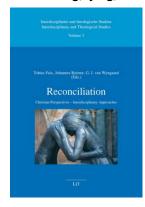


# Peacemakers Trust Newsletter December 2020

### Peacemakers Trust's work in 2020

In 2020 Peacemakers Trust undertook several initiatives in partnership with Universities and other organizations. Peacemakers Trust continues to be operated by volunteers who appreciate the faithful support of our generous donors.

### Truth-telling, lying, conflict, and reconciliation in North American churches



In 2020, an essay by Peacemakers Trust director Catherine Morris was published in a collection of published in Zurich by LIT Verlag. The chapter, entitled "Noble Lies, Augustinian Lies and the Post-Modernist Black Hole: Truth, Reconciliation and the Church. The essay explores the engagement or entrapment of contemporary church people in lies and propaganda. The paper explores these concerns "in light of biblical concepts and statements of Jesus" and concludes with an exploration of how church people can move forward towards reconciliation. Generous donors to Peacemakers Trust provided funding for Catherine Morris to travel to Germany in 2017 to present her research at an academic conference on "Christian Perspectives on Reconciliation." In 2018, Catherine engaged in a community sabbatical at the University of Victoria's

Centre for Studies in Religion and Society where she conducted additional research for an edited version that was published in August 2020 in Reconciliation: Christian Perspectives - Interdisciplinary Approaches, edited by Tobias Faix, Johannes Reimer, and G. J. van Wyngaard. Peacemakers Trust acknowledges several board members and supporters who assisted not only in funding for the project but also in editing and needed proofreading.

Action toward justice for Rohingya people in Myanmar and Bangladesh

Peacemakers Trust director, Catherine Morris, in her capacity as Associate of the University of Victoria Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) worked with the UVic Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, and Canadian Senator Marilou McPhedran to convene an online roundtable on 21 May 2020 to explore potential Canadian responses towards justice for Rohingya



people who have suffered atrocity crimes committed by the Myanmar military, including allegations of genocide that are now in the International Court of Justice. A major focus was on systematic sexual violence as a method of genocide against the Rohingya. The resulting report of the Roundtable is entitled, Justice for the Rohingya: The Role of Canada (pdf). The virtual roundtable drew together dozens of scholars and experts from times zones around the world including Canada, Myanmar, Australia, Bangladesh, Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States and elsewhere. This project follows Peacemakers Trust's previous work on the situation of the Rohingya.



### **Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding:** A Selected Bibliography

Peacemakers Trust continues to offer its online bibliographic resources for students. scholars and practitioners. In 2020 Peacemakers Trust cooperated with CAPI at the University of Victoria to sponsor a research placement for an accomplished Cambodian legal academic who prepared a bibliography on business, human rights, and conflict which in 2021 are slated for publication on the Peacemakers Trust website.

### Reporting on Conflict: Media monitoring

Peacemakers Trust directors Ernie Fraser and Catherine Morris continue to monitor reports from around the world for posting on Facebook and Twitter @peacemakers\_ca.

### Thanks to our donors! Your gifts make it possible for Peacemakers Trust:

- to update our online resources for students, academics, practitioners and the public;
- to respond to invitations to conduct research & education in several parts of the world.

Tax-deductible donations may be made by Interac e-transfer, CanadaHelps or cheque: <a href="http://www.peacemakers.ca/gifts.html">http://www.peacemakers.ca/gifts.html</a>.

## ... 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 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.

### Contact us...

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