# in muscles of peace

Ministries, Departments & Infrastructures for Peace in Governments Worldwide



Dedicated to all measures large and small, that build up the Muscles of Peace in our world, so in the great collaboration to secure a bright future for humankind, the Muscles of Peace are victorious.





# **Call To Action**

# You can lift up our world.

**Read The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution** and get on the same page with this seminal document which provides a positive roadmap for the billions of humans who want to live in peace.

**Add** your name to the **one billion signature petition** at PeaceNow.com and become an official global citizen signatory to **The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution**.

**Start** a Ministry or Department of Peace campaign of your own, from the local up to the national level.

**Join** the **Global Alliance for Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace** and get involved with current campaigns across our world.

**Visit** the websites of Muscles of Peace supporting organizations to learn about other powerful ways to promote the Culture of Peace.

**Use** your creativity and leadership, on the national and international levels, to raise support for this shift in human consciousness toward positive peace.

**Share** this **Muscles of Peace Overview** with global citizens and enjoy planting seeds for a better tomorrow.

"The proposal that there should be a Ministry of Peace within governments is not merely admirable, but, if implemented, would represent a serious indication of actual intent. I'm happy to give my support to such a body whose responsibility would include being a consistent voice for non-violent means of settling dispute."

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 1989



# A Muscular Move Forward by the United Nations

In 2023, the UN officially recognized that governmental Infrastructures for Peace (I4P) are a powerful and enduring global answer to all forms of violence because of their long-term investment in peacebuilding, non-violent communication, and conflict resolution. To reinforce this idea, the UN's **A New Agenda for Peace** (2023) cites, under Preventing Conflict and Violence and Sustaining Peace, the recommendation to "develop national prevention strategies and strengthen national infrastructures for peace" and furthermore states that "member states seeking to establish or strengthen national 'infrastructures for peace' should be able to access a tailor-made package of support and expertise to strengthen social cohesion and civil society."

A New Agenda for Peace (Policy Brief 9), July 2023, page 19. https://dppa.un.org/en/a-new-agenda-for-peace.





# Why do we need Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace? So everybody wins.

Think of all the incredible human progress in the last 100 years; and yet, turmoil still exists on a grand scale.

The problem is we don't resolve conflict before it escalates to violence.

As the current caretakers of planet Earth, we owe it to ourselves to lessen this conflict that undermines all that is uplifting, unifying, and good about our world.

Not through violence, because violence only begets more violence.

We do it by inspiring and leading humankind on the latest pioneering adventure in human evolution, and our most important journey of all.

# From separation to unity. From separate interests to shared interests. From conflict to peace.

As we take this rewarding journey together, it will become increasingly clear that hard power isn't the only way to ensure our enduring peace.

Human history shows soft power, in the form of compassionate dialogue and international diplomacy, is even more effective.

After all, peace treaties are the result of parties in conflict sitting down in a room across a table, sharing their stories, and working out their differences.

Listening is leadership and the simple act of giving the other side a chance to be heard is the critical first step in creating the common ground that is the foundation of humankind's collective well-being.

Plus, soft power, which can also be thought of as true power, is a lot less expensive. For example, according to The World Peace Index, the cost of violent conflict globally in 2022 was 17.5 trillion dollars. This was 12.9 percent of the Global Domestic Product which equals \$2200 per global citizen.



# In the United States, the Cost of Wars Project at Brown University placed the cost to the US taxpayer since 2001 at 6 trillion dollars.

Over the next 35 years, it will cost 1 trillion dollars just to care for injured US veterans.

An additional tragedy for present and future generations is that most wars are funded by borrowing, and by 2053 it is estimated the interest alone on the accumulated US war debt will be 7.9 trillion dollars.

The enormous size of the war debt saddling nations requires that new revenue be used to pay it down.

This takes away funding in other areas that directly impact the quality of life like clean drinking water, disease prevention, elimination of child labor, healthcare, climate change, and veteran services, all of which protect soldiers and citizens in ways no military can.

By using too many resources on hard power in terms of military interventions and punishing sanctions, we create imbalances that make further conflict much more likely, while producing a traumatized generation that requires even more time and resources to heal.

On the other hand, each Ministry, Department & Infrastructure for Peace builds more Muscles of Peace in our world, which exponentially strengthens soft power and our ability to resolve disagreements before they become violent.

This investment in peace will ultimately enable more people across our planet to live lives of peaceful non-violence while using our precious collective resources for positive means.

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed."

General Dwight D. Eisenhower "Chance for Peace" Speech, 1953



# What will Infrastructures for Peace do for our world?

- Improve the quality of life for humankind.
- Support and promote global peace.
- Help build societies based on direct, structural, and cultural nonviolence.
- Aid the transition from hard power to soft power governmental approaches.
- Synergize with other Ministries of Peace to strengthen the global Culture of Peace and the peace activist networks that champion it by facilitating a productive, governmentcivil society partnership.
- Conduct international diplomacy and conflict resolution strategies without duplicating the work of other departments.
- Empower domestic diplomacy to heal tribalism within nations and head off disputes before they erupt into conflict.
- Support International law and build on existing peace and arms treaties.
- Innovate for conventional, chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons disarmament.

# Generate realistic plans for incentive-based reinvestment of some military spending into the peace industrial complex.

- Provide Peace Education that includes cultural exchanges, educational curricula in de-radicalization, and other peace-related topics.
- Address the digital divide and the separation, misinformation, and violence perpetuated by social media, artificial intelligence, and mass media.
- Promote the United Nations's Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Advance gender equality and the greater involvement of women and youth in conflict resolution.



# Link peace with environmental and social advances so all rise together as one.

- Foster full democratic participation in elections and rebuild respect for national institutions and the rule of law.
- Seed peacepreneurship to grow local, national, and international economies of peace.
- Begin unburdening the world from the enormous destruction from war.
- Supply progress reports for the country's cabinet on the UN Sustainable
   Development Goals (SDGs) and other domestic and international realities that impact global peace.
- Cultivate international partners to raise money and extend reach and power to build overwhelming global consensus for a peaceful, more equitable world.

This is just the beginning of what Muscles of Peace will do for our world.



# **Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace to Date**

# South Sudan, Costa Rica, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Nepal, Ethiopia

There are also ongoing Infrastructures for Peace campaigns in more than 50 nations including the US, England, Canada, and Italy.

# **Global Campaign**

The Global Alliance for Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace www.Gamip.org

# **Country Initiatives**

The Department of Peacebuilding Campaign in the United States https://peacealliance.org/issues-advocacy/department-of-peace/

The Department of Peace Campaign in Canada https://canadianpeaceinitiative.ca/

The Ministry of Peace Bill in the United Kingdom https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200203/cmbills/163/03163.1-7.html



### **The Official Document**

# The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution

The drafting of **The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution** was a collaborative effort between the United Nations Culture of Peace working groups, the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace, the Global Alliance for Ministries & Infrastructures for Peace, The Peace Alliance, and PeaceNow.com.

# **Summary**

- 1. The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution supports the creation of Ministries, Departments & Infrastructures for Peace within all governments.
- 2. The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution supports peace education for schools, universities, and the world at large.
- 3. The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution supports peace economies and businesses that contribute to peace.
- 4. The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution supports building a sustainable Culture of Peace, security, and well-being by preventing and resolving conflict through peaceful means, including trauma healing and peace professionalism.





### **Full Text**

# The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution in Support of Infrastructures for Peace in Governments Worldwide

We, global citizen signatories from 192 Nations, respectfully in one voice, call upon the United Nations (UN) and all countries, both nationally and in collaboration with the community of nations, to create infrastructures in their governments and in civil society to develop and implement policies, programs, and practices that:

- 1. Promote, establish, and maintain human and environmental security and justice in the social, economic, political, educational, and legal spheres, and thus generally the **Culture of Peace**;
- 2. Create and expand **Economies of Peace** and "peacepreneurship" so as to "beat our swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks;"
- 3. Are accepted and supported by and have legitimacy with the people they serve, whether at the local, regional, national, or international level;
- 4. Are sustainable, adaptive, and resilient;
- 5. And may be in the form of, but not limited to, departments of peace, government ministries, peace academies, institutes, schools and councils and private sector enterprises that help:
  - Establish peace as a primary organizing principle in society, both domestically and globally;
  - Direct government policy towards non-violent resolution of conflict prior to escalation to violence and to seek peace by peaceful means in all conflict areas;
  - Promote justice and democratic principles to expand human rights and the security of persons and their communities, consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, related UN treaties and conventions, and the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace (1999);
  - Promote disarmament and develop and strengthen non-military options for peacemaking, peacebuilding, and peace professionalism;
  - Develop new approaches to non-violent intervention, and utilize constructive dialogue, mediation, and the peaceful resolution of conflict at home and abroad;



- Encourage the involvement in local, national, and global peacebuilding of local communities, faith groups, NGOs, and other civil society and business organizations:
- Facilitate the development of peace and reconciliation summits to promote nonviolent communication and mutually beneficial solutions;
- Act as a resource for the creation and the gathering of best practices documents, lessons learned, and peace impact assessments;
- Provide for the training of all military, and civilian personnel who administer postwar reconstruction and demobilization in war-torn societies; and
- Fund the development of peace education curriculum materials for use at all educational levels and support university-level peace studies.

Further, we call upon the UN General Assembly to reaffirm its pledge, as faithful representatives of the governments of the world, to join "We the Peoples" in creating a peaceful world in the spirit of the UN Charter, thus advancing the **Culture of Peace** within each nation, each culture, each religion, and each human being for the betterment of all humankind and future generations. In making this call, we gratefully acknowledge the long history of work already accomplished within the UN toward this end, including:

- All the UN documents written on the Culture of Peace since June 1945, in particular, the Charter of the United Nations, which is dedicated to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of armed conflict, calls for nations to live together in peace as neighbours, and takes to heart its emphasis on the vital role "We the Peoples of the United Nations" are to play in "realizing a peaceful, just and compassionate neighbourhood;"
- Our Common Agenda (OCA), including the call in the 2021 OCA report by Secretary-General Guterres for a "new agenda for peace" to accelerate the implementation of existing UN agreements;
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that the foundation
  of freedom, justice, and peace is the recognition of the inherent rights of all
  members of the human family without exception and that all human beings
  should act towards one another peacefully and in the interest of the common
  good;
- The UN resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, proclaiming the year 2000 as the "International Year for the Culture of Peace", and A/RES/53/25 of 19
  November 1998, proclaiming 2001-2010 the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World;"



- The UN resolution 53/243 adopted by consensus on 13 September 1999 and annually reaffirmed by the General assembly High-Level Forum in which the UN Declaration and Program of Action for a Culture of Peace gives clear guidelines for governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society and people from all walks of life to work together to strengthen the global Culture of Peace as we live through the 21st century;
- The Constitution of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural
   Organization (UNESCO), which states, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it
   is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed", and the
   important role UNESCO is mandated to fulfill in promoting the global Culture of
   Peace;
- Security Council resolution 1325 of 31 October 2001 on Women, Peace, and Security, which acknowledges for the first time the crucial importance of women's participation in the peace processes, and the follow-up Security Council Resolution 1820 of 19 June 2008 by the same name; and
- The many other key UN Culture of Peace documents, including A/RES/52/13, 15
  January 1998 Culture of Peace; A/RES/55/282, 28 September 2001 International
  Day of Peace; and the 2005 Mid-Decade Status Report on the International
  Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World.

In conclusion, we, global citizen signatories from 192 Nations, respectfully in one voice, affirm that we:

- Are motivated by the recognition that human beings in the billions have suffered the atrocities of violent conflict, poverty, and human-induced environmental disasters, and are thus now, more than ever, committed to saving future generations from these scourges by living in peace and by building the Economies of Peace at the individual, national, and global levels that will sustain these efforts:
- Stand in solidarity with all efforts to overcome the persistence of violent conflict in various parts of the world and the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, which threaten the existence of our planet;
- Believe in the goodwill of all the Member States of the UN and in the increasing political will of each Member State to "promote social progress and better standards of life based in the growing freedoms and capabilities created by global peace;" and
- Acknowledge the urgent need to rebuild the trust of the world's citizens in governments and to establish effective working relationships between and among nations through the cultivation of shared interests and common ground that form the foundation of global peace.



# **Supporting Peace Organizations**

AGNT Association for Global New Thought, Ashland Culture of Peace Commission, California Peace Alliance/ Department of Peacebuilding Campaign, Children of the Earth, Civilian Peace Service Canada, Education for Global Peace, Findhorn Foundation, GAIA Education, Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace, Global Movement for the Culture of Peace, Global Campaign for Peace Education, HOPE Coalition, House of Pax Culture Civil Association International Cities of Peace, International Institute on Peace Education, Kosmos Associates Inc., Lifebridge Foundation, Love for Life, Meditation Groups Inc, METTA Center, National Peace Academy USA, Pathways to Peace, Peace Alliance, Peace Crane Project, Peace Day Philly, PeaceJam, PeaceNow.com, Peace One Day, Peace through Unity, Rasur Foundation International, Revolutionary Conversations, River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding, Source of Synergy Foundation, Spiritual Caucus at the UN., The Center for Nonviolent Solutions, The Hygeia Foundation for Health, Science and the Environment, The National Association for Community Mediation-NAFCM, The Shift Network, Uniting for Peace, We, The World, Whole-World View, World Beyond War, World Business Academy, World Goodwill NGO

# PeaceNow.com One Billion Signatures For Peace

PeaceNow.com\_is gathering one billion signatures in support of The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution and the establishment of Ministries, Departments & Infrastructures for Peace in governments worldwide. This signature campaign is a rallying cry for all groups, big and small. While it is a global effort, it is accomplished locally. We invite you to use it to engage people close to you and sign them up for peace.

https://www.peacenow.com/peaceregistry/





# **Countries Represented By Global Citizen Signatories**

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, American Samoa, Andorra, Angola, Antiqua & Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgari, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Columbia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eguatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Faroe Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Isle Man, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kurdistan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon. Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Palestine, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, U.A.E., U.S.A, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.





To say thanks for signing **The Muscles of Peace Global Resolution**, every global citizen signatory gets a complimentary subscription to **The Muscles of Peace 60 Second Workout** positive message campaign that arrives in their inbox once a week. Each subscriber will get to experience how a few deep breaths, an inspiring message, and a minute to reflect can change one's whole day....and even one's whole life.

For a complimentary subscription: https://www.peacenow.com/musclesofpeace/





# **Peace Branding**

Our strategy is to create campaigns that promote peace as the strongest choice because it puts humanity in a position of strength.

# I Want Peace Now

This 30-second Peace Infrastructure promotion appeared on the Jumbotron during the international Indianapolis 500 and features the Global Peace Song Award Finalist, "The Time Is Now" which promotes the Infrastructures for Peace movement.

https://www.peacenow.com/indianapolis-500-weekend/





# **Peace Entertainment**

Strengthening our world's muscles of peace through storytelling.



To change the world, we must endeavor to change the way the world thinks. With this in mind, we use the unmatched power of storytelling to promote peace, impact hearts and minds, and raise the collective vibration of humankind. This way peace emerges naturally because of what we have become.

As one example of peace entertainment, the award-winning short film for peace "Admissions," starring Academy Award® nominee, James Cromwell, promotes the establishment of Infrastructures for Peace in governments worldwide. The "Admissions Room" in the film operates symbolically like a Ministry of Peace. James Cromwell's character "the clerk" acts as a Minister of Peace whose sole purpose is to resolve conflict and help people, cultures, and countries find common ground.

The film's concise, 20-minute length makes it perfect for classroom study and viral transmission in the world at large, especially because the film is offered as a complimentary "Gift of Peace." For this reason, the audience for "Admissions" grows year after year as it continues to screen in important venues. It has been translated into Arabic, Farsi, Hebrew, Italian, German, and Spanish, and broadcast to 80 million homes in the Middle East. Additionally, It is also used as part of the world-renowned forgiveness curriculum at The Stanford University Forgiveness Project.

To watch a complimentary screening of "Admissions" in English:

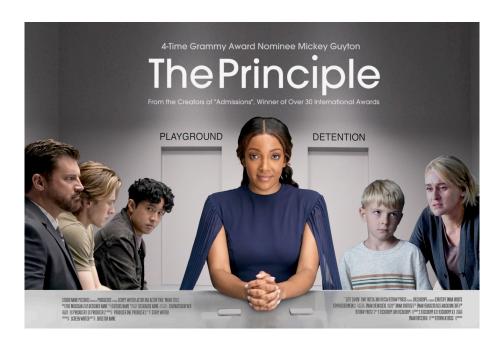
https://www.peacenow.com/admissions/

For complimentary Spanish, Italian, Arabic Hebrew, Farsi, and German versions: https://tinyurl/soaft57



# **Peace Entertainment**

Promoting the kind in humankind.



Throughout history, traditional bullying in all its forms has destroyed millions of lives both on the personal level and, on the international level, in endless wars. The global reach and instant, 24-hour accessibility of today's internet and social media platforms make modern cyber-bullying even more destructive. This devastating plague of the digital age affects millions of people and is rapidly spreading. Increasing numbers of children, teenagers, and adults are being bullied online and on social media, with often tragic consequences like suicide and extreme acts of gun violence.

This bullying has led to a gross coarsening of public dialogue and sets the worst kind of example for our world's impressionable youth, who are increasingly adopting these bad habits at earlier ages. This has strengthened prejudice and division in society and has resulted in an overall loss of kindness in our world.

In **The Principle**, a wise master played by 4-time Grammy Award nominee, Mickey Guyton, is called upon to moderate between two teenagers - a painfully misguided cyber-bully and the tragic target of his abuse. In this enlightening confrontation, the master delivers life-changing guidance that alters the two young men's destinies and is designed to help heal cyber-bullying in our world.

**The Principle Premieres Summer 2024** 



# **Peace Centres**

A friendly place to sit down together and share stories, and create the common ground that is the foundation of enduring peace.

We envision multi-cultural peace centres that provide safe areas for children, adolescents, and adults to address divisions and misunderstandings in a direct, respectful, and peaceful manner. These physical locations will work as an extension of traditional schools to provide Peace Education that can help bring an end to culture wars and cultivate the shared interests between different ways of life.

# **Peacepreneurship**

Unleashing humankind's constructive potential.

Around the world, 220,000 people have ultra-high personal wealth of at least 30 million dollars. Their combined assets are worth 27 trillion dollars, more than the US economy. Most of this is not being taxed. Instead, national treasuries are taxing-the not-so-rich. In some countries, even the poorest of the poor pay 25 percent value-added tax on many critical items like clothes, footwear, school uniforms, heating, electricity, hygiene products, and many other essentials too numerous to list here.

This is promoting indignation and a populist wave on a global scale, which threatens the fabric of liberal democracy and the political systems on which many of these fortunes depend. Business leaders know intimately that evolutions are preferable to revolutions, especially for the bottom line. Creating a socially just economy is equally in the interests of the very poor and the very rich and is the perfect win-win for humankind going forward.

To preserve the system that supports them, the one-percenters, C-Suite Executives and the corporations they lead would be wise to demonstrate that they are giving back. This represents an exciting opportunity for peacepreneurs. They can approach successful business leaders and show them how Infrastructures for Peace are practical tools for generating both profits and goodwill. When peacepreneurs join forces with the one-percenters, together they can mobilize their knowledge and resources to heal some of the divisions which lead to costly conflicts.

Working together, these inspiring partnerships can unleash humankind's constructive potential and help make peace sustainable. As this evolution in global commerce gains momentum, the new gold standard for effective branding will be promoting corporate and philanthropic-sponsored projects that create the conditions for a peaceful world.



# **Everyone profits from peace.**

Real corporate profits of countries improving in Positive Peace outgrew global averages by 26.5% in the last ten years.

Violence hinders productivity and economic activity and reduces business confidence. Substantial economic improvements coincide historically with improvements in peace.

Increasing awareness about the economic value of peace reduces incidences of violence and creates a more peaceful and productive society for all.

Countries with high levels of peace recorded 2 percentage points per annum higher growth in GDP than countries with low peacefulness.

The Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), 2021

# **Second Call To Action**

You can lift up our world.

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**Add** your name to the **one billion signature petition** at PeaceNow.com and become an official global citizen signatory to <a href="https://www.peacenow.com/resolution/">https://www.peacenow.com/resolution/</a>.

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**Visit** the websites of the Muscles of Peace supporting organizations to learn about other powerful ways to promote the Culture of Peace.

**Use** your creativity and leadership, on the national and international levels, to raise support for this shift in human consciousness toward positive peace.

**Share** this **Muscles of Peace Overview** today and enjoy planting seeds for a better tomorrow.

Thank you for being the change our world deserves.



# John Viscount Muscles of Peace Project Team Leader

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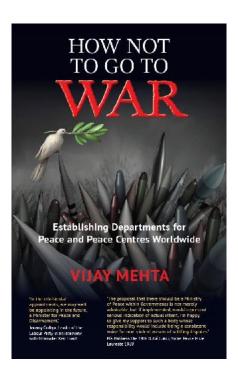
## Vijay Mehta

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Learn more about some of the research and ideas featured in this Muscles of Peace presentation in the important book by Uniting For Peace Co-Founder, Vijay Mehta.

# **How Not To Go To War**

**Establishing Departments for Peace and Peace Centres Worldwide** 



http://unitingforpeace.com/



Creative Direction: Kent Land 1 brand67.com

