



**Peace & Justice Update**  
**November 3, 2006**  
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The countries for the Peace & Justice Updates have been chosen as areas of focus at the Institute.

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ADNKI	=	ADNKI ( <a href="http://www.adnki.com">www.adnki.com</a> )
AfricaFocus	=	AfricaFocus ( <a href="http://www.africafocus.org">www.africafocus.org</a> )
AFP	=	Agence France-Presse ( <a href="http://www.afp.com">www.afp.com</a> )
AllAfrica	=	AllAfrica Global Media ( <a href="http://www.allafrica.com">www.allafrica.com</a> )
Asian Tribune	=	Asian Tribune ( <a href="http://www.asiantribune.com">www.asiantribune.com</a> )
AP	=	Associated Press ( <a href="http://www.ap.org">www.ap.org</a> )
B92	=	B92 Net ( <a href="http://www.b92.net/eng/">www.b92.net/eng/</a> )
AWID	=	Association for Women's Rights in Development ( <a href="http://www.awid.org">www.awid.org</a> )
BBC	=	British Broadcasting Corporation ( <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk">http://news.bbc.co.uk</a> )
BBC Monitoring	=	BBC Monitoring International Reports ( <a href="http://www.monitor.bbc.co.uk">www.monitor.bbc.co.uk</a> )
CBC News	=	CBC News ( <a href="http://www.cbc.ca">www.cbc.ca</a> )
eKantipur	=	eKantipur.com ( <a href="http://www.kantipuronline.com">www.kantipuronline.com</a> )
Guardian	=	Guardian Unlimited Network ( <a href="http://www.guardian.co.uk">www.guardian.co.uk</a> )
HRW	=	Human Rights Watch ( <a href="http://www.hrw.org">www.hrw.org</a> )
ICC	=	International Criminal Court ( <a href="http://www.icc-cpi.int">www.icc-cpi.int</a> )
ICG	=	International Crisis Group ( <a href="http://www.crisisweb.org">www.crisisweb.org</a> )
icWales	=	icWales.co.uk ( <a href="http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/">http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/</a> )
IndiaTimes	=	India Times ( <a href="http://www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com">www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com</a> )
Independent	=	The Independent ( <a href="http://www.independent.co.uk">www.independent.co.uk</a> )
IRIN	=	Integrated Regional Information Network ( <a href="http://www.irinnews.org">www.irinnews.org</a> )
ISAF	=	International Security Assistance Force ( <a href="http://www.jfcbs.nato.int/ISAF/index.htm">www.jfcbs.nato.int/ISAF/index.htm</a> )
IWPR	=	Institute for War & Peace Reporting ( <a href="http://www.iwpr.net">www.iwpr.net</a> )
Kathmandu Post	=	The Kathmandu Post ( <a href="http://www.nepalnews.com.np">www.nepalnews.com.np</a> )
Khaleej Times	=	Khaleej Times ( <a href="http://www.khaleejtimes.com">www.khaleejtimes.com</a> )
Jurist	=	The Jurist ( <a href="http://jurist.law.pitt.edu">http://jurist.law.pitt.edu</a> )
Makfax	=	Macedonian Independent News Agency ( <a href="http://www.makfax.com">www.makfax.com</a> )
Monitor	=	The Monitor ( <a href="http://www.monitor.co.ug">www.monitor.co.ug</a> )
Nepal News	=	Nepal News ( <a href="http://www.nepalnews.com">www.nepalnews.com</a> )
Nepali Times	=	Nepali Times ( <a href="http://www.nepalitimes.com">www.nepalitimes.com</a> )
New Vision	=	New Vision ( <a href="http://www.newvision.co.ug">www.newvision.co.ug</a> )
New Zealand Herald	=	The New Zealand Herald ( <a href="http://www.nzherald.co.nz">www.nzherald.co.nz</a> )
NYT	=	The New York Times ( <a href="http://www.nytimes.com">www.nytimes.com</a> )
PANA	=	Panafrican News Agency ( <a href="http://www.panapress.com">www.panapress.com</a> )
Parliament.com	=	The Parliament.com ( <a href="http://www.eupolitix.com">www.eupolitix.com</a> )
Oxfam Great Britain	=	Oxfam Great Britain ( <a href="http://www.oxfam.org.uk">www.oxfam.org.uk</a> )
Reuters	=	Reuters ( <a href="http://www.reuters.com">www.reuters.com</a> )
RFE/RL	=	Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty ( <a href="http://www.rferl.org">www.rferl.org</a> )
SD Union Tribune	=	The San Diego Union Tribune ( <a href="http://www.signonsandiego.com">www.signonsandiego.com</a> )
SEAPA	=	Southeast Asian Press Alliance ( <a href="http://www.seapabkk.org">www.seapabkk.org</a> )
SERBIANNA	=	Serbianna.com ( <a href="http://www.serbianna.com">www.serbianna.com</a> )
SMH	=	Sydney Morning Herald ( <a href="http://www.smh.com">www.smh.com</a> )
SETimes	=	Southeast European Times ( <a href="http://www.setimes.com">www.setimes.com</a> )
ST	=	Sudan Tribune ( <a href="http://www.sudantribune.com">www.sudantribune.com</a> )
UN News Center	=	UN News Center Homepage ( <a href="http://www.un.org">www.un.org</a> )
UNESCO	=	UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization ( <a href="http://www.unesco.org">www.unesco.org</a> )
UNHCHR	=	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights ( <a href="http://www.unhcr.ch">www.unhcr.ch</a> )
UNICEF	=	UN Children's Fund ( <a href="http://www.unicef.org">www.unicef.org</a> )
UNIFEM	=	UN Development Fund for Women ( <a href="http://www.unifem.org">www.unifem.org</a> )
VOA	=	Voice of America ( <a href="http://www.voanews.com">www.voanews.com</a> )
Xinhua	=	Xinhua News Agency ( <a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english">www.xinhuanet.com/english</a> )
WP	=	The Washington Post ( <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com">www.washingtonpost.com</a> )

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## UPDATES

### AFGHANISTAN

Human Rights Watch criticizes NATO's civilian casualties: Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a report October 30 criticizing the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) for failing to take necessary precautions to protect civilians in its operations. In the report, HRW additionally expressed concern that the increasing number of civilian deaths could lead to a backlash against the presence of NATO troops. The report followed stories of NATO troops allegedly killing more than 60 civilians in operations in the week of October 23. HRW criticized "the use of highly destructive but hard-to-target weaponry in areas where there is a clear risk of considerable civilian casualties.". HRW also called on NATO member states to create a trust fund for families the victims who were killed, and cited the United States fund of \$3 million as an example. ISAF spokesman Major Luke Knittig announced November 1 that families of the 12 civilians had already received compensation in cash for their loss, and the districts under attack have been given aid in 6,000 lbs. of food, clothes, and shelter items. Knittig also said the other confirmed deaths were considered to be Taliban fighters gathered in a large, open compound for an attack. (HRW, October 30; ISAF, November 1; RFE/RL, October 30; RFE/RL, November 1, 2006)

Insurgents killed in battle: Major Luke Knittig, spokesman for the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), announced October 29 an estimated 70 insurgents were killed after they tried to attack a base held by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Afghan troops. A group of 100 to 150 militants attacked the base in the northern part of Oruzgan province, and the battle lasted several hours. A roadside blast in a separate attack in the province, on the same day, killed one NATO soldier and injured eight others. The day before, October 28, NATO's supreme commander, U.S. Marine General James Jones met with President Hamid Karzai to apologize for the civilian deaths resulting from NATO operations in the week of October 23. He also appealed to NATO countries to consider giving more troops within the ISAF. (RFE/RL, October 29, 2006)

### KOSOVO

Martii Ahtisaari's Kosovo solution leaked to media: United Nations Envoy to Kosovo Martii Ahtisaari was in New York October 30 for talks with Secretary-General Kofi Annan and senior United Nations officials. On the same day, Ahtisaari's draft status document was leaked to Kosovo media. According to several news sources, Ahtisaari's draft proposed a two-year path to statehood with a step-by-step implementation plan. Ahtisaari planned to present a final proposal by the end of the year, and stated, "Postponement will be unacceptable unless [Serbian national] elections are to be held this year." Once Ahtisaari finalizes his proposal, he is expected to present it in mid-November to the Contact Group, comprised of the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and Russia. After this presentation, he is expected to give the document to the Belgrade and Priština status negotiation teams for further discussion. (B92, Makfax, UN, WP, October 31; ICG, November 1, 2006)

European Union says new Serbian constitution does not affect Kosovo: The European Union asserted that the new Serbian constitution, passed by a referendum October 29, would not affect the status of United Nations-led talks on the future status of Kosovo. According to European Commission spokeswoman Krisztina Nagy, “The issue of the future status of Kosovo is a different matter that is being dealt with by Martti Ahtisaari.” The Prime Minister of Kosovo, Agim Ceku, did not believe that the new constitution would have “any impact at all” on the fight for Kosovo’s independence. Ceku said, “We consider [the new constitution] irrelevant.” The Albanian government’s official response to the new constitution varied substantially from the EU and Kosovar response. The Albanian Foreign Ministry released a statement October 31 which stated that the new constitution’s claim that Kosovo is an integral part of Serbia was unacceptable, calling the constitutional referendum a “unilateral and unproductive act.” Albania has been a strong supporter of Kosovo’s independence, although it asserts no claims over the territory. Approximately 90 percent of Kosovars are ethnic Albanians. ([Parliament.com](#), October 30; [B92](#), [Herald Tribune](#), October 31, 2006)

## NEPAL

Maoists and SPA reach arms issue breakthrough: On October 31, reconvened peace talks between the Seven Party Alliance came to a compromise deal on an arms management issue that had previously halted the last round of peace talks before the October 26 Tihar Festival. Contention between the two parties had existed over whether the Maoists would be required to disarm before being admitted into the interim government. The parties decided to lock up the Maoists’ weapons in a cantonment, although the Maoists would be allowed to keep the keys. The United Nations planned to install cameras to monitor the storage facilities and would be able to conduct inspections at random. In return, the Nepali army would lock up an equal number of arms, and both Nepali army personnel and the Maoist army would remain in their respective barracks until after the constituent assembly elections, scheduled for mid-June of 2007. A cabinet sub-committee was to be formed with the purpose of creating a downsized army containing members of both forces, and to reintegrate the extra soldiers into civilian society. In addition to the arms issue breakthrough, the SPA and Maoists agreed to form a 23-member interim government, with representation from the Nepali Congress, the Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML), the CPN-Maoists, and the Nepali Congress (Democratic). The bicameral legislature is to consist of 300 members with relatively equal representation from the parties, and the parties plan to nominate all the lawmakers in the House of Representatives. ([eKantipur](#), October 31, 2006)

OHCHR-Nepal calls on Maoists to stop illegitimate law enforcement: In a November 1 press release, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Nepal called for the Communist Party of Nepal (CPN)-Maoist to stop its illegal “law enforcement” activities that resulted in human rights violations. On October 21, the agency reported that the Maoists had abducted 39 individuals in October alone, and the Maoists publicly announced they had taken more than 80 individuals suspected of criminal activity. The only legitimate form of law enforcement existed in the form of the Nepalese police and state authorities, said OHCHR. However, the Maoists have for some time controlled over 60 percent of the country and implemented parallel government functions such as law enforcement in rural areas. In September, in preparation for the Seven Party Alliance talks aimed gaining legitimate

representation in the Nepalese government, the Maoists stated they would no longer engage in abductions, torture, or ill-treatment, and that those responsible for such actions would be held accountable. In April, the Maoists released a statement guaranteeing the OHCHR access to any Maoist location without obstruction, but such access has not yet been granted. (eKantipur, November 1, 2006)

## **SERBIA**

New constitution confirmed by voters: Serbia's non-profit, non-partisan Centre for Free Elections and Democracy (CeSid) estimated that 53.3 percent of voters participated in the referendum held October 28 and 29 on a new constitution. Of those who voted, 51.4 percent were in support of the constitution. The best voter turnout was recorded in Kosovo where 90.1 percent of registered Serb voters participated. At 45.9 percent, the worst turnout was in the autonomous province of Vojvodina. Parliamentary Speaker Predrag Marković announced a parliamentary meeting scheduled for November 5, at which time the constitution is to be confirmed by state officials. News of the constitution's confirmation was met with the anticipated reactions from ethnic Serbian and ethnic Albanian citizens. Serbs gathered on the northern side of the Kosovska Mitrovica bridge in northern Kosovo to celebrate by waving Serbian flags and chanting phrases such as "Kosovo is Serbia," "We won't give up our country" and the name of war crimes indictee Ratko Mladić, a former general who has been in hiding since 1995. Ethnic Albanians boycotted the referendum. Kosovo leaders reacted by stating it did not matter what Serbia had written in the constitution. "Very soon we will have our own constitution," said Kosovo President Fatmir Sejdiu. "For us, only [United Nations envoy Martti] Ahtisaari's process is important." Other commentaries echoed similar sentiments expressed by Nedeljne Informativne Novine (NIN) journalist Dragan Bujošević, who stated that despite the acceptance of the new constitution, it is not clear whether Serbia has solved any of its problems. (B92, October 30; SETimes, October 31, 2006)

European Union welcomes referendum results: European Union (EU) observers have welcomed the results of an October 28 and 29 referendum. Officials have stated that the new constitution passed by the referendum contained no obstacles for Serbia's admission to the EU and that, for the most part, it fell in line with European standards. However, any supportive action for EU pre-membership talks does not seem likely until 2007, after the election of a new government in Serbia has taken place. The EU has expressed no confidence that the current government will fulfill its obligations toward the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to capture former general and war crimes fugitive Ratko Mladić, an unyielding condition before pre-membership talks will be allowed. Although EU officials praised the newly ratified constitution as well as Serbia's "orderly" handling of the polling, it objected to the provisions within the constitution which give the parliament the final say in the appointments of judges and the state prosecutor. EU enlargement commissioner spokeswoman Kristina Nagy said that the EU has considered the contents of the constitution and also followed the debate. When asked to comment on the provisions pertaining to Serbia's sovereignty over the autonomous province of Kosovo, Nagy stressed that was a separate issue, linked to the negotiating process headed by United Nations envoy Martti Ahtisaari. Although the upcoming parliamentary elections will not likely result in EU association talks, they may still affect a Kosovo solution. The solution and its

presentation by Ahtisaari, is expected by the end of the year, but due to pending parliamentary elections the proposal may be forced into 2007. (B92, October 29, 30, 2006)

## SUDAN

Khartoum announces plans to disarm Janjaweed in two months: In the opening session of parliament, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir announced plans to disarm the Janjaweed militia in Darfur with the help of the African Union (AU). Al-Bashir did not, however, give details regarding implementation of the plan. This announcement came after a peace agreement, signed in Abuja, Nigeria May 5, between Khartoum and one of three rebel factions of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM), calling for the disarmament of the Janjaweed, Al-Bashir's announcement also followed the expulsion of Jan Pronk, the United Nations envoy to Sudan, and al-Bashir's continued rejection of the August UN Security Council resolution to deploy 20,000 peacekeepers to Darfur. Since the conflict began in 2003, over 200,000 people have died; many from attacks by the Janjaweed, a pro-government militia accused of genocide. (ST, October 31, 2006)

Janjaweed militia kills 63 civilians in Darfur, rebel group announces retaliation: On October 31, the Darfuri rebel group National Redemption Front (NRF) asserted in a press release that the Janjaweed had killed 63 civilians, including women, children, and elderly citizens, critically injured 31, and burned several villages in Western Darfur. Thousands living in the Jabal Moon area where the violence occurred fled to find security, food, and shelter, thus increasing the number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in the region. In response to the attacks, the NRF claimed they would retaliate to defend the people. The group also made a public plea to the United Nations, the African Union, and international nongovernmental organizations to stop the violence in Darfur. The NRF, a rebel faction that grew out of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM), was created in June out of a rejection of the SLM's decision to sign the Abuja peace agreement with Khartoum. Khartoum did not recognize the NRF as a legitimate rebel group, instead considering it bound by the peace agreement signed by the SLM. (ST, October 31, 2006)

## UGANDA

Cease-fire deal signed: A new cease-fire was signed by Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) delegates and the government of Uganda November 1 in Juba, South Sudan, as donor pledges to support the peace process reached \$3.5 million. The cease-fire follows in the footsteps of the August 28 cease-fire agreement which had officially expired in September. Both parties had been accused of violating the terms of the previous cease-fire, but the two agreements remained similar. The government refused to grant the LRA's request to be allowed to assemble only at Ri-Kwangba along the Southern Sudan border shared with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The new agreement maintained that the LRA would still be expected to regather in Southern Sudan at the designated assembly points of Owiny-ki-Bul and Ri-Kwangba. In a change from the August 28 agreement, the LRA were given permission to assemble within a radius of less than 10 miles around the administration headquarters of Owiny-ki-Bul and less than 7 miles around administration headquarters of Ri-Kwangba. The rebels have until December 1 to assemble at the designated points. The deal also banned journalists and diplomats from visiting the assembly areas, since a previous visit had led to a cease-fire violation. To help

build confidence at the peace talks, both parties shook hands after signing the new cease-fire agreement. The moment was a notable improvement from the previous week when Josephine Apia, the LRA deputy delegation head, had refused to shake hands with President Yoweri Museveni during his visit in Juba. (IRIN, Monitor, November 1, 2006)

Karamajong attack UPDF: Karamajong warriors attacked two platoons of Ugandan People's Defense Force (UPDF) soldiers October 22, killing 22 soldiers. An additional 16 UPDF soldiers were injured in fighting in the Kotido district of the Morungole Mountains, an area known for its cattle raids. This was the second attack in a month against the UPDF by the Karamajong, a pastoral group located in the northeastern region of the country. The two platoons were involved in a voluntary disarmament exercise designed to recover guns from the Karamajong warriors. The Karamoja disarmament program had experienced problems since being launched in 2004 with the Karamajong hesitant to hand over their weapons since neighboring rival tribes in Sudan and Kenya have continued to raid their cattle. (Monitor, October 31, November 1; New Vision, October 31, 2006)