels, loss of agriculture and erratic weather conditions. Another problem: forests easily catch fire killing birds and animals. This is happening in an Uttarakhand forest of India. It has become almost impossible to douse the fire by conventional means; so helicopters filled with water are put to service.

When a dam or power plant or any infra project is started, trees are cut on a large scale. In the 1970s massive deforestation was going on in the northern part of India. To salvage life the people started the chipko andolan (movement to hug trees) under the leadership of two wonderful men — Chandi Prasad Bhatt and Sunderlal Bahuguna with the support of local women. Ultimately the rampant cutting of trees was stopped.

If the earlier call of a forest was to partake its abundance, today the forests are calling for help so that trees can survive and not be engulfed by fire. The world celebrates Earth Day on 22nd April. It would be wonderful if we also started celebrating World Forest Day. ■

IPRA Membership & Membership Renewal

BY Di Luo (PhD Candidate Northumbria University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK)

The 2016 IPRA Conference has now updated its membership registration in the MEMBERS AREA available on the IPRA web site: www.iprapeace.org .

All students, scholars, and scientific institutions and associations, including those who are planning to attend the next IPRA conference in Free-town, who are interested in becoming members, or renewing their membership, of IPRA are now encouraged to complete this process by visiting the MEMBERS AREA on the IPRA web site : www.iprapeace.org.

Article 6 of The IPRA STATUTES states that: 'IPRA shall be composed of three classes of members: individual scholars, scientific institutions and scientific associations, able to accept membership of the Association. IPRA may also have contribution members. Applications will be considered by the Executive Committee'.

Based on this article, individual scholars, scientific institutions and scientific association can become members of IPRA with paid membership fees. The fees are charged differently in accordance with the applicant's status and nationality (e.g. regular members, students/retired, or institutional members, high income, or upper middle, or lower middle, or low income country).

For both individual scholars and institutional

organisations and association, the membership is valid for two years, which is 2014 and 2016. For students and scholars who attended the 2014 IPRA Conference in Istanbul but not paid their membership fees, they need to bring their membership up to date and pay for the IPRA 2012 to 2016 membership (4 years).

For students and scholars who attended and paid their membership fees at the 2014 Istanbul IPRA Conference, they only need to renew their membership and pay for the years of the 2014 and 2016 (2 years).

Only fully paid up members will benefit from IPRA 2016 conference registration discounts, GALA DINNER discounts, access online resources reserved for members, enjoy priority for IPRA travel and accommodation grants, and enjoy the privilege of taking part in IPRA elections etc. (For more information about the BENEFITS OF IPRA MEMBERSHIP visit the MEMBERS AREA on the IPRA web site www.iprapeace.org .

The membership fees are needed to support the administrative work of IPRA and to support its projects and biennial conferences, as well as help support more students and scholars from low income countries to benefit from its projects and attend its biennial conferences.

For more information of the IPRA Memberships, including how to join, how to pay the fees & the specific benefits, please visit the official website at:

<http://iprapeace.org/index.php/members-area/membership>. ■

“IPRA 2016” Conference Brochure/programme: Call for Articles

The “IPRA 2016” conference secretariat is happy to invite you to write articles for “IPRA 2016” conference brochure/programme, which will be circulated among the conference participants and published Online this year in November. Academics, PhD students and peace practitioners are cordially invited to prepare articles in given format and submit on or before June 30, 2016.

Contributions by way of opinion articles or features on peace research activities and projects are welcome, and should not be more than 500 words. Where relevant articles should be referenced and contain links where appropriate.

Contributions will be selected on the basis of their quality, since only few good and relevant ones would be selected for inclusion.

Priority will be given to contributions by IPRA members and associate members in the areas of peace research and education, especially those based on cutting edge research and/or contemporary issues and challenges of peace work.

Contributions should be sent to secretarygeneral@iprapeace.org & Senthan.selverajah@northumbria.ac.uk

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Please contact us if you require further information relating to this newsletter.
 Your comments and feedback are also greatly appreciated.

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