

Educating Health Workers for Peace

An international symposium enhancing training and research
on peace and conflict issues in the health sector

13-15 June 2007

University of Tromsø, Norway



Vision

All medical and health science institutions realize their peace potential.

Mission of the conference

- Exchange experiences in teaching peace-relevant knowledge, skills and values to health professionals and students.
- Strengthen the network of scholars and health professionals committed to violence prevention, sustainable peace-building, and human rights protection.
- Assist the advancement of peace education and practice in the health sector.
- Contribute to the review of the Medical Peace Work online course and facilitate its dissemination and incorporation into medical and health education.
- Develop an action plan for institutionalizing peace work as an integral part of medical and public health practice.



Background

Violence and war cause enormous human suffering and impose a huge burden on the health sector. Health workers therefore have a professional responsibility not only for treating injuries and diseases, but also for contributing to violence prevention, sustainable peacebuilding and human rights promotion.

Over the past 15 years it has increasingly been acknowledged that there is a need for training health professionals in peace-related skills, knowledge and values.

Several universities, organisations and vocational training institutions have launched distinct courses in “Peace-through-Health”, “Violence Prevention”, “Global Health”, or “Health and Human Rights”. Many challenges remain, however, in the effort to create awareness of and strengthen the peace capacities of health professionals.

This conference will be another step towards peace mainstreaming in medical training and research.

Prospective conference participants

- Scholars and researchers in medicine, health and peace sciences
- Representatives of medical and health associations
- Representatives of humanitarian, peace and human rights organizations
- Students and health practitioners with an interest in medical peace work

Pre-conference event: Medical Peace Work (MPW) partner workshop

Prior to the symposium, the Centre for International Health in Tromsø (SIH) will host a Medical Peace Work project workshop, gathering 20 delegates of medical peace organizations and teaching institutions from around Europe. These include IPPNW, Medact, University College London, Johannes Wier Stichting, International Federation of Health and Human Rights Organizations, University of Bradford, Public Health Institute of Slovenia, Norwegian Medical Association, and Norwegian Centre for Telemedicine. MPW partners will present outcomes and results of the workshop at the symposium.

Keynote speakers

Over the next few weeks, keynote speakers will be announced on our symposium website: <http://uit.no/sih/8989/>

Call for papers

We invite proposals related to any of the symposium topics. Please e-mail your abstract with a maximum of 250 words to Klaus Melf at klaus.melf@sih.uit.no by April 30th.

Programme	
June 12 - 13	Pre-conference event: Medical Peace Work partner workshop
Wednesday, June 13	
19:00 – 20:00	Arrival and registration of symposium participants
20:00	Boat trip with midnight sun fishing
Thursday, June 14	
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome and opening remarks
09:30 – 10:00	Health workers as agents for peace
10:00 – 10:15	Break
10:15 – 11:30	Challenges in establishing a new academic discipline Keynote speech, papers, discussion
11:30 – 11:45	Break
11:45 – 13:00	Essential skills, knowledge and values in medical peace work Keynote speech, papers, discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Peace-through-Health: Reflecting the McMaster experiences Roundtable presentation, discussion
15:15 – 15:45	Break
15:45 – 16:45	Peace mainstreaming in medical and health science education
16:45 – 17:00	Day summary and closure
	Optional afternoon tours - Tromsø sightseeing: An arctic summer experience - Cable car trip to panorama café “Fjellheisen” with hiking opportunity
20:00	Conference dinner
Friday, June 15	
09:00 – 10:30	Appropriate teaching methodologies: A question of effect Keynote speech, papers, discussion
10:30 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:30	Linking peace and health in new research projects Keynote speech, papers, discussion
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Action plan for incorporating peace into research and teaching
14:30 – 15:00	Conference summary and closure

Registration

Online registration is possible at <http://uit.no/sih/8988/>. Please direct correspondence about registration and practical matters to Thomas Krogh at thomas.krogh@sih.uit.no.

Conference fees

- Full Conference Package: 300 € (before April 15th: 250 €) - includes all coffee breaks, lunch, the social programme and conference dinner.
- Presentations Only: 150 € (before April 15th: 100 €) - incl coffee breaks and lunch.
- Special Student Fee: 25 € - includes coffee breaks only.

Accommodation

A special hotel price for conference participants is available when booking before April 15th at Clarion Hotel Bryggen www.choicehotels.no/html/no300499.jsp (Ref. no 28663).

Single room per night: NOK 1.295; Double room per night: NOK 1.495.

Please note that due to coinciding seasonal events, rooms may not be easily available in Tromsø if you book at a later stage.

Tromsø – the gateway to the Arctic www.destinasjontromso.no/english/index.html

On June 16th the Tromsø Midnight Sun Marathon www.msm.no will take place.



The symposium is organized in cooperation with the Medical Peace Work Project. MPW is developing an online course, textbook and resource website for improving the training possibilities for health professionals in peace issues.

Modules of the Medical Peace Work online course

1. Peace, conflict and the role of health professionals
2. Medicine, health and human rights
3. War, weapons and militarization
4. Root causes of armed conflicts
5. Conflict sensitivity, peace building and health diplomacy
6. Refugee and migration challenges
7. Prevention of inter-personal and self-directed violence

More information:

www.medicalpeacework.org



Education and Culture

Leonardo da Vinci

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