



2018 Highlights:

Non-state actors & peacebuilding: Religion, business, rights & conflict

Much of the world's focus is on the role of governments in conflict and peacebuilding. In 2018, the role of non-state actors was the focus of Peacemakers Trust research and education initiatives.

Research and writing by Peacemakers Trust director Catherine Morris on truth, lies, reconciliation and the church in North America, resulted in a paper that has been accepted for publication in mid-2019. A draft is available for [reading online](#).

In early 2018, Peacemakers Trust commenced a project on [religion, human rights, and conflict](#). The University of Victoria's Centre for Studies hosted Catherine Morris for a short community sabbatical to begin research on the international right to freedom of religion or belief. One product of this research so far has been a short online Powerpoint [education module](#) on relevant international treaties and instruments guaranteeing the right to freedom of religion or belief.

In July and August 2018, Peacemakers Trust undertook the supervision of a student from France in a research internship which examined the role of businesses in ensuring respect for human rights internationally. This project was conducted jointly with Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada. The research included exploration of impacts of Canadian transnational corporations on indigenous peoples.

Online Resources

Peacemakers Trust's bibliographic [resource website](#) received more than 183,000 visits in 2018, a monthly average of more than 15,000 visits. Highest usage occurs during fall and spring university terms. Peacemakers Trust updated its resources on [nonviolent forms of dissent](#).

Media monitoring in a post-truth environment

During 2018, Peacemakers Trust resources on "[evaluating news reports in a "post-truth" environment](#)" received increased online attention, including increased visits to an online



Powerpoint tutorial on conflict analysis for reporters and others. Peacemakers Trust directors Ernie Fraser and Catherine Morris regularly monitor news on issues related to justice and peacebuilding around the world.

Peacemakers Trust's [Facebook news page](#) and several well-followed Twitter feeds include:

- [@peacemakers.ca](#): News from around the world on peacebuilding, justice and reconciliation;
- [@EyeOnCambodia](#);
- [@WatchingMyanmar](#);
- [@ThailandWatch](#);
- [@ReligionPeace](#): Roles of religion in peacebuilding; and
- [@HRandBusiness](#): Business, human rights and conflict.

2019 Plans

Peacemakers Trust continues to be run and operated by volunteers. Its directors plan to continue to make themselves available for presentations or workshops.

2019 plans include continued research on [freedom of religion](#).

Relationships with non-government organizations in Canada, Europe and Southeast Asia are being developed with a view to joint research or education initiatives in 2019.

Peacemakers Trust volunteers are participating in initiatives to explore the responsibility of churches to take up Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission's "[calls to action](#)" to religious denominations and faith groups to engage in reparative actions with indigenous peoples.

Peacemakers Trust plans to continue its initiatives on business, human rights and conflict.

... creating pathways toward dialogue & reconciliation through research & education on conflict transformation & peacebuilding

Founded in 1999, Peacemakers Trust is a Registered Charitable Organization in Canada, number 87205 7823 RR0001.

Our purpose . . .

is to advance people's knowledge and capacity to understand, prevent and address conflict fairly, effectively and peacefully.

Our methods . . .

include research and education for practitioners, officials, civil society leaders and the public on:

- nonviolent methods for conflict transformation and peacebuilding;
- conflict analysis and mapping;
- fair and effective dispute resolution;
- effective planning, leadership, decision-making and problem-solving;
- fair, effective and accountable governance structures.

What we do . . .

Our work includes:

- **www.peacemakers.ca**: our acclaimed resource and bibliographic website used around the world by academics, students, practitioners and the public.
- **Education and training** on conflict resolution, international human rights & reconciliation.
- **Public dialogue** on matters of contention including cultural or religious issues.
- **Reporting on conflict**: media monitoring on conflict transformation and peacebuilding.
- **Academic research and writing**.

Our capabilities...

Peacemakers Trust directors and associates have proven track records in participatory education, research and policy development on conflict transformation & reconciliation in several countries including Canada, Cambodia, Thailand, Rwanda, Bolivia & Northern Ireland.

Contact us...

1745 Garnet Road
Victoria, BC, Canada V8P 3E2
Email: office@peacemakers.ca
Web: www.peacemakers.ca
Tel: (+1) 250-477-0129

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Thank you donors! Your gifts make it possible for Peacemakers Trust:

- to expand and update our free, online resources for students, academics, practitioners and the public, and
- to help us with travel and other expenses needed to respond to invitations to make presentations and conduct education on dispute resolution, conflict transformation and reconciliation in various parts of the world.
- Thanks for your tax-deductable gifts by Interact e-transfer, cheque or CanadaHelps. Visit <http://www.peacemakers.ca/gifts.html>.

