



**July 2011**

***CPN ACTIVITIES:***

- **The Future of Catholic Peacebuilding**
- **East Africa**
- **Sudan**

***A PEACEBUILDING CHURCH:***

- **Appointment**
- **Message from Bishops on South Sudan**
- **Burundi Seminar on Human Rights**

***PEACEBUILDING RESOURCES:***

- ***Peacebuilding: Catholic Theology, Ethics, and Praxis***
- **Collection of Essays, Articles on Overcoming Violence**

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***CPN ACTIVITIES***

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**Leaders address the future of Catholic peacebuilding in Rome**

The heads of several of the international Catholic organizations most deeply involved in peacebuilding joined scholars in Rome on June 30 for a conference on the *Future of Peacebuilding: Contributions from Catholic Theology, Ethics, Praxis*.

With an audience of diplomats, aid workers, peacebuilding practitioners and academics, the conference focused on three questions: What constitutes effective and authentically Catholic peacebuilding? How can Catholic peacebuilding practices inform and be informed by Catholic theology? And what are future challenges for Catholic peacebuilding?

Speakers included *Cardinal Peter Turkson*, Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace; *Michel Roy*, Caritas Internationalis; *Marie Dennis*, Pax Christi International; *Claudio Betti*, the Sant'Egidio Community; *Maryann Cusimano Love*, The Catholic University of America; *Fr. William Headley*, the University of San Diego; *Fr. Robert Schreiter*, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago; and *Gerard Powers*, the University of Notre Dame.

The meeting was sponsored by the CPN and 10 academic institutes, development agencies, and peace organizations affiliated with the CPN.

Texts of the talks, video of the event, and other materials are available at <http://cpn.nd.edu/news/22590-meeting-in-rome-on-the-future-of-catholic-peacebuilding/>

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## Catholic Peacebuilding in East Africa

Can religiously-inspired peacebuilding make a difference in Congo and East Africa? What makes faith-based peacebuilding unique from other attempts to resolve conflict and promote reconciliation? Are there lessons from Africa that can be applied elsewhere? These and other questions were addressed by John Katunga, Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) regional technical advisor for peacebuilding and justice in east Africa. To see a video of this talk go to: <http://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/events/catholic-peacebuilding-in-east-africa>

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## Catholic Peacebuilding Initiatives in Sudan

Panelists John Katunga, regional technical director for Catholic Relief Services in Eastern Africa, Lisa Cahill, the J. Donald Monan Professor of Theology at Boston College, and Stephen Pope, professor of Theology at Boston College, discussed peace-building in Eastern Africa. To see a video of this talk go to: <http://www.bc.edu/centers/humanrights/Videos.html>

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## A PEACEBUILDING CHURCH

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### Appointment

Fr. Emmanuel Ntakirutimana has been appointed to head the Human Rights Commission in Burundi. Fr. Emmanuel is a member of the Catholic Peacebuilding Network steering committee. For more on this appointment (in French) go to: <http://www.iwacu-burundi.org/spip.php?article207>

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### Message of the Catholic Bishops of the Republic of Sudan

The Catholic Bishops of the Republic of Sudan issued a statement on 16 July following the formal secession of South Sudan on July 9. For the complete text go to:

<http://groups.google.com/group/sudan-john-ashworth/msg/88df786b695ed39c>

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### Burundi Seminar on Human Rights

Several Catholic organizations sponsored a conference on international law and human rights in Bujumbura, Burundi. There were about 50 delegates from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania, Italy and Thailand. For more on the seminar go

to: <http://www.news.va/en/news/africaburundi-seminar-on-human-rights-as-the-basis> (L.M.)  
(Agenzia Fides 22/06/2011)

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## **PEACEBUILDING RESOURCES**

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### ***Peacebuilding: Catholic Theology, Ethics, and Praxis***

In this groundbreaking volume, leading Catholic theologians, ethicists, and scholar-practitioners examine the role of Catholic peacebuilders in preventing and resolving conflicts, and reconciling divided societies from Colombia and the Philippines to Indonesia and South Africa. They also consider how this work for peace can inform and be enriched by deeper reflection on the peacebuilding dimensions of social teaching, theology, sacraments, inter-religious dialogue, and the Church's mission. To order go to: <http://www.maryknollsociety.com/description.cfm?ISBN=978-1-57075-893-5>

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## **Collection of Essays, Articles on Overcoming Violence**

*Overcoming Violence: Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding* is a collection of essays, interviews, papers, lectures, book reviews, etc., published by the Boston Theological Institute during the past decade in its weekly BTI Newsletter, and BTI Magazine. For more information go to: [http://www.bostontheological.org/overcoming\\_violence\\_book.html](http://www.bostontheological.org/overcoming_violence_book.html)

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**Send us information on peacebuilding to share it with our network: [cpn@nd.edu](mailto:cpn@nd.edu).**

*The Catholic Peacebuilding Network (CPN) is a voluntary network of practitioners, academics, clergy and laity from around the world which seeks to enhance the study and practice of Catholic peacebuilding, especially at the local level. The CPN aims to deepen bonds of solidarity among Catholic peacebuilders, share and analyze "best practices," expand the peacebuilding capacity of the Church in areas of conflict, and encourage the further development of a theology of a just peace. While it is a Catholic network, the CPN believes that authentic and effective Catholic peacebuilding involves dialogue and collaboration with those of other religious traditions and all those committed to building a more just and peaceful world.*

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