



# HWPL Peace Education Journal

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# Table of Contents

## 01 Current Peace Education MOA, MOU Status

## 02 Special Features: Russia-Ukraine War and Peace

– **H.E. Anna Bossman**

Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Ghana to UNESCO,  
Ghana

– **Dr. Gertrud Müller**

Behavioral Scientist, Sociologist, Psychooncologist,  
Germany

– **Ian Seo**

General Director, Public Relations Department, HWPL HQ,  
South Korea

## 03 Peace Education

– **Dr. Julieta Paras**

Director of National Capital Region, Commission on Higher  
Education, Philippines

– **Mr. Clement Iornongu**

Executive Director, Int'l Centre for Peace Charities and Human  
Development (INTERCEP), Nigeria

– **Ms. Pratibha Singh**

Teacher, Jagran Public School, India

# Table of Contents

## 04 Students Interview

– **Mohammad Jan Kawosh**

Student, Amazon English Academy, Afghanistan

– **Jawad Mohibzada**

Student, Amazon English Academy, Afghanistan

– **Sittie Aisha A. Manisan**

Student, Cotabato Rasheeda High School, Philippines

## 05 Culture and Peace

– **Choi Euiheon**

General Director, Peace Education Department, HWPL HQ,  
South Korea

– **Byeon Haeun**

Coordinator, Culture Department, HWPL HQ, South Korea



**Africa 17**

- Gambia
- South Africa
- Rwanda
- Mali
- Burundi
- Ethiopia
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Kenya
- Comoros
- Madagascar
- Ivory Coast
- South Sudan
- Niger
- Somalia
- Lesotho
- DRC

**Europe 8**

- Romania
- Georgia
- North Macedonia
- Ukraine
- Greece
- Netherlands
- Croatia
- France

**Middle East 3**

- Iraq
- Israel
- Palestine

# Current Peace Education MOA, MOU Status

As of December 15, 2022

Total of 14 MOAs in 11 countries

Total of 303 MOUs in 47 countries

**Europe**  
8 Countries  
31 MOUs

**Africa**  
17 Countries  
95 MOUs



CIS 1

Armenia

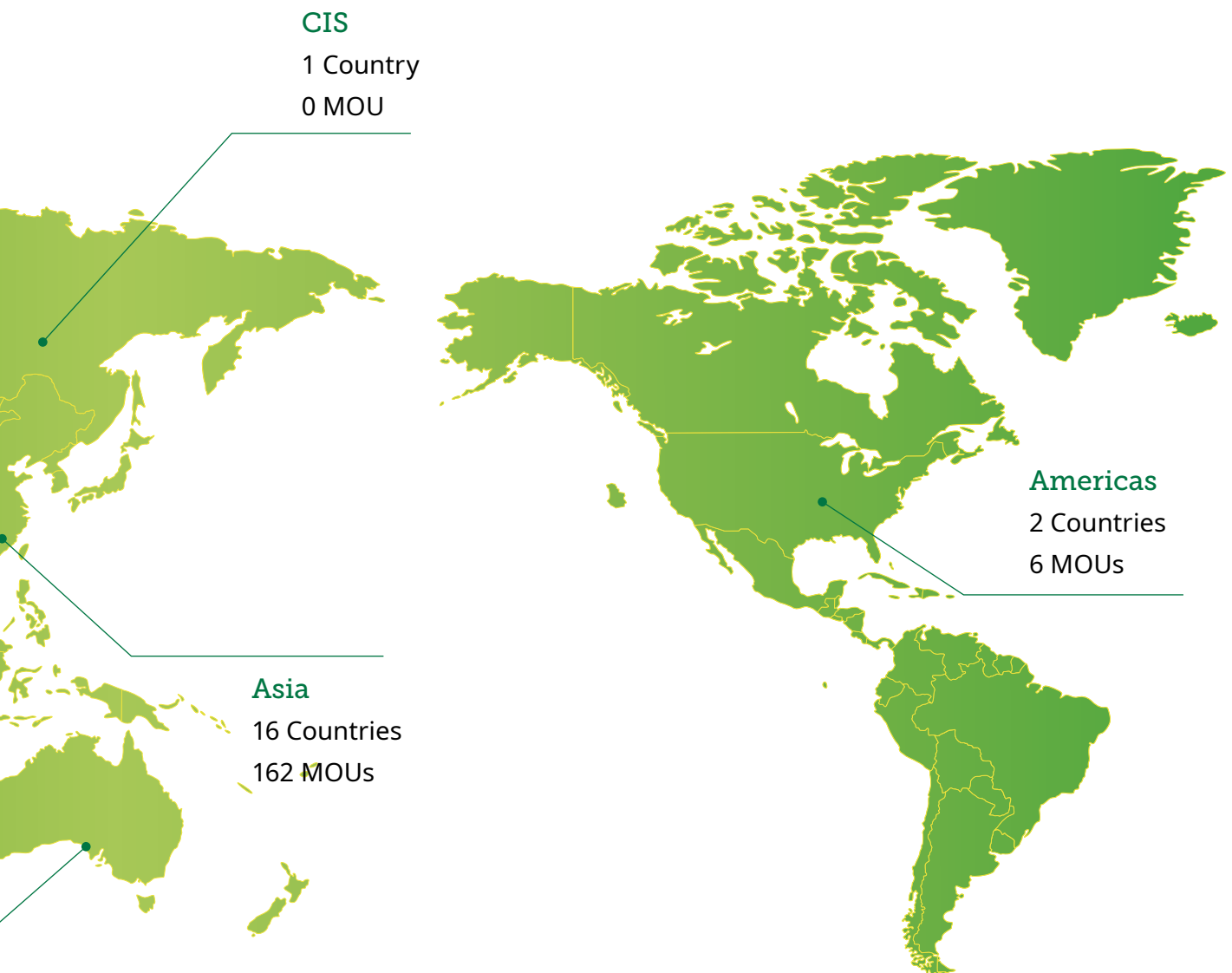
Oceania 0

Asia 16

- South Korea
- Nepal
- Malaysia
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- India
- Indonesia
- Cambodia
- Afghanistan
- Thailand
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Sri Lanka
- East Timor

The Americas 2

- USA
- Jamaica



# 01 Special Features: Russia-Ukraine War and Peace



**H.E. Anna Bossman**

Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Ghana to UNESCO,  
Ghana

## | Need to Work Together for Peace and Security

We are currently witnessing a defining moment in world history, as global peace and security have come under threat following the Russian Federation's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

As a United Nations organization with a focus on education, the sciences, culture, communication and information, UNESCO is also addressing the challenges in the Russian Federation – Ukraine crisis, among other worldwide crises.

So far, UNESCO has demonstrated its effectiveness in its areas of competence through the mobilization of resources, expertise and measures to ensure the right to education of Ukrainian students, support for teachers, strengthened distance and digital learning and the provision of psychosocial support in response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation.

We also doing efforts to provide training and protective equipment to displaced journalists working to support the free flow of information. and efforts to safeguard and protect cultural heritage in line with the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict have also engaged our organization in the ongoing crisis in Ukraine.



However, the discriminatory treatment of internally displaced persons, especially African students, as a consequence of the conflict forces UNESCO to also focus on another important aspect of its mandate: the elimination of racial discrimination, racial hatred and racial hate crimes in the world. We should give renewed attention to this very important issue and reaffirm that refugees should not be discriminated against.

UNESCO's support for Africa under Global Priority Africa, is undoubtedly geared towards an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens. This objective is also in line with the broad continental vision of the African Union (AU) and the SDGs. Through this initiative, the Government of Ghana and its partners hope to address some of the continent's key developmental issues and challenges such as education and knowledge sharing and harnessing new and emerging technologies for sustainable development.

Unfortunately, certain threats still loom over our continent. I want to mention also the electoral process, it's the greatest source of potential instability for many wars and disputes around the continent. We know that the electoral process remains for many african countries one of the weak links that pose security threats to our democracies and the stability of our governments. In Ghana the quality of the electoral commission's work has contributed significantly to the maintenance of peace and stability in the country. We have also in recent times witnessed threats to peace on the continent in the form of unconstitutional changes in government.

In conclusion, I wish to recall the need to work together for peace and security. This is not only an obligation to the present generation and the civilization we have shaped for our contemporary world, but also a debt and respect we owe to all those whose blood and labor speak to us from the many graves of the two world wars. When we say that never again in our lifetime and in the generations that follow should the world suffer the scourge of war, we must take those words seriously.



**Dr. Gertrud Müller**

Behavioral Scientist, Sociologist, Psychooncologist,  
Germany

## | Non-violence in Spaces and Times of Violence

In my work as a psycho-oncologist, I often encounter patients who come from Ukraine and Russia. Many tell me in confidence how much they suffer from the war. There are or were close friendships and relatives before the war started. People who were friends and relatives before suddenly become enemies. A helplessness and speechlessness spreads. How do I deal with these friends and relatives who have suddenly become enemies. Some try to meet secretly in other countries, others break off contacts, isolate themselves, take over the enemy image for people who were personally close to them and had never done anything wrong.

If one looks at the history of mankind, it becomes clear that violence has been experienced, endured and practiced at all times. Is it possible for man to exist without violence? Is it possible to stay away from this violence that happens in the environment?

The life on the earth is in such a way aligned that all different kinds of beings must divide the habitat among themselves and with each other, in order to be able to survive. In doing so, life requires energy, food and metabolism. Every living being is born in such a way that it strives to preserve its own life and to defend it in case of danger. This form of aggression, which serves to defend and protect one's own life, is innate. In the course of evolution it turned out that a life in groups is safer and the human being is only conditionally viable without the support of the group. For this reason, humans joined together in groups and defended the boundaries of their group. Through the division of labor within the group, various skills developed, ways to produce and sell goods and commodities. Bartering became more important, new regions and resources were developed. Each group wanted to secure livelihoods for its members, thus struggles developed over resources, lands, hunting grounds, grazing lands, building areas, etc. Conflicts arose within the groups and between the groups.

Death was normal in earlier times of the wilderness. less frightening and so warriors and

hunters died quite naturally. In the course of evolution, besides hunting and fighting, empathy and the ability of altruism were recognized as useful and as an evolutionary success. Groups that looked out for each other lived more sustainably, were more resilient and resistant to disease, and their survival was much better assured. These advantages can still be observed today in the so-called Blue Zones. Nevertheless, no physical protective mechanisms against violence developed, but rather emotional and psychosocial protective effects.

The autonomic nervous system, which can react with force as well as with calmness, remained unchanged, as well as the stress system, which causes the body to flee, fight or freeze in case of danger. The body must act very quickly in dangerous situations in order to survive. "Violence and aggression programs" are activated unconsciously and can run automatically and involuntarily. Man has possibilities to prevent violence if he recognizes it in time and refrains from it in time. The mechanism is similar to the hand on the hotplate. If a person recognizes that the hotplate is hot, he will not touch it. If a person does not recognize that the hotplate is hot and touches the hotplate, then an automatic reaction is triggered by pain and fright, the hand is automatically pulled away in a flash. Something similar happens when people feel attacked or very threatened, then they insult, push or hit the (supposed) attacker. This form of violence is more like self-defense and is not punished by many countries.

Forms of violence that are committed with intent are condemned differently. That means, this violence is not based on a real dangerous situation and the desire of defense, these forms of violence are planned purposefully to get advantages for themselves or to prevent possible later dangers.

Why do people plan violence? People anticipate that they may be in distress and devise methods of defense to feel more protected. A similar thing happens with resource building. Resources provide a sense of security, for this reason people allow themselves to build up resources, possibly even to rob them from others. The power motive to feel bigger and stronger than others and thus to secure privileges can also lead to violence.

Weapons allowed individuals and groups to specifically defend and assert themselves against others. The possession of weapons was originally intended to help in hunting or to preserve one's own possessions. In addition, walls, castles and borders served as fortifications and clear boundaries.

In this way, people learned that violence and wars could be helpful for the survival of the group. The interests of the individual had to take a back seat to the interest of the group.

The continuous accumulation of possessions and the armament with ever heavier and crueler weapons already made two world wars possible. Many people have long since realized that mankind puts itself in danger, extinguishes itself, through the continuous accumulation of possessions, through wars and destruction. Just dangers make the people more aggressive and more combative and the quarreling parties fight until they cannot recognize the sense of the fights any more. If too many losses are caused by wars and fights, more and more people long for peace and harmony and peace negotiations are strived for. This explains that in the history so far times of violence and non-violence always alternate.

If people want to change this, they must strive for lasting peace and prevent violence. Peace work must be carried out constantly in order to recognize and prevent impending violence in good time:

Women in particular often do this important peace work; they live in families with different cultures and try to create understanding for each other. They bring up children with different cultural roots, combine different customs and festivals in a common family celebration. And we observe in all war zones, people helping each other, even if they should be officially enemies. Only after the wars these heroic stories can be told, in war it is sometimes life-threatening to save the lives of "enemies". Exactly from these examples an extremely helpful peace work arises. Meaningful peace work does not separate people into friend and foe, it promotes the fair distribution of goods, promotes mutual well-being and appreciative coexistence with all other beings on the planet.

This peace work calms the inner demon of enmity that fears coming up short, being in danger, or losing its prestige. Let us learn to calm our inner demons of enmity again and again, then one day they can confidently lay themselves to rest.



**Ian Seo**

General Director, Public Relations Department, HWPL HQ,  
South Korea

## Putin's Misjudgment: Democracy and Citizenship

At the beginning of this year, I thought the possibility of a war between Ukraine and Russia was not likely. Even if it had happened, it would have been confined to the eastern regions of Ukraine bordering Russia.

Such prediction was caused by the international environment including the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic, the downturn of the global economy, and the rising price of energy resources. In addition, although the eastward expansion by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has clearly been perceived as a threat to Russia, Ukraine, not the member of the NATO, has served as a buffer zone between the two and the United States has been engaged in hegemonic competition with China. These two factors led me to believe that direct conflict between the West and Russia would be avoided, which is still partially true since the war is now contained in the lands of Ukraine.

My misguided hope that there would be no war stems from the premise that state is a rational entity. Of course, Russia and Putin are rational and capable of making rational decisions. However, the way Putin understood the factors that he judged to be rational was the way we understood the same factors that we judged to be not very rational. In this sense, it appears that there was Putin's misjudgment on the factors that led to the invasion of Ukraine.

### **Misjudgment in Energy Resources**

Putin's first misjudgment concerns Russia's economic clout in Europe. He seemed to have a positive outlook on natural gas supplies. The gas pipeline supplied by Russia was originally designed for overland routes, so Russia had to pay for the passage to the countries where the pipeline passes through including Ukraine and Poland. In 2012, Russia began construction of a natural gas pipeline called Nord Stream 2 that could supply gas directly to Germany through the Baltic Sea. Russia's intention to divide Europe and

the United States' security and economic interests by expanding its influence through economic linkages by further increasing European countries' dependence on Russia for energy at low prices appeared to be successful. From the beginning of the construction of Nord Stream 2, the United States showed opposition, but the gas pipeline was completed in 2021, leaving only the German government's environmental impact assessment.

Germany, which depends on Russian gas for more than 40% out of its energy sources, turned a blind eye to Ukraine's crisis in early February, in front of favorable conditions that could develop industries with cheap energy resources and supply heating costs to the people at low prices. Considering the damage to the companies involved in the project and related industries, Germany was unable to impose tough sanctions on Russia's aggression and had no choice but to respond passively. It only said that it would send only 5,000 helmets to Ukraine and that it would not send weapons to conflict areas.

It was the German citizens who rose. While citizens around the world spoke against the invasion of Ukraine, 100,000 citizens protested in Berlin. Chancellor Scholz's passive attitude seemed to contrast with the strong European leadership by Merkel. As criticism of the German government grew, the government broke its principles at the end of February and announced that it was considering providing advanced weapons, tanks, and oil to Ukraine. Also, Germany suspended its Nord Stream 2 project on February 22 as a sanction against Russia. Germany, which seemed to be the most passive in Europe, switched to the most active attitude. In addition, even neutral Switzerland adopted the EU sanctions, and militarily neutral countries including Sweden and Finland began to provide arms support to Ukraine. Putin's misjudgment was a European democracy he never experienced.

### **Misjudgment of International Order**

The second Putin's misjudgment is about Russia and its international economic relations. Russia has the 11th largest GDP in the world, but it has some weaknesses in terms of the size of its territory and industrial structure. In contrast to the Korean economy with 10th global GDP, which has a growth engine through the convergence of various industries such as semiconductors, automobiles, petrochemicals, machinery, batteries, and pharmaceuticals, Russia's economy relies on the production and export of energy resources, especially oil and gas. Putin's base of political support is closely related to the improvement or deterioration of Russia's economic situation. In other words, the global energy resource price trend is linked to the national economic environment and Putin's political status and stability.

In this regard, Putin seemed to have some confidence in economy. Russia's foreign exchange reserves have continued to rise since 2015, reaching an all-time high of over \$400 billion after 2019. Government debt as a percentage of GDP is less than 20% (66% in South Korea, about 100% in European countries), and supply chain deterioration and rapidly increasing demand for raw materials during COVID-19 are factors that will significantly increase resource prices that can benefit Russia. It can also be said that Russia have built up economic strength while enduring Western sanctions since the invasion of Crimea in 2014.

Russia's accumulated economic strength to withstand the sanctions in case of choosing to invade Ukraine, and the fact that the sanctions against Russia will not be as strong if the global economic situation worsens, made Putin see war as an opportunity. Of course, all these presuppositions can only be true when Russia quickly occupies Ukrainian territory, as in the case of the invasion of Crimea in the past. But it became Putin's misjudgment.

In addition, global anti-war opinions and criticism of the Russian invasion have emerged as industrial efforts to reduce reliance on Russian energy resources. Even with oil prices exceeding \$100, importing Russian crude oil due to the invasion of Ukraine carries the risk that ships may be destroyed in transportation, and such act can be seen as supporting Russia economically, increasing business risks. As a result, fewer companies purchase Russian crude oil even at a discount, and crude oil from the Middle East such as Saudi Arabia is being purchased as replacement. Finnish and Swedish refiners have officially announced a halt to Russian crude oil imports, and recently, voices calling for a halt to Russian crude oil imports from the US Congress were growing. Putin's misjudgment is the current international trade order that shares and free market economy as a core value.

### **Misjudgment on his own country**

The United States and Europe are realizing Russia's financial isolation by removing it from the global payment network. Foreign investors can only avoid losses by disposing of their assets in Russia and converting the Russian ruble into dollars or other currencies. However, the value of the ruble has already plummeted, and the Russian stock market is expected to plunge due to sanctions after the invasion of Ukraine. As a result of imposing sanctions, Russian companies are banned from exporting and trading, unable to receive payments, and unable to repay their bank loans. Then Russian banks will not provide additional loans to them, which also leads to deterioration of liquidity. The decrease in the value of the ruble reduces the purchasing power of Russian citizens or even makes consumption much more difficult. Of course, such adverse business environment impact

unemployment issues. It was obvious that not only overseas investors but citizens storm their ways into ATMs to secure their cash.

In response, the Central Bank of Russia raised the interest rate from 9.5% to a maximum of 20%. In addition, foreign investors were prohibited from paying dividends, interest payments, and selling securities, and residents were restricted from transferring funds to overseas banks. As the value of the ruble plummeted and sanctions made it difficult to import and export resources, making payments impossible, the market lost trust and prices soared. Like the rest of the world's citizens, this requires patience from the Russian people. Will the Russian people's support for Putin remain strong amid deteriorating economic conditions, as they expressed support for him in the past when economic conditions improved and he proclaimed a resurgence of a strong Russia? What is the significance of anti-war protests that have already occurred in Russia? Putin's misjudgment was a voice for democracy among the Russian people who oppose war and advocate peace and stability.

### **Misjudgment on Ukraine**

Having gone through the Orange Revolution and Euromaidan, Ukraine has gained experiences of democracy from a series of sociopolitical turmoil. Since its independence, the country has been suffering from divisive conflicts pro-Russian and pro-European, East and West, and economic polarization. However, in these processes, citizens have become the main actors in democratic change of government by their voluntary, free association.

The rise of President Zelensky reflects the reality of Ukraine, a newly independent country founded in 1991. With over 100 ethnic groups, this country inevitably has elements of conflict over the national identity. In other words, it presents a great task of overcoming conflict and division based on tremendous efforts for coexistence and harmony. The majority of the poor people elected a comedian as president who deplored the reality of their country and criticized corrupt politics on a TV show, not a billionaire who raised pro-Russian-anti-Russian slogans. Unlike other past presidents who fled their country in crises, Zelensky is encouraging the struggle against Russia. Ukraine, which has the political experience of creating legitimate democracy with the power of the people, calling for change in the contradictory reality, is facing resistance for survival. By contrast, post-Soviet Russia has not achieved democracy. Putin, who has been in power for more than 20 years and has been calling for "Strong Russia", has met the strongest resistance in his life. It is not some powerful country, but today's Ukraine and its citizens that are stepping up to defend themselves. Putin's misjudgment stems from Ukraine's



democratic achievements that he can never understand.

As responsible citizens of the global society, we are obliged speak out as a common so that citizens of both Russia and Ukraine can live in safety. Our mission, which HWPL announced in this year's statement and events, is PEACE that no one will be sacrificed in war and that we are required to leave for future generations.

# 02 Peace Education



**Dr. Julieta Paras**

Director of National Capital Region, Commission on Higher Education, Philippines

## Effective Ways to Implement DPCW (Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War)

“There is no path to peace. Peace is the path.” By Mahatma Gandhi

Good afternoon to everyone.

Personally, I am inspired by these words of Mahatma Gandhi. Indeed, we need not travel nor traverse any path in search of peace because Peace is achieved when we live it. Further, the Concept of Peace is better appreciated and treasured when it is experienced.

As presented earlier and in previous discussions, Peace is not the absence of conflict, rather, attaining or maintaining peace can be achieved when we consciously and deliberately handle conflicts that arises through peaceful means. This is what we hope that our citizens and nations to manifest, that is, to uphold peace and say no to war. One way to promote this is through education.

Yes, Education is a powerful tool for a society to be transformed as we have seen how enlightenment descends upon groups who chose to shift from being a very competitive and vengeful clan to a merciful and collaborative group upon acceptance of differences in spiritual belief, culture and philosophy among other things.

In support of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War, the education sector provides avenues of learning that integrates the concepts. Although the implementation is localized and learning plans are dependent on the community, the institution of a policy strengthens the integration of DPCW in the curriculum.

In the Philippines, the education sector has taken an active role on this matter. A Memorandum of Agreement between Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light (HPWL) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), represented by CHED Commissioner Ronald L. Adamat, was signed on January 23, 2018. As a result of this and succeeding events at the Commission, CHED issued Memorandum Order Number 1, s. 2019 on the Integration of Peace Studies/Education into the Relevant Higher Education Curricula enjoining all public and private higher education institutions (HEIs) to offer Peace Studies/Education in their respective curricula through, but not limited to any of the following:

1. Integrate/incorporate with other subjects as such as history, social science, sociology, political science, management, and humanities subjects; or
2. Offer as elective subject

Or other means which can contribute to attaining a just and lasting peace in the country leading to a sustainable development. In the same memo, HEIs already offering Peace Studies/Education are “encouraged to help other HEIs and train potential peace educators on developing and implementing Peace Studies/Education” and that these HEIs may apply for financial assistance from CHED under its Faculty Development Program or Continuing Professional Education for them to conduct capacity trainings for faculty on Peace Education.

This memorandum was uploaded in the CHED website and disseminated to the different HEIs. Information on this was posted in the facebook and published in print and online by the press or by individual accounts such as that of Manila Bulletin which posted its article entitled, “CHED directs colleges, universities to integrate peace and IP studies in curricula” on April 9, 2019.

Similarly, CHED Memorandum Order No. 2, on “Integration of Indigenous Peoples’ (IP) Studies/Education Into the Relevant Higher Education Curricula adopts the same mechanism of CHED Memorandum Number 1, s. 2019, on integrating IP Studies/Education into the Higher Education curricula “for the primary purpose of addressing issues confronting the country’s Indigenous Peoples’ Communities such as poverty and human rights abuse” and concerns on social justice, rights to cultural identity, among

others, which are also found in the articles of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War.

For the sustainability of these initiatives, the CHED Regional Offices are tasked to monitor the implementation of the HEIs of these two CMOs.

Another strategy is to strongly encourage our HEIs to include Peace Education/Studies, IP Studies/Education and Local Knowledge in the institutional agenda for research and extension. In this manner, integration of Peace and Indigenous Peoples Studies/Education shall be in the three-fold functions of the Higher Education, which are: instruction, research and extension. We hope that in this way, the academic community shall gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of various cultures and of Peace and that these members of the academic community shall be the strong influencers for the larger society to understand and learn to live in peace and harmony amongst themselves and with other societies as well. As Albert Einstein once said, "Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved through understanding."

Friends, Colleagues and esteemed guests, the efforts of the Commission are not confined to these initiatives, rather, it shall continue to explore more avenues to support the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War through social transformation so peace is not only talked about but that peace is an experience and eventually, peace becomes the path of the people to sustainable development.

Good day and Mabuhay!



**Mr. Clement Iornongu**

Executive Director, Int'l Centre for Peace Charities and Human Development (INTERCEP), Nigeria

## Cultural Dance as a Tool for Peace-building, Unity, and Harmony in the Community

According to UNESCO, Peace is more than war. It means justice and equity as a basis for living together in harmony and free from violence, now but even more so for our children and succeeding generations.

Dance is filled with aesthetic values, making it distinct from one society to another, and is shrouded in symbolism that expounds on the cultural heritage of a community thereby creating a bond amongst human societies for peace and harmony.

International Center for peace Charities and Human Development has had a long-standing relationship with HWPL. In June 2021, members of the staff of INTERCEP undertook a Peace Educator Empowerment Training Programme, an HWPL initiative.

INTERCEP staffs were so excited with the empowerment training, which empowered and enable them to carry out the empowerment training in two schools in two states in Nigeria. Peace education was carried out, firstly at Elim International College Abattoir Jos Plateau State Nigeria; and secondly at Institute for Developmental Education and Agricultural Studies (IDEAS) in Benue State Nigeria.

The students were so impacted by what they learned during the eight weeks of training sessions that they began to create changes in their communities and immediate environments.

During the Peace Educator Empowerment Training program, the students are acquainted with the following topics; Diversity, Harmony, Value Recognition, Human Greed, Human Relations, Gratitude, Consideration, Sacrifice, Forgiveness, Respect, Preservation of Heritage, Law of Peace and Peace.

Consequently, students have been so empowered, internalized the value of peace, and conceived the idea of communicating some of the inter-related issues of value recognition, human relations, respect, peace, and cultural heritage through a cultural display and dance during their 2022 graduation ceremony.

Furthermore, to support HWPL to spread the culture of peace the students integrated the message of the Declaration of Peace Cessation of War (DPCW) into their cultural dance as a communication strategy to convey the message that the world needs total disarmament.

Through the message displayed, the students totally identified with the philosophy of HWPL led by Chairman Man Hee Lee to work for the total elimination of global conflicts; which should be replaced with a culture of global peace.

The vision of HWPL led by Chairman Man Hee Lee resonates so much with the Executive Director of the International Center for Peace, Charities and Human Development Clement Iornongu who got enthralled and was attracted particularly to the testimony of Chairman Man Hee Lee shared during either the 9th Annual Commemoration of the Declaration of World Peace or during the 8th Anniversary of the World Peace Summit where he shared of his encounter with a star which strengthened his vision for world Peace.

Clement Iornongu with his scriptural understanding likened Chairman Lee's encounter with the star to the star of Bethlehem that led the wise men to the birthplace of the Prince of Peace. Little wonder, therefore, HWPL Peace Educator Empowerment training program is considered a veritable and so rich value-based platform to build community peace and harmony through cultural dance as a tool of communication for community peacebuilding.

It is instructive to note that the language of peace deployed through the cultural dance is special as it conveys a story that reflects certain values and beliefs. Therefore, this cultural dance title, (kpila – kuku) in the Tiv language means togetherness; is aimed at promoting peace and unity within Benue state, Nigeria, and West Africa at large.

The HWPL peace initiative also facilitated the peace-building capacity of the students and teachers at IDEAS school Gboko West Benue State, Nigeria to organize the cultural dance which was coordinated by the principal, Mr. Jeremiah Korgba, which influenced both the school and the community on the impact of peace and togetherness.



The cultural dance also illustrated to the community, students, parents, and other individuals the importance of living together in peace and harmony. During the event, the traditional meal was shared among people of the community as a symbol of peace, harmony, and togetherness for the peaceful co-existence of the community.

Finally, we wish to announce that Int'l Centre for peace Charities and Human Dev. has a Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC.

We appreciate the global peace family. We are One.



**Ms. Pratibha Singh**

Teacher, Jagran Public School, India

## Jagran Public School Noida - Journey with HWPL

We cannot destroy this beautiful earth with wars. One can see true love and peace in nature. "To one who is at peace, the entire world is a peaceful forest." The entire creation maintains diversity and works together to establish harmony.

According to Mahatma Gandhi "each one of us has to find peace from within. And peace to be real must be unaffected by outside circumstances." Peace of mind is worth any price it demands.

The first step to bringing peace into the world is to realise peace that already dwells within you.

Only when we acknowledge our differences and find ways to coexist can we maintain peace in this world.

"Peace is the most priceless possession of man. It is the sign of a virtuous character." Hence peace education is of utmost importance in schools. It is here that the students learn the values and principals as Albert Einstein has said "Peace cannot be kept by force it can only be achieved by understanding."

Education is an important key to achieving peace and building the world of tomorrow. Students of today are the leaders of tomorrow with qualities of tolerance and open mindedness.

A teacher who can plant the seed of peace in the minds of students and help them grow into a tree of peace is a most accomplished and successful teacher.

The most beautiful things in the world can be felt with the heart. There is nothing more beautiful than a thankful heart. When we are thankful for someone, there will be no discord or animosity. This is what we teach to our students in school when we teach



peace.

It is here that we teach them values like helpfulness, gratitude, sense of sacrifice, being grateful for kindness and grace, consideration for the benefit for others, sacrifice without compensation, understanding and forgiving others, courtesy and respect for elders. Thus the students become more observant and resilient. They start observing nature, birds and animals around them living in peace and harmony and how they can help them. All this gives them inner peace and improves their concentration. Such traits of peace not only help us to overcome greed but also bring about a positive development in our personality which will ultimately help us to live a peaceful life.

Peace education at Jagran Public School Noida has started with full enthusiasm. The students have sown the seeds and are nurturing the sapling of peace with values like helpfulness, gratitude, sense of sacrifice, respect and politeness to our elders. They have developed more patience and tolerance in themselves.

This culture of peace can be delivered to future generations. I end with a famous quote of Martin Luther King "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."

May the brilliant light spread by HWPL around the world make the earth a heavenly place for all living beings in this world.

# 03 Students Interview



**Mohammad Jan Kawosh**

Student, Amazon English Academy, Afghanistan

## | Why Peace Education Class is Important?

In these recent years, the amount of war in the world increased. Every night through the TV, we hear bad news in a country like fighting, stealing someone's money, killing someone and so on. Now people try to act in the way that themselves want, they don't think that the action that I do is it a good action? They don't have this idea that the action that they do create some problem for other people. Actually, it brings me to this believe that peace education class is a need for all people in the world.

First of all, peace education class cause that people come together and share their ideas to each other. When they share their opinions in the class, their amount of information get more and help them to know the deep meaning of peace. For example, when a person act in a bad way and his/herself don't know that it is bad, but in peace education class they realize his/her mistake. So, by this way, they can change their behaviors and understand the value of peace in the world.

Secondly, in peace education class, we learn that whatever we do is not always right. Sometimes, we behave in a wrong way in the society, sometimes unknowingly we are rude to someone, sometimes we make mistake and create problem to others. For all of them, we have to apologize and accept our fault. We

can learn these important issues in peace education class, in other hand, we learn that we are responsible for whatever we do and in everywhere we do, in our family, in the society, or in a country. By understanding this responsibility, we can control our actions, behavior, even our emotion, so when we could control these things, of course, we can achieve the real peace in the world.

Finally, peace education class cause that people deeply think about their behaviors. Mostly, no one think about their actions if their actions are in appropriate way, but by participating in such peace education class, we could get this point and think about our behaviors. For example, before participating in peace education class, I was such this kind of people, even one hour I had not thought about my behavior. I assumed that I'm always right, but when I participated in peace education class, I completely changed, so right now every night for twenty minute I set down and think about all my behavior during the day. If I could find some unacceptable traits, I try to change it and don't repeat again. So, peace education class helps us to think and change our conducts.

In conclusion, peace education class has lots of advantages, it is extremely important for all people in the world. In peace education class, lots of people come together and share their opinions, and we can identify that we are not always right, we should accept and change our bad behavior. In addition, this program helps us to think either our behavior fits the society or not. All in all, this class is one of the most useful classes around the world, and I would recommend you to join this class. Surely, it would change your characteristics. Thank you.



**Jawad Mohibzada**

Student, Amazon English Academy, Afghanistan

## Man's Search for Peace

Peace, what every individual in the world is in search of, resembles a tree hanging fruits of happiness from its branches, spreading oxygen of contentment through the veins of its leaves generously. It is like golden coin extracted and refined through the efforts of dozens of miners and polishers. In other words, as it has been passed down from our wise forefathers that no pain no gain, according to what we learned during peace education class, seeds of such a precious gem necessitate some prerequisites to be cultivated.

First of all, peace-loving humans should look at the differences within the people and societies as different bands of colored lights in a spectrum each exhibiting their existence –as no colorfulness, no spectrum. Because, if a person does not bear the differences, he or she will not be tolerated in the society or in the world. They may think whatever is in the world should obey their order, accept their favorite shape. The history of the earth presages about those radical people having such a worldview that caused many catastrophes. That’s why the human rights declaration states in its first article that, “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.” Continuingly, in the second article, it rejects all “distinctions of any kind such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

Now that we have learned why to embrace all the diversity of our surrounding and know their value, the peace asks us to cultivate one of its elements –and probably the most important- in our hearts: love. For one thing, love brings a strong and deep feeling of caring and concern. From the flip side, love has the power to revolve the entire existential areas of a person around itself. Combining both, the result is to avoid damaging any being lightened with rays of love. Furthermore, a lover never allows his or her beloved to be hurt by anything. Thus, once the seeds of the humanitarianism are sown in a heart, there is a justified hope that the roots of enemies of peace, such as greed, selfishness, pride and arrogance – to name a few – are replaced with altruism, kindness, brotherhood, togetherness, and consequently tranquil coexistence. What Jimi Hendrix believes in cuts

the story short saying, "When the power of love overcomes love of power, the world will know peace."

Jumping to the next feature of peace-seekers, consideration appears when a person pays attention to presence of other people respectfully. For one thing, it seems impossible to meet peace in the outside unless our hearts are wholly ready to recognize presence of others with a deep respect toward them. Additionally, internal peace requires a fulfilled and satisfied conscience. To meet it, one should not have an incomplete responsibility to do for others upon himself. As altruists, one of everybody's responsibilities is to hug others as they are. Putting these all together, consideration is a must for those in search of peace whether externally or internally, but its true being comes when it is combined with respect.

Counting another specialty of peace-lovers, firstly, humans are the beings with less knowledge and less free volition. They cannot count all outcomes of their deeds (less awareness) nor do they achieve whatever they desire (less free willing). Thus, when we witness an evil rooting in a human's actions, we should not forget that they might not intend to get such a devastating outcome; perhaps they did/could not measure all the consequences of their behaviors. Secondly, deeming their purposefulness, is there any guarantee for not being regretful in the future? They may regret and apology someday. Third, as it happened in my own life also, if they have made a mistake, why we should stick it to them and hurt ourselves. Why should not we make ourselves calm and comfortable through putting away all conflicts we were put in? Taking them all in to account, we are driven to the ocean of forgiveness in which nobody is deprived of its generously available water.

Another characteristic of citizens of peace is being grateful. The feeling of gratefulness comes to us when we realize from bottom of our heart that we have been gifted enormous bestowals that we, probably, have not thought of yet. To see them, we need to open our eyes widely to realize how kindly we are showered with giving. Our existence, health, power of thought, beauty, the ability to make differences whenever and wherever we step in, and many other presents in the inside; and our family, their unconditional support, relatives, friends, teachers, the people we face accidentally, the earth, the sun, the moon, rivers, trees, herbs, mountains, and so many others in the outside are the things we receive for free. What an awaked conscience feels to owe them is a deep thankfulness. Even though the words cannot pay back what they offer us generously, it shows, at least, the value they have in our eyes. Finally, if I want to put this long story in one sentence, I would refer to Imam Ali's speech that, "The person who does not thank the creature, he does not thank the creator."

Moreover, a true thankfulness should be demonstrated practically. To tell the truth, we are beings bombed with generosity and giving –from the God, from the nature, from our parents, community, and so many other sources. In addition, our ancestors taught us that in hardships, we are challenged to choose either to save ourselves or to rescue others. Some chose themselves and got a defamation. Some, certainly few, who chose to save others and do them a favor with no anticipation in return, became heroes. And as it has been said that we should not be the people who receive all the things, as ones in search of peace, we need to pass them down to others and to the next generations. You may call this practice sacrifice.

And lastly, fruits of peace cannot be harvested unless we all up our sleeves courageously, leave the seats of spectators, and work till its seeds are planted in a way creating a reliable hope for the result. No one else exists who work for our world except us. Nobody from alien worlds and other planet responsible to make our planet a better place for living except us. So, as a warning, we should know that we have a long journey on the way to peace. Finally, I would like to end this paragraph by an expression from Steven Schuster in *The Art of Thinking in Systems* that, “I’m not here to tell you that... is going to be easy; I’m telling you that it’s going to be worth it.”

Coming to end, I tried to retell all what we learned during peace education class was opened thanks to HWPL organization and run by Amazon English Academy’s personnel. During this course, we learned that acceptance of others, as they are, is the key to step into realm of peace. Love is like oxygen that ought to be put into that land to live in. After that, a peace-seeker is expected to be considerate towards others, whom he/she is surrounded be, as they exist and are equal in freedom and rights to them. Another point that should never be forgotten is being forgiver of bad and harms a peace-lover receives. Beside these, since we are bestowed with countless gifts, we need to be grateful for. Thankfulness alone, however, is not enough; we need to carry on the presents we are offered all along our life (sacrifice). And the last but not the least, peace requires courage, risk, and hard work. It is not easy-achieved, but it is worth its cost. All together for a peaceful world!



**Sittie Aisha A. Manisan**

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## | The Experience of Conflict

I am Sittie Aisha A. Manisan, Grade 9-A. I am studying at Cotabato Rasheeda High School Incorporated. I am 15.

I was in the school when I was in Grade 2. We heard from the other side that there were gunshots. Then my teacher said, "Students, duck". Others were already running. I went with those who were running because my cousins left and were running too. I went back home, and my mother told me to move fast because we would go to Masjid since it was made of concrete, unlike other houses that were made of wood.

My father died when I was in Grade 5. It was evening, and there came two men who had guns with them. They had guns with them. One had an Armalite, and the other one also had an Armalite. I was wondering why they wanted me to move back. They called for my father, "Manisan, let's talk outside". No one was there, only the three of them talking. The two were wearing soldier uniforms, but they were not soldiers. At that time, my father was just standing, but the two of them were leaning against the bamboo. Then, when I came out, they shot my father. They didn't stop firing the gun until they had surely killed my father. Then, I went back inside our house, I shouted, "Mother, they killed Father". I was really shocked. Then the two armed men escaped quickly while firing into the air. Then, I ran towards my neighborhood. I said to them, "Please help me! My father has been shot!

I need peace because I seldom experience it after what I have gone through in Basilan, and then with what happened to my father. I hope that other people and places will not go through the things that I have experienced. I hope that all people will love each other. I hope that we will only have peace. I hope everything will be well and calm. No more fighting. No more gun fights.

Because when it is peaceful, a country will be in unity. We need to be in harmony regardless of our races, nationalities, or tribes like Teduray, Americano. We need to be in

harmony no matter what color our skin is. Fair, white, or black, we must unite and love one another.

Don't ever lose the hope of achieving peace in your lives.



# 04 Culture and Peace



**Choi Euiheon**

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## UNESCO Heritage Conservation and its Relationship with Peace

In November of 2015, a symposium 'Cultural heritage at risk, the Role of Museums in War and Conflict' took place in Stockholm, Sweden. Irina Bokova, former Director-General of UNESCO, stated, "The protection of culture and heritage is a humanitarian and security imperative that also paves the path towards resilience, reconciliation, and peace." Furthermore, at a conference held at the University of Geneva in April 2014, she strongly emphasized UNESCO's strong belief that political and economic agreements alone are not sufficient to establish sustainable peace. She stated, "It is therefore critical essential that the protection of heritage be included in emergency operations, as it is inseparable from the protection of human life for which it bears the values and identities." The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), which is in charge of the inclusion of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, is announcing various research results on the relationship between cultural heritage and peace. Among them, the thesis 'Cultural Heritage As a Tool For Peace: A Case of Sudan' states, "In post conflict situations, cultural heritage becomes a tenacious means in restoring of communities, aiding them to regain a sense of normality and reconnect with their identities." The presentations above clearly explain the purpose of UNESCO's implementation of the heritage protection project. The project goes beyond the simple preservation and utilization of heritage and is a humanitarian project that

lays the foundation for dialogue, reconciliation, and peace based on restoring cultural diversity.

In addition, UNESCO is paving the way for restoration and peace by listening places that evoke painful memories of war and violence as World Heritage Sites. The UNESCO World Heritage Committee designated the Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945) as a world heritage in 1979. The location was worthy of conservation as it serves as evidence of the world's worst genocide in human history. In 1996, Japan's Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome) was designated as a world heritage. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial was the only building left standing during the Hiroshima bombing on 6 August 1945 and is still perfectly preserved today since the bombing. Visitors often re-think the importance of world peace and the complete destruction of nuclear wars after seeing firsthand the power of nuclear weapons and the devastation they can cause. Senegal's Island of Gorée, which was designated as a world heritage in 1978, was the largest slave center on the African coast in the 15th to the 19th century, and it serves as a reminder of Africa's slave trade as one of the most tragic events in human history. Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 20 years at Robben Island in South Africa, becoming world heritage in 1999. The island served as a prison for political prisoners under the apartheid regime in the 20th century, and it shows how democracy overcame oppression and racism.

In 2003, Article 2(1) of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage was adopted at the 32nd General Assembly of UNESCO defines cultural heritage as "practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills, instruments, objects, artifacts, and cultural spaces." The importance of intangible culture lies in the spirit and culture, rich knowledge and skills that are passed on from previous generations to the next. In general, tangible cultural heritage has a distinct shape. In contrast, intangible cultural heritage is a culture of mind and memory that is intangible, and most have the characteristic of needing a successor. For this reason, most countries have designated bearers of intangible cultural heritage as 'human cultural heritage' and are striving to preserve and transmit them. In other words, people themselves are instruments and heritages of conveying the spirit and culture.

People are the creators of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. As the connector to the next generation, people are living cultural heritages that contain the spirit, culture, knowledge, and skills. Even if they are not the bearers of a specific intangible cultural heritage, everyone embodies their community's culture, history, and various understanding. Expanding our perception that people are heritages also changes our perception of heritage preservation. When we consider a person a heritage, we cannot

take human life lightly. The concept of preservation of heritage could also include the protection of human life and rights from war, violence, and discrimination of all kinds.

In this way, heritage and peace are inextricably linked. All the efforts, from preserving heritage during the war to recognizing and protecting people as heritage as the creator and successor of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, are all for peace. When I perceive that my life is a legacy to pass on to future generations, I will feel that peace is my first and foremost need.



**Byeon Haeun**

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## ICAN Denuclearization Movement and the Direction of the DPCW

On 24 February 2022, the day when Russian President Vladimir Putin declared a “special military operation” in Ukraine’s Donbas region, the phone of a Ukrainian woman in Korea rang. It was a phone call from her mother in Ukraine. “My daughter, a war has just begun. I can hear explosions everywhere. I don’t know if we will meet again, but I love you so much. Please remember that.” Her mother had called to bid her farewells. The United Nations held its first emergency special session in 25 years and the Ukrainian ambassador to the United Nation shared a Russian soldier’s text that contained his agony over attacking civilians without knowing why. At a press conference for Russian Prisoners of War, one Russian soldier said, “Do you want Ukrainian blood? Only an idiot would say ‘yes’. Don’t sow the seeds of death. It’s much better to sow the seeds of life.” Russian soldiers also don’t want a war. Still, the agony and sacrifice of Russians and Ukrainians continue to this day. The world, which is now connected by the internet, is watching their pain in real-time and uniting together for peace. The civil society plays a crucial role in achieving a world of peace, which has already been proven many times in history. This journal will analyze the denuclearization movement of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (hereinafter ICAN) as well as the future direction of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (hereinafter DPCW).

ICAN is an international organization founded in 2007 by the International Committee on the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) for the purpose of dismantling nuclear weapons. In 2007, ICAN created an updated model Nuclear Weapons Convention to reflect legal and political changes. The Costa Rican and Malaysian governments jointly submitted this treaty to the UN General Assembly in December 2007, and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon designated the document as an official UN document for all member states to circulate. After that, discussions began in earnest at the 2010 NPT Review Conference. As a result, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was adopted by the United Nations in July 2017. The TPNW made it illegal to manufacture and possess nuclear

weapons and provide nuclear support to allies. It also prohibited using or threatening to use nuclear weapons. The Nobel Committee awarded ICAN as the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of ICAN's efforts to promote the dangers of nuclear weapons and to sign the TPNW. What was ICAN's strategy for the adoption of the TPNW?

The first strategy was an active internet presence. ICAN posted videos on its YouTube to help the younger generation realize the dangers of nuclear weapons and participate in its campaign. The videos, which covered various content such as the dangers of nuclear weapons, the history of using nuclear weapons, and the TPNW, were used as marketing and educational tools. The United Nations Institute for Disarmament (UNIDIR) has said that online petitions are the 'trending' tools of today's campaigns, while online activities are very useful tools in promoting public awareness and advocating national leadership. The second was building relationships with politicians and celebrities in each country. ICAN has established friendly relationships with former and current government officials who share the same values in banning nuclear weapons, and has promoted its activities through prominent politicians, religious figures, and entertainers. The third was holding various activities with NGOs. At a forum in Oslo in March 2013, ICAN discussed ways to improve international efforts to ban nuclear weapons with more than 500 peace activists from 70 countries and held various activities with partner organizations around the world to mark World Nuclear Disposal Day on September 26, 2014. The fourth was conducting various campaign activities. The booklet, "Learn Peace," was published to help students realize the dangers of nuclear weapons, and included role-playing in nuclear crises, explaining nuclear explosions, and folding paper cranes. In September 2012, ICAN members in Hiroshima, Japan, sent 1,000 paper cranes to all presidents and prime ministers around the world, asking for a reply in support of the international ban on nuclear weapons. In addition, ICAN published a report in March 2012 titled "Don't Bank on the Bomb". The report provided information from financial institutions that financed nuclear-related companies and helped ban nuclear weapons by blocking funds flowing from each country's financial institutions to the nuclear weapons industry.

Thanks to the ICAN activities, the TPNW was finally adopted on 7 July 2017 by receiving votes in favor from 122 UN member states. Honduras became the 50th state to ratify it in October 2020, and the TPNW came into force on 22 January 2021 under the provision that documents would become legally binding 90 days after ratification by 50 countries

However, only 53 states out of the 122 states that voted for the TPNW have actually signed it, and only three have completed national ratification. On top of that, official nuclear-weapon states (the United States, Russia, China, Britain, and France) and non-official nuclear-weapon states (India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea) have refused

from the negotiating stage. It is questionable if the TPNW can be fully implemented in the future if the nuclear-weapon states do not take part. In addition, Russian President Putin is now threatening the world with nuclear weapons by saying he will use all means, which overshadows the TPNW's clause banning the use of nuclear weapons. In this situation, nuclear-weapon states have no choice but to be reluctant to give up their nuclear weapons without a guarantee that their rivals are equally reducing them. Therefore, some say that the TPNW is more symbolic, rather than an effective measure in dismantling nuclear weapons, because it focuses more on the means of war than on the cause.

It is certain that ICAN's denuclearization activities and adoption of the TPNW are meaningful. In addition, ICAN's activities seem to have many similarities with HWPL's peace activities and there many things to learn from. However, it is necessary to lay the foundation for reducing weapons before actual arms reduction to even fully implement this treaty. On 14 March 2016, the HWPL declared the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW). The DPCW contains the causes of various conflicts in the current global village and the peaceful principles that each sector must implement to resolve them. Peace education to support Article 10 Spreading a Culture of Peace and WARP Office meetings to support Article 9 Religion, Ethnic Identity and Peace are actively taking place in countries around the world. We should follow the example of ICAN denuclearization activities and do our part to ensure that the DPCW is realized. Only then can we eliminate war first before war eliminates us, and I think that's what the Russian Prisoner of War wanted when he said the seeds of life should be sown.





Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light