

GOALS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PRIME)

Since the events of September 11, 2001, the world seems to be moving towards a period focusing primarily on self preservation rather than achieving peace through sharing ideas and resources. In places such as Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan, for example, violent hostilities



have not subsided and in the East Asia, military tensions have not eased up. Poorer regions such as Africa frequently face the danger of collapse in providing education and medical care. In these places, the most vulnerable are the most threatened. How are we to understand these situations and how should we respond? At the International Peace Research Institute (or PRIME), we bring together the wisdom of experts on the various factors that threaten the human security. Through multi-disciplined studies and analysis, we investigate the conditions that are necessary to sustain the co-existence among populations. We also aim to disseminate and share the results of our studies not only within Meiji Gakuin University where PRIME calls home, but to a wider audience outside.

Shigeki Takeo
Director, PRIME

INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE MEIJI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY

PRIME

ACTIVITIES

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH PROJECTS

Through its affiliated scholars, PRIME conducts various peace-related research projects. Six projects are underway in 2010, focusing on issues that include post-war reconstruction and reconciliation, nuclear disarmament, cross-cultural understanding, indigenous peoples and environmental justice. The institute also hosts international symposia inviting scholars and specialists in specified areas of interest. In 2009, we hosted "Different Voices for Autonomy and Self-Determination: The Situation of Nations Without States."



3. ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

The institute aims to encourage general participation in its activities and expand the reach of peace studies, promoting project-related seminars, lectures and film screenings through the PRIME website and to reach a greater audience outside the confines of the academic environment.

2. PEACE EDUCATION

The institute runs various events such as film previews and screenings featuring peace-related works (at PRIME Cinema Café) and weekly gatherings for discussion and interaction (in Café du PRIME). PRIME also participates in campus events such as the university festival and runs peace studies field tours (Nagaland, India in 2008 and Okinawa, Japan in 2009).

4. REFERENCE MATERIALS AND INFORMATION

PRIME publishes the biannual bulletin "PRIME," and a series of journals "Thinking of the South" once or twice a year. The institute's publications can be retrieved and perused through the library. PRIME also holds the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs Collection.