



# GLOBAL ACTION TO PREVENT WAR

A COALITION-BUILDING EFFORT TO STOP WAR, GENOCIDE,  
AND INTERNAL ARMED CONFLICT

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December 2006

Dear Friend,

This past year has been punctuated by a host of disturbing images: destroyed villages along the roads to Damascus and Baghdad, destroyed lives in the camps of Darfur, Chad and Uganda; destroyed hopes for relief and reconstruction in New Orleans and Banda Aceh. Global Action to Prevent War also suffered a personal loss this year with the tragic death of Dr. Vincent Mekanju, a longtime member of our International Steering Committee, who was killed by the very thing he worked so tirelessly against—armed violence.

And yet, we have also witnessed many positive developments to help bring an end to some of the gravest atrocities of our time. From strengthening of the International Criminal Court to recent UN General Assembly negotiations towards a treaty to end the illegal global arms trade through the establishment of common trading standards, the international community is moving steadily towards collective human security and respect for international law. And from diverse sources such as the Human Security Report, we now have hard data to support a truly hopeful contention—that a combination of UN agencies, governments, civil society groups and committed individuals is having a direct impact on both the frequency and severity of genocide, crimes against humanity and armed conflict.

**Global Action to Prevent War is in the midst of so much of this hopeful work designed to move the global community from ‘national to human security.’ Along with your active support and participation, we are turning the tide towards concrete policies and tools that can reduce genocidal violence and warfare, and lead ultimately to their elimination.**

As with 2006, a major priority of our 2007 work will focus on our proposal for a United Nations Emergency Peace Service (UNEPS), an individually recruited, rapidly deployed, standing force under unified UN authority that can respond quickly and effectively to outbreaks of genocide and crimes against humanity anywhere in the world. In our research, outreach and advocacy work, we take energy and encouragement from the process that resulted in the International Criminal Court (ICC), an indispensable tool for global justice that, as late as the mid 1990s, many policymakers thought was completely unrealistic.

We believed that the ICC was critically important and realistic then, and we believe that the creation of UNEPS is critically important and realistic today. Indeed, with new energy in the UN Secretariat and new leadership in Washington, we feel more strongly than ever that UNEPS is an achievable tool that can both supplement and revolutionize existing UN and regional peacekeeping operations while bringing hope to current and potential victims of genocide and crimes against humanity.

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We are determined in the coming year to bring the potential of UNEPS to citizens and policymakers worldwide. Our focus will be on our book, *A United Nations Emergency Peace Service: To Prevent Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity* recently published by Global Action to Prevent War in association with the World Federalist Movement and the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. Edited by Robert Johansen and featuring contributions by leading experts in global security, the book has been formally launched at UN Headquarters in New York and in Vancouver, Canada; Pretoria, South Africa; and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **A copy of the book will be sent as our gift to all donors.**

While the growing initiative for a UN Emergency Peace Service demands a good amount of our time, other core priorities will continue to include promotion of the role of women in global policy, conflict prevention and conflict resolution. We advocate for the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and will continue to work in solidarity with the many women's organizations promoting their right to a voice in local, national and global arenas.

Global Action will also continue its advocacy against the illegal trade in weapons and the continued production and use of weapons which result in excessive harm to civilians. In 2006, Global Action monitored and published information regarding the poor outcome of the UN review conference on the Programme of Action to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, as well as the positive progress made in the field of Conventional Weapons during the UN First Committee. Global Action members interacted with governments on the resolution to begin the first steps towards an Arms Trade Treaty, and with our help, the resolution beginning this process was adopted.

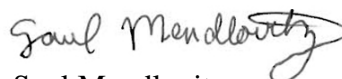
We have also begun a thorough review and revision of our Global Action to Prevent War Program Statement, a summary of 72 security-related policies that we believe are essential to the prevention of genocide and armed conflict before it breaks out, the disarmament of nuclear and conventional weapons, and to building a culture of peace in the next three decades. These prescriptions will be translated into smaller-scale, more specific "action-items" in a stand-alone, 'Citizens Guide to War Prevention' that will appeal to audiences in the US such as students, educators and members of religious congregations. The current development of Global Action centers in South Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Spain and India will help us build regional support for UNEPS and other initiatives while ensuring that our entire Global Action program adequately incorporates the political, economic, social and religious realities of the world into any policies proposed to address armed conflict.

Over the past 5 years we have received modest funding from the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the Carlin Family Fund, the Ford Foundation, the Secure World Foundation, the Simons Foundation, Soka Gakkai, the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Foundation and others. Their past and continued support is much appreciated. **Your contribution will not only make our current work possible, but will also help convince private foundations to invest in our common future. We hope that you will consider providing us with even a modest donation this holiday season. There is much to grieve about this year, but also much to hope for. Help us build a durable, permanent human security system under effective international law. We wish you and your family a happy new year and look forward to hearing from you.**

In peace,



Kevin Clements  
Director, Australian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies  
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Chair, Global Action to Prevent War



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*Please make checks payable to "World Order Models Project/GAPW" and mail to Global Action to Prevent War, 675 Third Avenue Suite 315, New York, NY 10017, USA.*