THE PLENARY
CONFERENCES
AND SIDE
EVENTS

2**ND**
EDITION

WORLD
FORUM
- NORMANDY -
FOR PEACE

4 - 5 JUNE 2019

THE ESSENTIALS

THE PEACEMAKERS

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Note to readers

This document compiles summaries of the discussions and debates held at the second edition of the Normandy World Peace Forum. The remarks made during this event do not represent the Normandy Region and do not reflect its position in any way. The summaries are not scientific articles. They include the different points of view and the essential elements of each sequence.

Whether you attended the 2019 Normandy World Peace Forum or not, the Normandy Region has created this document to summarise the highlights of the second edition of this event. You will find a summary of the conferences and debates and a presentation of the highlights of the event, held on 4 and 5 June 2019.

The Normandy World Peace Forum in a few figures:

6,000 attendees, including 2,500 young people, came to focus on peace: debating, learning, finding out more and discussing.

240 experts, Nobel Peace Prize winners, government representatives and figures from the academic world and civil society analysed the stakeholders and the processes involved in the development of long-lasting peace.

More than 400 people signed the Manifesto for Peace during the two days of the Forum.

We hope you enjoy reading this document!

The Normandy Region

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THE PLENARY CONFERENCES
AND SIDE EVENTS

03.

THE PLENARY CONFERENCES AND SIDE EVENTS

PLENARY
CONFERENCE 1

From left to right: Nathalie Renoux, Bertrand Badie, Hubert Védrine, Ruby Bridges-Hall, Eamon Gilmore, Justin Welby

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HUMANIZE PEACE: WHAT ACTORS?

4 June 2019, 10.15am - 11.30am Salle Plénière
—

Introduction by **Bertrand Badie,** Professor of Political Science, Sciences Po.

Moderator:

→ **Nathalie Renoux,**
Journalist and presenter on French TV channel M6

Speakers:

→ **Ruby Bridges Hall,**
the first African-American pupil to go to a white school in the United States

→ **Eamon Gilmore,**
European Union Special Representative for Human Rights

→ **Hubert Védrine,**
former French Minister of Foreign Affairs

→ **Justin Welby,**
Archbishop of Canterbury

Contemporary conflicts take very different forms from traditional inter-state wars: they are more diffuse, more fragmented, more complex to understand. Conflict resolution must therefore evolve as well. However, it would be dangerous to ignore confrontations between powers which are likely to degenerate into destructive conflicts.

New conflicts, new peacemakers

There is a contradiction between the nature of current conflicts and their perception by various stakeholders. In Bertrand Badie's view, modern wars are no longer caused by a clash of state powers, "but rather the decay of societies, institutions, states or elementary forms of sociability." Contemporary conflicts are also characterised by diffuse violence caused by a failure to meet a population's basic social needs.

In this context, traditional methods of conflict resolution, based on the use of powerful weapons, are no longer effective. The last few decades have been characterised by an inability to win a war, whether in Afghanistan, the Middle East or the Sahel. Indeed, such operations encourage a military one-upmanship which can worsen conflicts rather than contain them. That is why Bertrand Badie believes that making peace now requires a focus on "a social approach to conflict", to create or to mend the social fabric. The problem is that this can only be a long-term approach.

Of course, the use of force remains necessary in order to "put out fires" (preventing a conflict from degenerating) but this conflict will only end in an armistice, not in genuine peace. This legitimate use of force by "selfless police officers" calls for action within a multilateral framework, in which stakeholders should not be major world powers. Indeed, it is preferable when these peacemakers are small states (Norway, Uruguay, etc.), which cannot be suspected of acting with ulterior motives. We should focus on an approach within a framework of regional multilateralism. We can mention the example of the African Union, which has already resolved some of the continent's inter-state conflicts. We must also encourage the involvement of new stakeholders, including individual mediators, local figures, non-governmental organisations, religious representatives and experts in preventive diplomacy.

Rejecting an approach based exclusively on "good conscience"

Hubert Védrine believes that the rule of force is not over and that the international community is still to be built. In his view, the speech made following the collapse of the Soviet Union with regards to the advent of a new international order was not based on reality. A German Social Democrat minister thought that this reasoning led to Europe becoming a "geopolitical herbivore in a world of geopolitical carnivores". He sees an approach based solely on acting in "good conscience" as being doomed to failure. The example of the D-Day landings in Normandy in 1944 shows that Hitler was not defeated by

good conscience but by military forces which were superior to him.

Yet the current era has been characterised by a clash between a dominant power, the United States, and a rising power, China, which aspires to replace the former. This friction could lead to a military confrontation which would not be resolved by relying on selfless stakeholders promoting peace. However, external peacemakers will play a useful role in ongoing conflicts which feature various protagonists who are seeking a way out of the crisis. Lastly, we must pursue the intervention of preventative missions to deal with a very specific type of conflict, when early indications of violence can be seen among threatened minorities or populations who want to take revenge for the past.

Tapping into peacemakers' experience

Eamon Gilmore considers that the conflicts observed in recent decades in Ireland and Colombia had some features in common, including the state's inability to cope with an armed rebellion. The processes leading to the resolution of these two conflicts are also comparable in some ways. In both cases, discussions to reach a peace agreement were long and failed at several points. Moreover, official discussions were preceded by lengthy informal discussions involving mediators and figures from civil society. Both processes also benefited from the involvement of the international community.

Lessons can also be learned from recent peace processes in South Sudan, where conflict led to dramatic human consequences (over 400,000 deaths, 2.5 million refugees, widespread rape, etc.). This example demonstrates that working for peace involves action at all levels, by building strong partnerships on political and military levels, naturally, but also by acting at grassroots level. We must also work to ensure better collaboration between armies engaged in peace operations and other stakeholders, such as non-governmental organisations.

The key is to achieve reconciliation between the parties involved in the conflict, rather than just the conclusion of a peace treaty. This focus on reconciliation requires the transformation of a violent conflict into a non-violent disagreement. According to Justin Welby, the concept of reconciliation is inspired by Christianity. Reconciliation should not be imposed by third parties; instead, it should be brought about by the various parties involved. This helps to avoid the colonial reflexes which can lead Western nations to impose their own solutions in a bid to resolve conflicts.

Prevention as a way to humanise peace

While an increasing number of contemporary conflicts are no longer the result of competition between powers, but rather the result of the decay of societies and the disappearance of any form of social contract, an approach based on prevention is one of the most effective ways of working for peace. Ruby Bridges Hall emphasizes that education for peace is an essential part of this new approach. Education must encourage children to turn away from racism and hatred of others. The defence of human rights is also an important issue, since their abuse creates conditions which encourage the stirring up of conflicts.

However, this can be subject to criticism by sceptical citizens and political figures who do not understand the value of investing time and energy to prevent a war which may never happen. In response, it must be said that the real enemy of peace is fear: preventing conflict helps to free human beings from this burden and to build on a foundation for lasting peace.

SIDE EVENT

ECONOMIC MEETINGS

5 June 2019, 10am - 11.30am,
Salle Guillaume
—

Moderator:

→ **Victor Mallet,**
Journalist and Paris bureau chief,
Financial Times

Speakers:

→ **Anne Catherine Husson Traoré,**
CEO, Novethic

→ **Dominique Steiler,**
Director of the Economic Peace Chair,
Grenoble School of Management

→ **Gérard Kuster,**
Holder of the Economic Peace Chair,
President of the Global Council on
Business Conduct of the Conference
Board in the USA, member of the
Business Ethics Institute in the UK,
Vice-President of the Business Ethics
Circle

→ **Mohammed Boumediane,**
President and CEO, ZIWIT

→ **Jean-Paul Laborde,**
Ambassador of the Écoles de Saint-
Cyr Coëtquidan, French Ministry
of the Armed Forces

The economic meetings of the 2019 edition of the Normandy World Peace Forum featured two round table events, one on the links between economic peace and the ethical issues of business and the other on cyber warfare and the role of digital in new economic conflicts.

The language and behaviour of the globalised economy are essentially warlike and cause significant collateral damage to society and the environment, although companies do not believe this to be their responsibility. Anne Catherine Husson Traoré emphasises that it is vitally important to include all business-related costs, whether human, social or environmental, in economic models. Indeed, the seventeen

Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations address this approach. For Dominique Steiler, we must also reflect on other kinds of collaborative-based economies in which competitors do not solely focus on the destruction of others.

In this sense, Dominique Steiler believes that companies must do more than focusing on their productivity, as entities within society which are capable of creating something other than financial wealth. Anne Catherine Husson Traoré believes that corporate social responsibility (CSR) should no longer be a secondary activity; instead, it should challenge the very identity of companies. Contrary to what most executives and managers believe, she feels that the old economic models are already dead.

Although Dominique Steiler believes that "we do not implement solutions with those who created the problem", it is still possible to create an environment which is conducive to freedom, thereby enabling younger generations to embark on the necessary and radical transformation of production methods and economic models. Today, the world needs "warriors for economic peace", because those who focus on well-being or the environment within companies are often crushed by outdated systems of representation, but it also needs "guards" to warn of the risks which the world is facing and "architects" who will enable companies to make progress when it comes to ethics. With regard to this transformation, Dominique Steiler is convinced that small steps are often more important than grandiose gestures.

Cyber attacks are another example of the way in which the world is changing; they are likely to cause serious damage to a given economy. Cyber security is therefore a major issue for both companies and states. 75% of cyber attacks are carried out by organised criminal groups; today, it is much easier for them to hack a computer system than to rob a bank. However, Jean-Paul Laborde feels that economic stakeholders are evolving against a backdrop of governmental inaction and inadequate international legal structures. He believes that it is vital to publicly assign responsibility for these cyber attacks, because "a company cannot defend itself against attacks, whatever forms they take, without civil society".

Round table discussions also broached the idea that companies need to become more human to enable their employees to give of their best. Yet, at the same time, intangible assets can be destroyed in a single click. These issues remain little known, even within companies. However, in both the material and digital worlds, men and women who apply best practices are the most essential and most effective means of defence against these new dangers.

From left to right: Dominique Steiler, Victor Mallet, Anne Catherine Husson Traoré, Gérard Kuster

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PLENARY
CONFERENCE 2

From left to right: Marc Semo, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Nicole Gnesotto, Henri Bentégeat, Kabiné Komara, Rémy Rioux, Pierre Buyoya

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THE PATHS TO PEACE: MISTAKES AND SUCCESSES

5 June 2019, 10am - 11.15am, Salle Plénière
—

Introduction by **Nicole Gnesotto,**
Professor at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (CNAM)

Moderator:

→ **Marc Semo,**
Journalist, Le Monde

Speakers:

→ **General Henry Bentégeat,**
Former Chief of Staff of the French Armed Forces

→ **Pierre Buyoya,**
Former President of the Republic of Burundi, High Representative of the African Union for Mali and the Sahel

→ **Kabiné Komara,**
Former Prime Minister of Guinea

→ **Jean-Pierre Lacroix,**
Under-Secretary-General for peacekeeping operations, United Nations

→ **Rémy Rioux,**
Director of the French Development Agency

The paths to peace have always been labyrinthine and imperfect, according to Nicole Gnesotto. Alliances developed by states to ensure the balance of forces are temporary by definition, while collective security systems can clash with stakeholders' different interests.

Paradoxically, if maintaining peace, "this suspended dream" of Kofi Annan, often requires military intervention, the latter is not an end in itself and must be part of a long and multifactorial process of intervention.

The political will to foster peace?

Given the divided nature of the international community, it is increasingly difficult to obtain a mandate from the UN Security Council to carry out peacekeeping operations. Jean-Pierre Lacroix mentions the striking examples of Syria and Libya which have been left to their fate because of a lack of consensus as to the legitimacy of intervention, at the risk of destabilising the Middle East.

In addition, globalisation has complicated the game of alliances: the economic partner of a country can also be its strategic enemy and the economic interests which prevailed the day before can be superseded the next day by political interests, shaking up long-established power balances. Yet peace must be driven by political will, notes Jean-Pierre Lacroix, particularly because it is a long and costly process, as Nicole Gnesotto emphasises.

Outside the UN, other structures for intervention also exist, such as the African Union. The latter was created by African countries which wanted to further advance the collective security of their continent. In view of the way in which crises are often caused by the exclusion of minorities, it promoted a "charter for democracy, good governance and human rights".

The African Union has also developed tools for mediation and crisis prevention: the Peace and Security Council, which handles day-to-day conflict management, and the Council of Elders, which is made up of people who are responsible for mediation missions across the continent. It participates in peacekeeping operations, such as the one in Mali, just like the UN, and also helps with peace-building.

Is military intervention still relevant?

Jean-Pierre Lacroix recalls that UN peacekeeping operations in recent years have helped to stabilise many countries, including the Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Angola and Cambodia. In contrast, many operations have failed to achieve lasting peace.

However, to the question "must we accept the unacceptable?", General Henri Bentégeat responds in the negative and says that France must feel free to intervene. However, in his view, some preliminary questions must be answered: is intervention legitimate? What is its purpose? How can lasting peace be developed after military intervention? How can we avoid being driven by emotion and analyse the situation in detail, in terms of the motivation of the parties involved, the mode of operation and the potential ramifications of the crisis, before intervening? How can we take the time to ensure effective intervention in the face of media pressure? These questions for evaluation must provide the framework for legitimate and proportionate intervention.

In what way can we intervene, knowing that military action is not an end in itself?

Military intervention does not always achieve the desired result. Maintaining peace in Mali is an example of this: although it is necessary, it does not provide the country with a lasting solution, in Pierre Buyoya's view. Conversely, Franco-German reconciliation at the end of the Second World War is a key example of an inclusive peace process which has enabled Europe to enjoy renewed stability and prosperity, because of the dialogue established between the two formerly warring countries and the massive investments which have been made.

While often used as an interposition force, UN peacekeepers are responsible for a number of multidimensional interventions, supporting state reconstruction, protecting civilians and developing or redeveloping national capabilities, defined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as "the ability of individuals, organisations and the community as a whole to manage their affairs successfully".

UN peacekeepers carry out their work in increasingly difficult conditions. Indeed, while the UN is currently overseeing fourteen peacekeeping operations and has deployed 100,000 people on the ground, including 80,000 soldiers, its peacekeepers have become priority targets for some warring parties which aim to wage a war in which civilians are the first victims.

Pierre Buyoya emphasises the limits of the interventionism of organisations such as the UN and the African Union, using the conflict between the Fulani and the Dogon in central Mali as an example. In his view, the best-placed institution to intervene and to mediate is Mali itself. The Malian government must regain control of regions which have been left under corrupt control for too long, with

the emergence of conflicts about access to natural resources fuelled by jihadists.

The economic, social and environmental dimensions to peace

As a man with considerable experience, Henri Bentégeat observes that lasting peace is reliant on continued security, good governance and development.

With this in mind, the French Development Agency aims to strengthen human reconciliation by means of economic development. In general, its expert network is able to provide solutions which include economic, social and environmental dimensions.

These issues are critically important when protecting and maintaining peace, as Kabiné Komara explains, pointing out the century-long tensions between Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia around the Nile, the concomitance of the scarcity of water on Lake Chad and the emergence of conflicts, along with the United States' monopolisation of the water of the Arizona river to Mexico's detriment. The situation in the Sahel is also a good example, because it is determined by phenomena including climate change, population explosion and growing conflicts between livestock breeders and farmers.

Peace, an approach based on partnerships

Given these observations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix advocates a comprehensive approach and integrated action, in collaboration with development agencies and humanitarian agencies, along with a search for potential coalitions.

This comprehensive approach gives credibility to the work of international partners with local populations, which are provided with basic services, and helps to foster long-term political stability. Rémy Rioux also confirms the efficacy of joint action by diplomats, the military and developers.

Any peace process is complex and multifactorial, which is why it must be part of a long-term approach which is inclusive and based on partnerships. These conditions are particularly difficult to fulfil in the current climate of increasing divisions within the international community but, as Jean-Pierre Lacroix points out, "it is always possible to take a side road towards peace!"

FAKE NEWS AND DISINFORMATION: WHAT CAN THE MEDIA DO?

5 June 2019, 9.30am - 10am, Salle Plénière

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In this event, hosted by Frédérique Bedos, founder of Projet Imagine, Marie-Christine Saragosse, President and CEO of France Médias Monde, shares her view of the challenges posed by the spread of fake news on the internet, something which has become a real weapon for political and geopolitical destabilisation.

The manipulation of information is not a new phenomenon. The French Act of 1881 on the press made reference to "false news" and other "manufactured, falsified pieces". However, this phenomenon is becoming more widespread today, particularly with the omnipresence of social media.

Fake news can take the form of hoaxes or unintentional mistakes but fake news can also be the result of malicious manipulation of the truth. The right to a diversity of opinions must be defended. However, in the "post-truth era" in which anyone is able to become a journalist or expert and when truth, lies and opinion can be confused, we must be vigilant about the spread of untruths and conspiracy theories. These can sometimes be shared by fake accounts, as part of state-organised campaigns to manipulate, which discredit all sources of information.

In addition, with their systems to like and share with friends, social media may lead to a new form of communitarianism; this does not encourage readers to research facts and risks reinforcing existing beliefs. Although they are a less well-known phenomenon, cyber-attacks are also a part of global strategies to destabilise the media.

To respond to fake news, the media must apply the rules of conduct for professional journalism to ensure that the information which is provided is authenticated, honest, balanced and independent. This requires quality training for journalists, but the credibility of the media, particularly the media within the public sector, is also based on their sources of funding, which guarantee their independence.

The media may be required to fight fake news head on by verifying facts and publishing the result of their investigations, as part of programmes which focus on the fight against the manipulation of information. In doing so, they must work together to cross-check information, with companies including Google and social media platforms, which are now seen to bear some responsibility for the spread of fake news.

Media education and critical thinking, which must be an integral part of children's education, are key. Interpreting an image and checking sources can be learned. This helps to avoid any risk of confusion caused by the spread of fake news.

The primary purpose of the media, as its name indicates, is to mediate and to create dialogue, the sine qua non for peaceful debate. In the face of fake news, independent and rigorous journalism is necessary to restore one of this profession's essential roles: acting as a peacemaker.

Marie-Christine Saragosse

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PLENARY
CONFERENCE 3

From left to right: Christian Makarian, Jean-Hervé Lorenzi, Mohamed ElBaradei, Justine Coulidiati-Kielem, Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Geneviève Garrigos

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HOW TO BUILD A SUSTAINABLE PEACE?
5 June 2019, 5.30pm - 8pm, Salle Plénière
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Moderator:

➔ **Christian Makarian,**
Journalist, L'Express

Speakers:

➔ **Justine Coulidiati-Kielem,**
President of the Action Group for the Promotion, Education and Training of Women and Girls, Regional Coordinator of the G5 Sahel Women's Platform, member of Leaders for Peace

➔ **Mohamed ElBaradei,**
Nobel Peace Prize winner, former Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency

➔ **Geneviève Garrigos,**
Former President of Amnesty International

➔ **Jean-Marie Guéhenno,**
Member of the High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation, United Nations, former Deputy Secretary General of the Quai d'Orsay

➔ **Jean-Hervé Lorenzi,**
President of Le Cercle des Économistes

Although war is now multi-faceted, with military, economic, social, ethnic, linguistic, religious, geopolitical and environmental aspects, the paths to peace are all the more difficult to find because multilateralism is in crisis and questions are being asked as to the effectiveness and legitimacy of institutions which are dedicated to peace.

Calling the UN into question

Mohamed ElBaradei asks: how effective is the United Nations, given that 90% of the Security Council's decisions are blocked? What credibility do the United Nations and the major powers have among the people? The Syrian people are aware of the almost systematic blocking of the International Criminal Court's resolutions, as Geneviève Garrigos points out, and Mohamed ElBaradei highlights this great institution's inability to protect them, which has led to unprecedented migration. He recalls that a recent decision by the UN Security Council failed to punish soldiers for massacring sixty Sudanese civilians on the grounds that it was an "internal affair".

Jean-Hervé Lorenzi highlights the indispensable nature of UN intervention in many countries, including Sierra Leone, Liberia and Cambodia. However, he acknowledges that the UN's record

is more nuanced in terms of peacekeeping. Jean-Marie Guéhenno stresses that 90% of conflicts in the 21st century have broken out in countries emerging from conflicts. In his view, peacekeeping in this situation must focus on justice, security, development and legitimacy.

Although the UN continues to be an organisation which is ahead of its time, in Jean-Hervé Lorenzi's view, its scope and forms of action may no longer be adapted to the new challenges of peacekeeping.

The first challenge: development

For Jean-Hervé Lorenzi, the road to peace is neither sustainable nor straightforward in view of a significant slowdown in growth and an increase in global public debt, particularly given the need to invest to respond to the two-fold challenges of climate change and the imperative to meet the basic needs of a large number of people.

Today, 800 million people do not have access to drinking water, one in nine people is hungry and two billion people live below the poverty line. Although the climate transition requires an investment estimated at some $2.5 trillion per year and the United Nations has an annual budget of $8 billion, Mohamed ElBaradei emphasises the fact that $1.3 trillion is spent every day around the world on arms. Indeed, the Nobel Peace Prize attributes dysfunctional security processes and national and international governance mechanisms to the lack of a framework for sustainable development. It calls for the implementation of a national and international social contract which will enable people to live and to accept differences and which will respect human dignity.

The second challenge: restoring national and international legitimacy

For a long time, the establishment of a democratic process seemed to be the sine qua non of peacekeeping. Geneviève Garrigos observes that international institutions have now understood the need to implement

the triptych of "truth, justice, reparation" as espoused by Louis Joinet, a French magistrate and independent expert at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, as a pre-condition to restoring confidence in the state.

Similarly, people are calling for more transparency from institutions and want to be more involved in the peace and development processes. Justine Coulidiati-Kielem observes that women miss out the most when it comes to peace processes, despite representing more than half of the population. In her view, women have a role to play as the "glue" of the family unit and within society, even in countries in which the authorities have abdicated their responsibilities. For Justine Coulidiati-Kielem, the road to sustainable peace requires their mobilisation because they will be able to defend the community's interests and to develop projects to rebuild it.

The third challenge: reinventing multilateralism

In a world of winners and losers, the idea of crushing one's adversary is commonplace. However, the major and on-going climatic, migratory and economy changes cannot be dealt with by fragmented management; instead, they require an in-depth understanding of their overall implications and decision-making between countries.

However, Geneviève Garrigos observes the emergence of growing authoritarianism, even within democratic states, accompanied by a desire to prioritise independence and national interests at all costs, even if this leads to a failure to implement international law.

In this situation, the United Nations faces a problem which is two-fold: it must be an organisation of states while focusing on representing the people and it must represent an international community which does not really exist, in Jean-Marie Guéhenno's view. Moreover, he notes that while states, with their own priorities, cannot fully represent all people, some other entities are equally influential, including large corporations, non-governmental organisations and criminal organisations. In this regard, Jean-Hervé

Lorenzi believes that the issues of peace and freedom are one and the same, in the face of governments and societies which believe that they alone are in charge of humanity's future.

Geneviève Garrigos calls for a global vision, inspired by Humanity First: based on the idea that defending the interests of each individual makes it possible to defend one's own interests in a globalised world. This vision could lead to a revision of the UN's texts which aim to take action for a more just world, offering a guarantee of sustainable peace.

SIDE EVENT

PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LEADERS FOR PEACE

5 June 2019, 11.15am - midday, Salle Plénière

—

Jean-Pierre Raffarin, former French Prime Minister, presents the non-governmental organisation (NGO) Leaders for Peace which he created and reports on its research and work in 2019.

The NGO Leaders for Peace is made up of thirty public figures from diverse backgrounds: former government representatives, Nobel Prize winners, diplomats and professors. Leaders for Peace is a small-scale Security Council. Its aim is to provide approaches and methods with which to strengthen international mediation processes. The NGO has four core beliefs.

❝ The fire of war never goes out. ❞

The first focuses on the particularly worrying fact that international tensions are currently on the rise. The fire of war does not go out, it simply moves around. Leaders for Peace believes that the gravity of the situation compels us to act.

❝ Peace does not just happen, it requires work. ❞

The second belief acknowledges that peace is based on cultural work and understanding, along with technical and political work, which requires innovation to avoid resorting to the usual diplomatic routine. Warfare is taught in institutions around the world, yet peace is very rarely taught. For this reason, Leaders for Peace has launched a wide range of initiatives, including the Travelling Peace University, which travels around the world to discuss issues with the authorities and local populations, and the Early Childhood Prize, which aims to foster the spirit of peace among children under seven.

❝ Violence and war are closely related. ❞

The third belief of Leaders for Peace is that war and violence are intertwined. As such, the rise of hatred, observed even in the words of government representatives, is particularly worrying. Violence as a means of expression for heads of state "is the beginning of war". The aim is therefore to try to quell this violence.

❝ Multilateralism is a home for dialogue. ❞

Lastly, Leaders for Peace is convinced that multilateralism is the key to avoiding confrontation. Its 2019 annual report aims to provide solutions to boost multilateralism, currently under threat because it seems to be ineffective, bureaucratic and influenced by Western domination. It is vital to make it clear that sovereignty and multilateralism are entirely compatible. Sovereignty is defined as the ability to lead others. Alliances can serve sovereignty by giving a state more influence and weight. As such, "isolation isn't always the solution of the strong".

In its report, Leaders for Peace therefore recommends a certain number of inclusivity processes and activities focused on prevention and calls for the establishment of a new political space which encourages the sharing of diplomacy and international relations with civil societies.

With its focus on collective security, its reflective approach also offers practical applications. The future of Europe largely depends on security in the east of the continent. Dialogue with Russia is therefore a necessity but this presents a challenge for countries such as Ukraine and Moldova. In light of the forty-fifth anniversary of the Helsinki Accords in 2020, the report consequently suggests returning to their established principles. This can serve as a basis for discussion between partners, rather than adversaries, and help to avoid a version of multilateralism which is based solely on sanctions and escalating brutality.

The year-round work of Leaders for Peace therefore focuses on resolving potential conflicts by creating a climate of trust, because dialogue can build trust and trust can bring peace.

Jean-Pierre Raffarin

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 2019 Normandy World Peace Forum is the result of a collective effort. The President of the Region would like to thank all those who have contributed to making this such a key event, especially:

- The 240 speakers for their sincere commitment and inspiring speeches

- The partners and patrons of the Forum, who promote the Normandy for Peace initiative in the region, in France and internationally

- The Region's elected officials and agents for their year-round work on the themes of peace and freedom

- The 6,000 participants who attended this second Forum

See you next year!

Hervé Morin

President of the Normandy Region
and Regions of France,
former French Minister of Defence

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