



To the Filmmakers of the World:

A very important event will be taking place this coming year around the world: it is a World March demanding Peace and Non-Violence which will go through more than a hundred countries, in all the continents. Presently, many institutions and individuals are supporting this initiative. It was conceived by an organization called World Without Wars. Spirited individuals will travel the planet demanding an end to all wars, nuclear weapons, and all forms of violence: physical, racial, religious, economic, sexual, and religious violence.

This is the first initiative ever of this scope because of the number of people who have joined so far, and because of the need to create a non-violent consciousness in the human being.

The March starts on October 2, 2009 in Wellington, New Zealand and ends on January 2nd, 2010 in Punta de Vacas, close to the foot of Mount Aconcagua (also known as the “roof of the West”), nevertheless many initiatives supporting the march and its message have already been set in motion during the second half of 2008 in many different places. Thus, the event is alive and simultaneous, not just sequential, nor limited to the 90-days and to the set itinerary.

In light of the unique characteristics of this initiative, we are calling on all filmmakers of the world to take this opportunity and capture the images of a historical moment where human beings around the world will simultaneously demand: No more wars! No more violence!

World Without Wars
www.mundosinguerras.org



The Main Theme

We'd like to share with you the transformative utopian concept of a world without wars and without any form of violence. Just like when a few visionaries 500 years ago intuited that the Earth was not flat, and sailed off to sea moved by a strong internal certainty that they would not be falling into the infernal depths when they left the coastline, in a similar way, we believe that Human Beings can disembark on the shores of a new mental horizon, where Peace and Non Violence are the highest moral values for human evolution.

We're talking about the World March for Peace and Non-Violence — an initiative driven by World Without Wars, an international network of volunteers, which together with many organizations and individuals, are willing to travel the planet to demand an end to all wars and nuclear weapons, and for the elimination of violence, whether it be physical, economic, racial, religious, sexual or psychological. The point is to generate a worldwide consciousness of the truth: war and violent behavior are not natural — it is merely the response given by the weapons industry for their own benefit. Conversely, the great majorities aspire to resolve conflicts in a peaceful way.

If the World March for Peace and Non-Violence is to reach its objectives, it must impact the mass media and create a repercussion. And in order for peace and non-violence to set down roots in the places where individuals and organizations live, a variety of relevant initiatives need to be started by those individuals. For example, these subjects could be taught and/or discussed in different ways, through forums, debates, conferences, virtual newspapers, and so on.

For those of you who produce documentaries or fictional movies and support the World March, and who furthermore would like to implement film initiatives about Peace and Non-Violence, our invitation is to make movies within the scope of these subjects, which should simply serve as a reference for you to then freely create scripts of your own liking.

World Without Wars does not presently have the financial nor technical conditions needed to support the projects of individuals or institutions. Similarly, none of the other initiatives are receiving funds. All participants are volunteers, and therefore the exclusive purposes of their contributions are to create awareness about war, weapons of all types, and the different forms of violence.



About Peace and Non-Violence (Main idea for preparing scripts)

Bases

Peace and non-violence are terms that, to many people, were and still are values that have the highest of meanings; they can be the foundation for personal and social lifestyles. These are valid ethical forms of behavior based on that universal golden rule that says: “Treat others as you want to be treated.”

For a great number of people, this moral principal, and the rejection of all expressions of violence, are still useful references for an evolutionary, coherent paradigm that should become rooted in all societies; a deep-seated cultural conquest; a qualitative leap in social life and in coexistence.

Historically, non-violence has been the reference for the bible’s “Thou shall not kill”, for many other writings, as the values other religious, as well as for many thinkers and men of action. Here are Gandhi’s wise words about Non-Violence:

I have known from early youth that nonviolence is not a cloistered virtue to be practised by the individual for peace and final salvation, but it is a rule of conduct for society if it is to live consistently with human dignity and make progress towards the attainment of peace for which it has been yearning for ages past.

And I claim that what I practice is capable of being practiced by all, because I am a very ordinary mortal open to the same temptations and liable to the same weaknesses as the least among us. When I have become incapable of evil and when nothing harsh or haughty occupies, be it momentarily, my thought-world, then, and not till then, my non-violence, will move all the hearts of the world.

Definition of Violence

A broader and deeper understanding of violence is essential in order to develop a script regarding this subject. A good starting point, we believe, is to define what it is, and describe its multifaceted expression.

Violence is the act of trampling on human intentions and human freedom by using force — be it physical, economic, political, psychological, racial, sexual, ideological or religious. Force is exercised on one or more persons, either by an individual, or by a group of persons. With these different forms of violence, an individual or organization intends to limit or annul the intention of other individuals, groups, or people, and treat them as if they were objects, depriving them of the right to choose. Another way to describe



violence is as the intention of eliminating, by force, the thoughts, feelings and actions of others.

Violent people of all kinds justify violence as a means to get “good” or “useful” results in the name of God, the State, for capital, their race, tradition or a “just cause”. This standpoint is dangerous and wrong; it is an excuse for using violence and, at the same time, it rejects all non-violent means and subdues others.

Forms of violence

- Physical : Nuclear and conventional war; armed struggle, vandalism, crime and delinquency, physical aggression.
- Economic : Exploitation; work-related discrimination; unemployment; child labor; unfair and violent taxation.
- Political : Dictatorship; state terrorism; subversive terrorism; formal democracy.
- Ideological: By manipulating public opinion; banning freedom of thought; subordination of the mass media by groups in power; imposition of a social model without freedom of choice.
- Religious : Fanaticism; thought control; the persecution of “heretics”; not allowing different beliefs to be expressed.
- Sexual : Discriminating and exploiting women in all the environments of daily life.
- Interfamily: Subduing women; wife beating; authoritarianism with children.
- Cultural : Censor the exclusion of innovative currents; editorial censorship; bureaucratic forms of control.
- Moral : Attitudes of indifference, complicity, and exemption from impunity for acts of violence.

The imminent possibility of a nuclear disaster

Surely, most people are aware of, or can at least imagine, the destructive power of all the nuclear arsenals around the world, which can destroy the planet many times over.

Surely, most people know, or can at least imagine, that no country in the world, even if a country is not a direct target of a nuclear attack, it will not remain unaffected by the dreadful consequences.

What most people ignore, or are afraid to imagine, is the possibility of these attacks occurring much sooner than they expect. If people could become fully aware of this fact, if they realized how serious this situation is, the subject would then become the most important concern.



What we are trying to say is that the time has come for people to go out into the streets and change the direction of events. Today, we are speedily heading towards a nuclear disaster. This is because the world is in the hands of governments that are out-of-control and entirely irresponsible.

Conclusion

And so, this very important topic of Non-Violence, and Peace, its counterpart, emerge as the necessary guides for constructing a new moment that will finally leave human prehistory behind, and that hopefully will serve as an inspiration for writing the scripts for movies that create a consciousness about the personal and social need for Non-Violence.

How to contact us

We hope to build strong and close relationships in spite of the geographical distances. Of course this will take time, but step by step, we can build a humanized way of communicating. We will be connecting through the phone, by Skype and email.

Also, in order to interchange experiences and information about the film projects based on Peace and Non violence, we want to propose to the interested film makers who would like to the possibility of joining the following email list:

Lista_moviemakers@googlegroups.com

For that purpose, please send an email to lhomme.ana@gmail.com in order to be included.