



November, 2007

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[Conference on the Future of Catholic Peacebuilding, April 13-15, 2008, University of Notre Dame,](#)

Since the U.S. Catholic Bishops' 1983 peace pastoral, *The Challenge of Peace*, called for further work on the development of a theology of peace, peacebuilding has received much greater attention in both secular and Church circles. This conference will showcase and contribute to efforts to develop a conceptually coherent, theologically accurate, spiritually enlivening and practically effective approach to Catholic peacebuilding that can begin to match the sophistication of Catholic thinking on the ethics of war and peace.

The conference is sponsored by the [Catholic Peacebuilding Network](#). Co-sponsors include the University of Notre Dame's Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Graduate School, and Program on Catholic Social Traditions; Boston College's Department of Theology and Center for Human Rights and International Justice; Catholic Relief Services; Catholic Theological Union's Bernardin Center for Theology and Ministry; Georgetown University's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs; the Sargent Shriver Peace Institute; the University of San Diego's School of Peace Studies; Washington Theological Union; The Catholic University of America's Life Cycle Institute; Maryknoll's Office for Global Concerns; Pax Christi International; the Sant' Egidio Community in the United States, and Woodstock Theological Center.

To link directly to conference materials and registration, please go to: <http://cpn.nd.edu/>.

[Alert from Commission for Peace and Human Development regarding Pakistan](#)

About 55 human right activists were arrested on Sunday, November 4, 2007 in Lahore after imposition of emergency rule by General Pervez Musharaf. The police raided the Human Right's Commission of Pakistan's (HRCP) office and arrested the participants of a meeting called by the Joint Action Committee (a coalition of many human rights organizations) to discuss the post-emergency scenario. The police locked up the activists at Model Town police station and later decided that the detainees be shifted to three different houses to serve as sub-jails. The arrested people were also forced to sign a statement declaring that they would not participate in any "anti-state" activity in future. The police promised that the detainees would be released on Monday. But they were sent to jail to be presented before a magistrate on Tuesday morning.

Hundreds of lawyers who wanted to protest against the imposition of the emergency were also baton charged and arrested in all major cities of Pakistan. Many of them were arrested the night before to avoid a successful protest by them. All the private Pakistani news channels, including international channels like BBC and CNN, are still off the air since Saturday evening.

Commission for Peace and Human Development (CPHD), Caryhoms Flats, 5 -Temple Road, Lahore, Pakistan.
Ph: 92-42-7359295, Fax: 92-42-7211959, Email: cphd@wol.net.pk.

New Hopes for Negotiated Solutions in Colombia by Virginia M. Bouvier, United States Institute of Peace

This working paper analyzes recent peacemaking efforts between the Colombian government and two of the remaining armed guerrilla groups--the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces-Popular Army (FARC-EP) and the National Liberation Army (ELN). It evaluates the demobilization process with the paramilitary umbrella organization known as the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC), and current efforts to implement the Justice and Peace law that regulates the paramilitary process. The paper analyzes the roles of third-party actors--primarily the church, civil society more broadly, and the international community--in peace initiatives. To read this paper in it's entirety click on: http://www.usip.org/pubs/working_papers/.

Master of Arts in Peace Studies, The Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, USA

The Kroc Institute seeks outstanding students who have demonstrated a serious commitment to international justice and peacemaking for the Master of Arts in Peace Studies. The two-year multidisciplinary program offers:

- Rigorous academic coursework taught by distinguished faculty.
- An international student body that forms a vibrant cross-cultural community.
- Theory and practice integrated through a five-month internship in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, or the United States.
- Financial aid in the form of scholarships and stipends.

For more information, and for instructions on how to apply, please visit the Kroc Website at <http://kroc.nd.edu/programs/masters/ma2yr.shtml> or email questions to kroc-admissions.1@nd.edu. The deadline for applications is January 5, 2008 for students seeking to enroll in Fall 2008.

Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Relief Services' peacebuilding website provides resources on peacebuilding as well as information on its extensive peacebuilding programs around the world. For example, CRS supports early warning and early response programs through the West Africa Network for Peace's <http://www.wanep.org/>. See <http://crs.org/peacebuilding/>

Religion Databases at Georgetown's Berkley Center

Georgetown University's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs is developing several databases on religion as resources for students, scholars, citizens and policymakers eager to know more about how religion plays out in culture, society, and politics -- in the United States and around the world. The data bases include the following:

- *Religious Perspectives* juxtaposes diverse religious views on ethical issues;
- *World Events* contains events around issues of religion, society and politics;
- *Faith 2008* tracks religion in the rhetoric of leading U.S. presidential candidates.
- *Religion and Development* maps faith involvement across development issues.

See <http://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu>.

Online Bibliography on Theology and Peace

The Institute for Theology and Peace (<http://www.ithpeace.de>) in Germany has published the eighth edition of its Online Bibliography on Theology and Peace at <http://www.ithpeace.de/bibl>. Use is free of charge. The bibliography contains 159,000 titles. For further information: Johannes Schlössinger, Herrengraben 4, D-20459 Hamburg, Germany: +49 (0) 40/670 859-16 (phone); +49 (0) 40/670 859-30 (fax).

Pax Christi Institute Philippines Online

The "Pax Christi Institute" of Pax Christi Philippines has launched a new website which provides information about its various activities and peace-education courses. The organization would like to invite Pax Christi members from the academic field to join them in this venture as online resource speakers and visiting professors for the various courses. For more information, visit the website at www.paxchristiinstitute.com.

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.

If you have information on Catholic peacebuilding that you would like to share with the Network, please contact:

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