

Center for Global Nonkilling Established

by Koozma J. Tarasoff
February 2, 2009

Preface

An exciting new transformational development has come out of the November 2007 Global Nonkilling Leadership Forum held in Hawaii that my wife Kristina Kristova and I attended. At the beginning of 2009, a Center for Global Nonkilling has been established as a new architecture for creating the culture of peace committed to promote change toward the measurable goal of a killing-free world, building on successful initiatives to reduce killing in numerous societies around the world. The Center was formally transitioned from the Center for Global Nonviolence which Dr. Glenn D. Paige founded and headed from 1994-2008. On February 2, 2009, I sent a support letter to Dr. Paige which I reprint below. As well, below you will find a **Report and Update** of the new Center prepared by Co-Directors Greg Bourne and Karen Cross.

The Center is a nonprofit organization based in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, with a Leadership Team and Governing Council members located in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America.

Small, creative, and catalytic in partnership with individuals and institutions locally and worldwide -- by combining and sharing the spirit, science, skills, arts, institutions and resources of all -- the Center for Global Nonkilling contributes to new and renewed leadership for change towards a just, killing-free world in which everyone has the right not to be killed and the responsibility not to kill others.

Nonkilling refers mainly to a form of society where killing, threats to kill and conditions conducive to killing are absent. Analysing the causes of killing, nonkilling encompasses the concepts of [peace](#) (absence of war and conditions conducive to war), [nonviolence](#) (psychological, physical, and structural), and [ahimsa](#) (noninjury in thought, word and deed).

Dear Glenn D. Paige,

Kristina and I are glad to send our sincere congratulations to you and your colleagues for creating the new **Center for Global Nonkilling**. We understand that the first meeting of the Governing Council will begin tomorrow. May your deliberations be fruitful and wise.

This is indeed a historic moment which is taking place during the emergence of major changes in the world. Our economic crisis combined with the tragedy of wars in the Middle East and elsewhere, along with diseases, pollution and climate change calls for a new quality of behaviour in the world. The old ways of greed, ego, and killing must give way to a new philosophy of inventive global co-operation, civility, and responsibility. For our survival, the nonkilling paradigm is a very promising approach in helping to solve some urgent problems that we all share as members of the human race. The wisdom of the ages of Lev N. Tolstoy, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and many others (such as Glenn D. Paige and Mairead Maguire) must give way to the new global community. And 'yes we can'

philosophy can prevail.
In peace, love and goodwill,

Koozma J. Tarasoff and Kristina Kristova
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Report and Update

Center for Global Nonkilling

January 27, 2009

We are pleased to report an exciting new development. At the November 2007 Global Nonkilling Leadership Forum held in Hawai'i you may recall that participants supported the idea of creating a Center for Global Nonkilling. We can now report to you that in December 2008 we received a generous ["Partner" grant to establish such a Center from Humanity United.](#)

After the Forum, a meeting was held with [Pam Omidyar, founder of Humanity United](#) (photo left), who was able to attend part of the Forum. Humanity United is an independent grant-making organization committed to building a world where mass atrocities and modern-day slavery are no longer possible. Based on that meeting, Humanity United provided us with a planning grant to develop an organizational development plan.

The 2008 five person strategic planning team included three members of the CGNV board (President Glenn Paige, Secretary Glenda Paige and Treasurer Karen Cross) as well as Greg Bourne and Tom Fee (who helped to facilitate the Global Forum). In addition, we invited colleagues from Thailand, Spain, Brazil, DR Congo, and Canada to an intensive planning session in Hawai'i to review efforts and provide insights, critiques and suggestions.

Our efforts led to a five year proposal that described a fully funded, fully staffed organization based in Hawai'i. This proposal resulted in receiving a significant seed grant from Humanity United to support the first year of operations while developing revised proposals and plans to sustain and finance the Center into the next decade and beyond. The organizational development plan outlined the mission of the new Center, along with the kinds of projects, partnerships, publications and initiatives it might implement, an organizational structure, and budget for long-term sustainability.

Our current grant is only for one year. We are hopeful and confident, however, about being able to obtain long-term funding. The Center for Global Nonviolence has now formally transitioned to the Center for Global Nonkilling, and the initial Governing Council (Board of Directors) for the new organization will hold its first meeting in early February 2009.

Glenn Paige will serve on the founding Governing Council to help provide vision and support. Colleagues who have agreed to serve on the new

Governing Council are [Mairead Maguire](#) (Nobel Peace Laureate), [Vasu Gounden](#) (Founder ACCORD, [African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes](#)), [Susan Dixon](#) (Author and Lecturer, University of Hawai'i), [Jose V. Abueva](#) (President, Kalayaan College; Former President of the University of the Philippines and Secretary of the UN University), and [James A. Mercy](#) (Special Adviser for Strategic Directions, Centers for Disease Control).

We also now have in place a Leadership Team that includes Luis Botero, Greg Bourne, Karen Cross, Joam Evans, Tom Fee, Katherine Li and Chaiwat Satha-Anand. Initial funding did not provide a Hawai'i workplace so work will be performed from California (Greg), Hawai'i (Karen and Katherine), Brazil (Joám), Colombia (Luis) and Thailand (Chaiwat). Periodic meetings will be held in Honolulu. Soon, the new CGNK website will be operating and you will be able to learn more about our Governing Council and Leadership Team members. We will notify you when the new Website is operational.

Another purpose of this letter is to ask for your help on two initiatives in particular. Tom Fee (tfee@nonkilling.org), our Global Monitoring Team Leader, will be contacting you to seek your involvement with: (1) identifying individuals in your country who might serve as monitors of activities related to nonkilling, and (2) compiling compelling stories of progress towards nonkilling. We hope you will be able to assist Tom with these initiatives.

We look forward to this and other opportunities to work together in the year ahead, and welcome your ideas and support of other initiatives that are likely to emerge during the next few months. With all of us learning from each other we are certain to make progress in 2009.

Towards a Nonkilling World,

[Greg Bourne](#) and [Karen Cross](#), Co-Directors

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Go to [Non Killing.org](#) for Bios of Bourne and Cross.

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