

After the attacks last year in France and elsewhere, now again in Belgium, governments have massively expanded their anti-terrorism intervention, above all, but not only, with military means. Human and civil rights are seen as secondary to "security" when that happens. The spiral of violence is spinning ever faster. Fear of terrorism and a feeling of vulnerability have grown in many countries.

The refugees fleeing to Europe from violence and terror are witnesses to this fear and vulnerability. They refuse to take part in violent conflicts. They seek protection and a way to survive for themselves and their families.

When we receive refugees it is important to us that "security", i.e. a life without violence, war and oppression, applies to all. Security on the basis of nonviolence and justice is indivisible. It cannot exist only for some countries or population groups, and not for others. As believers coming from the practice of nonviolence, we can play an active role in developing a common understanding of security.

Starting from the biblical perspectives on vulnerability versus security, we will look for alternatives to violence in a setting that now includes terror. What possible civilian alternatives are there to military and non-military action? How can we introduce alternatives at all levels - in the church, in politics and civil society, into our local and faith communities - in such a way that non-violent scope for action is actively expanded? Can we hope for the urgently needed paradigm shift?

Friday 10 June 2016

from
16.00 Arrival and registration
18.00 Dinner
19.30 Annual General Meeting I
21.45 Evening prayer

Saturday 11 June 2016

7.30 Silent worship
8.00 Breakfast
9.00 Annual General Meeting II
12.45 Lunch
15.00 Opening of Conference
15.15 **"... and they shall live secure"**
María Biedrawa
Peace minister, member of IFOR
France, field of expertise:
nonviolence and reconciliation
work in sub-Saharan Africa
15.45 **Nonviolence and justice - basis
of common security**
Dr. Christine Schweitzer
Executive secretary, Federation for
Social Defence (Germany)
Chair, War Resisters International
17.00 Discussion groups
19.00 Dinner
20.00 Plenary
21.00 Evening open

Sunday 12 June 2016

8.00 Breakfast
9.30 Worship
Preacher: **Dr Neal Blough**
lecturer; Paris Mennonite Centre
11.00 Final discussion
12.30 Lunch and departure

Vigil outside Paris-Villepinte exhibition grounds for the Eurosatory 'defence and security' exhibition

Sunday, 12 June 2016

15.00 Nonviolent training
18.00 Ecumenical evening prayer
19.00 Information about vigil and opportunity
for encounter

Monday, 13 June 2016

7.30 Action at Metro Station
8.00 Vigil until 16:00

Tuesday, 14 June 2016

8.00 Vigil until 13:00
18.30 Picnic and demonstration relating to
banquet for official guests at Eurosatory,
Les Invalides, Exact venue tbc

Wednesday 15 June 2016 to Friday 17 June 2016

Vigil 8.00 to 13:00

<http://quaeker.org/stop-fuelling-war/>
<https://twitter.com/noneurosatory>

Practical details and organisation

Conference centre (northeast of Paris)

Centre Spirituel Diocésain LOISY
2, route de Mortefontaine,
60950 Ver sur Launette, www.loisy60.cef.fr

Fee

(accommodation, meals, conference costs)

Single room (shower/WC)	€150 / £120
Single room (shower/WC along the corridor)	€140 / £110
Double room (shower/WC)	€130 / £100
Double room (shower/WC along the corridor)	€120 / £95
Triple room	€100 / £80

Prices per person including full board

Reduction for trainees, students, volunteers, jobless persons, or similar; the reduction amount will depend on the extent of grant applications approved. Bedrooms will be distributed according to availability and date of application. Please note! **Everyone MUST bring their own sheets and bath towels** as the centre is not equipped to provide them.

Bank transfer to:

- Church and Peace, Volksbank Mittelhessen, IBAN: DE6951390000073619602, BIC: VBMHDE5F
- In Switzerland: CEC, 2608 Courtelary, a/c 30-38150-4, IBAN: CH4406240016107241009, BIC: RBAB CH 22240
- In Great Britain & Ireland: Send Sterling cheque to the order of 'Church and Peace' to Gerald Drewett, 39 Postwood Green, Hertford Heath SG13 7QJ or alternatively make transfer by BACS to sort code 08-90-78 and a/c 50342831 and send email to gerald.drewett@ntlworld.com

Registration

On the separate application form by **20.04.16** to:

International Secretariat:

Church and Peace
Ringstrasse 14, D-35641 Schöffengrund
Fax: +49 6445 5070
intloffic@church-and-peace.org

"Speaking about horror, barbarity and monstrosity alone may well mislead us away from the political nature of these acts [of terror]. In order to understand terrorism, it is not enough to point out its intrinsic immorality. As soon as the political nature of terrorism is acknowledged, it will be possible to look for the political solution it requires. The most efficient way to fight terrorism is to deprive its authors of the political and economic reasons they invoke to justify it."

Jean-Marie Muller

French philosopher and writer

"In light of increasing arms trade and legitimisation of the use of military intervention in response to terrorism, now is the time for the churches to respond to the Gospel call to nonviolence and to re-commit to working for structures of peace based on the non-violent resolution of conflicts."

[Press Release](#)

Church and Peace, 1.3.2016

Church and Peace is ...

...a Europe-wide network with over 50 group members from fourteen countries, coming from different Christian denominations and traditions.

The common basis of Church and Peace is calling for nonviolence, which is for us at the heart of the gospel, and practical commitment to peace and reconciliation. Members find guidance for their lives in the Bible and draw strength from the gospel. They are empowered by worship and prayer to say both No and Yes: No to the structures of violence in private, social and intergovernmental relations, and Yes to the alternatives that are already lived out in many places.

The group and individual members of Church and Peace support one another in developing an everyday lifestyle that serves peace and justice. In all their different ways and places, particularly in countries marked by conflict and war, they are united in their commitment to nonviolence and to linking peace theology and practice. Together they struggle for reconciliation; invite stakeholders to engage in dialogue, peace education and conflict resolution; work towards a just distribution of resources; and stand up for good stewardship of creation.

Church and Peace

10 - 12 June 2016

Centre Spirituel Diocésain Loisy
Ver sur Launette, near Paris



Conference and Annual General Meeting

"... and they shall live secure"

(NRSV)

Micah 5:4

**Common security
on the basis of
nonviolence and justice**