

Peacemakers Trust Newsletter December 2015

2015 Highlights: Canada, Asia and Europe

Peacework in Northern Ireland



On 9 December 2015, Peacemakers Trust director Ernie Fraser returned from three

months at Corrymeela, Northern Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation organization. As part of the Centre's leadership team, he provided leadership for the development of young adults from around the world who were engaged with community groups on matters related to healing and reconciliation.

Judges in Thailand hear about mediation in Canada



Peacemakers Trust director Catherine Morris spoke to judges and mediators of Thailand's Intellectual

Property and Trade Court on 12 November 2015 on "How legal culture and traditions shape systems and practices of mediation: Lessons from Canada" based on her 2013 chapter on mediation in Canada in a collection on *Mediation in Asia-Pacific published by* CCH Hong Kong.

Research & writing on Cambodia's legal system

In 2015, Catherine Morris submitted a chapter entitled "Justice Inverted: Law and Human Rights in Cambodia" for a Handbook of Contemporary Cambodia, edited by Simon Springer and Katherine Brickell to be published by Routledge. Peacemakers Trust supported her 2014 research visit to Cambodia. The chapter discusses the impact of legal development efforts on peacebuilding and human rights in Cambodia over the past two decades.

Bibliographic and other free, web-based resources

Peacemakers Trust's <u>resource website</u> received more than 150,000 visits in 2015, nearly doubling 2014's visits.

Business, Human Rights and Conflict: New Peacemakers Trust initiative in 2015-16

Business enterprises are often involved in public policy conflicts and human rights violations. Land, water and environmental conflicts around the world are leading to increased international efforts to hold businesses accountable for upholding international human rights and environmental standards.

In 2011, the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council (HRC) Guiding Principles endorsed Business and Human Rights. A UN Working Group is working to increase worldwide acceptance of the Guiding Principles. In 2014, a HRC working group was tasked to draft an international treaty to regulate of transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

In 2015, Peacemakers Trust began to develop online resources on business, human rights and conflict. In partnership with Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada, Peacemakers Trust sent Catherine Morris to the November

2015 UN
Forum on
Business
and Human
Rights in
Geneva to
learn more



about these international developments. In 2016, subject to sufficient donations, Peacemakers Trust plans to conduct case study research on business and human rights in Thailand.

Indigenous peoples in Canada

In light of findings and recommendations of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Peacemakers Trust directors are in the preliminary planning stages for education on basic concepts and practices of reconciliation with at least one faith-based organization in 2016

(anadaHelps.org

Thank you donors! Your gifts make it possible for Peacemakers Trust:

- To update our free, online resources for students, academics, practitioners and the public;
- To help our volunteers with their travel expenses to conduct education or research including planned case studies on business, human rights and conflict;
- To respond to invitations to conduct education on dispute resolution, conflict transformation
- Thanks for your tax-deductable gifts by cheque or online through CanadaHelps https://www.canadahelps.org/dn/11293.

... creating pathways toward dialogue & reconciliation through research & education on conflict transformation & peacebuilding

Founded in 1999, Peacemakers Trust is a Registered Charitable Organization in Canada, number 87205 7823 RR0001.

Our purpose . . .

is to advance people's knowledge and capacity to understand, prevent and address conflict fairly, effectively and peacefully.

Our methods . . .

include research and education for practitioners, officials, civil society leaders and the public on:

- nonviolent methods for conflict transformation and peacebuilding;
- conflict analysis and mapping;
- fair and effective dispute resolution;
- effective planning, leadership, decision-making and problem-solving;
- fair, effective and accountable governance structures.

What we do...

Our work includes:

- www.peacemakers.ca: our acclaimed resource and bibliographic website used around the world by academics, students, practitioners and the public.
- Education and training on conflict resolution, international human rights & reconciliation.
- Public dialogue on matters of contention including cultural or religious issues.
- Reporting on conflict: media monitoring on conflict transformation and peacebuilding.
- Academic research and writing.

Our capabilities...

Peacemakers Trust directors and associates have proven track records in participatory education, research and policy development on conflict transformation & reconciliation in several countries including Canada, Cambodia, Thailand, Rwanda, Bolivia & Northern Ireland.

Contact us...

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