

Business as an Instrument of Peace

2011 Business for Peace Research Symposium

Oslo, October 17

Oslo House of Literature - Oslo Concert Hall - Oslo City Hall

Presented by:



In collaboration with:



Business as an Instrument of Peace – 2011 Business for Peace Research Symposium

Together with OECD National Contact Point Norway, the U.S. Institute of Peace, and the Peace Research Institute Oslo, a “Business as an Instrument of Peace” research symposium will be held on October 17. The International Council of Swedish Industry and Institute of Corporate Responsibility/GWU, will also join us to present new research in detail during the day at Oslo Konserthus. Highlights from the findings will be showcased and challenged at a gathering in Oslo City Hall, in connection with Oslo Innovation Week. A “Business in Development” Breakfast Debate starts the day at Litteraturhuset in Oslo.

The full-day symposium will investigate how business can work together with other stakeholders in society to promote the building of trust, leading to stability and peace.

‘Peace through Trade’ is a motto held high by many, while skeptics maintain that trade instead often contributes to conflict and instability.

During the 2011 Business for Peace Symposium, groundbreaking research will be presented providing insights into how business and society best can work together in order to create the essential shared values that help foster stability and peace, in national and international contexts. Not any kind of trade and economics, nor any kind of business activity, may have such a positive effect. Colonialism, factories abusing workforces, and cronyism, for example, may sow the seeds for frustration and violence. Underneath the names and policies of “trade” are specific, concrete interactions among parties that may or may not be positive and constructive. An important aspect to consider is the nature of the interactions of particular businesses, particular business people, and particular stakeholders such as employees, shareholders, consumers, and members of the community.

The day is a collaboration between:

- OECD National Contact Point Norway (OECD NCP Norway)
- United States Institute of Peace (USIP)
- Institute for Corporate Responsibility (ICR-GWU)
- International Council of Swedish Industry (NIR)
- Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)
- Oslo Innovation Week (OIW)
- Business for Peace Foundation (BfPF)



PHILOSOPHER'S CHALLENGE

– Oslo City Hall

A Philosopher of Ethics Examines the Claim that «Business can be an Instrument of Peace».

The presentation of highlights at Oslo City Hall will be challenged by Henrik Syse. In 2005, Der Spiegel termed Syse «the early warning system» of the world's largest sovereign fund, the then named Norwegian Petroleum Fund. Henrik Syse is a moral philosopher, and was hired to develop ethical investment guidelines for the sovereign fund, and to supervise its investments. Henrik Syse will challenge the claim that business can contribute to stability and peace.



Program - A detailed program for the day can be found at www.businessforpeace.no

09.00-10.30 Breakfast debate

Litteraturhuset
(House of Literature, Wergelandsveien 29) "Business in Development – from conflict to collaboration." Leaders from business, politics and society join for debate. How are businesses dealing with the challenges posed by human

rights and concern for the environment? How can Norwegian authorities contribute to assist businesses facing stricter demands? Can dialogue and mediation of disputes be effective approaches in conflict resolution between businesses and local societies?

The encounter is arranged by the OECD National Contact Point Norway. (Breakfast served from 08.30. There will be transport to the next venue, for those taking part in both).

11.00-15.00 Research Presentations

Oslo Konserthus
(Oslo Concert Hall, Munkedamsveien 14)
The findings of the Business and Peace Task Force will be presented for the first time. It is the result of a collaboration between the Institute for Corporate Responsibility at the George Washington University School of Business, and the United States Institute of Peace. «Peacebuilding in conflict-affected regions requires much more than boots on the ground, peace accords, security arrangements and focused diplomacy. Practitioners, scholars and policymakers agree that success in this regard requires the effective leverage of all stakeholders

– including the business sector. This would facilitate a lasting end to protracted and costly conflict, and deliver tangible peace dividends.» The Peace Research Institute of Oslo will present «Capitalist Peace – is Economic Exchange as Important to International Peace as Democratic Institutions?» The presentation will cover factors conducive to economic growth and the intensification of business relationships. The controversial notion of 'Capitalist Peace' is proposed: that free markets and solid protection of property rights are as important as democratic institutions for international peace. Håvard Hegre has led the team of researchers responsible

for the study. The International Council of Swedish Industry (NIR) has just finished an extensive study seeking to provide a framework for policy makers, business executives and CSR officers to better assess the role private sector actors play in peace processes. The framework will assist private sector actors seeking to assess and develop their corporate strategies and risk management in conflict-affected markets, with the overall goal of achieving lasting and mutually beneficial stability. NIR presents "Business Executives and Private Sector Actors as Peacebuilders".

16.00-19.00 Philosopher's Challenge

Oslo City Hall
Business for Peace, Part II of the Oslo Innovation Week Opening Symposium.

Is it naïve to propose that business can contribute significantly to the building of stability and peace? For the afternoon session, we have asked the philosopher Henrik Syse to challenge the research presented

earlier in the day. This should prove both interesting and rewarding. Henrik Syse was in charge of developing the ethical investment framework for the world's largest sovereign fund, the Norwegian Government Pension Fund. His extensive experience with the topic of ethical business, and his lively and inquiring mind, will ensure a thorough vetting of the claim that business can

be an instrument of peace. The goal of the challenge he poses is to outline what approaches business must adopt in order to unleash the considerable peace building potential that too often goes unrealized. A panel discussion will follow, where business leaders and policymakers will consider the findings presented during the day.

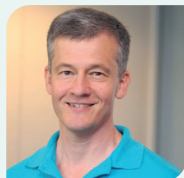
PARTICIPANTS



Photo: PRIO

Kristian Berg Harpviken

Director, Peace Research Institute Oslo. Has a PhD in sociology. His research interests include the dynamics of civil war migration and transnational communities, and methodology in difficult contexts.



Timothy L Fort

Lindner-Gambal Professor of Business Ethics, George Washington University School of Business. Fort is the Executive Director of the GW Institute for Corporate Responsibility (IRC) and the Director of the GW Peace Through Commerce program.



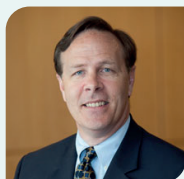
Johan Genneby

Programme Director at The International Council of Swedish Industry – Näringslivets Internationella Råd (NIR), an independent affiliation of the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise, Sweden's major business organisation, representing more than 55,000 member companies.



Raymond Gilpin

Associate Vice President, Sustainable Economies Centers of Innovation, United States Institute of Peace. He leads the Institute's work on analyzing relationships among economic actors during all stages of conflict.



John Forrer

Associate Director, Institute of Corporate Responsibility, George Washington University. Associate Research Professor, Strategic Management and Public Policy. Associate Faculty, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration.



Håvard Hegre

Research Professor at PRIO, Working Group Leader Centre for the Study of Civil War, Associate Professor, Dept. of Political Science at the University of Oslo.



Kristin Vinje

Vice-Mayor for Finance, Oslo City Hall. Chemist and politician who is presently the Vice-Mayor of Finance for Oslo. She has been employed as a researcher at SINTEF and has been a Director at the Ministry of Trade and Industry.



Per L. Saxegaard

Saxegaard is the founding partner of Norden Realkapital group and Norden Investment Banking. Mr. Saxegaard has for more than twenty years been engaged in financial and strategic advisory work, and M&A transactions. In 2007, he took the initiative to establish the Oslo Summit on Peace through Trade, leading to the Business for Peace Foundation.



Caroline Rees

Caroline Rees is Director of the Governance and Accountability Program at the Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative of Harvard Kennedy School. From 2007 to 2011 she was a senior advisor to the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Business and Human Rights, Professor John Ruggie, and led his research on access to remedy.



Photo: Bjørn H. Stuedal

Erik Solheim

Erik Solheim is Minister of the Environment and International Development in Norway since 2007. He was Minister of International Development from 2005-2007.



Henrik Syse

Philosopher and author. Senior Researcher at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) since 1997, Former Head of Corporate Governance (2005-07) at Norges Bank Investment Management. At PRIO he works on the ethics of war, historically and systematically, as well as on the relationship between religion and the use of armed force.



Richard H. Solomon

President, United States Institute of Peace. Richard H. Solomon has been president of the United States Institute of Peace since 1993 and has overseen its growth into a center of international conflict management analysis and applied programs. Solomon was assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs from 1989 to 1992.



Tobias Evers

Tobias Evers began working at UI in 2006 as a research assistant in a project examining global non-military power configurations. Tobias holds a M.Sc. in International Studies from Uppsala University where he also studied Peace and Conflict Studies. Evers' areas of expertise include the role of the private sector in peace processes and conflict zones as well as international crisis management.



Øyvind Briså

Øyvind Briså has been Company Director of Bama since 1999. He is responsible for all domestic and international sourcing, and logistics. He has been involved in several CSR initiatives and projects in countries where Bama buys their products, blending regular business with proactive Social Dialogue processes.



Harald Norvik

Harald Norvik is an independent Advisor and Consultant. He is Chairman of the Board of Telenor, Chairman of the Board of Aschehoug, Member of the Board of Directors in ConocoPhillips and Member of the Board of PGS. He was the President and CEO of Statoil from 1988-1999.



Hans Petter Graver

Hans Petter Graver is Dean at the University of Oslo, Department of Private Law and Head of the OECD National Contact Point Norway. He was appointed professor in 1993. His special fields are competition law, administrative law and EEA/EU law and rhetoric.



Joseph Wilde-Ramsing

Joseph Wilde-Ramsing is a Senior Researcher at the Amsterdam-based Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO) and Coordinator of the OECD Watch network.



Elin M. Myrmel-Johansen (Moderator)

Elin Merete Myrmel-Johansen is in charge of strategy implementation in Storebrand Life Insurance's personal customer market, and a member of the company's management group. She is also a member of the OECD National Contact Point Norway.

The next Oslo Business for Peace Summit will take place on May 7. 2012. The full day of events will conclude with the presentation of the Oslo Business for Peace Award and the official Honourees' Dinner. More information at www.businessforpeace.no