

**Questionnaire on the implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture  
of Peace**

**PREPARATION OF THE MID-TERM REPORT ON THE  
INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND  
NON-VIOLENCE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD (2001-2010)**

### **1. Background**

At its 53<sup>rd</sup> session in 1998, the United Nations General Assembly (resolution A/53/25) proclaimed the period 2001-2010 as the “International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World”, following on from the year 2000 as the “International Year for a Culture of Peace”.

In 1999, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace (resolution A/53/243), defining eight areas of action for the construction of a culture of peace and non-violence. The eight action areas are:

- Fostering a culture of peace through education
- Promoting sustainable economic and social development
- Promoting respect for all human rights
- Ensuring equality between women and men
- Fostering democratic participation
- Advancing understanding, tolerance and solidarity
- Supporting participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge
- Promoting international peace and security

The complete text of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace is available at :  
<http://www3.unesco.org/iycp/kits/53243A.pdf>

### **2. Objectives**

The present survey has the following aims:

- To gather information on implemented projects or projects in progress, and to find out about the difficulties encountered and the overall conclusions drawn by civil society organizations;
- To take into account the contributions from civil society organizations in the mid-term report which UNESCO will submit to the UN General Assembly;
- To identify main areas of action and to receive inputs regarding the direction of activities to be undertaken in the second part of the International Decade.

## Contact Information

Please provide all necessary contact information for your Organization :

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## Information requested

### General guidelines

1. The questions are open-ended, thus allowing you to tackle the issues that you consider most important.
2. Your responses should address both successes and problems so that UNESCO, its Member States, and the UN System as such can learn from your experiences.

I

ACTIONS ACCOMPLISHED BY YOUR ORGANIZATION WITH REGARD TO PROMOTING A CULTURE OF PEACE
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1. Please describe briefly the activities launched by your organization with a view to putting into practice the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace since the beginning of the International Decade (2001). You may find it helpful to comment on the following aspects:
  - o Objectives
  - o Beneficiaries
  - o Location of activities
  - o Resources
  - o Results

### **The Activities of the Russian AWE Chapter (2001 – 2004)**

***Russian AWE Chapter*** is a chapter of the Association of World Education which was first established in 1970, with consultative status in the United Nation.

Russian AWE Chapter was established in November 2001. It is an international, non-governmental, voluntary organization of individuals and institutions who believe that learning about ourselves and our communities is most effective and satisfying, when education reflects an awareness of our intimate relationship to the world as a whole. The members of the organization find that reflecting this awareness in concrete ways is not easy, so they have joined together to practice better what they believe.

Russian AWE Chapter includes individuals and institutions from different parts of Russian Federation and the CIS.

Our goal and philosophy is based on that of the Association of World Education, on life enlightenment, lifelong learning and world education inspired by a great number of thinkers who have a concept of the universal.

**The objective of Russian AWE Chapter** is to disseminate non-formal adult education, in particular within the areas of political, social and cultural issues, and to work for the ideals that United Nations are standing for: peace, tolerance, understanding between peoples and nations, and international cooperation.

**Our core projects:**

1. Education for World Citizenship.
2. Wisdom of Humanity.
3. Folk University as a Means of Folk Education.

ACTIONS ACCOMPLISHED BY OUR ORGANIZATION WITH REGARD TO PROMOTING A CULTURE OF PEACE
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1. **Seminars** (regularly): “Enlightenment and Education. Folk University as a Means of Folk Education” (Feb.2002 - Moscow); “Youth Leadership” (Nov. 2002 – Moscow region, June 2003, Ufa, Bashkortostan); “Priority of Human Rights and Freedom in Danish System of Education” (Dec. 2003 – Kiev, Ukraine).

2. **International conferences** (annually): “Education for World Citizenship” (Nov. 2001); “Dialogue of Civilizations” (Nov. 2002); “Dialogue of Cultures” (July 2003 – Ufa, Bashkortostan); “Adult Enlightenment and Education” (Oct. 2003); “Liberal Education in a Global Context” (Oct. 2004).

3. **Festivals**: “Pedagogics of XXI Century” (August, 2002 – Odessa, Ukraine); 1-st Youth Festival “Dialogue of Cultures” (June 2004, Valdai);

4. **Publications: books**: Journal of AWE «Grundtvig and His Ideas Today» in English (vol. 33 No.2, May 2003, Moscow); «Grundtvig and His Ideas» in Russian (March 2004 - Moscow); «System of Education in Great Britain» (August 2004, Moscow).

**Booklets**: Proverbs of Different Nations (2003); Grundtvig's Poems (in Russian, August 2003, Moscow); Folk University as a Means of Folk Enlightenment (Dec. 2003); Proverbs of Scandinavian People (Apr. 2004); Italian Proverbs (Sept. 2004).

5. **Participation in other events**: - in international seminar “Image of Asia” in Denmark;  
- in opening the University of Family Relations (Valdai, RF);  
- in international conference “Liberal Adult Education” in Tanzania.

There have been created seven Local Learning Centres with Folk University as a coordinating body. There is a website: [www.rawe.ru](http://www.rawe.ru), both in Russian and English.

2. What were the key difficulties encountered in your organisation’s activities for a culture of peace?

The key difficulties is to create the right relations among the people and to define the right human values.

3. Which of the eight areas of action listed on page 1 have been most important for your work and why do you consider them important?

- Fostering a culture of peace through education. Education and I would add enlightenment, is a basis of developing the society, that’s why education is a means of fostering a culture of peace.
- Fostering democratic participation. It’s important to be an active citizenship, otherwise we can’t develop a democratic society.
- Advancing understanding, tolerance and solidarity. These are the qualities, which provide with peaceful coexistence and with one of the democratic principles – co-operation.

II

GENERAL PROGRESS TOWARDS A CULTURE OF PEACE
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4. Have you seen any progress towards a culture of peace (and its eight action areas) during the first five years of the International Decade (2001-2005)?

I have seen the progress with the members of our organisation. It’s possible to have a dialogue now, to make decisions together, and to take the responsibility.

5. What do you consider to be the major obstacles for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence? The major obstacle is non-effective system of education and the lack of enlightenment in it and in adult education.
6. Have you been able to develop any ways of measuring medium- or long-term progress as a result of your activities? If so, please specify. A way of measuring medium-term progress is when the people can have a dialogue and long-term progress when they take the responsibility for themselves and for the team.

### III

PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION
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7. To a great extent, the creation of a culture of peace depends on the development of partnerships and cooperation among various actors. Have you created such partnerships in the process of working for a culture of peace? If so, please describe.

We have international collaboration with the following organizations:

- in Russia: Russian Academy of Education; Center for Lifelong Learning of the Institute for Multidiscipline Social Studies of Russian Academy of Science; Vernadsky's Foundation;
- abroad: Danish Sports and Gymnastic Association; Folkeuniversitetscentret in Denmark; "Light" Centre in Denmark; Danish Association of Free Schools; Institute for Planetary Synthesis in Geneva (Switzerland); International Children's Peace Council (Italy).

8. Are you aware of UNESCO's website on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World ([www.unesco.org/cp](http://www.unesco.org/cp))? To what extent are its resources and tools (calendar of events, project database) useful for your organization?

I'm aware of the website. It's useful for us to know about the forthcoming events and to get into contact with those we need.

### IV

COMMITMENT TOWARDS NEW INITIATIVES AND NEW DIRECTIONS FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE
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9. Please list the new projects planned by your organization to promote a culture of peace in the next five years.

2005 – 1. The year is devoted to a Danish writer H.C. Andersen's jubilee and it's announced for the members of the organisation as a year of culture of peace. So each event is devoted to this topic.

2. The II-nd Youth Festival "Dialogue of Cultures" which will take place in in August in Belarus.

3. The international conference "Adult Education and Civic Duties" will take place in September in Moscow. One of the topics for discussion is "Culture of Peace and Non-Violence" Through Adult Education".

2006 – 1. a great Forum of Peace of which we are one of the organisers and which will take place in India.

2. Youth Festival, which will take place in Denmark.

2007 – 1. Seminar for the co-ordinators of LLCs: Tolerance as a feature of culture of peace.

2. The III-rd Youth Festival "Dialogue of Cultures", which will take place in Bashkortostan.

We have the Plan of Action only for three years.

3. Do you think there are any priority domains amongst the areas defined in the Programme of Action? If so, please specify. I don't think so.

4. Please describe briefly how you envisage the approaches to a culture of peace and the promotion thereof over the next five years. To create a network of Folk Universities and Local learning Centres and to give the information on main documents of UN and UNESCO connected with the Programme of Culture of Peace. To have joint events as many as possible.

