



**Peace & Justice Update**  
**December 1, 2006**  
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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 ( <a href="http://www.adnki.com">www.adnki.com</a> )
AfricaFocus	=	AfricaFocus ( <a href="http://www.africafocus.org">www.africafocus.org</a> )
AFP	=	Agence France-Presse ( <a href="http://www.afp.com">www.afp.com</a> )
AI	=	Amnesty International ( <a href="http://www.amnesty.org">www.amnesty.org</a> )
AllAfrica	=	AllAfrica Global Media ( <a href="http://www.allafrica.com">www.allafrica.com</a> )
Asian Tribune	=	Asian Tribune ( <a href="http://www.asiantribune.com">www.asiantribune.com</a> )
AP	=	Associated Press ( <a href="http://www.ap.org">www.ap.org</a> )
B92	=	B92 Net ( <a href="http://www.b92.net/eng/">www.b92.net/eng/</a> )
AWID	=	Association for Women's Rights in Development ( <a href="http://www.awid.org">www.awid.org</a> )
BBC	=	British Broadcasting Corporation ( <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk">http://news.bbc.co.uk</a> )
BBC Monitoring	=	BBC Monitoring International Reports ( <a href="http://www.monitor.bbc.co.uk">www.monitor.bbc.co.uk</a> )
CARE	=	CARE International ( <a href="http://www.care.org">www.care.org</a> )
CBC News	=	CBC News ( <a href="http://www.cbc.ca">www.cbc.ca</a> )
EU	=	European Union ( <a href="http://www.europa.eu.int">www.europa.eu.int</a> )
Guardian	=	Guardian Unlimited Network ( <a href="http://www.guardian.co.uk">www.guardian.co.uk</a> )
HRW	=	Human Rights Watch ( <a href="http://www.hrw.org">www.hrw.org</a> )
ICC	=	International Criminal Court ( <a href="http://www.icc-cpi.int">www.icc-cpi.int</a> )
ICG	=	International Crisis Group ( <a href="http://www.crisisweb.org">www.crisisweb.org</a> )
IndiaTimes	=	India Times ( <a href="http://www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com">www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com</a> )
Independent	=	The Independent ( <a href="http://www.independent.co.uk">www.independent.co.uk</a> )
IRIN	=	Integrated Regional Information Network ( <a href="http://www.irinnews.org">www.irinnews.org</a> )
IWPR	=	Institute for War & Peace Reporting ( <a href="http://www.iwpr.net">www.iwpr.net</a> )
Kantipur Online	=	The Kantipur Online ( <a href="http://www.kantipuronline.com">www.kantipuronline.com</a> )
Kathmandu Post	=	The Kathmandu Post ( <a href="http://www.nepalnews.com.np">www.nepalnews.com.np</a> )
Khaleej Times	=	Khaleej Times ( <a href="http://www.khaleejtimes.com">www.khaleejtimes.com</a> )
Jurist	=	The Jurist ( <a href="http://jurist.law.pitt.edu">http://jurist.law.pitt.edu</a> )
LA Times	=	Los Angeles Times ( <a href="http://www.latimes.com">www.latimes.com</a> )
Makfax	=	Macedonian Independent News Agency ( <a href="http://www.makfax.com">www.makfax.com</a> )
Monitor	=	The Monitor ( <a href="http://www.monitor.co.ug">www.monitor.co.ug</a> )
Nepal News	=	Nepal News ( <a href="http://www.nepalnews.com">www.nepalnews.com</a> )
Nepali Times	=	Nepali Times ( <a href="http://www.nepalitimes.com">www.nepalitimes.com</a> )
New Vision	=	New Vision ( <a href="http://www.newvision.co.ug">www.newvision.co.ug</a> )
New Zealand Herald	=	The New Zealand Herald ( <a href="http://www.nzherald.co.nz">www.nzherald.co.nz</a> )
News24	=	News24 ( <a href="http://www.news24.com">www.news24.com</a> )
NRC	=	Norwegian Refugee Council ( <a href="http://www.nrc.no">www.nrc.no</a> )
NYT	=	The New York Times ( <a href="http://www.nytimes.com">www.nytimes.com</a> )
PANA	=	Panafrican News Agency ( <a href="http://www.panapress.com">www.panapress.com</a> )
Oxfam	=	Oxfam International ( <a href="http://www.oxfam.org">www.oxfam.org</a> )
Reuters	=	Reuters ( <a href="http://www.reuters.com">www.reuters.com</a> )
RSF	=	Reporters sans frontières ( <a href="http://www.rsf.org">www.rsf.org</a> )
SEAPA	=	Southeast Asian Press Alliance ( <a href="http://www.seapabkk.org">www.seapabkk.org</a> )
SEEurope	=	SEEurope.net ( <a href="http://www.seeurope.net">www.seeurope.net</a> )
SMH	=	Sydney Morning Herald ( <a href="http://www.smh.com">www.smh.com</a> )
ST	=	Sudan Tribune ( <a href="http://www.sudantribune.com">www.sudantribune.com</a> )
UN News Center	=	UN News Center Homepage ( <a href="http://www.un.org">www.un.org</a> )
UNESCO	=	UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization ( <a href="http://www.unesco.org">www.unesco.org</a> )
UNHCHR	=	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights ( <a href="http://www.unhcr.ch">www.unhcr.ch</a> )
UNICEF	=	UN Children's Fund ( <a href="http://www.unicef.org">www.unicef.org</a> )
UNIFEM	=	UN Development Fund for Women ( <a href="http://www.unifem.org">www.unifem.org</a> )
VOA	=	Voice of America ( <a href="http://www.voanews.com">www.voanews.com</a> )
WP	=	The Washington Post ( <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com">www.washingtonpost.com</a> )

## **UPDATE SUMMARY**

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## UPDATES

### AFGHANISTAN

NATO urged to improve its mission: In anticipation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) summit held in Riga, Latvia November 28-29, a number of international organizations demanded NATO improve its mission in Afghanistan. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) urged NATO to improve its strategy by focusing on providing security which would allow humanitarian agencies to address the country's aid and development needs. According to the NRC, coordination between humanitarian assistance organizations and the military was necessary, but coordination was not the same as collaboration and cooperation. CARE International echoed the concerns of the NRC when it asked NATO to focus on long-term security and stability instead of short-term aid based on military tactics. Amnesty International (AI) called on NATO leaders to ensure justice for civilian casualties and torture victims. Since the presence of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) in Afghanistan operated outside Afghan law as well as the laws of its members' own countries, AI was concerned there was no recourse for civilians who might have suffered human rights violations during the course of ISAF operations. Oxfam International released a report November 27, the day before the summit began, warning that children's education is crucial to rebuilding the country, but that less than half of the 12 million children in the country had attended school in 2006. According to Oxfam, it was critical to invest in school rebuilding and education reform. Following the Riga Summit, NATO Secretary General Jaap De Hoop Scheffer said Afghanistan had seen real progress since the Taliban was overthrown in 2001. Also, Germany, France, Spain, and Italy agreed to remove some of the restrictions on their troops in ISAF so that NATO troops would be "more usable." The restrictions had limited troops from participating in certain types of ISAF security operations. (AI, CARE, November 27; NRC, November 28; Oxfam, November 27; RFERL, November 29, 2006)

NATO troops killed in bomb attack: A suicide car bomb attack in the southern city of Kandahar killed two North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) troops November 27. The day before, November 26, a suicide bomber attacked a restaurant in the Orgun district near Pakistan killing at least 15 people and injuring 25 more. The main targets of the November 26 attack, a district chief and an army officer, escaped with minor injuries. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the bombing, the deadliest since a September 2006 suicide bombing in Kabul. In related news, NATO forces have killed at least 50 Taliban fighters in the southern province of Uruzgan. One NATO soldier died in the fighting, and villagers in the affected areas claimed 12 civilians died in the attacks. (BBC, November 27; RFERL, November 28, 2006)

### KOSOVO

UN police fire tear gas at protestors in Kosovo: On November 28, United Nations police fired tear gas on Kosovar Albanian protestors near the headquarters of both the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the Kosovo interim government in Priština. The group of over 3,000 Kosovar Albanians gathered to show their anger at the delay of independence from Serbia. The protestors threw stones and red paint on the UNMIK and government buildings and overturned a concrete barrier shielding UNMIK headquarters. Security around the buildings was heightened due to threats made November 27 against UN personnel serving in the UNMIK administration. The rally was organized by the pro-independence group Vetvendosja (Self-

Determination), opposed to UN-brokered negotiations between Kosovo leaders and Serbia's officials. The group is led by former student Albin Kurti, who in the past few months has held various rallies in Kosovo's rural areas and has promised more rallies to come. Kurti told the crowd November 28, "Priština is the center and source of all the bad things that are happening to Kosovo." The UN has delayed its decision on Kosovo's final status until after Serbian national elections January 21, 2007. ([BBC](#), [HT](#), [Reuters](#), November 28, 2006)

Kosovo Prime Minister visits Russia: Kosovo Prime Minister Agim Çeku met with Russian officials in Moscow November 29 at the invitation of Russian foreign minister Vladimir Titov. During his meetings, Çeku planned to brief the Russians on the progress of the Kosovo status discussions and the position of the Albanian side. Çeku also sought to convince the Russians that granting Kosovo independence would be the best option. The Russians have been strongly opposed to granting Kosovo complete independence from Serbia, stating that the province's independence would set a precedent for other breakaway republics in the region. Russia holds a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council and is also a member of the Contact Group, along with the United States, Italy, Britain, France, and Germany. Before arriving in Moscow, Çeku traveled around Europe in an attempt to gain support for Kosovo independence stopping in England, France, Italy, Greece, Slovakia, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Albania. ([B92](#), November 29, 2006)

## NEPAL

Government to implement probe report: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs K.P. Sharma Oli announced November 27 that the government was committed to following recommendations made in the report by the High Level Probe Commission (HLPC) regarding those involved in the suppression of the April uprising. Over 200 people were questioned, including King Gyanendra, for their tactics. Oli affirmed the report would be released to the public in its entirety once the government had time to study and read over it. "There is nothing to hide. There is transparency in democracy," the minister stated. Co-Coordinator of the commission Krishna Jung Raymajhi further stated that if the government failed to either implement the report's recommendations or release the report to the public, he would himself make the report public. The April uprising took place in response to King Gyanendra's April coup and removal of parliament's powers. The HLPC report investigated reported human rights violations, including the results of the royal government's shoot-to-kill curfew. ([eKantipur](#), November 27, 2006)

Government, Maoist, and UN agreement reached: On November 28, the Nepalese government, the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoists) (CPN-Maoists), and the United Nations (UN) reached agreement on the monitoring and management of arms and armies during the process of integrating the CPN-Maoists into the Seven Party Alliance (SPA), and the Nepalese Parliament. The agreement came after five days of discussion, and resulted in the decision to create seven main camps and 21 sub-camps for the Maoist People's Liberation Army (PLA) and for members of the Nepalese Army to remain in their barracks. Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan wrote to Security Council (UNSC) president Jorge Voto-Bernales, requesting a mandate to deploy necessary personnel and logistics as requested by the Nepal government. The government has asked that sixty UN personnel be deployed immediately, with the possibility of more being deployed pending the results of a field report from Nepal. Ambassador to the UN,

Madhu Raman Acharya stated, “We are eagerly waiting for a quick decision by the Security Council to meet Nepal’s requests.” The UNSC’s mandate is necessary before the UN can deploy personnel to Nepal. The request for UN intervention follows the November 8 agreement to integrate the Maoists into the formal government, and is the second such request made by Nepal. The first was made in August during the peace talks between the SPA and the Maoists. (eKantipur, November 28, 2006)

## **SERBIA**

Witness testifies to Mladić’s whereabouts and military aid: On September 27, the trial in Belgrade’s district courts of eleven alleged former aides of war crimes fugitive Ratko Mladić began and has since expanded to include other former army officers such as retired army colonel Dragomir Krstović, and captain Branislav Puhalo, as well as senior military officials Aco Tomić and Nebojša Pavković, all of whom were summoned upon suspicion of illegally aiding Mladić. Since 1995, Mladić has successfully remained in hiding despite an indictment and warrant for his arrest and extradition to the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to stand trial for crimes against humanity. On November 28, retired officer Lt. Colonel Srboljub Nikolić of the Yugoslav Army testified that in May 2002 at least 500 military officers and officials knew of Mladić’s whereabouts and furthermore aided in hiding him in military facilities. In his testimony, Nikolić stated that then Yugoslav president Vojislav Koštunica; head of military intelligence, Aco Tomić; chief of the general staff, Nebojša Pavković; and the High Defense Council all knew of Mladić’s location and that Nikolić himself had received orders from a Security Directorate superior to provide logistical support in preparation for Mladić’s departure from the guards’ barracks at Topčider, Belgrade. Of the defendants, only Marko Lugonja has admitted to aiding and harboring Mladić at his home in early September 2002 for six days. If convicted, the defendants face a sentence of one to eight years in prison. (B92, November 17,20,28; IHT, November 28; SEEurope.net, November 22, 2006)

Serbia accepted into NATO’s Partnership for Peace: On November 29, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) extended to Serbia the highly sought after membership invitation to NATO’s Partnership for Peace cooperation program, considered a prelude to NATO membership. News of Serbia’s acceptance met with varying reactions. The International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) responded immediately with “dissatisfaction” since the acceptance broke from an unconditional ICTY and western policy of cooperation with tribunal authorities and prosecution, in particular and not yet met by Serbia, the arrest and extradition of war crimes fugitives Ratko Mladić and Radovan Karadžić, both ICTY indictees for crimes against humanity. Serb citizen and World War II veteran Boza Zukic responded to the news by saying that the Partnership for Peace was “not good for Serbia.” “Why should our boys go and get killed in Afghanistan and Iraq for the sake of America’s interests?” said Zukic. President Boris Tadić welcomed the acceptance and heralded it as “good news for the citizens and the military along with the entire country.” Potential investors have been looking for Serbia to meet admission requirements to international organizations such as the World Trade Organization, the European Union and NATO’s Partnership for Peace. The acceptance signals a “sure and secure guarantee for (foreign) investments,” said Tadić and which through “strong diplomatic activity” and “lengthy reform efforts” have finally paid off. (API, B92, VOA, San Diego Union Tribune, November 29, 2006)

## SUDAN

Three hundred killed in battle between Sudanese army and rebel group in South Sudan: From November 27 to the 29, in Malakal, South Sudan, more than 300 people were killed in fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the former southern rebel group, the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). Former officer in the Sudan Army, Elias Waya Nyipuocs stated, "More than hundreds have been lost. The Sudan army sustained very heavy casualties and civilians were caught in the crossfire." Fighting began when a northern militia led by Major General Gabriel Tang attacked SPLA forces and then took refuge in SAF barracks. The SPLA attacked the barracks and the SAF retaliated with their militia forces. Ten thousand United Nations (UN) peacekeepers are in the region monitoring the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed January 2005 between Northern and Southern Sudan. The UN staff has distributed food, water, and much needed medical aid to those affected by the violent clash. While the fighting has subsided, still present are tension, looting, and sporadic gunfire, preventing an exact casualty count. The CPA ended two decades of fighting and established a bi-lateral system with armies in the North and South regions operating under a national unity government with SPLA leader, Salva Kiir, as both President of South Sudan and national vice-president under President Omar al-Bashir. (BBC, ST, November 30, 2006)

Sudanese president again rejects UN authority in Darfur: On November 27, 2006, Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir rejected a proposal for the United Nations to assume joint command with the African Union (AU) over UN peacekeepers and AU troops in Darfur. Although al-Bashir said he would accept UN aid, advisors, equipment and logistics support, he refused to accept any UN authority in the region. "There is no talk about accepting the hybrid force because we have rejected it in principle," al-Bashir said. "Troops in Darfur should be part of the AU and under command of the AU." Al-Bashir has repeatedly accused the western world of attempting to interfere in Darfur in an effort to re-colonize Sudan and has repeatedly rejected an August UN resolution to deploy 20,000 UN peacekeepers to the Darfur region. The mandate for AU troops to stay in the region ends in December. Analysts are concerned there will be a "security vacuum" if AU troops pull out of the region. The UN reported over 200,000 deaths caused by the conflict since it began in February 2003 and recently released reports of increased violence, although al-Bashir continued to deny such claims. (ST, November 27, 2006)

## UGANDA

LRA suspends peace talks: On November 29, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) delegation suspended its involvement in the peace process in Juba, Sudan. The LRA delegation claimed the Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) violated the November 1 cease-fire agreement on November 29 when it attacked LRA troops moving towards Owiny Ki-Bul, a designated assembly point in South Sudan. Prior to this accusation, the Cessation of Hostilities Monitoring Team – a committee comprising the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the LRA, and the UPDF – reported the LRA was also in violation of the cease-fire agreement by failing to assemble at Owiny Ki-Bul by November 8. In response to the LRA's accusations, Major Felix Kulaigye, spokesman for the UPDF, denied the attack and said the LRA was simply trying to make excuses in order to buy time to assemble at Ri-Kwangba – the other designated point – by the December 1 deadline. The LRA delegation said it would only continue participation in the peace process if the UPDF pulled out from all its positions east of the Nile River. Vincent Otti,

the LRA second-in-command, added that the LRA viewed the assembly points as traps and would not assemble at either of them. Otti also said the cease-fire agreement was voided after the latest UPDF attack and that the LRA was reconsidering a violent solution to the war. Following this latest development, the leader of the government delegation, Minister of Internal Affairs Ruhakana Rugunda, reaffirmed the government's commitment to the peace process and urged the LRA to do the same. ([IRIN](#), November 30; [Monitor](#), November 25; [New Vision](#), December 1, 2006)

UN and Karamajong criticize UPDF policy: Defense Minister Crispus Kiyonga and Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) General Aronda Nyakairima were in the northeastern Kotido and Moroto districts to promote mutual cooperation and consultation for the on-going disarmament process following an incident at Lopuyo in Kotido district in which Karamajong warriors killed a UPDF major and over 15 other soldiers who were on a search and cordon operation. Kotido and Moroto districts make up the Karamoja region, and are populated by the nomadic Karamajong who are notorious for their cattle-raiding practices. When questioned by elders and leaders of the two districts about disarmament policy in including avoiding the use of helicopter gunships the Karamoja region, Nyakairima said November 25 that the UPDF "would not succumb to Karamajong pressure." To avoid the problem of certain UPDF soldiers seeking tribal vengeance in the disarmament operations, the elders and leaders suggested the UPDF stop using officers and soldiers from neighboring tribes in operations taking place in Karamoja. Nyakairima opposed the latter suggestion on the grounds that it would reinstitute a tribalized army. The general said that, instead, any soldier guilty of human rights abuse would be punished as an individual and not as a member of his tribe; and he appointed a military tribunal to probe any allegations of abuse. The UPDF recently received criticism from United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour, who urged the government November 23 to reconsider its disarmament policies in the region. ([IRIN](#), December 1; [Monitor](#), November 25, 28; [UN News](#), November 23, 2006)

