

Danish Peace Academy Report for 2013

by John Scales Avery

March 31, 2014

Holger Terp and the Peace Academy Website

The website continues to be the center of the Danish Peace Academy's efforts, and Holger Terp continues to maintain and develop it almost single-handedly. Recent additions to the website include:

1. 40,000 additional documents related to peace, bringing the total on the website up to 90,000.
2. Additional articles, bringing the total on the website up to 200.
3. Additional books, bringing the total on the website up to 160.
4. Description of nations in the Peace Academy Website's encyclopedia: Holger has initiated a project for describing all of the world's nations with special reference to questions of peace and war.
5. "EU militær og Nobels fredspris", af Holger Terp ("The EU's military establishment and the Nobel Peace Prize", by Holger Terp, 27 pages),

Books written or edited by Holger Terp

1. "Skjalden sang fredssangen og slagget stoppede... Bemærkninger til dansk fredsmusiks historie" ("The bard sang a song of peace, and the battle stopped... Remarks on the history of Danish Peace Music"), by Holger Terp, 429 pages. This is an enormous, beautifully illustrated and scholarly book. It is with certainty the definitive work on the history of Danish peace music, and it makes a very significant contribution to the culture of peace.

2. “Nuclear Weapons Production in the US, 1941-2011”, by Holger Terp, 442 pages. This is another enormous and scholarly work, with many illustrations. But unlike “Skjalden sang fredssangen...” it is not delightful to read, but horrifying, since it shows the huge extent of the nuclear weapons complex, and the degree to which it has infiltrated the academic world and the economy of the United States. The book shows us what we are up against as we strive for the complete abolition of nuclear weapons. The book has great value because of its accuracy and objectivity.
3. “Goliath v. David: A Short History of the Fight Against Organized Peace Work”, edited by Holger Terp, 86 pages. This is another important contribution to the history of the peace movement.
4. “The Arms Race or the Human Race”, by Erik Bernstorff and Erik Philipson, 2nd Edition, edited by Holger Terp, 281 pages. This is an anthology about the dangers of the arms race, and prospects for the peace process. It contains numerous illustrations and active links to other peace-oriented sites. Although the message is serious, the book is entertaining to read. The book can be found in the book section the Peace Academy website.
5. “Fredskultur”, by Holger Terp and John Macko. This is a unique multimedia presentation of peace songs. It can be downloaded from the Danish Peace Academy website. One has to be patient with the initial loading process, because it takes one or two minutes, but the experience that follows is more than worth it!
6. “Danish Peace History”, by Holger Terp. After an initial discussion of the first student rebellion, which took place in the 17th century, this beautifully illustrated and scholarly history of the Danish peace movement goes back to the Viking age, and traces the developments up to the present time.
7. “Peace in Print”, by Holger Terp, a bibliography of peace literature containing 1889 entries.
8. “Min Forsøg Med Sandheden” (“My Experiment With Truth”) by M.K. Gandhi, translated into Danish and illustrated by Holger Terp. This is a translation of Gandhi’s famous autobiography.

9. "Det Unge Indien" ("Young India"), by M.K. Gandhi, translated into Danish and illustrated by Holger Terp. Gandhi's journal.
10. "Friends of Gandhi", 426 pages, Edited by E.S. Reddy and Holger Terp, Gandhi-Information.Zentrum, Berlin, (2006). Correspondence between Gandhi and three Danish women.
11. "Politik Fra Neden" ("Politics From Below") by Judith Winther, Edited and illustrated by Holger Terp. This book presents a discussion of the role of civil society in politics.
12. "Fredssange : En dokumenteret spilleliste over 100 års musik" ("Peace Songs: A documented play-list over 100 years of music"), 509 pages. By copying the song titles into a search engine, such as Google, one can in most cases hear the songs performed.

Books by John Scales Avery on the Peace Academy website

1. "Collected Essays, Volume 1", 313 pages. This book contains a collection of 55 essays, most of which were published "Countercurrents" or in Prof. Johan Galtung's "Transcend Media Service Weekly Digest" during 2012 and 2013. Some of the material is excerpted from my previous writings on social issues, but more often the essays were written in response to current events. All of the essays are concerned with trying to find solutions to the serious problems with which the world is faced during the 21st century.
2. "Collected Essays, Volume 2", 223 pages. This is a continuation of Volume 1. At present it contains 28 essays, but others will be added.
3. "Space-Age Science and Stone-Age Politics", 272 pages. This book discusses the problems created by the enormous speed of technological development, and the much slower rates of change human political and social institutions and human emotions.
4. "Science and Society". This is a book about the history of science and technology, and their impact on society. It was used for many years as a textbook for courses given in Denmark, England, Sweden and Switzerland. It has been translated into both Danish and Urdu.

5. "Videnskab og Samfund", 320 pages. A Danish translation of "Science and Society" by Aase Lundsteen and Ole D. Rughede.
6. "Science, Religion and War", 142 pages. This is a personal view of the relationship between science, religion and war. In my opinion, misapplied advances in science and technology have made war so dangerous that it must be now be eliminated as a social institution if civilization is to survive. In this dangerous situation, religious leaders must use their great influence to build an ethic of universal human solidarity.
7. "Crisis 21: Civilization's Crisis in the 21st Century", 346 pages. This book is an attempt to treat in a holistic way all of the serious and interrelated problems that we are facing during the 21st century. These problems have solutions, but because they are linked, they must all be solved together.

Ruth Gunnarsen's proposal for an International Student House in Copenhagen

At a recent meeting of the Board of the Danish Peace Academy Mrs Ruth Gunnarsen proposed that we should advocate the establishment of an international student housing project in Copenhagen, similar to La Cité Universitaire in Paris. International House at the University of California in Berkeley was also put forward as an example of what might be done. Following Ruth's suggestion, we wrote the letter shown below to Frank Jensen, Lord Mayor of Copenhagen:

Mr. Frank Jensen
Lord Mayor of Copenhagen
Rådhuset, Copenhagen

Dear Frank Jensen,

We would like to respectfully suggest that the City of Copenhagen, and the educational institutions that are in the vicinity of the city, might benefit from having an international student residence similar to the one that has existed for many years at the Berkeley branch of the University of California (ihouse.berkeley.edu). The benefits of such a house would include: a) attracting international students to Copenhagen; b) increasing international

understanding through lifelong friendships formed between residents; and c) academic inspiration from ideas exchanged between the residents.

Here is a link to the distinguished alumni of International House UC Berkeley: <http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/alumni/notable/> . They include 9 Nobel laureates. One of the 9, Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson, met his wife (the distinguished Danish biochemist and historian of science Lady Lise Wikinson) while they were both staying at Berkeley's International House!

Perhaps this project could be financed by grants from the University of Copenhagen, The Pharmaceutical College and the Danish Technical University. We very much hope that you will consider our suggestion.

Respectfully,

John Scales Avery, Ph.D., Chairman
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Lord Mayor Frank Jensen's answer

Dear John Scales Avery and Ruth Gunnarsen

Your proposal for an international student house is an exciting initiative.

In 2025 the number of citizens living in Copenhagen will have increased by approximately 100,000. Roughly a third will be young people between the ages of 18 to 29 a group consisting of both Danish and foreign students.

The Municipality of Copenhagen expects the number of young people living in the city to increase from approximately 135,000 to 170,000. This in turn



Figure 1: *The Danish Peace Academy's Ruth Gunnarsen*



Figure 2: *Copenhagen's Lord Mayor, Frank Jensen*

will lead to a significant demand for housing.

I would call your attention to a work already underway to establish an international student city in Copenhagen. The ISCC-project is led by Mr. Jørgen Rossen (rossen@rossen.com) and supported by several institutions including the University of Copenhagen, the IT University and Copenhagen Business School through a fellowship, which also provides financial support. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Rossen if you can contribute to the realization of his project.

If the idea of an international student house or even a student city is carried out, it will help achieve two of the significant goals of the Municipality of Copenhagen: - to support and brand Copenhagen as being an international city of knowledge and to have 3,000 more homes for youths and students in Copenhagen.

Thus the Municipality of Copenhagen will be more than happy for either of the initiatives to be achieved.

Kind regards

Frank Jensen
Lord Mayor of Copenhagen

We were of course delighted by this kind and encouraging answer, and we will continue to work on the project.

United Nations Day Student Peace Prizes

In collaboration with the Danish National Group of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs and with the help of the Hermod Lannung Foundation we offered prizes to students at 10 Danish gymnasiums for projects related to global problems and their solutions and to the United Nations. These projects were essays, dramatic sketches, videos, websites, posters, etc., and they were judged on UN Day, before large audiences of students.

The background for this project is as follows: In 2007, in collaboration with the Danish Pugwash Group several other NGO's, we arranged a visit to

Copenhagen by Dr. Tadatoshi Akiba, the Mayor of Hiroshima. In connection with his visit, we arranged a Peace Education Conference at the University of Copenhagen.

In connection with Dr. Akiba's visit, we also arranged a day of peace education at Copenhagen's Open Gymnasium. About 15 people from various branches of Denmark's peace movement arrived at the gymnasium at 7.00 a.m., and between 8.00 and 10.00 they talked to 15 groups of about 25-50 students about topics related to peace. At 10.30, all 500 students assembled in a large hall, where Dr. Akiba gave an address on abolition of nuclear weapons. A chorus from the gymnasium sang, and finally there was a panel discussion. The students were extremely enthusiastic about the whole program.

The success of our 2007 effort made us want to do something similar in 2008, and perhaps to broaden the scope. Therefore we wrote to Bertel Haarder, who was then Minister of Education, and proposed that October 24, United Nations Day, should be a theme day in all Danish schools and gymnasiums - a day devoted to the discussion of global problems and their solutions. We received the very kind reply. The Minister said that he thought our idea was a good one, but that he did not have the power to dictate the curricula to schools. We needed to contact the individual schools, gymnasiums and municipalities.

In the autumn of 2008 we arranged a United Nations Day program on October 24 at Sankt Annæ Gymnasium with the cooperation of Nørre Gymnasium. We offered prizes to drama students at the two gymnasiums for the best peace-related dramatic sketch, a condition being that the sketches should be performed and judged before a large audience. Our judges were the actress Mia Luhne, Johan Olsen, the lead singer of Magtens Korridorer and the dramatist Steen Haakon Hansen. The students' sketches and the judges speeches about the meaning of peace were very strong and moving. Everyone was very enthusiastic about the day. The judges have said that they would be willing to work with us again on peace-related cultural events.

Our successes in 2007 and 2008 have made us wish to continue and possibly expand the idea of making United Nations Day a theme day in Danish schools and gymnasiums - a day for discussion of global problems and their

solutions, with special emphasis on the role of the United Nations. The Hermod Lannung Foundation supported our project for extending this idea to 10 Danish gymnasiums in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

The Hermod Lannung Foundation has generously awarded us funds to continue the project in 2012. The Danish United Nations Association worked with us on this project in 2011, and we hope that they will help us to expand it in the future, with additional funding from the Ministry of Education.

Gymnasiums participating in 2013

1. Fredrikssund Gymnasium, Contact: Agnethe Dybro Pedersen, fgap@frsgym.dk
2. Rysensteen Gymnasium, Contact: Gitte Transboel, gt@rysensteen.dk
3. International People's College, Contact: Søren Launberg, soeren@ipc
4. Aurehøj Gymnasium, Contact: Kasper Rolskov, kr@aurehoej.dk
5. Sankt Annæ Gymnasium, Contact: Charlotte Ib, ci@sag.dk
6. Niels Stensens Gymnasium, Contact: Peter Togsverd, To@nsgym.dk
7. Københavns åbne Gymnasium, Contact: Anne-Birgitte Rasmussen, ar@adm.kg.dk
8. Bagsværd Kostskole og Gymnasium, Contact: Charlotte Moltke, CM@bagkost.dk

Dear John Avery, last Friday we held a splendid UN - inspired Day.

First we had two Danish politicians - Mogens Lykketoft and Sren Pind - doing a debate on the concept of Global Citizenship and the role and responsibility of the UN in a changing and challenging international arena. Special attention were, naturally, given to the situation in Syria.

Second our senior year students showed movies they had made on ten different destinations around the world concerning different challenges of global relevance: Democracy development, multicuturalism and national identity and creating economic ties between countries based on innovation and creativity. After the showing of the movies, all the topics were debated by



different experts.

Because of the formidable engagement by all our senior-year students we chose in a democratic fashion to divide the prize money, that we received from you on small gifts for all our classes.

I have attached a few pictures. If you want to see more, please visit our website: Rysensteen.dk

Best regards, Head of Global Citizenship, Rysensteen, Mr. Anders Schultz

UN Day at IPC 2013

For our 2013 United Nations Day, the International Peoples College (IPC) chose to focus on changes that we can make within our community. This approach came from the idea that real social change has to start within



communities with the active engagement of those most affected by it. We wanted our students to realize that positive social change can start with them and come out of recognizing what needs to change in the spaces around them.

We started the process for UN day two weeks in advance when we shared with students examples of change that people have initiated in their communities in others parts of the world including Turkey and South Africa. These examples focused on small and tangible differences that are possible to make with few resources, such as changing neglected public spaces into parks or raising local funds for community projects.

We asked students to come forward with suggestions for projects that could be implemented within IPC on UN day that focused on improving the environment, reducing our waste and building our community. Three of our classes, included Human Rights and Active Global Citizenship and Environmental Studies dedicated some time to brainstorm ideas for projects.

For the day we selected seven different activities that students selected to be part of with the support of our teachers. The day started with a presentation from one of our teachers, Gertrud Tinning who spoke about her work with UN Habitat. She shared with us her experiences of working with communities in Kenya and Sri Lanka to improve their urban environment. She emphasized the importance of these projects being defined and led by community groups and that this approach strengthened the ability of communities to deal with future challenges. This linked the work we were doing at IPC for the day with the work of the UN in the larger world.

The changes we worked on in IPC were:

Painting a community mural Wall: Students worked together to conceptualize and paint a mural on the theme of community.

Green Walls: We increased the amount of green plant life within the school by recycling wooden palettes into plant holders which were placed around the school.

Cosy Room: We created a cosy room for socializing out of a neglected space in the school.



Building bird houses: We built and placed bird houses around the property to increase the natural diversity on the property.

Campaign on energy saving: Students developed campaign materials around the school to encourage others in our community to save energy.

Dealing with difference and changing social relations: Students analyzed the ways in which the IPC community is divided socially and developed ideas for building a stronger community.

Upcycling workshop: Students renovated old and discarded furniture to enable them to be re-used.

It was an engaging day everyone at IPC. We were all activated to notice and take care of our physical and social environment, and working together helped us build a stronger community.

Here are some photos from our 2013 United Nations Day at the International People's College:

Kære John

Hermed billeder fra vores UN Peace Prize Day på Sankt Annæ Gymnasium. Op til UN dagen afholdt vi studieretningsdage hvor to klasser - 1 b og 1 f forberedte sig til selve UN dagen hvor de skulle debattere emnet: This house believes we should not use military intervention without approval from the UN during atrocities like the Syria situation.



I samfundsfag lærte eleverne om FN og om situationen i Syrien, mens de i engelsk arbejdede med ordforråd og læste engelske artikler om Syrien og USAs rolle i internationale konflikter. Herudover blev de introduceret til 'formel debat', så de havde styr på reglerne inden selve dagen blev afholdt.

På vores UN dag startede vi med at begge klasser sammen var till forelæsning hos en af vore historielærere. Han holdt et oplæg om FN set fra et historisk perspektiv. Herefter gik eleverne i deres egne klasser og fik tildelt deres side i debatterne, så at alle prøvede at debattere emnet. Efter denne vedebat, kunne eleverne (ved hemmelig afstemning), vælge de elever de ønskede skulle repræsentere klassen ved eftermiddagens debat - 1 b mod 1 f. Eftermiddagens finale blev afholdt foran eleverne fra begge klasser, og vinderklassen blev 1 B, der argumenterede som 'opposition'.

Juryen bestod af Sarah Silberbrandt samt Georgios Marinos, to tidligere elever der begge har deltaget i VM i debat. De 5000 blev fordelt således at vinderklassen fik 3000 kr, den anden klasse fik gavekort til skolens kantine, og dommerne fik hver 500 kr. Dagen blev meget positivt evalueret af begge klasser, og vi vil meget gerne gentage det næste år!

Vi siger tak for donationen!

Venlig hilsen

Charlotte Ib
Sankt Annæ Gymnasium

Symposium on Renewable Energy, marking the 2nd anniversary of the Fukushima disaster

John Scales Avery, Chairman of the Danish Peace Academy helped to organize a renewable energy symposium at the University of Copenhagen's Alexander Hall. The symposium took place on the 9th of March, 2013, almost exactly two years after the Fukushima disaster. It aimed at increasing cooperation between Denmark and Japan in the field of renewable energy. This aim included both academic and research cooperation, and also cooperation between companies. The program for the symposium is given below:

Program

15.00-15.05: Welcome

15.05-15.20: His Excellency Mr. Toshio Sano, Ambassador of Japan

15.20-15.40: Prof. Bent Sørensen, Director, Energy, Environment and Climate Research Group, Roskilde University

15.40-16.00: Prof. Peter Hauge Madsen, Head of Department, Department of Wind Energy, Technical University of Denmark

16.00-16.30: Coffee break

16.30-16.50: Prof. Søren Linderøth, Head of Department, DTU Energy Conversion, Technical University of Denmark

16.50-17.30: General Discussion



Figure 3: *The renewable energy symposium “Remembering Fukushima”. The photo shows the General Discussion period, with Dr. Klaus Illum asking a question. The panel members include (left to right) H.E. Ambassador Toshio Sano, Prof. Peter Hauge Madsen, Prof. Søren Linderoth, and Prof. Bent Sørensen.*

Work towards an Arctic Nuclear Weapon Free Zone, with Scandinavia as a first step

The Danish Peace Academy's Chairman, John Scales Avery, helped to arrange a meeting at the Danish Parliament to discuss steps towards an Arctic NWFZ. Peace Academy Board Member Dr. Anton Aggernæs attended the meeting as a representative of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

Towards an Arctic Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Closed Meeting and Dinner Christiansborg Palace, April 3, 2013

Program

Closed Meeting, 15.30 - 17.30

15.30 - 15.35: Mr. Jens-Christian Navarro Poulsen: Welcome

15.35 - 15.55: Hon. Marian Hobbs, Former Disarmament Minister of New Zealand: Establishment of Sustainable Nuclear Weapon Free Zones.

15.55 - 16.15: H.E. Ambassador Klavs A. Holm, Undersecretary for Arctic Affairs, Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Working Towards an Arctic Nuclear Weapon Free Zone as an Element of Danish Foreign Policy.

16.15 - 16.35: Mr. Franz Kolar, Chief, Vienna Office, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs: Nuclear Weapon Free Zones: A United Nations Perspective.

16.35 - 17.30: General Discussion, M.P. Zenia Stampe, Chair

We hope that as many participants as possible will contribute to the General Discussion.

Dinner, 17.45-20.00

A brief report on the meeting

On April 3, 2013, at Christiansborg Palace, Copenhagen, representatives from the embassies of Russia, Canada, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Finland met with Danish parliamentarians, expert speakers, and NGO's. The meeting's purpose was to discuss progress towards an Arctic nuclear weapon free zone. It was organized by the Danish National Group of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. (In 1995 the Pugwash organization received the Nobel Peace Prize for their half-century-long efforts to abolish nuclear weapons). Another NGO with representatives at the meeting was the Danish branch of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW also received a Nobel Peace Prize, in 1985, for its work towards nuclear abolition). A third NGO, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament, was represented by its Global Coordinator, Mr. Alyn Ware of New Zealand.

The Christiansborg meeting was a follow-up to a similar meeting on March 28, 2012. Both meetings built on the policy paper of the present Danish government, which states that "...In dialogue with Denmark's partners, the government will pursue the policy of making the Arctic a nuclear weapon free zone". The first part of the meeting was chaired by Jens-Christian Navarro Poulsen of the Danish Pugwash Group.

The opening address was given by The Honorable Marian Hobbs, Former Disarmament Minister of New Zealand. Her lecture was entitled, "Establishment of Sustainable Nuclear Weapon Free Zones". In it she reviewed New Zealand's experience as a member of an NWFZ, with special emphasis on the role of public involvement. She said that popular opinion in New Zealand was, and is, so strongly opposed to nuclear weapons that no government would dare to withdraw from the treaty, and in this sense, the NWFZ is sustainable. She strongly endorsed the establishment of an Arctic NWFZ, and she hoped that a similarly deep public involvement could be achieved in the circumpolar region.

The second address was presented by His Excellency Klavs A. Holm, Danish Ambassador to the Arctic, and Undersecretary for Arctic Affairs in the

Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Holm's title was "Working Towards an Arctic Nuclear Weapon Free Zone as an Element of Danish Foreign Policy". He reviewed the general situation in the present-day Arctic, where climate change is opening waterways connecting the Atlantic to the Pacific, both on the Canadian side of the Pole and on the Russian side. Besides offering new sea routes, global warming has opened up vast possibilities for resource extraction, and together with these, occasions for competition and perhaps military confrontation between the circumpolar nations. Ambassador Holm said that an Arctic NWFZ would be highly desirable but that there are many difficulties which might cause its adoption to be delayed.

The final speaker was Mr. Franz Kolar, Chief of the Vienna Office of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. The title of his presentation was "Nuclear Weapon Free Zones: A United Nations Perspective". A full copy of his statement is attached. Mr. Kolar said, among other things, "The difference between the nuclear hazards of today and the promise of a nuclear- weapons-free tomorrow will depend primarily upon the readiness of possessor states to relinquish their nuclear weapons. Yet the success and future establishment of regional nuclear-weapon-free zones will help enormously in creating a political environment in which this great goal can be achieved. The difficulties in establishing such zones should not deter states, non-governmental organizations, and individual citizens from pursuing enlightened initiatives."

A General Discussion session followed, which was chaired by MP Zenia Stampe of the Danish Parliament, a co-organizer of the meeting. In the discussion, it was pointed out that the most important goal of all who work for the abolition of nuclear weapons must always be the establishment of a Nuclear Weapons Convention, similar to the conventions against chemical and biological weapons and against land mines. However, it was agreed that nuclear weapon free zones have great value because they represent concrete progress, thus helping to combat discouragement and apathy, and helping to focus public attention on nuclear abolition. The possibility of a Nordic NWFZ as a first step towards an Arctic NWFZ was discussed, and it was concluded that this would be a very helpful and achievable first step, as would the denuclearization of the Canadian Arctic.

It was pointed out that a nuclear war would be a global ecological disaster,

producing widespread famine through the nuclear darkness effect, and making large regions of the world permanently uninhabitable through long-lasting radioactive contamination. Such a disaster would affect all nations equally, and therefore NWFZ's do not offer any real protection. However they are a joint statement on behalf of the member states that they consider the threat of nuclear omnicide to be unacceptable and unworthy of a civilized society. Attention was called to the recent meeting in Oslo on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons. It was agreed that humanitarian organizations, such as the International Red Cross, ought to play an important role in work for nuclear abolition.

The discussions continued at a dinner, which took place in the MP's dining room at Christiansborg Palace.

John Scales Avery, Rapporteur

Our new Treasurer, Cand.Mag. Karstan Schmidt

At an Extraordinary General Assembly on the 5th of July, 2012, Karstan Schmidt of Danmarks Tekniske Universitet was unanimously elected as the Danish Peace Academy's new Treasurer. Karsten Schmidt is the Education Coordinator of DTU Compute, which is DTU's Department of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science. He is thus in charge of all introductory mathematics teaching for the engineering departments of DTU. The Danish Peace Academy is greatly honored to have him as a Board Member and as our new Treasurer.



Figure 4: *Karstan Schmidt, Education Coordinator of the Danish Technical University's Department of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science.*