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GENERAL

Pax Christi International's New Logo

The Executive Committee of Pax Christi International has promoted an organizational development process since 2010. One of the core dynamics of this process has been to listen to the signs of the times and to revitalize their mission in current times.

As an expression of that development process, Pax Christi introduces the new logo of the global movement: a dove in the shape of a flame with a star in the centre. The peace at the heart of Pax Christi International is rooted in the Gospel and nurtured within the Catholic tradition. From this identity spreads the promotion of dialogue and close collaboration with other religious traditions as well as with non-religious actors from civil society around the world. In that way the movement shares its light like a beacon – the dove sits above the letter “I”, to form the shape of a candle. The peace at the heart of the movement also acknowledges diversity and addresses multidimensional challenges. The variations of colours within the dove represent the different ways in which Pax Christi works towards peace and advocates interconnectedness and fluidity. The typography – strong and contemporary, also reflects Pax Christi's commitment to peace in the present. Pax Christi invites you to see yourselves included in the

meaning of their new logo and welcomes you to use it when you refer to their worldwide network. ■

Annual Report 2011

Pax Christi International's Annual Report for 2011 is now available in English and French. Following a major and fruitful organisational development process that took significant time and attention in 2011, Pax Christi International emerged with clarity and renewed organisational vigour. Read the Annual Report in [English](#) and [French](#). ■

AFRICA

Kotido Peace Initiative

On 5 October 2012, Romano Longole, Programme Coordinator of the Kotido Peace Initiative (Kopein) in Kotido, Uganda, visited the Pax Christi International Secretariat in Brussels. He was accompanied by Sara Ketelaar of IKV Pax Christi Netherlands. At the International Secretariat they met with José Henríquez and Fr. Paul Lansu. Romano and Sara also attended meetings on the role of “Pastoralists in Peace Building” organised at the European Union. ■

Religious Inspired Violence in Nigeria

On 30 October 2012, Pax Christi Wallonie-Bruxelles invited Archbishop John Onaiyekan to speak on the issue of

interfaith dialogue, new paths in Nigeria and Africa in general. The Archbishop received the Pax Christi International Peace Award on 31 October 2012 in Mechelen. More information [here](#). ■

AMERICAS AND CARIBBEAN

Peace Negotiations in Colombia

The peace negotiations between the Government of Colombia and the leaders of the FARC guerrilla group started on 15 October 2012 in Oslo. Martha Inés Romero, Latin America & Caribbean Coordinator of Pax Christi International gave an interview about the importance of these negotiations. For more information, read in [Spanish](#). ■

Workshop on Extractives in Peru

On 13 October 2012, Martha Inés Romero met with the consultant from Peru who is in charge of the research on extractives. The workshop took place on the 25th and 26th October 2012 in San Mateo de Huanchor, 90 km from Lima. The meetings were attended by local authorities and community leaders. The research and conclusions of the workshop will result in a publication. A Nonviolence workshop took place from the 27th to the 29th of October 2012. ■

Workshop on Nonviolence in Brazil

On 16 October 2012 Martha Inés Romero, Latin America & Caribbean Coordinator, travelled to Brazil to participate in a National Seminar organized by the Pastoral Land Commission, CPT, in Luiziana (near Brasilia). Martha Inés held a session presenting Pax Christi International's strategies and views on Nonviolence. She also attended the Board Meeting of CPT that took place on 20 – 21 October 2012. The topics on the agenda included – the fight for land and repression, challenges faced by peasants, Agro business without considering human dignity and food security among others. CPT is a Member Organisation of Pax Christi. ■

Respect for Dignity and Rights in Haiti

The Commission Episcopale Nationale Justice et Paix, a Member Organisation in Haiti, published a report on respect for dignity and rights of individuals in the country. In the last 4 years, the Commission made observations on the situation of violence and on the violations of human rights. The Commission works with 300 local parochial commissions in the country. More than 150 of these commissions participated in the collection of facts and statistics. The report also contains analysis and recommendations. Read the report in [French](#). ■

Pax Christi Montréal

On 27 August 2012, Antennes de paix / Pax Christi Montreal, held its Annual General Assembly. In 2013, Pax Christi Montréal will look forward to a new project celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Encyclical 'Pacem in Terris'. The plan is to review how the issues raised in the Encyclical have been lived out in the Province of Quebec over the last 50 years and coordinate group discussions in Montreal using the document that will be produced. The Pax Christi Montreal Annual Report 2011 – 2012 has been published and is available in [French](#).

On violence in Haiti

The Commission Episcopale Justice et Paix, a Member organisation in Haiti published its observations of violations of human rights for 2011. The first part of the publication contains mainly considerations, comments and analysis. The second part provides details of the different acts of violence that have taken place in Haiti. Read in [French](#).

ASIA - PACIFIC

Blasphemy in Pakistan

The National Commission for Justice and Peace, a Member Organisation in Pakistan provided coverage of the side event on blasphemy laws in Pakistan at the event organized by WCC in Geneva. An Article on NCJP's study on

hate material in school syllabus was noted. More information [here](#).

On violence against minorities

It is noted that by 2012, Pakistan has become more intolerant in reality than an average Pakistani citizen believes. "Going gentle into that night!" is a news and reflection sheet on recent incidents of violence against minorities. This publication is by the National Commission for Justice and Peace, a Member Organisation in Pakistan. For more information on the document read [here](#).

March for Peace from Jeju to Seoul

Regina Pyon from SPARK has been involved in the Grand march for Peace and Life which started from October 5 from Gangjeong, Jeju toward Seoul the capital of South Korea. The march is for about a month. The following [interview](#) clarifies the position of SPARK – a member organization of Pax Christi in South Korea, on North Korea and the nuclear issue. Here is also a [video](#) that was made by SPARK.

MIDDLE EAST

Urgent Letter on Syria

Marie Dennis and Bishop Kevin Dowling, Co-Presidents, and José Henríquez, Secretary General of Pax Christi International have forwarded an urgent

letter on Syria addressed to Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations on the occasion of the General Assembly taking place in New York. The Movement has reiterated its rejection of violence, regardless of the source it originates from, and regrets the loss and disruption of so many innocent human lives. Although it seems hard to find solutions to the various problems that affect the region, we cannot resign ourselves to violence and to the aggravation of tensions. The commitment to dialogue and diplomacy must be a priority for all the parties concerned and must be supported by the international community. Read the full letter, dated 28 September 2012, in [English](#) and in [German](#).■

[Pax Christi Australia's workshop on Syria](#)

The September issue of Disarming Times, the Journal of Pax Christi Australia, featured two analysis presented in a workshop held in Australia by Dr. Fiona Hill and Joseph Wakim. The analysts gave an overview of the different positions and attitudes they believe Syrians have towards the conflict. Loyalists to President Bashar al-Assad, primarily Alawi Shia Muslims, fear persecution by the Free Syrian Army, while many Sunni Muslims are calling for a jihad against the Alawi-led government. Many Syrians are fed up with the corruption and the obstacles to professional advancement that they face, yet other Syrians are simply lost in

the middle – they want changes to occur, but they prefer the stability of having a government and believe that the new political parties being formed lack the ability to govern such a hostile state. Ultimately, many Syrians have come to believe that they are pawns in a much larger geo-political proxy war between Western powers and Russia and China. Read the [analysis](#).■

[IKV Pax Christi recommendations on Syria to EU in Syria Alert nr 8](#)

The uprising in Syria has gone on for 19 months and has culminated in a violent political crisis and humanitarian drama. So far, the international community have proven unable to help protect Syrian civilians or to find a solution to the conflict. Dutch peace organisation IKV Pax Christi advocates for placing the protection of civilians at the heart of any kind of action and in this context provides the EU with recommendations in its latest Syria Alert. Read the full policy brief in [English](#) and [German](#).■

[World Social Forum 'Free Palestine'](#)

Wiltrud Rösch-Metzler, Vice President of Pax Christi Germany will attend the World Social Forum 'Free Palestine', in Porto Alegre, Brazil from 28 November – 1 December 2012. The WSF organizers have also planned that Wiltrud Rösch-Metzler will participate and speak in a forum on a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone for the Middle East.■

US religious leaders on US AID to Israel

Religious leaders representing many major faith groups in the USA have written a letter to Congress on 5 October 2012 seeking to make U.S. military aid to Israel contingent upon its government's "compliance with applicable U.S. laws and policies." The signers say they "have worked for decades to support both Israelis and Palestinians in their desire to live in peace and well-being" and "have witnessed the pain and suffering of Israelis as a result of Palestinian actions and of Palestinians as a result of Israeli actions." Kathy McKneely, acting director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, Member Organisation of Pax Christi International, co-signed the letter.■

10 years of the Arab Peace Initiative

This year commemorates 10 years since the Arab Peace Initiative (API) was launched by the Arab League Summit. IKV Pax Christi, representatives of Israeli and Palestine civil society organizations, Arab ambassadors and representatives of the European External Action Service, will provide an update about the Arab Peace Initiative. The seminar will place in Brussels on 22 November 2012. Fr. Paul Lansu from Pax Christi International will attend the event.■

EUROPE

Pax Christi Germany's General Meeting

The Annual General Assembly of Pax Christi Germany took place in Fulda from 26 – 28 October 2012. Among other topics, participants discussed the security and defence policies of the German government. A panel debate was also held on the role of churches in peace building. At the AGM, Members of the Commissions, the Vice President and Spiritual Adviser were elected. A farewell ceremony was held for Johannes Schnettler celebrating his invaluable contribution for 18 years as the Vice President and 21 years as member of the Board. José Henríquez and Fr. Paul Lansu of the International Secretariat attended this event.■

Pax Christi Wallonia – Bruxelles

Pax Christi Wallonia – Bruxelles encourages citizens to become more actors for non-violence. The section mobilises people to be active peace builders in the midst of conflict as well as in their own society. The section also organises several gatherings on the issue of living our differences and integration of citizens in the society. More information at www.paxchristiwb.be■

Are there any Humanitarian Wars? - Public Meeting by Pax Christi France

On 26 October 2012, Pax Christi France held a public meeting on the issue "Are there any humanitarian wars?" The speaker was Rony Brauman, former President of Doctors without Borders and Professor in Political Sciences. The meeting took place in Vincennes.■

On Compulsory Military Duty in Austria

Pax Christi Austria released a position paper in preparing a national referendum on compulsory military duty and social civil services. Pax Christi Austria is in favour for abolition of compulsory military duty and volunteerism. The referendum takes place on 20 January 2013. The statement is available in [German](#).■

Annual Peace Mass in Ireland

The Annual Peace Mass of Pax Christi Ireland was celebrated on 7 October 2012. Bishop President Raymond Field concelebrated the Eucharistic Liturgy.■

DISARMAMENT / DEMILITARISATION

New report on Depleted Uranium

IKV Pax Christi Netherlands and the International Coalition for Banning Uranium Weapons (ICBUW) published a

new policy report on Depleted Uranium: "Hazard Aware: Lessons learned from military field manuals on depleted uranium and how to move forward for civilian protection norms." Pax Christi International is member of the ICBUW.

Hazard Aware analyses the precautionary measures adopted by militaries to reduce their troops' exposure to DU munitions and asks whether these could form the basis for civilian protection norms. The report was inspired by ICBUW's continuing precautionary discourse on DU. Hazard Aware is the first of three reports examining civilian protection, precaution and the acceptability of DU weapons. The second, Precaution in Practice, is published online The report is available [here](#). IKV Pax Christi [blog post](#) on the report.■

Abolition 2000 Strategy Session

A strategy session of Abolition 2000 took place on 11 October 2012 in New York. The aim of the session was to achieve a global treaty abolishing nuclear weapons. Majority of people and countries support a global treaty to abolish nuclear weapons, yet there still seems to be no negotiations for such a treaty. The aim is to get a Nuclear Weapons Convention. The session was chaired by Susi Snyder of IKV Pax Christi Netherlands. Beth Begley, Representative of Pax Christi International, and Alexandra Hiniker of IKV Pax Christi also attended.■

German Arms Industries

Christine Hoffmann, Secretary General of Pax Christi Germany, criticised a recent statement made by Chancellor Merkel about the arms industry and the role of the German government. Please read the comments dated 23 October 2012, in German at www.paxchristi.de■

CTBTO's interview with Susi Snyder

The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO) interviewed Susi Snyder of IKV Pax Christi Netherlands. For 15 years, Susi Snyder has been actively involved as a civil society advocate on issues such as sustainable development, human rights and nuclear disarmament. For five years Snyder served as the Secretary General of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) based in Geneva before taking up her post with IKV Pax Christi in the Netherlands in 2010. Talking to [CTBTO Faces: People who define the Nuclear Age](#) during the May 2012 Preparatory Committee for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, Snyder shared her thoughts on topics such as the role of NGOs and citizens' networks in efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and testing.■

On Light Weapons in Haiti

The Commission Episcopale Justice et Paix, Member organisation in Haiti,

issued a public letter on 18 October 2012 addressed to the Haitian Foreign Minister, H.E. Pierre Richard Casimir about the diplomatic conference of the United Nations on arms trade (ATT) and the role of Haiti in this conference. The Commission asked the Minister for more information and background about Haiti and the ATT. A meeting was also requested to discuss this issue. Read the letter in [French](#).■

Launch of 'Breaking the Nuclear Chain'

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, IKV Pax Christi Netherlands and Peace Boat USA have launched the "Breaking the Nuclear Chain: From Victim to Actor." The event took place on 22 October 2012 in New York. More at www.breakingthenuclearchain.org/■

PEACE BUILDING

"Mapping the Boundaries" Report

The European Peace Building Office (EPLO) of which Pax Christi International is a member, held a session on the US and Peace Building on 25 October 2012. Melanie Greenberg presented the main findings of the Alliance for Peace building's major new report on the current state of the US Peacebuilding field. She also gave a view from Washington on some of the challenges and opportunities facing the Peacebuilding field today. Fr. Paul Lansu

of the International Secretariat attended this event.■

article about the ICON for The Tablet in June 2012. Read [here](#).■

PEACE SPIRITUALITY

The ICON of Pax Christi International

The ICON of Pax Christi International has been to 15 parishes and 3 Cathedrals as part of the 100 Days of Peace - Olympic Peace Legacy project that Pax Christi UK has been running in a joint project with Pax Christi UK and the Dioceses of Westminster, Brentwood and Southwark. A closing ceremony was organised on 28 October 2012 at the RC Cathedral in Southwark with Archbishops from the UK and Brazilian Bishops in attendance. Brazil will host the next Games and the idea of making 100 Days of Peace (Truce) will be passed on to the Brazilian Community in the UK See the [100 Days of Peace project](#).

The Peace legacy has been a project of three Dioceses, Pax Christi UK, CAFOD and a few other NGO's to use the opportunity of the Olympics in London to go back to the ideal of the early Olympics and to have a 100 day truce leading up to and beyond the Olympics. It was an opportunity to educate and create awareness on peace and the ICON was a central part of this event. For more information on this event visit this [link](#). Parishes and schools were encouraged to make their own. Pat Gaffney also wrote an

REPRESENTATION

First Committee UN General Assembly

Disarmament and International Security have been on the agenda of the 1st Committee of the UN General Assembly taking place in New York from 8 October – 9 November 2012. Pax Christi International had a strong delegation present. In addition to Beth Begley, Main Representative of Pax Christi International are two delegates from Pax Christi Ireland; six delegates from IKV Pax Christi Netherlands and four from the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons (of which Pax Christi International is a member) attended. One Dutch colleague also attended the interim commission on Armed Violence Prevention and Reduction (a global network that is being set up by 10 organizations worldwide) and related meetings.■

NGO Conference at UNESCO

The International Conference of NGOs at UNESCO in Paris will have its annual meeting from 12 – 14 December 2012. The topic of the gathering is "Culture and Cultures: Reconciling Universality and Diversity." There will be also a statutory agenda with elections and other business. Colette Petit and Alain

Thellier will represent Pax Christi International at the Conference. ■

50th Anniversary Pacem in Terris

A symposium on the Encyclical Pacem in Terris was held under the auspices of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations at the UN Headquarters in New York on 24 October 2012. Representatives of UN Missions, NGOs and UN staff have been invited. Beth Begley represented Pax Christi International at the event. ■

On Religious Freedom

The Committee of Religious NGOs at the UN and the CONGO Committee on Freedom of Religion and Belief held a conversation with Amb. Suzan Johnson Cook, US Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Wednesday, 17 October 2012. The event took place at the United States Mission to the United Nations. Beth Begley, representative of Pax Christi International at the United Nations attended the event. ■

NETWORKING

Making Peace Photographic Exhibition

Making Peace is a major photographic exhibition that presents the international peace movement in its broadest sense and how people and organisations have shaped and influenced the course

of the 20th century. The International Peace Bureau (IPB), of which Pax Christi International is a member, produces this exhibition. Despite two World Wars and many bloody conflicts, there have been significant triumphs, such as the end of the Cold War and the apartheid regime, the banning of antipersonnel landmines and the creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC) - all of which were in large part the result of civil society efforts. Watch the [video](#) and see the [website](#). ■

General Assembly of EPLO

The General Assembly of the European Peace Building Liaison Office, EPLO, will take place in Brussels from 22 and 23 November 2012. The agenda includes discussion of the Strategic Plan 2013 to 2015, election of two Steering Committee members, and reporting on results of EPLO's work since the last General Assembly. Astrid Schrama of IKV Pax Christi and José Henríquez, Secretary General of Pax Christi International will attend the meeting. ■

INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

Click [here](#) to view the International Calendar of upcoming events.

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Peace Movement with members
worldwide. For more information visit
our website: www.paxchristi.net

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