

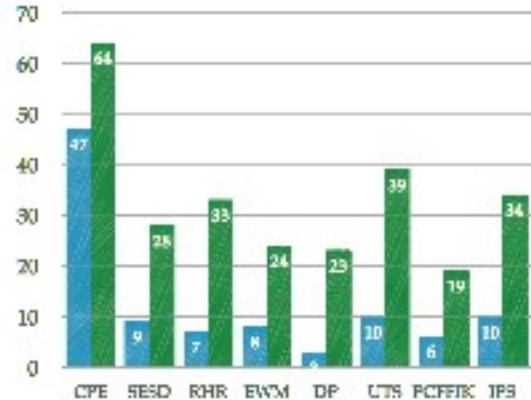
WORLD REPORT ON THE CULTURE OF PEACE (2001-2010)
HIGHLIGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY REGION

A. International Organizations

Domains of Action Prioritized
 (primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- Almost half of IOs focus on Culture of Peace through Education primarily, and a majority secondarily – resulting in the development of many peace education programs around the world.
- IOs have played a special role in the promotion of the Decade by coordinating Decade programs and activities at the national and international level, advocating within the UN, and documenting the Decade through the 2005 and 2010 Civil Society Reports.
- Individual organizations have revolutionized standards of sustainable development and have been recognized as reliable sources of research and analysis.
- Campaigns have been carried out to sensitize consumers to issues of child labor and labor rights, as well as the connection between human rights and extreme poverty.
- The International Criminal Court was largely inspired by international civil society.
- Understanding, Tolerance and Solidarity have been promoted by many organizations in a variety of ways, including interfaith dialogue, tourism, the arts, and volunteering.



Recommendations

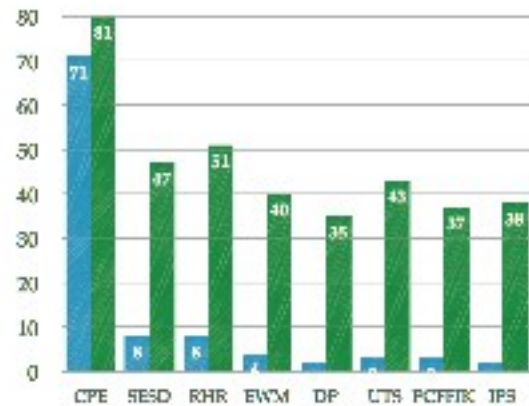
- Increase media attention to the Decade and support by UNESCO.
- Carry out awareness campaigns regarding the Culture of Peace concept, documents and history.
- Support funding for Culture of Peace initiatives and especially new, innovative and youth organizations.
- Ease bureaucracy within the UN and other international organizations for collaborations and joint projects.
- Transform the violent models presented to adults and children in news and entertainment media.

B. Africa

Domains of Action Prioritized (primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- By far, the highest priority is on Culture of Peace through Education.
- CSOs have developed Peace Education curricula for schools in various countries.
- Free schooling for children has been provided.
- Communication and relationships between host communities and oil companies have improved (Niger Delta).
- The International Criminal Court, created thanks to civil society advocacy, has judged war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity.
- Women have had a more active involvement in peace advocacy.
- Interethnic and intergenerational mechanisms to manage conflicts locally have been established.



Recommendations

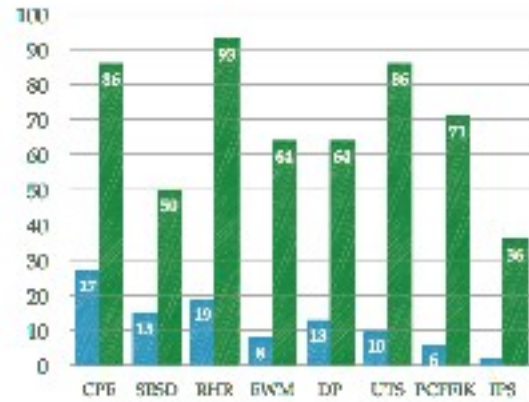
- Work to reduce poverty and economic inequalities by decreasing external debt.
- Impose sanctions on actors that profit from war and lack of development.
- Replace financial institutions by a new system based upon equity principles or support sustainable development projects.
- Include peace education in the school system while carrying out teacher training. Such education should be conceived as a comprehensive subject that would include conflict resolution, democracy, human rights, inter-religious and health education.
- States together with civil society must reduce armed violence by imposing stricter arms embargoes for parties in conflict, reducing weapons and ammunition manufacturing and trade, ending the use of child soldiers, and reducing military spending.
- Devote more funds and ensure access to digital technologies and have a stronger presence in media.
- Give greater support to youth organizations and focus on advocacy skills.

C. Arab States

Domains of Action Prioritized
(primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- The highest priority is in Culture of Peace through Education.
- Educational activities for peace are organized mainly for youth.
- The promotion of a culture of peace is done mostly through research, dissemination, publications and workshops.
- Several organizations been involved in policy, advocacy work and sensitization activities.
- There has been increasing interest, demand and activities for environment protection, sustainable economic and social development.
- Activities for gender equity and women empowerment have increased.
- Community organizations have promoted Understanding, Tolerance and Solidarity, especially addressing identity and faith.



Recommendations

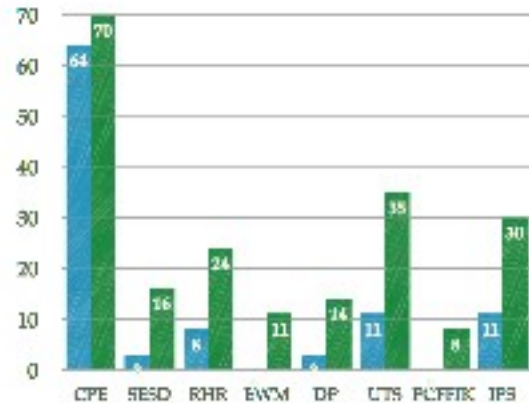
- Increase the financial support for Culture of Peace initiatives, especially for youth and women.
- Enhance technical assistance for capacity building, project implementation and sustainability.
- Increase the advocacy activities regarding the conflict between Israel and Palestine within the international community.
- Evaluate and raise awareness regarding the consequences of the conflict between Israel and Palestine on the region.
- Develop actions to transform the mass media into an actor that contributes to enhance a Culture of Peace.

D. East Asia and Australasia

Domains of Action Prioritized (primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- By far, most efforts in the region are devoted to Culture of Peace through Education. A regional platform was created, the Asia Pacific Center for Education for International Understanding (APCEIU).
- Peace education has been widely promoted mostly among young people, and through both formal and non-formal education, such as trainings, seminars and workshops.
- The use of ICTs such as social media, interactive platforms and mass videoconferencing has been important tool that has contributed to the promotion of the Decade in the region.
- Organizations in the region call for transparent and participatory dialogue among political leaders, governments and civil society in continuing ongoing peace processes.
- In the field of Democratic Participation, highlight is given to the empowerment of informal and local, community-based groups in the region.
- Understanding, Tolerance and Solidarity are mostly promoted through inter-faith and intercultural gatherings that bring together leaders from diverse cultural and faith groups.



Recommendations

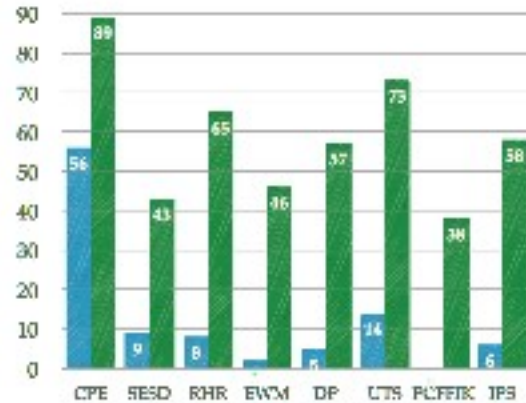
- Link and network with existing global groups and networks. Supporting these existing global initiatives that connect different community peacebuilding groups will strengthen both the global and local domains of the Culture of Peace.
- Support and strengthen peace education initiatives both in formal and non-formal education.
- Enhance cooperation between UN agencies and civil society organizations to promote the Culture of Peace and Nonviolence, as well as human rights.
- Strengthen effective networks to connect all organizations, which is vital to support any community peacebuilding.
- Leverage ICTs for peacebuilding by using them to connect people.
- Encourage the use of mass media and ICTs for the promotion of peace, dialogue and nonviolence.
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E. Europe

Domains of Action Prioritized (primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- Primary and secondary education institutions increased and strengthened education programs for peace.
- Think tanks and universities have increased research on the Culture of Peace.
- Important progress achieved in the struggle for the rights and freedoms of the LGBTQ community.
- After the events of September 11, 2001 in New York City, immigrants from Arab and Muslim beliefs have experienced greater social rejection.
- Increased use of alternative media and online social networks (Facebook, Twitter) to promote citizen participation in the Culture of Peace.
- There has been greater debate on freedom of religion and conscience and the role of governments.
- The recognition of the rights of migrants has enhanced their political impact, especially regarding political participation and decision-making at the local level.



Recommendations

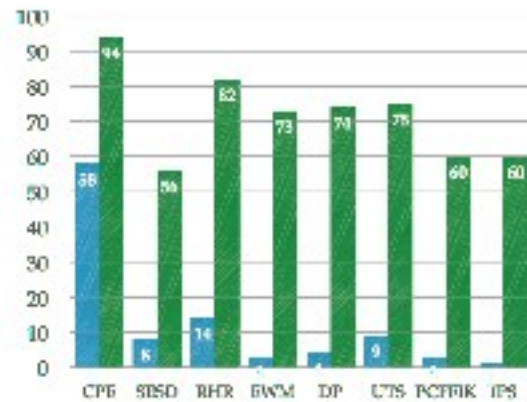
- Increase and improve conditions for the participation of civil society in the implementation of plans and programs agreed to by States that are aimed at promoting a Culture of Peace in its various aspects.
- Increase political and economic support for youth participation in local projects that contribute to their region or community in various areas such as political participation, respect for human rights, sustainable development and free flow of information.
- Due to the increasing migrant population facilitated by the Schengen agreement, it is important to continue promoting values like tolerance, understanding and solidarity, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the peaceful resolution of conflict, the rejection of the various manifestations of violence and the promotion of the culture of peace through education.
- Support the exchange of experiences and progress among persons and organizations engaged in education for peace, both in Europe and around the world. This could be through the drafting of regional and international reports, increasing publications, reporting, conferences, workshops and other events.

F. Latin America and the Caribbean

Domains of Action Prioritized (primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- By far, Culture of Peace through Education is the highest priority in the region.
- Gender equity and women empowerment initiatives have increased.
- Human Rights activism in the region has been strengthened.
- The unrestricted free flow of information has intensified.
- Concern for international peace and security issues has grown.
- There has been an increase in interest in sustainable economic and social development.
- Greater numbers of people have participated in budget planning.
- Local and community based economic projects have expanded.
- The number of NGOs or associations has greatly increased.



Recommendations

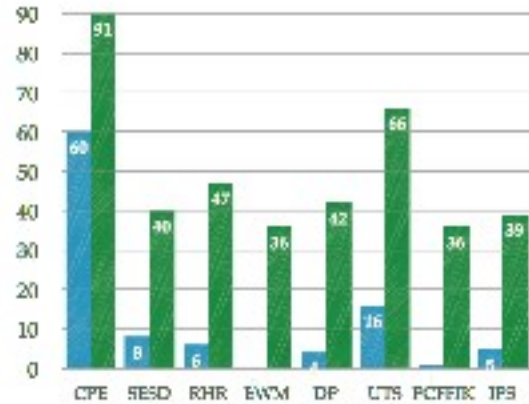
- Promote initiatives seeking to involve different actors in society.
- Engage youth as a model for the new generation.
- Increase the participation of local government activities to increase the effectiveness of actions.
- Foster association with other organizations working on various issues.
- Diffuse the Culture of Peace on the Internet, as well as in the local media targeting the local population.

G. North America

Domains of Action Prioritized (primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- By far, Culture of Peace through Education is the highest priority in the region.
- Many local and city culture of peace initiatives have been developed.
- The International Day of Peace has been celebrated extensively.
- The teaching and practice of mediation, restorative justice and other alternative forms of conflict resolution to settle disputes, including extensive programs in schools, has increased.
- Women have taken leadership for peace through peace marches, weekly vigils and other peace-oriented initiatives and programs.
- The National Peace Academy was founded in the USA.
- Videos and websites that promote a Culture of Peace have been developed and distributed.
- Programs that involve and publicize Nobel Peace Prize winners have been developed.



Recommendations

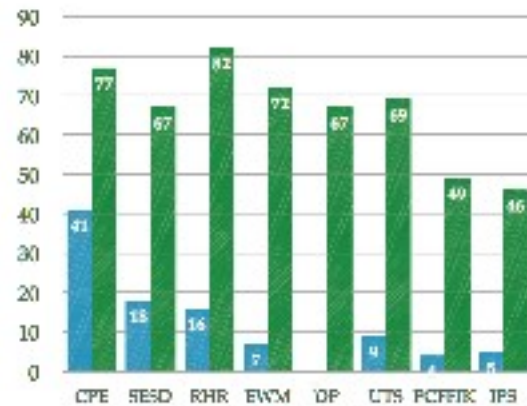
- UNESCO should reiterate its support for the Manifesto 2000 and its six principles. These have become widely accepted as useful standards. Any additional UN publicity or financial support for such actions would be greatly beneficial.
- Continue supporting the government and civil society infrastructures being developed at the local, regional, and national levels to support nonviolent conflict resolution, conflict transformation, and peacebuilding for right relationships.
- The Internet should be used to communicate what is working at the local level and to create an international network of cities of peace.
- Peace education curricula should be shared and infused into existing curricula and all subjects. Education about the UN Culture of Peace Programme of Action should be part of the curricula.
- The Native American concept of basing every decision on how it will affect the next 7 generations should be promoted widely.

H. South and Central Asia

Domains of Action Prioritized (primarily | secondarily)

Highlights

- Culture of Peace through Education is the highest priority.
- Governments and governmental organizations have paid attention to the language of the Culture of Peace and have started initiatives to promote it.
- Women's organizations have played a vital role in promoting the values of the culture of peace and designing projects that create dialogue, enhance livelihood and cooperation in this region.
- Civil wars have ended and new democracies were born in many countries in the past decade.
- There has been growing awareness of nuclear threats.
- Attempts to document culture of peace activities and resources in the region have been increased in the past decade.
- Sustainable development has been linked to peacebuilding by many organizations making the discourse more holistic.



Recommendations

- Implement laws and policies that support human rights, especially free speech and inquiry.
- Make space for youth voices. As members of a hierarchical society, young people are not considered equals of their adult counterparts. Organizations working with youth have recommended that youth be allowed more space in expressing and implementing programs rather than mere tokenism.
- Provide financial assistance for peacebuilding programs that are difficult to measure, especially in the field of prejudice breaking and dialogue.
- Increase media visibility and spread of the vocabulary of the Culture of Peace, including more cultural expression of the idea in the form of various media interventions.
- Development programs should use the peace lens during the design, implementation and evaluation stages.