



Peace & Justice Update
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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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SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

ADNKI	=	ADNKI (www.adnki.com)
AfricaFocus	=	AfricaFocus (www.africafocus.org)
ANN	=	Afghan News Network (http://afghannews.net/)
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)
The Australian	=	The Australian (www.theaustralian.news.com.au/)
AP	=	Associated Press (www.ap.org)
B92	=	B92 Net (www.b92.net/eng/)
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)
B92 News	=	B92 News (www.b92.net/eng/news)
Cape Times	=	The Cape Times (www.capetimes.co.za)
CBC News	=	CBC News (www.cbc.ca)
CIA	=	CIA - The World Factbook (www.cia.gov)
Concord Times	=	The Concord Times (www.concordtimesl.com)
Daily News	=	Daily News, Sri Lanka (www.dailynews.lk)
eng24.kg	=	News Agency 24 (http://eng.24.kg/)
FMM	=	Free Media Movement (www.freemediasrilanka.org)
EU	=	European Union (www.europa.eu.int)
Gazeta	=	Gazeta (www.gazeta.ru/english/)
Guardian	=	Guardian Unlimited Network (www.guardian.co.uk)
The Hindu	=	The Hindu Newspaper (www.hinduonnet.com/)
HRW	=	Human Rights Watch (www.hrw.org)
ICC	=	International Criminal Court (www.icc-cpi.int)
ICG	=	International Crisis Group (www.crisisweb.org)
ICTY	=	International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (www.un.org/icty)
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune (www.iht.com/)
IndiaTimes	=	India Times (www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com)
Independent	=	The Independent (www.independent.co.uk)
IPS News Agency	=	Inter Press Service News Agency (http://ipsnews.net)
IRIN	=	Integrated Regional Information Network (www.irinnews.org)
ISN	=	International Relations and Security Network (www.isn.ethz.ch/index.cfm)
IWPR	=	Institute for War & Peace Reporting (www.iwpr.net)
Kantipur Online	=	The Kantipur Online (www.kantipuronline.com)
Kathmandu Post	=	The Kathmandu Post (www.nepalnews.com.np)
KDD	=	KyrgyzstanDailyDigest (www.eurasianet.org/resource/kyrgyzstan/)
Khaleej Times	=	Khaleej Times (www.khaleejtimes.com)
KL	=	KosovaLive (www.kosovalive.com)
Jurist	=	The Jurist (http://jurist.law.pitt.edu)
LA Times	=	Los Angeles Times (www.latimes.com)
Monitor	=	The Monitor (www.monitor.co.ug)
Nepal News	=	Nepal News (www.nepalnews.com)
Nepali Times	=	Nepali Times (www.nepalitimes.com)
News Afghanistan	=	Afgaha.com- News- Afghanistan (http://afgaha.com/)
New Vision	=	New Vision (www.newvision.co.ug)
News24	=	News24 (www.news24.com)
Novosti	=	RIA Novosti (http://en.rian.ru/)

NYT	=	The New York Times (www.nytimes.com)
Pajhwok	=	Pajhwok Afghan News (www.pajhwok.com)
PANA	=	Panafrican News Agency (www.panapress.com)
PINR	=	Power and Interest News Report (www.pinr.com)
Oxfam Great Britain	=	Oxfam Great Britain (www.oxfam.org.uk)
RadioFreeEurope	=	RadioFreeEurope, Radio Liberty (www.rferl.org/featuresarticle/2007/)
Reuters	=	Reuters (www.reuters.com)
RSF	=	Reporters sans frontières (www.rsf.org)
Scotsman	=	The Scotsman (http://news.scotsman.com)
SC-SL	=	The Special Court for Sierra Leone (www.sc-sl.org)
The Star	=	The Star.com (www.thestar.com/)
SEAPA	=	Southeast Asian Press Alliance (www.seapabkk.org)
SERBIANNA	=	Serbianna.com (www.serbianna.com)
SLCMP	=	Sierra Leone Court Monitoring Program (www.slcmp.org)
SomaliNet	=	SomaliNet (www.somalinet.com/)
ST	=	Sudan Tribune (www.sudantribune.com)
TamilNet	=	TamilNet (www.tamilnet.com)
TCA	=	Times of Central Asia (www.timesca-europe.com/)
TP	=	Turkish Press (www.turkishpress.com)
UN News Center	=	UN News Center Homepage (www.un.org)
UNESCO	=	UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (www.unesco.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)
WP	=	The Washington Post (www.washingtonpost.com)
Web India	=	Web India (www.webindia123.com)
Xinhua	=	Xinhua (http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2007-07/08/)

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UPDATES

AFGHANISTAN

NATO promises to avoid civilian casualties: On July 2 in a conference on Afghanistan in Rome, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said the alliance must avoid civilian casualties. Concern has been growing about the killing of innocent civilians by NATO forces. According to figures by the UN mission in Kabul, 300 out of 600 civilians killed this year have been victims of Afghan and international military forces. President Hamid Karzai has recently accused those forces of reckless attacks in Afghanistan, and has ordered a thorough investigation into the June 29 air raids in Helmand province, where Afghan sources reported a total of 45 civilians and 62 Taliban fighters killed by U.S.-led coalition forces and NATO. Karzai added that "the foreign forces are killing civilians with an extreme use of force and are not coordinating properly with the Afghan government." NATO welcomed the investigation and promised it would re-examine its procedures. NATO-led forces have been fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan since the latter's ousting from power in October 2001. (Afghan News Network, July 4; News Afghanistan, June 15, July 4, 2007)

Canadian photo exhibit recognizes leading Afghan women: Journalists Jane McElhone and Khorshied Samad unveiled 44 photographs of Afghan women journalists, politicians, and human rights activists at the June opening of "Voices on the Rise: Afghan Women making the News," at Alliance Française de Toronto, a charitable organization. According to McElhone and Samad, the women in these photos are "playing leading roles in the reconstruction of Afghanistan, but their efforts are hidden from the glare of the media spotlight." Samad said that Canadians need to get a more balanced picture presented to them, since the media only seem to focus on negative stories. The exhibit includes photographs of prominent Afghan radio journalist Zakia Zaki, fatally shot in her home June 6. Zaki started Peace Radio, thought to be the first independent radio station in the country. Afghan women's struggle for human rights has been continuous, previously through clandestine activity under the Taliban rule and currently under Taliban terror since its ousting from power in late 2001. (The Star.com, June 29, 2007)

KOSOVO

Serbia announces aim to capture Ratko Mladi_ by year's end: Serbian President Boris Tadi_ confirmed July 6 that it is Serbia's goal to arrest and transfer Ratko Mladi_, former Bosnian Serb military commander indicted for genocide, to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to be tried by the end of this year. Mladi_ was indicted by the ICTY for his role in the 1995 Srebrenica massacre of 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys as well as for other war crimes committed under his command. Tadi_ said July 6, "We all know it is a precondition in achieving agreement in the SAA [Stabilization and Association Agreement] but at the same time this is our moral obligation and this is our strategic goal." The Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) is an important step towards the closer ties with the European Union that Serbia seeks. Of the 161 war criminals originally indicted by the ICTY for crimes during the 1990s Balkans wars, only four remain fugitives. The capture of these remaining criminals may help allow Serbia to move beyond the heightened ethnic tensions that followed the wars. (Reuters, July 6; Jurist, July 6, 2007)

Compromise sought on Kosovo final status question: A new United Nations draft resolution on Kosovo's status may serve as a compromise between Europe and the United States; and Russia and Serbia. A third attempt to meet Russian and Serbian demands, the modified resolution would call for 120 days of negotiations between Serbia and Kosovo's ethnic Albanians, but would not automatically lead to Kosovo's independence. The new UN resolution would include the placement of some key

institutions that would help lay the groundwork for Kosovo's independence in the future without assuming independence as the end result. The resolution is the latest attempt to negotiate the issue of Kosovo independence diplomatically, in hopes that growing tensions in the UN-administered province will not break out into violence. Kosovo has recently appealed to the United States to set a date for independence, and Kosovo's Prime Minister Agim Çeku has declared the possibility of a unilateral declaration of independence in the event of further delays. Çeku's fellow veterans of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) have warned that they are prepared to take up arms again if the stalemate between Russia and the West continues to prevent Kosovo's independence. Over 90 percent of the two million people who live in Kosovo are ethnic Albanians, the large majority of whom favor independence. But Serbian President Boris Tadic stated July 6, "We do not accept Kosovo's independence. . . Do not underestimate Serbia's capacity to achieve real compromise on Kosovo. But for us, compromise does not mean independence." Kosovo has been a UN-administered province since the end of the 1999 war in Kosovo and is considered by Serbia as the birthplace of its culture. (AP, July 6; [Novosti](#), July 9; [Reuters](#), July 8, 9, 10, 2007)

KYRGYZSTAN

Protesters demand removal of U.S. air base: A group of individuals pushing for the withdrawal of the Ganci air base from Kyrgyzstan organized a two-hour demonstration July 7 near the air base in the capital, Bishkek. Participants from a variety of political parties attended the demonstration, calling for the removal of the Ganci base, which uses part of Bishkek's Manas International Airport. Protesters carried signs saying, "Yankees, go home," "We want a peaceful sky over our heads," "Americans, get out of Kyrgyzstan," and "We will never forget or forgive." Movement leader Aleksandr Tiperov read a list of demands including withdrawal of the base, compensation for environmental and health damage inflicted by the base, the extradition of U.S. Air Force serviceman Zachary Hatfield for his role in the death of Kyrgyz national Aleksandr Ivanov, and compensation to Ivanov's family in accordance with U.S. legislation. Ivanov was shot in 2006 by serviceman Hatfield who at the time believed he was a security threat at the base; Hatfield has not been tried for the crime. The U.S. government offered Ivanov's widow \$50,000 in compensation, but she has deemed this amount insufficient. Popular Kyrgyz opinion views the war as a fight for geopolitical reasons rather than a war against terrorism. Klara Adzhibekova, leader of the Communist Party of Kyrgyzstan, has expressed concern with the U.S.'s aggressive policy, and Tiperov has objected to the base's role in bombing Afghan villages where Kyrgyz, Uzbek, and Tajik people also live. Tiperov has sent letters of appeal to the Kyrgyz president, Kyrgyz Parliament, and United States President George W. Bush. In light of these mounting tensions, U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates visited Kyrgyzstan July 5 seeking continued support for the base. The base has been controversial since its establishment in 2001 as a strategic point from which the U.S. supplies troops to Afghanistan. ([LexisNexis](#), July 7; [RadioFreeEurope](#), July 5, 2007)

Kyrgyzstan meets with China, Russia: Both Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi were to meet during the week of July 9 with top Kyrgyz officials in order to enhance cooperation and promote friendly relations. During a two-day visit in Kyrgyzstan, Lavrov and Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev planned to discuss bilateral cooperation on issues including security and stability in Central Asia, counteracting terrorism and extremism, and other threats and challenges facing the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The SCO was established in 2001 as a non-military alliance and is perceived by many as an attempt to provide a counterweight to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Additionally, Lavrov and Bakiyev expected to discuss the possibility of bilateral cooperation between Russia and Kyrgyzstan within the Collective Security Treaty Organization as well as within the Eurasian Economic Community. Kyrgyz Prime Minister Almazbek Atambayev and Jiechi have pledged to work towards enhancing cooperation and friendly ties between China and Kyrgyzstan. Kyrgyz leaders have made clear their willingness to establish bilateral

cooperation with China within the SCO in the interest of safeguarding peace, security, and stability in their respective countries and the region in general. Kyrgyzstan attained independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991 and has since struggled with political instability. ([LexisNexis](#), July 10; [Novosti](#), July 9; [Xinhua](#), July 8 2007)

NEPAL

Election Commission seeks observers for November poll: On July 9, the Election Commission requested that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs direct all Nepalese embassies and diplomatic missions abroad to seek qualified and reputable international election observers. The Commission made the request to help ensure the impartiality and integrity of constituent assembly elections scheduled for November 22. Currently, the Atlanta-based Carter Center, founded by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, is the only international nongovernmental organization to have deployed election monitors in Nepal. New international election observers are expected to augment Carter Center observers. The constituent assembly polls were originally scheduled for June but postponed owing to a lack of adequate preparation. The election is the centerpiece of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed between the former seven-party government and the Maoists in November 2006, formally ending Nepal's ten-year civil war. It was under the terms of the CPA that the Maoists laid down their arms and joined parliament and the government. Once elected, the constituent assembly is expected to decide on the fate of the monarchy and write a new national constitution, under whose terms the next general elections will be conducted. Those polls will elect a new parliament. ([eKantipur](#), July 9, 2007)

Madhesi leader denies separatist motivations: At a discussion in New York City organized by the Nepalese Teraians in America (ANTA) last week, Madhesi Janadhikar Forum (MJF) president Upendra Yadav declared it was not his intention to incite communal violence or advocate separatism. Yadav is leading the Terai rights agitation in Nepal. The Terai is the southern plains of Nepal bordering India. It is a narrow but fertile stretch of land where most of the country's agriculture is done and where almost half of Nepal's population lives. Terai people have traditionally been marginalized by the dominant hill people of Nepal, who rule from the capital, Kathmandu. Yadav, who has been on a tour of the United States for the past week, added that the Madhesis were demanding a federal state structure, a republican form of government rather than a constitutional monarchy, proportional representation through reservations for marginalized ethnic communities and an inclusive, deliberative democracy. He said that through these measures, the marginalization of Terai residents could be addressed. Yadav further stated that the MJF is committed to a nonviolent struggle to ensure rights of the Terai people. Recent events in Nepal, however, have seen the MJF engage in violent confrontations with other Terai-based groups, government security forces and the Maoists. The ANTA discussion was attended by a cross section of Nepalese in the United States, representing communities from both the hills and plains of Nepal. Yadav did not elaborate on whether his group would end their struggle if the government met their demands. ([nepalnews.com](#), July 9, 2007)

PHILIPPINES

Military officers to be investigated for activist's disappearance: The justice department has ordered its investigation arm to probe four military intelligence officers and two infantry officers in connection with their suspected involvement in the kidnapping of left-wing activist Jonas Burgos. The six military officers allegedly kidnapped Burgos from a restaurant in a suburban mall outside the capital Manila on April 28, 2007. Burgos has not been seen since his kidnapping. The state prosecutor who ordered the investigation announced that an informant from the government's witness protection program had revealed the names of the six officers. Burgos, 36, is the son of Jose Burgos, Jr., who was a prominent activist for press freedom during the rule of dictator Ferdinand Marcos. He has been under surveillance

since October 2006 for his suspected membership in the outlawed communist New People's Army. The military has repeatedly and vehemently denied involvement in the kidnapping. However, a UN envoy and human rights groups have blamed the Philippine military for the politically motivated killings of some 400 people and the disappearance of another 200 since President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo came to power in a military coup in 2001. The Burgos kidnapping has been the most high-profile case in a series of politically motivated attacks directed at left-wing activists. (AP, July 9, 2007)

Troops beheaded, photos of kidnapped priest released: A clash in the southern island of Basilan on July 11, resulted in the death of 14 Filipino marines and four rebels from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). Of the 14 marines killed, 10 were beheaded. The troops were searching for kidnapped Italian priest Giancarlo Bossi and the clash broke out when marines came upon a rebel camp with 300 fighters. The MILF confirmed the fighting but denied responsibility for the beheadings and accused the government forces of encroaching upon their territory in violation of a cease-fire agreement. Earlier this week, four pictures of Bossi, 57, were released by his kidnappers and sent via cell phone to a Filipino priest in Basilan. Bossi, who was 5 feet 3 inches tall and weighed 265 pounds at the time of his kidnapping, looked emaciated in the pictures. It is not known when the photos were taken or whether Bossi is still alive. No entity has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, nor has there been a ransom demand for his release. The Milan-born priest was kidnapped by armed men while traveling in the southern coastal township of Payao on June 10, 2007, near the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions. His kidnappers are believed to be either rogue elements from the MILF which is currently observing a ceasefire with the government, or members of the al-Qaeda linked Abu Sayyaf group. Efforts by the military and the MILF to secure Bossi's release have been unsuccessful. (AP, Reuters, July 7; BBC, July 11, 2007)

SIERRA LEONE

UN warns of pre-election violence: On July 9, the UN issued an official recommendation to maintain a peaceful campaign in anticipation of national elections, scheduled for August 11, 2007. Victor Angelo, Executive Representative of the Secretary-General, urged "democratic conduct," insisting that a "peaceful campaign is crucial for credible elections." Despite this message, reports of election-related violence continued. On July 11, just days after Angelo made his recommendation in Sierra Leone, local media reported that Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) loyalists had attacked the main office building of an opposition party, the People's Movement for Democratic Change (PMDC). Damage to property and violence on the premises prompted the PMDC to call for police intervention. No arrests were made, and the SLPP denied the attack, but police have continued an investigation. In a report issued July 12, the International Crisis Group, which has been monitoring the situation closely, warned that such acts undermine the authority of the government and the rule of law. They added that deteriorating confidence, reminiscent of war-time sentiments, threatens not only election turn-out, but national stability at large, as unpunished acts of violence do nothing to dissuade the opposition from resorting to violent means. The heightened attention to violence falls in the wake of Sierra Leone's war-time troubles. The ten years of civil conflict witnessed, among other atrocities, government and rebel forces joined in a rogue state that blurred lines between soldiers and rebels foes and rendered the rule of law largely ineffective. (Concord Times, July 11; UN News Center, July 9, 2007)

Evangelical Fellowship evaluates Millennium Development Goals: In a report released July 10, the Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone (EFSL), a coalition of Christian organizations, has evaluated the progress Sierra Leone has made toward meeting the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs were formulated in 2000 by the UN and other international groups to alleviate poverty, hunger, disease and secure other basic human rights. As the intention was that all countries would be compliant by 2015, the report falls strategically at the half-way point on the UN timeline. In its final

report, the EFSL concluded that while Sierra Leone was making progress toward reaching this deadline, the pace of progress was slow and much work remained. In particular, the report criticized gender disparities in the education system and the high incidence of poverty. While strategies for poverty reduction have been thoughtfully designed on paper, the report continued, little has been done on the ground to improve access to resources and reduce poverty and food insecurity. Although implementation remains incomplete, the EFSL seemed optimistic that Sierra Leone was on track to complete the MDG goals on schedule. Progress is slow but solid, they concluded. The participation of nongovernmental groups like the EFSL occurs in the context of widespread civil society participation in efforts to rebuild the nation after the trauma of its decade-long civil war. ([AllAfrica](#), July 10; [Concord Times](#), July 11, 2007)

SOMALIA

Several clan leaders accept future peace meeting: Various Hawiye clan officials have ended their boycott of a July 15 reconciliation conference. The conference is slated to host 1,325 clan leaders for 75 days of power-sharing negotiations. One leader, Haji Abdi Iman Omar, withdrew his opposition to the national meeting after consultations with president Abulahi Yusuf and Mogadishu mayor Mohamed Dhere. He stated that "the nation's interest" was the primary reason for reversing his position. Nevertheless, other factions within the powerful Hawiye clan remain opposed to the talks until Ethiopian troops, who they view as foreign invaders, withdraw completely from Somali territory. This clan is particularly important because they are reportedly allied with the ousted Union of Islamic Courts and other Islamist sympathizers currently battling the government. Somalia has lacked a centralized, functioning government since the fall of dictator Siad Barre in 1991. ([SomaliNet](#) July 4, 8; [BBC](#), July 10, 2007)

Ethiopian PM admits to mistakes in invading: Prime Minister of Ethiopia Meles Zenawi admitted June 29 to making "a wrong political calculation" on two issues regarding his country's invasion of Somalia. First, he noted that ousting the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) that had controlled the country for six months did not allow Somalia to transition to peace as his administration predicted. Second, he wrongly assumed that the various Somali clans would reconcile their differences and fulfill "promises" of forming a national, unified government. Yet the Zenawi administration issued another statement attempting to correct its position by reiterating the necessity of the invasion to establish relative peace and pave the way for future stability. These concessions come after months of fighting insurgents loyal to the UIC and opposed to the Ethiopian army's presence in the country. Despite the admitted miscalculations, Zenawi did not provide a plan for withdrawal and has stated that his army will remain until the Islamist insurgency is eradicated. Since the fighting began in January 2007, it has displaced more than half of Mogadishu's population. ([Washington Post](#), June 29; [ST](#), June 30; [VOAnews](#), July 4, 2007)

SRI LANKA

Government forces secure eastern region: In what could be the last major fighting in the area, Sri Lankan Army (SLA) forces have announced victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) presence in the eastern region of Thoppigala. If troops retain control of the region, the government will have won control over eastern provinces that it has not ruled for nearly 14 years. Though it remains uncertain if the SLA will maintain its new-found control, its current dominance is undisputed. LTTE members had conceded that the SLA now controls the east, and their resistance in the region will now take the form of guerrilla attacks. With the east presently secure, the government was expected to turn its attention to large areas in the north, where the LTTE rules. Despite hopes for a lessening of violence in the east, LTTE spokesmen warn that SLA occupation will not end guerrilla

warfare, and the shift in attention towards the north will likely continue the cycle of violence that has escalated despite a cease-fire agreed upon in 2002. ([BBC](#), July 11; [Reuters](#), July 11, 2007)

Australian police arrest suspected LTTE fundraiser: On July 10, police arrested Arumugam Rajeevan, a suspected member of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), in Sydney. Rajeevan is alleged to have participated in massive under-cover fundraising campaigns for the rebel group. Local police have connected him with two other LTTE supporters that were arrested earlier this year. The men have been accused of collecting money for the LTTE under the guise of tsunami relief contributions. As Australia has classified the LTTE a terrorist group, Rajeevan could face up to 25 years in prison for his criminal association. The arrest may prove significant, as Rajeevan was considered a major fundraiser for the LTTE in the Tamil diaspora. This international crackdown on LTTE backers supports the direct action taken by the Sri Lankan government to physically disrupt LTTE control in the east and north of Sri Lanka. ([BBC](#), July 10, 2007)

SUDAN

China signs new Sudanese oil deal: China's largest oil and gas producer, China National Petroleum Corporation, has strengthened economic ties with Sudan by signing an offshore drilling deal late last month. The 20-year contract allows the Chinese company and Indonesia's PT Pertamina exploration rights to Block 13, a 38,200-square kilometer section of the Red Sea. Sudan was mainland China's eighth largest oil exporter last year, delivering 4.84 million tons of crude oil and accounting for 3.3 percent of total imports. These numbers have already been matched only halfway through 2007 as 4.7 million tons have been imported. This accounts for a five-fold increase over the same period in 2006. The deal comes as international pressure increases for China to impose sanctions on the Khartoum government for purportedly supporting atrocities in Darfur. Oil wealth allegedly funds Janjaweed militias and the development of the capital city while rural regions like Darfur suffer economic marginalization. Some human rights activists insist that Beijing punish Khartoum financially instead of relying on diplomacy. The oil contract, however, binds China closer to the economic health of Sudan. ([Wall Street Journal](#), July 4; [Interfax-China](#), July, 6, 2007)

Armies still deployed despite past deadline to move: The Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee, formed during the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of December 2004 that ended the 22-year civil war between north and south Sudan, reported that northern Sudan's army, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), missed the July 9 deadline to redeploy all of its troops from south Sudan. A UN statement reported that only 66.5 percent of the original 46,403 SAF personnel have moved out of the autonomous region. Peter Schumann, head of the UN Mission in Sudan, stated that most SAF soldiers remained in oil-rich areas that produce Sudan's 500,000 daily barrels of crude. The CPA has declared that only joint north and south troops should patrol the oil regions. The Southern People's Liberation Army has also failed to withdraw troops from the central areas of Southern Blue Nile and the Nuba Mountains to allow joint troop entrance. When fully operational, these joint forces will incorporate northern and southern troops to patrol key oil areas and cities. The UN also revealed that Khartoum is continuing to pay illegal militias based in the south to maintain covert control of the region. These obstructions threaten to unravel the fragile CPA, signed January 2005, which ended a 22-year war that killed an estimated two million people. ([ST](#), July 9, 10, 2007)

UGANDA

Government and LRA sign third phase of peace deal: On June 30, the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) came to an agreement and signed the third phase of a five-stage peace

deal. The peace deal had begun with the signing of a hostilities cessation agreement in August 2006, which is still in force. The third phase outlines principles for dealing with criminal responsibility and accountability on both sides. The International Criminal Court (ICC) has indicted Joseph Kony, Vincent Otti, Raska Lukwiya, Okot Odhiambo and Dominic Ongwen, on 33 charges for war crimes and crimes against humanity. Upon signing the agreement the government stated, "the only way for the LRA to avoid the ICC arrest warrants is to sign the deal, undergo national crime tribunals and then approach the international judges." In response, the LRA stated that it "shall go for national reconciliation only after the indictments have been withdrawn. It shall see penalties and national courts later." These hardened positions complicate the peace process and despite the June agreement, some issues remained unclear. In 2000 the Ugandan government enacted an amnesty law with the purpose of committing the LRA to give up arms, but in December 2003 Museveni referred the conflict to the ICC. In effect, the ICC issued arrest warrants for LRA leaders July 2005, only to be later met with Museveni's promise that none of the LRA leaders would be sent to The Hague. For the past two decades the government and the LRA rebels have been at war and the struggle for a finalized consensus in the five-stage peace deal continues. (The Monitor, July 7, 2007)

European Union donates \$20 million: On July 7 the EU announced that it would provide approximately \$20 million to support multiparty politics, human rights and good governance in Uganda. Vincent de Vischer, the EU head of Delegation stated that the money was donated under the 9th European Development Fund (EDF) for Human Rights and Good Governance program. According to the EDF, it is "the main instrument for providing Community aid for development cooperation" in the African, Caribbean, and Pacific states, among others. Each EDF is concluded for a period of around five years, and the ninth EDF has allocated approximately \$18.5 billion for the period 2000-2007. Another future donation of approximately \$12 million to Uganda was also discussed; according to Vischer the money allocated would support parliament, enhance its capacity and constitutional role, build a system of checks and balances, support political parties and develop the national media. Although the EU monitoring report on the 2006 elections showed them to be relatively peaceful, the electoral process fell short of full compliance with international principles for genuine democratic elections. The EU hopes the aid will help strengthen and further develop the country's democracy. (European Development Fund, July 12; New Vision, July 8, 2007)