

Explorations in Peace & Conflict Research

NONKILLING EDUCATION

Åbo Akademi University
Vasa, Finland
March 24-25, 2015

International Conference hosted by the Program
in **Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research**

Åbo Akademi University in Vasa, home of the Programme in Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research, will co-organize with the Center for Global Nonkilling, a nonprofit organization for research, training and advocacy on the prevention of lethal violence, a exploratory interdisciplinary conference on the role and potential of education in bringing about a killing-free world. The event will bring together scholars and practitioners in the fields of education, anthropology, psychology, political science and philosophy to promote a creative exchange of ideas.

Program

Tuesday 24

- 10:00 Opening remarks (K. Björkqvist, I. Grigaityte & J. Evans)
- 10:15 Participant introductions
- 10:30 Plenary: *Nonkilling Education as Non-verbal Social Models*
Piero Giorgi (University of Otago, New Zealand)
- 11:15 Q&A
- 11:30 Lunch break
- 13:00 Panel: *Cultural Insights on Nonkilling Education*
- Mikaela Björklund & Liselott Forsman (Åbo Akademi)
Supporting Pupils' Identity Construction in Multicultural Finland-Swedish Schools
- Klāvs Sedlenieks (Rīga Stradiņš University, Latvia)
Growing up Peacefully: Cross-cultural & Latvian Insights
- Ingrida Grigaityte (Åbo Akademi)
Nonkilling Education Starts At Home: Socialization of Bosnian Children in Närpes, Finland
- 14:15 Panel discussion and Q&A
- 14:30 Coffee break
- 14:45 Panel: *Nonkilling Education: Contemporary Representations*
- Sofia Herrero Rico (UNESCO Chair of Philosophy for Peace / Jaume I University, Spain)
Exploring Peaceful School Paradigms Toward Nonkilling Education: The REM Approach
- Tom Børsen (Aalborg University, Denmark)
Teaching Nonkilling Social Responsibility
- Klas Backholm (Åbo Akademi)
Individual and Collective Agency in Social Media as Promoters of Nonkilling during Disasters
- 16:00 Panel discussion and Q&A
- 16:15 Book launch: *Social Responsibility of Scientists in Military Settings*, Tom Børsen, Editor.
- 16:30 *Vasa Statement* Brainstorming session
- 17:00 Adjourn

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Wednesday 25

- 10:00 Plenary: *Nonkilling and Social Emotional Learning*
Shelley Hymel & Lina Darwich (University of British Columbia, Canada)
- 10:45 Q&A
- 11:00 Panel: *Mediation, Conflict Resolution and Violence Prevention in School Settings*
- Patrik Söderberg (Åbo Akademi)
Person-group Interaction in School Victimization and Bullying Prevention
- Emmy Godwin Irobi (UC Berkeley, Poland/Nigeria)
Preventing Killing in Schools by Peer Mediation
- 12:00 Panel discussion and Q&A
- 12:15 Lunch Break
- 13:30 Plenary discussion: *Drafting the Vasa Statement on Education for a Killing-free World*
- 14:30 Coffee break
- 15:00 Workshop: *Media Strategies for Nonkilling Education*
Jean Paldanius (Nonkilling Generation/CGNK)
Reviewing a Nonkilling Parenting Guide and a Nonkilling School Guide and Curriculum Guide proposals
- 16:30 Closing remarks

Focus

- Poor education as a causal factor of killing and violent behavior
- The educational consequences of violent environments and potential benefits of moving toward killing-free societies (with no killing, threats to kill or conditions conducive to killing), and
- The educational measures and transformations relevant to building societies where human killing is greatly reduced and eventually absent.

A preliminary list of discussion topics include:

- The educational aspects of transition to a killing-free society
- What can we learn from peaceful societies, namely simple hunter-gatherers, in terms of parenting, early childhood development and educational practices?
- Can we deconstruct the different types of violence (direct, structural, cultural) that are reproduced in educational institutions as social subsystems and reconstruct peaceful/nonkilling educational paradigms?
- How to bridge the nonkilling approach with environmental education, ecojustice education, human rights education and indigenous-inspired education? How does this relate to extending nonkilling principles to respectful treatment of nonhuman animals and other forms of life?
- How does nonkilling education relate to strategies to decrease bullying and intolerance among school children to bring about discrimination and prejudice-free society are effective?

FREE REGISTRATION

emailing info@nonkilling.org or ingrida.grigaityte@abo.fi

With the participation of

