

## Medical Peace Work - A new European field of expertise in health work, violence prevention and peace building



### Type of project

Pilot

### Contractual year

2005

### The Challenge

Medical research has increasingly acknowledged that violence on all levels is a serious health problem. Health professionals need to take stronger responsibility for its prevention. Curricula, teaching material and training courses in medical peace work are hardly available, teaching initiatives quite sporadic and incoherent.

### Short description

The MPW project wants to empower a new field in medicine and health sciences that deals with the role and professional responsibility of health workers in violence prevention and sustainable peace building. This new field draws on the experiences of 'Health as a Bridge to Peace' (WHO) and 'Peace through Health' (McMaster University), as well as on other relevant concepts and disciplines such as Global Health, Violence Prevention, Health & Human Rights, and Medicine & War.

### Objectives

In order to strengthen the peace capacity of health professionals, the MPW project will not only refine theory and conceptual framing, but also develop web-based teaching material and a resource centre for medical peace education.

### Target groups

Our specific target groups are

A - medical students and practicing doctors  
B - academic staff, trainers and other specialists involved in medical education and/or vocational training for physicians. Secondary targets are health institutions and NGOs in conflict areas.

### Responsible organisation

University of Tromsø

### Contact persons

Klaus Melf (project manager),  
Ingvill Konradsen Ceide

### Participating countries

Germany, Netherlands, Slovenia,  
United Kingdom, and Norway.



### Partnership description

The project is developed by a partnership of medical organisations and teaching institutions. It includes IPPNW Germany, NVMP Gezondheidszorg en Vredesvraagstukken, Johannes Wier Foundation, International Federation of Health and Human Rights Organisations, University of Primorska, University of Bradford, Medact, University College London, the Norwegian Medical Association, Norwegian Centre for Telemedicine and the University of Tromsø.

### Main results

At the Medical Peace Education Conference in Tromsø in June 2007 the partners will present:

- A 60-hours distant learning course (self-running and multi-media)
- A hand book in Medical Peace Work
- New film material for teaching MPW (60 min)
- A web-based information centre with databases on existing teaching resources (curricula, courses, presentations, film archives)

Conference proceedings with a product CD will be available in October 2007.

### Project website

[www.medicalpeacework.org](http://www.medicalpeacework.org)



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