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The countries for the Peace & Justice Updates have been chosen as areas of focus at the Institute.

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ADNKI	=	ADNKI (www.adnki.com)
AfricaFocus	=	AfricaFocus (www.africafocus.org)
AFP	=	Agence France-Presse (www.afp.com)
AI	=	Amnesty International (www.amnesty.org)
AllAfrica	=	AllAfrica Global Media (www.allafrica.com)
Asian Tribune	=	Asian Tribune (www.asiantribune.com)
AP	=	Associated Press (www.ap.org)
B92	=	B92 Net (www.b92.net/eng/)
Boarding.No	=	Boarding.No (http://www.boarding.no/)
AWID	=	Association for Women's Rights in Development (www.awid.org)
BBC	=	British Broadcasting Corporation (http://news.bbc.co.uk)
BBC Monitoring	=	BBC Monitoring International Reports (www.monitor.bbc.co.uk)
CBC News	=	CBC News (www.cbc.ca)
CS Monitor	=	Christian Science Monitor (www.csmonitor.com)
CIA	=	CIA - The World Factbook (www.cia.gov)
EU	=	European Union (www.europa.eu.int)
Guardian	=	Guardian Unlimited Network (www.guardian.co.uk)
HRW	=	Human Rights Watch (www.hrw.org)
ICC	=	International Criminal Court (www.icc-cpi.int)
ICG	=	International Crisis Group (www.crisisweb.org)
IndiaTimes	=	India Times (www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com)
Independent	=	The Independent (www.independent.co.uk)
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune (http://www.iht.com)
IRIN	=	Integrated Regional Information Network (www.irinnews.org)
IWPR	=	Institute for War & Peace Reporting (www.iwpr.net)
Kantipur Online	=	Kantipur Online (www.kantipuronline.com)
Kathmandu Post	=	The Kathmandu Post (www.nepalnews.com)
Khaleej Times	=	Khaleej Times (www.khaleejtimes.com)
Kosova Press	=	Kosova Press (www.kosovapress.com)
Jurist	=	The Jurist (http://jurist.law.pitt.edu)
LA Times	=	Los Angeles Times (www.latimes.com)
Makfax	=	Macedonian Independent News Agency (www.makfax.com)
Monitor	=	The Monitor (www.monitor.co.ug)
Nepal News	=	Nepal News (www.nepalnews.com)
Nepali Times	=	Nepali Times (www.nepalitimes.com)
New Vision	=	New Vision (www.newvision.co.ug)
New Zealand Herald	=	The New Zealand Herald (www.nzherald.co.nz)
News24	=	News24 (www.news24.com)
NYT	=	The New York Times (www.nytimes.com)
PANA	=	Panafrican News Agency (www.panapress.com)
People's Daily News	=	People's Daily News (http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/)
Oxfam Great Britain	=	Oxfam Great Britain (www.oxfam.org.uk)
Reuters	=	Reuters (www.reuters.com)
RSF	=	Reporters sans frontières (www.rsf.org)
SEAPA	=	Southeast Asian Press Alliance (www.seapabkk.org)
SERBIANNA	=	Serbianna.com (www.serbianna.com)
SMH	=	Sydney Morning Herald (www.smh.com)
ST	=	Sudan Tribune (www.sudantribune.com)
Travel Industry Wire	=	Travel Industry Wire (http://www.travelindustrywire.com/)
UN News Center	=	UN News Center Homepage (www.un.org)
UNHCHR	=	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (www.unhcr.ch)

UNICEF = UN Children's Fund (www.unicef.org)
UNIFEM = UN Development Fund for Women (www.unifem.org)
VOA = Voice of America (www.voanews.com)
Xinhua = Xinhua News Agency (www.xinhuanet.com/english)
WP = The Washington Post (www.washingtonpost.com)
Web India = Web India (www.webindia123.com)

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AFGHANISTAN

Violence interferes with attempts to bring aid: A suicide bomb attack in Kabul October 2 wounded three civilians and three North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) soldiers. Taliban tactics such as suicide bombings and kidnappings continued to interfere with the implementation of the United States Army's newest strategy to bring peace in Afghanistan by providing security and building up infrastructure using 13 Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs). The PRTs were teams made up of civilian affairs personnel, engineers, and military police, whose mission was to improve the quality of life and build good faith between U.S. troops and the Afghani people. Unfortunately, the ongoing attacks have impeded the promotion of basic infrastructure development. Roads under construction have been attacked, and some people who accepted contracts to begin building were kidnapped, tortured, and killed as a warning to others. Security and infrastructure development are equally important to stability, and Lt. Col. Anthony Feagin, PRT commander in the Kamdesh district of Nuristan Province, told his projects team, "I see indications that we are being successful... but we've got to make sure we don't make any tactical blunders." (CS Monitor, October 2, 2006)

Schools close in the southern region: In the past year, more than 50 schools have been attacked in the southern provinces of Kandahar, Zabul, and Helmand. The ongoing violence and instability created by these attacks caused more than 300 schools to shut down in the region. In Kandahar province alone, approximately 70,000 students were kept from continuing their studies when almost 150 educational institutes were shut down. Teachers and students have received death threats. According to Deputy Education Minister Mohammad Sadiq Fatman, fear of attack has kept over 200,000 children across the nation from pursuing their education. According to statistics from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), there were six times as many attacks on schools, staff, and pupils between January and July of 2006 than during the same six-month period in 2005. The regional head of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, Abdul Quadar, predicted that the closure of schools would have consequences far beyond the education sector; he said the school closures in the south could "further fuel poverty, unemployment, and the growing insurgency in those areas." (IRIN, October 2, 2006)

KOSOVO

Trial begins for eight Serbians accused of murdering 48 Albanians: On October 2, eight former Serbian policemen went on trial for their suspected roles in one of the worst massacres during the 1999 war. The men were accused of murdering 48 Albanians, all but one from the same family, at a local café in the town of Suva Reka. The victims included 14 children, two infants, a pregnant woman, and an elderly woman. The bodies of the victims were found in a mass grave of over 800 bodies outside Belgrade in 2001. The massacre was one of the most notorious incidents of the Kosovo war, in which an estimated 10,500 Kosovar Albanians were killed. The eight defendants included special police commander Radojko Repanovic, along with the former assistant commander of the elite gendarmerie unit Radoslav Mitrovic. Mitrovic denied any connection to the massacre and claimed that he was not in Suva Reka at the time of the killings. The other defendants are expected to enter pleas later in the week. The eight men were being tried at the Special War Crimes Chamber of the Belgrade District Court, which was set up

in 2003 with the approval of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), in The Hague. ([BBC](#), October 2; [Herald Tribune](#), October 3, 2006)

European Union looking to send policing mission to Kosovo: The European Union (EU) proposed sending a policing force of up to 1,000 to Kosovo after the status of the province was determined. The force would include judges, police, and other law enforcement officials who, according to an EU official, would be “armed and have powers to arrest.” This group would be made up of forces from France, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and possibly Poland. A team of EU officials was already in Kosovo to study how the mission would operate, but the team would not be dispatched until Kosovo’s final status was agreed. Although the EU wanted to send this force to help stabilize the area, they had no plans to take over peacekeeping duties from NATO’s 17,500-strong force. UN Envoy to Kosovo Martii Ahtisaari announced September 24 that he hoped to have a final resolution by November, but later decided that his plan would have to wait for the results of Serbian elections, scheduled for December. ([B92](#), October 4; [The Washington Post](#), October 3, 2006)

NEPAL

Extradition Treaty with India signing deferred: On October 4, just before Home Minister Krishna Prasad Sitaula was scheduled to fly to New Delhi, India for the signing of the Nepal-India treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, he received word that the signing was to be deferred. Maoist Chairman Prachanda requested Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala to put off signing the treaty until after the conclusion of peace talks between the government and the Maoists. The talks have been postponed twice already, and are now scheduled to take place October 8. Prachanda also requested that no major governmental treaties be signed until after the peace summit. The government has not commented on the deferment of the treaty signing. The treaty would replace the 1953 Extradition Treaty currently in effect. Many had feared that the treaty would allow Indian security officials to enter into Nepal and arrest anyone; however, this provision was not included in the treaty, and according to former Home Secretary Chandi Prasad Shrestha, “... [p]er the provision of the new treaty, if somebody from [sic] third country commits crimes in either country and sneaks into the other s/he will be subjected to extradition [to the appropriate country].” ([eKantipur.com](#), October 4; [NepalNews.com](#), October 4, 2006)

Secularism process of Nepal evident in Dashain celebrations: For the first time in Nepalese history, the Prime Minister did not receive *tika* (a traditional religious blessing) from the king. This anomaly was part of the recent secularization of Nepal. In May of 2006, Nepal’s government officially changed its title from “His Majesty’s Government” to “Government of Nepal.” The shift to a secular government also included changing the national anthem, changing the “Royal Nepal Army” to the “Nepalese Army,” and taxing the private property and income of the king. Another centuries-old tradition was ignored during this year’s religious holiday of Dashain. Traditionally, the king blessed the army at the army parade ground on the seventh day of the Dashain festival. This break from tradition exemplified the commitment of a rapidly secularizing Nepal that has stated the army will no longer report to the king, but to the House of Representatives. According to tradition, Nepalese monarchs were believed to be semi-divine. ([eKantipur.com](#), October 10, 2005, September 29, 30)

SERBIA

United Nations chief war crimes prosecutor meets with Serbian leaders: The chief war crimes prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), Carla Del Ponte, met with Serbian leaders from October 2 to October 3 to discuss in detail the government's implementation of the action plan to capture war crimes fugitive Ratko Mladić. Del Ponte met with president Boris Tadić, prime minister Vojislav Koštunica, action plan coordinators Rasim Ljajić and Vladimir Vukčević, and other ranking officials from Serbia's security information agency, military security agency, and foreign affairs ministry. At the conclusion of the grueling two-day meeting, Del Ponte remained unsatisfied with the government's actions. Del Ponte was expected to submit a report to the United Nations in October in which she would detail the lackluster plan as well as constructive evaluations emerging from the meeting. Del Ponte, on numerous occasions, stated that although the government had the ability to arrest Mladić it had not cooperated in doing so. Del Ponte and her own special team were searching for Mladić along with Serbian agencies, and seemed to be making more progress than the Belgrade agencies. Due to an apparent lack of cooperation and investigative results, Serbia is expected to come under increased international pressure from both the UN and the European Union (EU). Belgrade's failure to arrest and extradite Mladić led to the suspension of EU pre-entry and membership talks as well as United States aid, and has remained a condition for the resumption of membership talks. (Associated Press, October 2, 3; B92, October 3, 4; International Herald Tribune, October 2, 3, 2006)

UN Envoy Ahtisaari forced to postpone Kosovo proposal: United Nations (UN) Special Envoy Martti Ahtisaari reported to the Finnish television station ILE that his proposal regarding the Kosovo status solution would be postponed pending the results of the Serbian parliamentary elections scheduled for later this year. As head of the ongoing UN-led negotiations, Ahtisaari had been working on the proposed Kosovo solution since November of last year. At the urging of the Contact Group (comprised of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, and the United States); the UN; and the European Union (EU), Ahtisaari's anticipated proposal was to have been presented to the UN Security Council by this November. The proposal is expected to call for an imposed independent Kosovo state with limited sovereignty, as well as to include provisions of international guarantees for the Serbian minority – all of which is to be overseen by the EU and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as "constant international observers." The postponement came after the Serbian parliament unanimously approved a new constitution, which while it upheld EU economic and administrative standards, continued to maintain historic claims over Kosovo. A referendum to ratify the constitution has been scheduled for October 28 and 29. The hastened addition of parliamentary elections was the latest development that has forced Ahtisaari's proposal into January of next year. Koštunica's chief advisor Vladeta Janković responded to the news of Ahtisaari's postponement by saying it was "a step in the right direction." He further added that "[i]t is a lot better to discuss the final Kosovo status solution after the situation within Serbia gains stability, after the constitution is adopted, the elections are completed and the entire structure gets back on its feet. It will then be more capable of meritoriously reaching a final solution." (B92, October 3, 4; Financial Times, October 2; Southeast European Times, October 3, 2006)

SUDAN

Government and eastern rebels sign wealth-sharing deal: On October 1, the Sudanese government and Eastern Front rebel coalition signed a wealth-sharing deal and planned to reach a final peace agreement by the end of Ramadan. Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported that the deal would be government funded and include a five year action plan, but they failed to report further details of the agreement. In June, the Sudanese government and eastern rebels signed a pact to cease hostilities, and agreed to discuss in the future security arrangements and wealth and power sharing. On September 28, a security protocol was signed which included lifting the state of emergency declaration in eastern Sudan. The low-level insurgency in the region has existed for ten years, but this year the rebel faction lost control of the area on the Eritrean border where they based their forces. The presence of the country's largest gold mine and main port that distributes the country's oil to the world make eastern Sudan economically important. Despite the presence of natural resources, the east is one of the most impoverished areas in the country, and the insurgents have charged that Khartoum exploited the riches without attempting economic development of the region. (ST October 2, 2006)

Increasing rebel fighting in Darfur region causes aid agencies to leave: On September 29, fighters from the Justice and Equality Movement attacked men from a faction of the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA) near Greida, one of the world's largest camps for internally displaced people (IDPs). Up to 40 dead have been reported, and all aid agencies other than the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) have left the region, leaving 130,000 people homeless and without adequate food or health aid. The World Food Program (WFP) stopped food deliveries to large parts of north Darfur earlier this summer due to the surge in rebel fighting. The Justice and Equality Movement was one of two rebel groups that refused to sign a peace deal with the Khartoum government in May, and the attacks were against the faction of the SLA that did sign. As his justification for the continued government violence against rebel groups, President Omar al-Bashir refused to acknowledge any new rebel factions created since the peace treaty. (Guardian, October 2, 2006)

UGANDA

As the church comes to the table, LRA demands answered: The Archbishop of the Church of Uganda, Henry Luke Orombi, sent Bishop Evans Kisekka as his representative to Juba, Sudan to observe peace talks between the government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels September 29. As Kisekka joined the talks, the government team, led by Internal Affairs Minister Ruhakana Rugunda, responded to a series of LRA demands made during the week of September 25. Rugunda's team refused to consider allowing the LRA to become a part of the Ugandan People's Defense Force (UPDF). The government team also explained President Yoweri Museveni did not intend to perpetuate his stay in office; and further, the team offered the National Peace, Recovery and Development Plan (PRDP) for Northern Uganda for the years 2006-2009 as the most useful program, in their view, to address the underdevelopment of the northern districts in the country. The government team said the LRA should use the established constitutional mechanisms to enact change in the country. (Monitor, October 2, 2006)

LRA disappears from designated safety point: Following the week of September 25, a number of ceasefire violation accusations clouded the air at the Juba peace talks. One of the main points

of contention was the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) mediating party's accusation that the Ugandan People's Defense Force (UPDF) attacked LRA rebels at one of two designated safety points in southern Sudan known as Owiny Ki-Bul. The LRA party gave the government a week to pull the UPDF away from the area, and a monitoring team, made up of representatives from the UPDF, LRA, and Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M), was sent to investigate the attack claims. The monitoring team found an abandoned LRA camp less than three miles from Owiny Ki-Bul October 2. The government party accused the LRA of violating the ceasefire agreement by failing to show up at the designated safety point, while the LRA team replied moving was necessary for safety. The monitoring team planned to officially report its findings at the Juba peace talks a few days after October 2. ([IRIN](#), October 3, 2006)