

bulletin

No. 7

1 April 1998

Globalization, Development, and Peace

by Uwe Holtz

An estimated 1.3 billion of the developing world's population must survive on less than the equivalent of \$1 per day. The ongoing processes of economic globalization will affect the poorer countries. Willy Brandt taught us: "While hunger rules, peace cannot prevail. He who wants to ban war must also ban mass poverty." Indeed, it is a matter of humanity to eradicate hunger and to promote human, sustainable development for all into the next millennium.

To ensure that the prosperity generated by globalization does not benefit a privileged few, a world economy is needed which can function as a sound, social, and ecological world market place.

Otherwise, the world market economy could degenerate into predatory capitalism.

The ability to find non-aggressive global forms of economic co-operation and trade rests with those countries, which have until now profited the most from globalization. These are the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development states and a few ambitious developing countries.

The world-wide poverty, the destruction of natural resources, violation of human rights, the fast growing population, migration, and military conflicts must be understood as global problems and, therefore, as our own problems. A "One-World-Policy" is in contrast to a limited national approach to problems. It demands an active and *democratic approach to globalization* on the basis of solidarity and understanding between peoples and cultures. The economic globalization must be supplemented by the globalization of democracy, social justice, and the rule of law.

The Federal Republic of Germany should follow the example of Switzerland and create a 'Bretton Woods Committee' which is independent of government and Parliament. The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank have a special importance for the developing countries and should, therefore, in the

general process of globalization be monitored in their work.

UN organizations, as the most important forum of the global society, should be strengthened and hence made more effective. The big world conferences of the nineties have worked out political solutions and shown the way to overcome humanity's urgent economic, ecological, and social problems. These world conferences regarded the human being as the centerpiece of a long term development, which is ecologically sound, economically efficient and socially fair *as well as* marked by democratic participation and gender equality. *Partnership in development* should mean an equal relationship where both move hand in hand and all countries are responsible for their own development process supported by good governance.

One criterion for good governance is the efforts realized by countries to keep down their arms expenditures. In

this respect, the BICC Conversion, Disarmament, Demobilization, and Demilitarization (BIC3D) Index could serve as an assessment tool.

The UN action programs decided upon to solve global problems have two serious constraints. Firstly, they are not binding and do not set any time frames. The political will to implement such programs is often lacking and thereby renders them to be just declarations of intent. Secondly, the financial resources to achieve the aims of the action programs are lacking, especially in the developing countries. Both constraints have to be tackled offensively: To begin with, Germany and the EU have to set the tone and regard decisions made as binding. Furthermore, future conferences should set aims and time frames which are binding.

Apart from that, the OECD member states must augment their development aid budgets which have stagnated in real terms. The aim to contribute 0.7 % of GNP to aid and co-operation must be actively pursued. New suggestions to finance global development such as the Tobin Tax must also be vigorously followed up. The 20-20 approach put forward at the 1995 World Social Summit in Copenhagen envisaged that 20 percent of the development aid and 20 percent of the budget of the developing country should be used for basic social needs (housing, water, education, health,

etc.). I want this suggestion to become a reality. As was very clear at the world conferences, a sustainable future is not possible without democracy and participation. Therefore, NGOs have a special role to play in the framing of a globalization process.

Development policy alone cannot solve the problems of the developing world. Their own efforts and mentalities as well as trade matters are more important. The goals of development cooperation set up in the EU's 'Maastricht' treaty in 1992 are of high relevance for all donor countries. Policy in the sphere of *development co-operation* should foster:

- Democracy and the rule of law, the respect of human rights, and fundamental freedoms
- The campaign against poverty in the developing countries
- The sustainable, economic, and social development of the developing countries
- The gradual and smooth integration of the developing countries into the world economy

One lesson to be drawn from the nineties is the following: Development policy should aim at preventing crises, at reducing the dimensions of military conflicts. That is why BICC should expand its work in the field of preventive conversion research.

Uwe Holtz is a former member of the German federal parliament, an honorary professor of political science at Bonn University and was the chairperson of the team which evaluated BICC's work in 1997.

**Bonn International Center for Conversion
bulletin
No. 7**

The Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC) is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and facilitating the processes whereby people, skills, technology, equipment, and financial and economic resources can be shifted away from the defense sector and applied to alternative civilian uses.

**This newsletter is published quarterly by
© Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC)
An der Elisabethkirche 25, 53113 Bonn, Germany.**

**Publishing management: Corinna Hauswedell
Responsible for this issue: Kiflemariam Gebrewold, Svenja Görgens (layout) and Ann Lindström.**

**Phone: +49-228-911960
Fax: +49-228-241215
E-mail: bicc@bicc.uni-bonn.de
WWW: <http://bicc.uni-bonn.de>**

Staff Spotlight:



Alexandra Topel

Alexandra Topel, a graduate librarian from Germany has managed BICC's library since September 1994. After completing her degree—which included work experience at the Shropshire Country Library in Shrewsbury, England—she was the director of the public library in Xanten before moving to Bonn to set up the Center's library.

Her responsibilities include the acquisition of conversion-related literature, its cataloging and allocation of keywords to enable better search techniques, as well as doing literature research. The stock of books in the library covers not only the institute's six working areas but is also—according to BICC's clearing house function—a general information source for conversion related inquiries.

Besides stocks of books purchased from the book market, BICC also stocks 'gray research literature', conference reports, and publications from other institutes. In addition, BICC makes a wide range of periodicals available in its library.

Together with libraries from nine other institutes working in the area of international politics and contemporary history, the BICC library is a member of the specialized information network "International Relations & Area Studies". Within this framework Alexandra works with the database *World Affairs Online*, an electronic catalog of the complete library stock of the participating institutes. With the help of this system, literature research can be carried out not only in BICC's library but also in the libraries of the nine other institutes.

As well as ably managing BICC's library, Alexandra also runs a farm and breeds horses in the picturesque Eifel region of Germany.

For further information please contact
→ Alexandra Topel at topel@bicc.uni-bonn.de

***BICC staff wish the readers of the
bulletin a Happy Easter !!***

Job Creation on former Military Bases in Germany

Fifteen “best practice” cases were selected from over 90 former military sites in Germany for an analysis of integrated labor market projects, commissioned by the State of North Rhine-Westphalia. The study (completed in March 1998) deals with base re-use projects where job creation and qualification measures are being carried out through business start-ups and/or acquisition. Several social welfare projects on former military sites were also analyzed. For example, barracks were made available for minority groups in order to provide affordable housing.

The projects were examined to determine whether their success was based on factors which are transferable. The study analyzed the following: role of actors, project management, financing, labor market (including job creation and qualification measures as well as programs for specific groups), and regional integration.

The case studies show that—despite the limited availability of public funding—former military installations can be successfully redeveloped and create jobs. One of the prerequisites, however, is that different objectives for the site are combined. These may include business development, job creation, and qualification, but also environmental protection, historic preservation etc. By combining a range of goals, one can also tap a wider range of funding sources.

Successful reuse projects are: part of a broader “vision”; carried out through a series of manageable steps; dependent on effective and flexible project management; integrated into the surrounding region; and, creative in accessing a range of funding sources.

For further information, please contact

→ Hartmut Kuchle at kuechle@bicc.uni-bonn.de or Steven E. Sokol at sokol@bicc.uni-bonn.de

BICC's Internet Service expanded

<http://bicc.uni-bonn.de>

The Internet service of the Center includes several new features and items including:

- **Surplus Weapons News Archive**

The information comprises a collection of event summaries—from strictly open source material—relating to the transfer, storage, destruction, or conversion of weaponry deemed excess or surplus to a military's requirements, as well as declarations of policy relating to such activities and materiel. Events are also included relating to the collection, seizure, or buy-back of weaponry in post-conflict or force downsizing situations.

- **Conference Documentation: *Converting Defense Resources to Human Development***

In addition to the agenda, press information, etc, the documentation of this event organized by BICC includes 11 full text conference papers focusing on the possibilities of using human, financial, and material assets formerly utilized in the military sector for development. The list of contributors include: Nicole Ball, *The International Development Community's Response to Demobilization* Edward J. Laurance, *Small Arms and Light Weapons as a Development and Disarmament Issue* Thomas Scheetz, *Transparency, Accountability & Rational Decision Making in Defense Expenditures: The Argentine Case*

For further information please contact

→ Michael Dedek at admin@bicc.uni-bonn.de

ConverArt : Don't miss the application deadline !!

Many young artists such as painters, sculptors, architects, photographers and film-makers from German colleges and academies and from some of their international partner colleges have already entered the competition **ConverArt - The art of disarmament**, organized by BICC for the Westphalian Peace 350th anniversary. But there is still a chance to participate: **the deadline for applications is 17 April 1998.**

The winning piece of art chosen by an international jury will be shown in an exhibition at the Westfälisches Landesmuseum, Münster. The exhibition will be opened by the patron of the competition **Anke Brunn, Minister for Higher Education and Research, on 22 August 1998.**

For further information please contact

→ Corinna Hauswedell at ch@bicc.uni-bonn.de

Conversion Survey 1998 coming soon

BICC will publish the third edition of its annual survey **Global Disarmament, Defense Industry Consolidation and Conversion** in June. The 1998 survey updates and reviews key information and data on the international disarmament and conversion process. This year's edition focuses on the defense industries strategies of downsizing, restructuring and converting in a changing security and economic environment, on the national policies to support diversification, and on regional initiatives to counter the negative effects of defense industrial change. The book—with numerous tables and figures—will be published by Oxford University Press. **The launch will take place at the Presse Club in Bonn on 23 June.**

BICC Publications

In addition to its annual *conversion survey* and other books, BICC publishes series such as *reports, briefs, and papers* which analyze the international conversion process, report on conversion projects and experiences, and offer scientific as well as practical know-how. Forthcoming publications include:

report 12: Kiflemariam Gebrewold (ed.), *Converting Defense Resources to Human Development, Conference Proceedings, Summer 1998*

brief 11: Judith Kiss, *Industrial Conversion in Hungary, Spring 1998*

paper 14: Ksenia Gonchar, *Nizhniy Novgorod Region: Economic Structure and Retraining Demand, Spring 1998*

John Hart and Cynthia Miller, *Chemical Weapon Destruction in Russia: Political, Legal, and Technical Aspects, Oxford University Press, Spring 1998*

Upcoming Events

International Conference: **Globalization, State & Violence**, Brighton, UK. April 15-17.
Contact: ripe@sussex.ac.uk

International Conference: **Security and Interdependence in Pacific Asia**, University Kebangsaan Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. April 21-25. Contact: profzak@pkriscc.ukm.my

International Conference: **Information Technologies, Security and Conflict Resolution**, Center for Political and International Studies, Moscow, Russia. April 28-30. Contact: nikitin@cpis.msk.ru

Developing Controls on Arms and Illicit Trafficking in Southern Africa. Joint seminar held by Saferworld (UK) and the Institute for Security Studies (South Africa), Johannesburg, South Africa. May 3-6.
Contact: sworld@gn.apc.org

International Conference: **Defence Economics and Security in Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan Countries**, Lisbon, Portugal. June 5-6.
Contact: cesa@iseg.utl.pt

BICC Press Conference: **Conversion Survey 1998, Global Disarmament, Defense Industry Consolidation and Conversion**, Presseclub, Bonn. June 23.

BICC Notes

To date, there has been no systematic analysis of the transferability of experiences from one base closure site to another in order to determine which methods and strategies are the most effective. BICC was solicited by the Federal Ministry of the Environment to conduct a preliminary study of the German experience with base closure and redevelopment together with the Munich-based Industrieanlagen-Betriebsgesellschaft mbH (IABG). The study (completed in December 1997) consists of a "checklist for base re-use" which can be applied to communities in eastern Europe confronted with the challenges of base redevelopment. It covers the basic issues which need to be addressed during the conversion process, including the analysis of issues such as the decision-making during the planning phase, financing mechanisms, and the importance of environmental damage in the conversion process.

For further information please contact
→ Steven E. Sokol at sokol@bicc.uni-bonn.de

The government of North Rhine-Westphalia, BICC's main sponsor, decided in December 1997 to continue to assist BICC's work program after its first five years of operation. This decision was based on the positive report of an independent international evaluation team which looked into the relevance of work, cost effectiveness, and public role. In its decision the government emphasized that the Center in Bonn "should in the future continue to manage the effects of disarmament through its research and consulting services". Furthermore, that it "illustrated in an impressive way, that conversion improves the chances for development and security in the world".

For further information please contact
→ Herbert Wulf at wulf@bicc.uni-bonn.de

In February, representatives from the International Resource Group on Disarmament and Security in the Horn of Africa (IRG), Saferworld, and BICC spent an eventful week in Nairobi, Kenya. While the IRG and BICC made preparations for the launching of a research and dialogue program on "Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Horn of Africa", Saferworld had its first consultation in East Africa in preparation of its program "Prevention of Violent Conflicts and the Coherence of EU Policies Towards the Horn of Africa Countries". With the help of indigenous researchers and decision makers, the IRG and BICC are looking into the dynamics of illicit small arms circulation in the IGAD countries. Saferworld will complement this through its program by focusing on arms exports by EU countries to the IGAD region.

For further information please contact
→ Kiflemariam Gebrewold at kgw@bicc.uni-bonn.de