

# **The Center For International Dialogue**

## **Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies**

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### **United Nations Social Summit**

Copenhagen, Denmark

Since the end of the Cold War between the US and USSR, regional conflicts are flaring up in new proportion igniting an unprecedented contagion throughout an estimated 75% of the globe. These wars and growing violence are a continual reminder of our environmental, economic and societal crises that gives rise to new growing mutual interdependence. This global interdependence serves as a reminder that there is no separation between nations and people; that when one child suffers, children everywhere suffer. It is a reminder that the hunger that exists within the world is not just physical but spiritual hunger as well; and that the sanctity and security of functional societies are painfully dissolving as new social structures have yet to be born.

How can we help global societies move from crises to new opportunities? How do we help ease the pain and suffering we now witness throughout the planet? How can we as individuals contribute to building new infrastructures for a new world?

Mahatma Gandhi once said "When the People Lead, the Leaders will follow". As so often happens in the midst of crises, there is an emergence of a new kind of thinking that precedes new action. Coming to the forefront today is a new kind of citizen who has the courage to cross the borders of their own, personal, ideological and political beliefs to bridge the gaps between political viewpoints and social and economic grassroots needs. These citizens have begun to effectively establish communication and cooperation to progressively influence policy changes between political groups and nations and serve as a bridge between the grassroots and government.

The Center for International Dialogue, a non-profit educational organization and it's subsidiary, The Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies represents a network of over 10,000 citizens world wide. Since 1984, CID has designed, developed and implemented four (4) successful modules to bridge the gap between people and nations. They are as follows:



## **I. PEACE TEAM BUILDING**

Peace Teams are a unique approach designed for people of all age groups, all professional and experiential backgrounds to receive training and implement their skills in conflict resolution, management and mediation. Peace Team members serve as co-creative bridges of cooperation and communication between local and global communities. Peace Team Trainings are a three track Conflict Resolution and Training Module:

### **Track I**

#### **Personal Transformation - Discovering Peace Within Yourself**

Exploration of how personal conflict relate to conflicts in the world ~~today~~ and how both can be used constructively as a dynamic force for evolutionary change.

### **Track II**

#### **Project Orientation:**

Development of conflict resolution and mediation skills that can be used to work effectively with individuals, groups and organizations within the local and national communities.

### **Track III**

#### **International Travel:**

This Track is designed for Conflict Resolution and Mediation Training in areas of world conflict. It is for individuals ready to take the next step in peace team building as non-official diplomats at International levels. Group trainings ~~will be~~ <sup>are</sup> conducted in areas of regional and international disputes. Participants ~~will~~ have first hand opportunities to practice and apply diplomatic and resolution skills in the field. These trips are also designed to encourage participants upon returning home, to implement what they have learned internationally into their own national and local communities

### **Track IV**

#### **Internship program**

for potential seminar training and travel program leaders.