



Short Summary of the Phase II of the ARCA Project:

The focus of the Project was narrowed within the field of peace education that seems most promising for the future of European training and education of adults: the Training and Education of Adults for International/Intra-national Interventions in Peace Building and Conflict Transformation.

With the second of eight phases completed, the ARCA project is well underway. During the months of January to March, different working groups --concentrating on the seven outputs of ARCA-- collaborated effectively on the implementation of different tasks.

Most notable among these was the completion of the questionnaire for assessing the current state of training in Europe and identifying what is needed to improve the preparation of adults for interventions. It was translated into 7 languages and sent out to 600 organizations from across Europe.

The results of the questionnaire are under analysis and will soon be publicized on the webportal.

Another small step was the completion of the first stages of the peace portal, which has been successfully designed and is now on line @ www.peacetraining.org. There you will soon find the different tools and publications that the ARCA partners will produce, most of them will be downloadable.

Five different events around Europe are in the planning phase. The first one will take place in France, co-organised by the Mouvement pour une Alternative Nonviolente, PeaceworkersUK and Nonviolent Peaceforce, entitled "Improving and assessing skills for civilian peace missions." It will take place July 2-6 in Marly-Le-Roy, near Paris. The participants will focus on ways to ensure that Civilians working for peace, especially in regions affected by violent conflict, will gain the necessary skills and know how to improve the efficacy of their intervention.

A working group has been formed that will develop the ARCA Guide to training adults for interventions in peacebuilding and conflict transformation. They are working hard at finalizing a structure for the 100 page manual. The final English version of the guide will be ready by the end of February 2007.

Overall, the second phase of the project was very positive for ARCA members. After a bit of a rough start in Phase 1, partners showed dedication and determination for working well together for creating more efficient work structures and bringing about life-giving processes. After our first official partnership meeting in Barcelona the end of March, a general sense of understanding about the project and between partners was evident. So, with two phases down, we look forward with enthusiasm to the remainder of the project.