

The European Centre for Conflict Prevention

Annual Report 2008



**GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP
FOR THE
PREVENTION
OF ARMED
CONFLICT**

**Including an overview of the activities of the
Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict**



Foreword



The year 2008 saw the beginning of what now looks to be the most profound global economic crisis since the 1930s. The crisis will increase the risks of violent conflict occurring worldwide. It may also open people's eyes and make them realise that they have everything to lose by engaging in violent conflict, which seldom provides a lasting solution. For an organisation like the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP), it presents an extraordinary test to carrying out its mission and show evidence that an active role of civil society is essential in these difficult times.

The ECCP has the privilege of hosting the secretariat of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC). It represents by far the most important activity of the ECCP. In this annual report you will find updates of the different programmes implemented by GPPAC, coordinated with the support of the ECCP. They address the need for and demonstrate the added value of civil society networking within and across different regions, for example by encouraging regional intergovernmental organisations to respond to early warning and become more vigorous in preventing conflicts.

The economic crisis, as well as the challenges to peace posed by climate change, competition for resources, migration and many other issues call for an all-out effort to build a culture of conflict prevention. GPPAC is uniquely positioned to make a contribution to such efforts from a civil society perspective. In this regard, I am happy to report that we made significant progress in building a strong and more regular working relationship between the ECCP Board and the governing structures of GPPAC, notably the GPPAC Executive Committee. This is important to ensure an optimal role of ECCP in supporting the further growth and development of GPPAC and together build the foundations for longer term continuity in our relationship.

The ECCP's organisational sustainability further improved during 2008. We were able to lower the previous deficit on the balance sheet and strengthen the basis of secured funding for 2009 and 2010. We are currently involved in discussions on the future of the Netherlands' government co-financing for civil society organizations as of 2011, which also provides core-funding for ECCP. The internal management of ECCP has meanwhile successfully completed an ISO 9001 certification process.

We are confident about the development of ECCP on this foundation, and trust that it will continue to make an important contribution to conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the years to come.

Joris Voorhoeve
Chairman of the Board

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Communicating for Peace



Promoting conflict prevention has to start from understanding violence. In today's world, violence increasingly manifests itself in ways that are dispersed and in configurations hardly ever neatly overlapping with national borders. Wars between nation states have been declining in numbers since 1992, as have intrastate conflicts - that is the good news. The bad news is that thousands of people, most of them civilians, continue to be killed directly in conflict each year. Tens of thousands more die from indirect results of conflict, such as famine and disease, and it was estimated that in 2008 over 26 million people were displaced as a result of violent conflict. Furthermore, as fewer and fewer wars are fought between states, the conflicts that arise are increasingly difficult for governments to mitigate.

This leaves the individual in a conflict prone area more vulnerable than ever before. Civil society organisations have always been a source of hope, solidarity and inspiration in support of people and communities endangered by violent conflict. But the dispersion of violence puts the need to ensure effective action to prevent conflict firmly at the top of our agenda.

New tools and modalities of communication are playing a key role in offering opportunities to generate more precise information in real-time to guide preventive action. The potential of the internet as a borderless public domain is quickly gaining ground in the field of civil society engagement with issues of conflict, peace and security.

It is extremely encouraging to look at efforts of people who are communicating in response to violent conflict and share

what is happening in their world, often in difficult circumstances. In 2008, we saw many Palestinian bloggers on-line practically every moment the electricity was working during the violent crisis in Gaza. A documentary collecting the courageous uploads of people in Burma won international recognition. Increasingly, the truth about the most localised and remote situation can be revealed by a picture taken with a mobile phone, and be quickly and widely distributed.

These developments give a new dimension to the mission of ECCP when it speaks of "connecting people working for peace worldwide". It is the main reason why we have embarked on an ambitious project to realize an interactive website, a Peace Portal. The purpose of the Portal is to offer a platform for people and organizations to network and communicate on the internet, to promote conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

There is no innovation without new challenges and we will have to learn how to work with the internet and what is known as the "Web 2.0 revolution". At least three issues appear on the horizon. First, how do we connect the on-line with the off-line world? To return to our Palestinian blogger, her information will not change much for anyone in her community, if it is not related to media with a greater outreach and to actions of governments and other decision-makers. This is where civil society organizations and networks like GPPAC will continue to play a vital role in building bridges and using information to shape a political process that is effective in preventing violence and relevant in promoting peace. The portal will in turn also support a great deal of GPPAC's real-world work.

A second challenge is how to collect and aggregate information in such a way that it provides a map for prevention. In this regard, we will have to consider and develop new applications for the possibility to cross-compare, check veracity, rank and integrate information, perhaps in larger volumes, from conflict-prone areas, so as to arrive at something like a credible conflict potential forecast.

Third, the internet is also the place where the quality of communication and its ethics may more easily get compromised and turn into shouting matches or worse. The proverbial "wisdom of the crowds" might potentially end up being the lowest common denominator. It calls for clearly establishing and maintaining a strong common ground in our communications,

where veracity, impartiality, freedom of expression and other values are strictly guarded and respected.

The internet does not change human nature. The challenge we face is to maximise its positive impact on the human condition. ECCP will strive to be at the cutting edge of connecting people worldwide to communicate on how to prevent violence.

*Peter van Tuijl,
Executive Director*

About the ECCP

Mission

The European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP) is a non-governmental organisation that promotes effective conflict prevention and peacebuilding strategies, and actively supports and connects people working for peace worldwide.

Vision and Guiding Principles

We envisage a world in which people are able and willing to prevent and transform violent conflicts peacefully.

We believe in:

- a multi-track approach;
- the importance of local capacities for peace;
- partnerships with local organisations;
- long-term engagement;
- impartiality.

The ECCP as a Secretariat

The European Centre for Conflict Prevention holds the secretariat for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC): these days, the majority of the ECCP's work is focused on this task, coordinating the network and the various programmes it runs at the global level.

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Activities of the European Centre for Conflict Prevention in 2008

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict

INTRODUCTION

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) is a world-wide civil society-led network to build a new international consensus on peacebuilding and the prevention of violent conflict. GPPAC works on strengthening civil society networks for peace and security by linking local, national, regional, and global levels of action and effective engagement with governments, the UN system and regional organisations. In 2003, the ECCP took the initiative that was to result in the formation of GPPAC in response to the call of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in his 2001 report *Prevention of Armed Conflict*.

GPPAC is structured through fifteen regional networks, each of which has developed an action agenda to reflect regional principles and priorities. The Regional Action Agendas fed into *People Building Peace: A Global Action Agenda for the Prevention of Violent Conflict* which outlines key priorities for change and involved more than a thousand organisations worldwide in its drafting. The final document was presented to the UN in July 2005, during the Global Conference *From Reaction to Prevention: Civil Society Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violent Conflict and Build Peace*, organised by GPPAC in partnership with the UNDPA at UN Headquarters.

Following the Global Conference, the International Steering Group of GPPAC, which comprises representatives from each of the network's fifteen regions as well as some non-regional representatives (see page 15 for an overview), met in The Netherlands in October 2005, and in March 2006 in Nairobi to discuss how to translate the Regional and Global Action Agendas into Work Plans. In between these two meetings, the regional steering groups of each of the regions came together and developed regional Work Plans for 2006-2010. During the Nairobi meeting, the International Steering Group decided on five programmes to be run at the global level between 2006 and 2010, coordinated by the ECCP. They are:

- *Awareness Raising* - Raising public awareness around the world and generating constituencies who are informed about conflict prevention and peacebuilding and the important role of civil society in achieving it;

Working Group of GPPAC Regional Liaison Officers

- *Interaction and Advocacy* - strengthening cooperation between civil society organisations and policy makers from governments, regional inter-governmental organisations and the UN system in shaping conflict prevention and peacebuilding strategies;
- *Network Building* - Establishing strategic and operational mechanisms to help strengthen network structures at the local, regional and global levels, and linking these levels to increase the effectiveness of civil society efforts for conflict prevention and peacebuilding;
- *Knowledge Generation and Sharing* - connecting the theory and the practice of civil society conflict prevention, by identifying, collecting, developing and disseminating essential knowledge on approaches and methods for conflict prevention and peacebuilding;
- *Early Warning and Early Response* - enhancing the capacity and professionalism of civil society organisations to engage in early warning and early response efforts to prevent violent conflict, and to institutionalize their interaction in this matter with governments, (I)NGO's, regional organizations and other stakeholders.

Each of these programmes has activities in upwards of five regions, and each of the regions has its own set of activities outside of these five programmes relating to the regional context, issues and priorities.

The sections that follow provide an overview of the key activities in each of the five programmes in 2008, as well as news on Outcome mapping, the innovative monitoring and evaluation system that GPPAC started using in 2007, and ECCP's most recent project: The Peace Portal.

GPPAC Vision and Mission

Vision

GPPAC calls for a fundamental change in dealing with violent conflict: *a shift from reaction to prevention*, as an approach that will save lives, and prove more effective and less destructive. We seek a world in which people and governments elect non-violent means, rather than armed conflict, to achieve greater justice, sustainable development, and human security.

The participants in the GPPAC process are committed to the following principles (presented more fully in the Guiding Principles and Values in *People Building Peace: A Global Action Agenda for the Prevention of Violent Conflict*):

- Prevention of violent conflicts is possible and should be pursued to the fullest extent by all peaceful means;
- We commit to transforming the conditions that give rise to violent conflict;
- As civil society actors, we believe that preventing violent conflicts requires the forging of effective partnerships and networking among civil society organisations, governments and multilateral organisations, among others.

Mission

GPPAC is building a new international consensus and joint action to prevent violent conflict and promote peacebuilding, based on regional and global action agendas. GPPAC maintains a global multi-stakeholder network of organisations committed to act to prevent the escalation of conflict into destructive violence, at national, regional and global levels. This multi-stakeholder network includes civil society organisations, governments, Regional Organisations and the United Nations.



AWARENESS RAISING

GPPAC has committed itself to raising public awareness around the world and to creating constituencies who are informed about conflict prevention and peacebuilding and the important role of civil society in achieving these. With this commitment GPPAC acknowledges that public support is critical to achieve a change, not only in policymaking but in fostering a culture of prevention in communities. The GPPAC Awareness Raising programme aims to:

- Coordinate public awareness raising campaigns;
- Encourage the celebration of the International Day of Peace, 21 September, utilising GPPAC's campaign materials and key messages;
- Interact effectively with the media;
- Equip the general public with a greater knowledge of conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and GPPAC.

These strategic goals have been developed into several ongoing projects, the most notable being the Media Focal Point (MFP) Project. This is a mechanism to develop and implement a media strategy for GPPAC. The MFP is a person whose task it is to get as much positive media attention as possible for conflict prevention and peacebuilding, the role of civil society in it, and for GPPAC and its member organisations. In 2008, participation expanded to include nine GPPAC regions – Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, Southern Africa, Northeast Asia, Pacific, South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Western Balkans.

The 2007 issue paper *Why and When to Use the Media for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding* proved to be such a success that a second print was required in 2008. The programme also circulated three e-bulletins announcing International Day of Peace events and as in previous years produced a printed newsletter with



Peace summer camp in Ferghana Valley organised by GPPAC Central Asia

highlights from around the world. All information was collected and published on the main website for the event (www.peoplebuildingpeace.org), which also shows how GPPAC members around the world used the slogan, 'People Building Peace' in their celebrations of the International Day of Peace.

Significant progress was also made in developing a media strategy for GPPAC. In addition to increasing the activities of the MFPs, tools and materials for

building GPPAC capacity to interact with the media were developed. A press kit and press releases were drafted as well as a Media Training Manual, which has been translated from English into Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish. In 2009 this manual will form the basis of a media training workshop for GPPAC's MFP's.

In an effort to engage with media more proactively, GPPAC was also represented at the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum, which was held in Bonn, Germany from 2-4 June. GPPAC was invited to participate in brainstorming sessions for the 2009 Global Media Forum, and to become a permanent partner of the event.

During the annual Awareness Raising Working Group meeting in October, which brought together GPPAC members from around the world and various media practitioners and experts, participants further developed the media strategy and made plans for the programme in 2009. The websites were updated throughout the year. By the end of the year, a new GPPAC brochure was developed.

Media Focal Point in South Asia

2008 was the first year in which Regional Centre for Strategic Studies – the GPPAC Regional Secretariat for South Asia based in Sri Lanka – was involved in the Media Focal point project. Working through its partners in the region, it undertook projects to convince the media of the importance of responsible reporting on conflict and of communicating peace. To strengthen this message, the International Day of Peace was celebrated throughout the region in activities including the seminar *The Role of Media in Culture of Peace and Tolerance* in Bangladesh, a workshop on Communicating Peace in India, Conflict Sensitive Journalism Workshops in Nepal and Pakistan, and many more. A music video was developed in cooperation with the rock band Paranoid Earthling and Young Asia TV (YATV), both from Sri Lanka. Seeking to encourage young people from opposing parties to try to understand each other and work together, it reached out to a generation that has been born into and has grown up with conflict as a permanent part of their daily lives. It was featured on YATV's weekly peace programmes and on several popular English radio stations. It can also be accessed on-line on the GPPAC website and on Youtube.

*Nobel Peace Prize Winner
Adolfo Pérez Esquivel speaks at
Buenos Aires High Level Panel*



INTERACTION AND ADVOCACY

The Interaction and Advocacy Programme is focused on strengthening cooperation between GPPAC members and policy makers from governments, Regional Intergovernmental Organisations (RIGOs) and the UN to provide input for shaping conflict prevention and peace building strategies.

Strengthening relationships between CSOs and RIGOs has become one of GPPAC's key goals. In the Americas a relationship has been established with the Organization of American States (OAS) after an intense campaign of lobby and frequent interaction. As a result of this, GPPAC and the OAS have agreed to hold a joint policy roundtable on *Strengthening peace, security and development, the role of regional organisations and civil society* which will take place in September 2009.

In West Africa, as part of GPPAC's efforts to influence peacebuilding processes in the region, a series of national consultations between CSOs and ECOWAS took place, bringing together different stakeholders working on structures that will promote local ownership and a cooperative approach to conflict prevention.

GPPAC has been closely following the evolution of the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) since its creation. The focus of the work of the PBC is around four countries: Sierra Leone, Burundi, Guinea Bissau, Central African Republic. In both Sierra Leone and Burundi, civil society committees were set up to deliver input on the PBC process, and to work with local communities and network partners to train and sensitize them on the issues at hand.

Given discussions on a possible PBC role

in East Timor, GPPAC sent a delegation to the country to share its expertise on the matter, composed of the Southeast and Northeast Asia regional secretariats and International Steering Group member WFM-IGP. The mission included meetings with CSOs and at ministerial level and a public forum, providing information about the PBC, its mode of engagement and potential added-value and potential risks to peacebuilding. Knowledge was shared from the PBC experience in Burundi and Sierra Leone, and concerns of civil society and government in East Timor were addressed. The mission contributed to clarifying the role of the PBC and engaged civil society in an early dialogue on a potential PBC in Timor-Leste, which can form the basis for future engagement. There will be further follow-up if and when the government of East Timor requests assistance from the PBC.

In 2006, the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, signed by 42 governments, emerged as an effort to support initiatives to prevent and reduce human, social and economic costs of armed violence. GPPAC has seen in the Geneva Declaration Process another possibility to strengthen cooperation with governments and work together towards a shift from reaction to conflict prevention. On November 17, 2008, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution calling on the UN Secretary General to seek the views of the member states on the interrelation between armed violence and development and to report back to the General Assembly in 2009. The adoption of the resolution came after two years of advocacy and awareness building at the UN by the Geneva Declaration Core Group of governments and civil society. GPPAC has played a key role in the civil society process and in the promotion of the Geneva Declaration, which is referred to clearly in the GA resolution.

High Level Panel in Buenos Aires

On the 3rd of April 2008, a high level panel took place in Buenos Aires, titled *The Prevention of Conflicts in Latin America and the Caribbean, Reality or Utopia?* It was organised by the Argentinean Council on International Relations (CARI) and GPPAC Regional Initiator for Latin America and the Caribbean, CRIES.

The panel included Ambassador Albert Ramdin, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, Mr. Carlos Felipe Martínez, UNDP Permanent Resident Coordinator of UN System in Argentina, Dr. Alberto Dalotto, Chief of Staff of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Senator María Cristina Perceval, Defence and International Commissions of the Argentine Senate, Mr. Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, Nobel Peace Prize winner 1980, and Mr. Augusto Miclat Jr., Executive Director of Initiative for International Dialogue from Philippines; GPPAC Regional Initiator for Southeast Asia, and Andrés Serbin, Executive Director of CRIES. The panelists shared with the audience their views and experiences on the theme of conflict prevention, not only in the region, but in other parts of the world also. The Panel was held in the same week as the meetings in Buenos Aires of the GPPAC International Steering Group and the Regional Steering Group for Latin America and the Caribbean, many members of which attended the High Level Panel. It was an important step on the road to building a relationship between GPPAC in the Americas and the OAS.

NETWORK AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The Network and Capacity Building programme aims to establish strategic and operational mechanisms to help strengthen network structures at the local, regional and global levels, and link these levels to increase the effectiveness of civil society efforts for conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

In 2008, a number of activities were implemented under different components of the programme. Under the coordination of governance mechanisms, GPPAC International Steering Group (ISG) meetings were held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in April 08 and Soesterberg, The Netherlands, in October 08. A number of meetings of the GPPAC Executive Committee – consisting of four elected ISG members – also took place to support the effective governance of the network.

The programme has further started a process of stocktaking within the network to provide a consolidated source of information on existing processes, structures and mechanisms – including notably an overview of overarching governance mechanisms such as the ISG and Executive Committee, and of regional network structures such as Regional Steering Groups and Secretariats.

Under the support and capacity building component of the programme, Regional Liaison Officers (RLOs) based in the different regional networks continued to be supported in 2008, contributing to increasing the operational capacity of Regional Secretariats to carry on their network functions and enhancing the sense of ownership of local network

Istanbul Process

The five-day war in Georgia in August 2008 resulted in the deaths and displacement of many civilians. These events altered the political landscape in the region dramatically and have subsequently brought relations between Russia and Georgia to perhaps their lowest point since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Despite polarization between the official positions of Moscow and Tbilisi, there is a growing recognition that a common platform for dialogue between Russian and Georgian societies needs to be found if we are to achieve lasting peace and stability in the region.

With support from GPPAC, a meeting of prominent independent political experts from Russia and Georgia was organised in November 2008 by the GPPAC Regional Secretariat for the Caucasus, the International Center on Conflict and Negotiation (ICCN). Held in Istanbul, Turkey, the symposium was titled *Georgia-Russian Relations: Ways Out of Crisis*. Participants analyzed the fundamental causes of the conflict as well as key factors which triggered the eruption of violence. During this meeting, experts also discussed the mechanisms which can be employed in future strategies designed to stabilize relations.

Considering the strength with which these individuals represent the interests of their constituents, and the opportunities they have to influence opinions within both their own societies and the circle of decision makers in the political arena, the members of this unique initiative have decided to continue their work together in 2009 under the title of the “Istanbul Process”.

members. The RLOs were brought together in October 2008 to discuss the role of network and capacity building in their local contexts, which was a very valuable opportunity for exchange and peer education, in discussions which have continued online since.

Regional Steering Group meetings were held by most of GPPAC regional networks, bringing together key GPPAC partners from across each region to discuss strategic directions and joint activities. These meetings were frequently connected to other events that were of importance to the network. In Northeast Asia for instance, the Regional Steering Group meeting was connected to the Global Article 9 conference (see box.)

Global Article 9 Conference

The Global Article 9 Conference to Abolish War was held in Japan over 4-6 May, 2008. This historic conference was originally conceived after the GPPAC Conference held at the UN Headquarters in 2005, which officially recognized the value of Article 9 as a security mechanism. The GPPAC Northeast Asia Regional Agenda then declared that “Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution has been the foundation for collective security for the entire Asia Pacific region.”

With Peace Boat (GPPAC Northeast Asia) acting as conference secretariat, GPPAC was deeply involved in the organization of the event and strongly represented at the conference itself, with regional initiators from East and Central Africa, West Africa and South Asia joining various panels as speakers, and members of the Northeast Asia Regional Steering Group also actively participating. Furthermore, GPPAC was introduced to an audience of 12,000 at the plenary session on 4 May. Gathering well over 30,000 participants throughout Japan, the event gave a new impetus to the Japanese efforts to protect the country’s pacifist constitution, as well as to examine the linkages between the principles enshrined in Article 9 and many global issues, such as conflict prevention, disarmament, peacebuilding and the environment.

The second GPPAC Asia Pacific Forum was also held as a special event during the Conference, bringing together GPPAC members from four regions to discuss the role of civil society in peacebuilding and conflict prevention. The Northeast Asia Regional Steering Group meeting was also held immediately following the main conference.



Crowds queue to get in to Peaceboat's Global Article Nine Conference

Networking for Peace in Europe

ECCP has been less active in the European context since the formation of GPPAC, and is now looking to increase its engagement in Europe and examine how existing European networks can be effectively connected with the global GPPAC network and vice versa. To start this process, ECCP organized a workshop on strengthening European networking for peace in November 2008, in collaboration with the Nansen Dialogue Network and the German Platform for Peaceful Conflict Management. The objective of the workshop was to explore how European civil society lobbying and advocacy

in the conflict prevention and peacebuilding sector can be strengthened by improving the coordination and strategy amongst the active networks and organisations, and how this might fit in with the work of GPPAC and the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), a network of European NGO's active in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The meeting produced a preliminary overview on how GPPAC, EPLO and other networks can complement each other on the European scene. Further discussions and cooperation are planned for 2009.

KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND SHARING

One of the strategic directions under the framework of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) aims at enabling civil society partners from fifteen regions of the world to engage in processes of knowledge generation and exchange. Peace Education (PE) was selected by the partners as a key area for exchanging ideas and lessons learned across the network, while also serving as a pilot to help determine the best mechanisms for exchange. A reference group was established in 2005 and has continued to develop into a dedicated working group for PE consisting of and facilitating the building of connections between policymakers, academia and field practitioners.

The GPPAC Peace Education Working Group has been functioning as a platform for GPPAC regions with key strategic areas including: building the capacity of regional educators and practitioners on PE; exchanging PE materials; lobbying the Ministries of Education for the inclusion of PE materials in national curricula; and organising international and regional conferences to learn and exchange ideas on PE.

The activities of the PE working group are structured around two levels: regional and cross-regional. The regional level involves the generation and implementation of



Peace Education Working Group meeting in Nairobi, Kenya

PE activities by the regional partners and their networks which contribute to strengthening the regional network. PE activities at the cross-regional level help members of the GPPAC network worldwide engaged in PE to establish and utilize the tools for exchanging the knowledge generated at the regional levels.

Several regional workshops took place in 2008 including, *'Textbook Revision and Peace Education Revisited: Past Experiences-Present Expectations-Future Concepts'*, organized by the GPPAC North East Asia Regional Steering Group in November. Meanwhile, the Nansen Dialogue Centre - Serbia, regional secretariat for the Western Balkans, in cooperation with the further regional steering group, organised a

series of trainings and meetings attended by local authorities and representatives of respective Ministries of Education focused on strengthening cooperation for the inclusion of PE in school curricula. GPPAC South Asia looked at how the youth brigade could work with children on informal PE and build the capacity of tomorrow's citizens and policy makers to promote non-violent conflict transformation at a two-day workshop. In the North Caucasus a network meeting was held, and a number of evaluations of PE projects were carried out in different areas of the region, with plans to expand the programme in 2009.

At the cross-regional level, with support of GPPAC, the second International Summit on Conflict Resolution Education was held in Cleveland, Ohio, USA in March 2008 in partnership with the Global Issues Resource Center and Library, Office of Community Continuing Education at Cuyahoga Community College. With more than 400 attendees from across the U.S. and 19 other countries, including participants from the GPPAC's PE working group discussions covered a variety topics related to PE.

Exchange and collaborative generation of information is exemplified in the ongoing research project organized by the GPPAC RSG's in partnership with the Global Issues Resource Center at Cuyahoga Community College, Temple University and CDA. They are working with a number of partners to conduct regional surveys of PE and CRE evaluation and research globally.

Peace Education in Eastern and Central Africa

In December 2008, the GPPAC Regional Secretariat for Eastern and Central Africa, Nairobi Peace Initiative – Africa, held a Regional Conference in partnership with the GPPAC Global Secretariat, The Global Campaign for Peace Education, and Kenya's Ministry of Education in Nairobi, Kenya: *Peace Education in Eastern and Central Africa: The State of the Art, Lessons and Possibilities*. It was attended by civil society practitioners and Ministry of Education officials from across the region, as well as some working group members from other GPPAC regions. The conference provided a forum for sharing experiences from various initiatives around the world and raised awareness for PE in East and Central Africa. It charted ways for future collaboration and networking between informal and formal educators, Ministries of Education, UN agencies, teacher training institutions, researchers and civil society groups. The great interest in PE shown by Kenya's Ministry of Education and preparations of curriculum and materials in that direction after the recent political crisis and violence in Kenya made this conference very timely. It was also encouraging to have representatives from the Ministry of Education strongly involved who showed a keen interest in establishing future relations with civil society and increasing their efforts to promote peace PE.

EARLY WARNING AND EARLY RESPONSE

Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) is considered one of the pillars of operational conflict prevention. Practiced by international organizations, governments, research institutes and NGOs, the EWER field has furthered the knowledge of conflicts and the strategies to address them. However, despite the broad range of literature available the theory of EWER, little is known about how it is implemented in practice, particularly in field-based systems. Practical information on lessons learned, best practices and common pitfalls in EWER efforts is conspicuously lacking. GPPAC's Early Warning and Early Response programme has for this reason been functioning as a clearing house on EWER by collecting, adapting, translating and disseminating information on EWER methodology among GPPAC partners. Through regional exchange, training and capacity-building workshops, publication of a manual, research and translation of key documents, the EWER programme contributes to the development of local and regional early warning and response activities.

Since the formulation of GPPAC's core programme areas in 2005, Early Warning and Early Response has been a major focus for efforts in several regions. The programme opened with an expert meeting in 2006 and the publication of and issue paper *Early Warning and Early Response: conceptual and empirical dilemmas* (also translated into French and Spanish). As part of mobilising civil society for early response, two research cases were implemented to build capacity for civil society in Togo and Venezuela. The

Monitoring Early Response Project

While many regions engaged in the EWER programme have been working on early warning systems, few have been able to implement early response actions. To respond to the urgent need of shifting from early warning to concrete early response effort, the EWER programme launched the 'Mobilising for Early Response Project' (MERP) in August 2008. Three areas were selected as pilots for this project:

- Central America: current realities and ongoing challenges ten years after peace accords in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua;
- Kenya: strategies for conflict prevention in the wake of post-election violence;
- Transnistria/Moldova: dynamics and actors in a 'frozen conflict'.

The three pilot projects were discussed and assessed during a conference in Cote d'Ivoire, where decisions were made on the next steps and the development of the Action Plans. In general, MERP has proven a useful exercise that has enabled three GPPAC regions to conduct concrete situation assessment and to determine action plans.

programme is developed and guided by a working group which met twice in 2008, with representatives of all GPPAC regions involved, as well as international experts on EWER. Two additional meetings of a core group of this working group were also held.

In collaboration with GPPAC regional secretariat CRIES and the Latin American and Caribbean GPPAC network, Platform for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding, GPPAC organised an exchange seminar in Guatemala City on 26 September entitled *Building Effective Partnerships for Early Warning and Early Response: is RIGO/Civil Society Cooperation Possible in Latin America and the Caribbean?* The overall objective of the regional conference was to formulate lessons learned that will strengthen the use of early warning and conflict prevention systems in Latin America and the Caribbean. Another notable point was related to political alliances between civil society and other stakeholders such as the media and the private sector. This was done by way of contrasting the

roles that both play in the resolution of conflict in Kenya with similar actions in the Latin American context. Finally, the discussion recognised the value of interstate organisations at the regional and international levels, and their importance for offering solutions to conflicts. In the case of Kenya, the African Union and the United Nations had important roles within the resolution of the dispute.

A similar seminar was held in Kenya, *Towards a Multi-Conflict Prevention Plan for Kenya*. This seminar was one of the activities of the Mobilising Early Response project (see box). More than 20 representatives from different Kenyan CSOs as well as government departments gathered together in Mombasa. The WANEP office in Nigeria was represented to provide the seminar with a cross-regional element. The major outcome of this two day seminar was the production of a draft framework for a Kenyan Conflict Prevention Plan. NPI-Africa will ensure that this document is developed further and implemented accordingly.



A working group deliberates during the Mombasa conference

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

For a network aiming for the prevention of conflicts, conventional linear methods for planning, monitoring and evaluation are problematic. ECCP has therefore developed its own system based on Outcome Mapping principles, which addresses the challenge of identifying tangible outcomes in the short term for long-term goals (e.g. peace or the prevention of conflicts), and of attributing

outcomes to the network in a complex environment with many interrelated factors.

Led by the Programme Manager Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Quality (PME&Q), capacity building of members is ongoing. For instance, in association with CRIES, the Regional Secretariat of Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC), 25 network members were given an Outcome Mapping workshop in

December 2008. During the week-long workshop, participants were introduced to the methodology, and made a start on the developing the region's own programme and monitoring design. ECCP's Outcome Mapping approach has also been shared and disseminated via the Issue Paper *Assessing Progress on the Road to Peace. Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities* - available on www.gppac.net.



GPPAC International Steering Group

The Peace Portal

ECCP is currently developing a Peace Portal with the ambition to harness the possibilities of the Internet for the prevention of violent conflicts. The Portal will enable civil society to better cooperate online: to interact, discuss, build networks and start communities on issues of interest to them. It will provide a space to publish material and reports and enable users to collaboratively produce content. The mission of the Portal is to be a main source of information leading to action aimed at preventing conflicts and building peace.

The Portal is supported by the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs and the City of The Hague, with a positive decision in May and July 2008 respectively. It is being developed in partnership with other civil society organizations, inside and outside the Netherlands and is intended to be a collaborative endeavour where the content is produced and shared by its users.

ECCP provided representatives of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the City of The Hague with the Plan of Action on 5 August 2008. This plan concerned the 6 month period of August 2008 to January 2009 and contained concrete action lines to develop the conditions to generate revenues and increase activities as a result of the investment in this project.

In 2008 the work on the Portal focused on building partnerships and developing the content and technical plans for the portal. Several partners within the Netherlands were identified, including: Asser institute, Cordaid, Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD), IKV Pax Christi, Oxfam Novib and War Child. In September 2008, the Peace Portal was introduced and promoted to GPPAC with the help of an outline of the project and a questionnaire

to ascertain the role of network members as potential users of and providers to the Portal. Mid October, ECCP also took the occasion of the meeting of the Regional Liaison Officers (RLOs), held during the GPPAC International Steering Group (ISG) meeting, to present the Peace Portal project and to receive feedback from the RLOs from the GPPAC regions. The Portal was considered very useful as a media and awareness raising tool.

A Functional Design document as well as a Business Plan, which further outlined the feasibility and long term sustainability of the Portal, were finalised in the beginning of 2009. The Portal will be developed in the remaining part of 2009, with several pilot-projects being run at the same time to test how it works. It is scheduled to be operational as of the start of 2010.

Financial Report

Balance sheet as at December 31, 2008 (after appropriation of the result)

	Dec. 31, 2008 €	Dec. 31, 2007 €
ASSETS		
Fixed assets		
Tangible fixed assets		
Automation	30.682	3.567
	30.682	3.567
Current assets		
Books in stock	10.000	20.091
Receivables		
Grants receivable	118.102	81.802
Other receivables	32.258	15.356
	150.360	97.158
Cash at bank and in hand		
Bank	321.159	863.526
Cash	311	217
	321.470	863.743
	512.512	984.559
LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Subordinated loans	18.000	37.743
Guaranteed equity	-33.919	-56.213
Current liabilities		
Received prepayments projects	445.511	827.207
Creditors	25.891	87.567
Wage tax	19.013	14.591
Grants to be returned	582	8.256
Accrued liabilities	55.434	103.151
	546.431	1.040.772
	512.512	984.559

Statement of income and expenditure for the year 2008

	2008 €	2007 €
Grants and other income		
Grants received	1.972.820	1.607.893
Changes in prepayments projects	-395.989	-383.816
Grant income	1.576.831	1.224.077
Other income	20.702	23.396
Total income	1.597.533	1.247.473
Expenditure		
Expenses ECCP office costs		
Personnel expenses	632.051	600.750
Depreciation	3.307	997
Housing costs	24.105	26.474
Office expenses	50.107	36.578
Accountancy and consultancy costs	36.559	25.746
Other general costs	13.419	6.454
Total expenses ECCP office costs	759.548	696.999
Expenses project activities	812.736	514.926
Total expenditure	1.572.284	1.211.925
Operational result	25.249	35.548
Interest income	10.989	4.665
Interest expense and bank charges	-/- 4.201	-/- 2.945
Result	32.037	37.268

Mr. Peter van Tuijl is the director of ECCP and was appointed by the Board as per 1st of august 2007. His gross salary 2008 amounted € 76.683. This is including holiday allowance but excluding pension premium. No other allowances were paid to him. Board members of ECCP are not financially compensated for their work.

Project summary 2008			
	Grant income €	Expenses out of pocket €	Expenses organisation €
Projects summary 2008 per program			
GPPAC programs			
Awareness Raising	198.435	89.231	109.204
Interaction and Advocacy	264.740	104.391	160.349
Network and Capacity building	600.623	325.274	275.349
Knowledge Generation and Sharing	160.543	95.158	65.385
Early Warning Early Response	324.013	176.303	147.849
Totals GPPAC programs	1.548.354	790.357	758.136
Other programs			
Hague Peace Portal	27.358	19.308	8.050
Networking for Peace (activities not included in other programs)	1.119	3.071	0
Totals Other programs	28.477	22.379	8.050
Total	1.576.831	812.736	766.186
Projects summary 2008 per donor			
(see next page for further contract information per donor)			
Donor contracts ended 31/12/2008			
DFID United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	193.837	29.946	163.891
Ford Foundation	5.682	5.682	0
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	26.745	0	26.745
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	-18.144	-18.144	0
Ars Donandi	5.753	5.892	0
Other donors	0	1.952	0
	213.873	25.328	190.636
Donor contracts outstanding 31/12/2008			
Dutch Ministry of Foreign affairs (MFS)	1.068.603	568.603	500.000
DFID United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	37.911	37.911	0
Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs/City of The Hague	27.358	19.308	8.050
Irish Aid	49.683	39.683	10.000
Meyer Swantee	51.611	51.611	0
Austrian Development Agency	102.792	70.292	32.500
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	25.000	0	25.000
	1.362.958	787.408	575.550
Totals	1.576.831	812.736	766.186

Auditor's Report

FLYNTH
adviseurs • accountants

The Board of Directors of Stichting
Europees Centrum voor Conflictpreventie
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Almere, 11 June 2008

Concerns: Auditor's report

Dear Mr van Tuijl,

In accordance with your instructions we have audited the extensive financial report of European Centre of Conflict Prevention, Den Haag, for the year 2008. Part of this financial report has been added to the annual report on the pages 11 and 12 of the now presented annual report 2008.

Responsibility of the board

The management of ECCP is responsible for creating a report that complies with the law and applicable rules and regulations. This responsibility implies among others: constructing, implementing and maintaining an internal system of control that serves to compile and accurately reflect the income and expenses which are mentioned in the financial report in such a way that there are no material discrepancies as a consequence of fraud or mistakes. The system should also serve to select and apply acceptable bases for financial reporting as well as to make estimates which are fair under the given circumstances.

Responsibility of the auditor

Our responsibility is to give a true and fair view of the financial report based upon our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and relevant national auditing standards or practices. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the project statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used by management, as well as evaluating the overall position as presented by the financial report.

The choice of the work to be performed depends on the professional judgment of the auditor, which contains an opinion concerning the risks of material discrepancies as a consequence of fraud or mistakes. In the judgment the auditor will take into account the relevant system of internal control for compiling and accurately reflecting the income and expenses in the financial report in order to make a responsible choice of the elements of the audit work which are adequate under the circumstances, but which do not aim to pass a judgment on the effectiveness of the system of internal control of ECCP.

Opinion

In our opinion, the extensive financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the foundation (stichting) as at 31 December 2008 and of the result for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the Netherlands and comply with the financial reporting requirements included in Part 9 of Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code for as far as applicable to the foundation. The information on page 11 and 12 in the annual report has been taken unchanged from the extensive financial report. To get a complete true and fair view we refer to the separate extensive financial report.

Flynth adviseurs en accountants B.V.


Drs. R. van der Velden RA

Donor List

	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08
GOVERNMENTS					
Austrian Development Agency					
Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade					
Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs					
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
French Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
German Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
Irish Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland					
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency					
Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs					
UK Department for International Development					
FOUNDATIONS AND OTHERS					
Ars Donandi					
Conflict Prevention Trust Fund					
Cordaid					
Ford Foundation					
Heinrich Böhl Foundation					
Meyer Swanteé Foundation					
Municipality of The Hague					
NCDO					
Oxfam Novib					
Optimix Foundation					
Taiwan Foundation					
UNDP					
William & Flora Hewlett Foundation					
World Vision International					

EGCP Board



Members of ECPC's Board and Management and GPPAC's Executive Committee

- Mr. Joris Voorhoeve (Chairman) *Member of the Netherlands Council of State and Professor of International Organisations and International Security Studies*
- Ms. Carlijne Bueters (Treasurer) *Director of the Turing Foundation*
- Mr. Wouter Meijer, *Former Director of the World Population Foundation*
- Ms. Bea Stolte van Empelen *Formerly with SOH (Dutch Interchurch Aid), was actively involved in several peacebuilding initiatives in Africa*
- Ms. Mariska van Beinum *Deputy Head of the Conflict Research Unit at the Clingendael Institute*
- Ms. Christa Meindersma *Deputy Director of the Hague Centre for Strategic Studies, external relations and director Conflict Management*
- Ms. Willemijn Verloop *Founder and Director of External Affairs War Child Netherlands*
- Major General (ret) Patrick Cammaert, *former Military Adviser Secretary General of the United Nations and General Officer Commanding E-Division of the United Nations Mission in DRC (MONUC)*

Management and Staff in 2008



- Paul van Tongeren, *Secretary General of GPPAC*
- Peter van Tuijl, *Executive Director*
- Juliette Verhoeven, *Programme Manager Early Warning and Early Response and Regional Coordinator Middle East and North Africa*

Interns in 2008

- Willemijn Aerdts (*Early Warning and Early Response*)
- Benjamin Blaenkner (*Monitoring and Evaluation*)
- Celesta Duivenvoorde (*Peace Portal*)
- Caroline Guldenmund (*Communications and Awareness Raising*)
- Maria Kekeliova (*Communications and Awareness Raising*)
- Saori Kumano (*Monitoring and Evaluation*)
- Fanny Liesegang (*Early Warning and Early Response*)
- Annabel Meurs (*Communications and Awareness Raising*)
- Naveen Mishra (*Interaction and Advocacy*)
- Emeka Onyekwere (*Early Warning and Early Response*)
- Hanna Streng (*Network and Capacity Building*)
- Jessica Vorstermans (*Early Warning and Early Response*)

- Jenny Aulin, *Funding Coordinator*
- Alexander Austin, *Programme Manager Network and Capacity Building, Regional Coordinator Caucasus and Western CIS*
- Charlotte Crockett, *Communications Coordinator*
- Christine van Empel, *Interim Programme Manager Interaction and Advocacy*
- Renske Heemskerk, *Programme Manager Interaction and Advocacy (until August 2008)*
- Lisette Hendriks, *Office Manager*
- Marte Hellema, *Programme Manager Awareness Raising, Regional Coordinator Asia Pacific, Latin America & the Caribbean*
- Kees Kolsteeg, *Manager Finance*
- Zahid Movlazadeh, *Programme Manager Knowledge Generation and Sharing, Regional coordinator Central Asia and Western Balkans*
- Goele Scheers, *Programme Manager Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation & Quality*

GPPAC International Steering Group

Regional Secretariats

Central and East Africa
Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa (NPI-Africa)
Ms. Florence Mpaayei
Email: fmpaayei@npi-africa.org

Southern Africa
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West Africa
West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
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Latin America and the Caribbean
Regional Coordination for Economic & Social Research (CRIES)
Mr. Andrés Serbin
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North America
Peacebuild, The Canadian Peacebuilding Network
Mr. David Lord
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US Steering Committee for GPPAC:
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Mr. Charles F. (Chic) Dambach
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The Pacific
Mr. Mosese Waqa

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Northeast Asia
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Mr. Yoshioka Tatsuya
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Central Asia
Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI)
Ms. Raya Kadyrova
Email: fti@fti.kg

Middle East and North Africa
Arab Partnership for Conflict Prevention
Permanent Peace Movement (PPM)
Mr. Fadi Abi Allam
Email: ppm@ppm-lebanon.org

Western Commonwealth of Independent States
Nonviolence International
Mr. Andre Kamenshikov
Email: ninis@mail.ru

The Caucasus
International Center on Conflict & Negotiation (ICCN)
Ms. Tina Gogueliani
Email: analysis@iccn.ge

The Western Balkans
Nansen Network in the Balkans
Ms. Tatjana Popović
Email: tanyap@sezampro.yu

Northern and Western Europe
European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP)
Mr. Peter van Tuijl
Email: info@conflict-prevention.net

Global Secretariat:
European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP)
Email: info@conflict-prevention.net

Non-regional members:

- Mr. Johann Aufderklamm, *International Committee of the Red Cross*
- Mr. Ekkehard Forberg, *World Vision International*
- Ms. Heather Sonner, *World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy*
- Mr. Ragnar Ångeby, *Folke Bernadotte Academy*



www.conflict-prevention.net

Colophon

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