



**CYMRU DROS HEDDWCH
WALES FOR PEACE**

Peace Institutes Worldwide

Summary

**of a Comparative Study of International Peace
Institutes**

Undertaken for the Welsh Centre for International Affairs

By

Emily Forbes

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INTRODUCTION

This is a summary of a much more extensive report undertaken by Emily Forbes on behalf of the Wales Peace Institute Initiative in 2015. The purpose of the report was to establish common criteria across successful peace institutes worldwide, and to pinpoint elements that could be successfully transferred to a future Wales Peace Institute. The first part of the report compares thirteen selected institutes whereas the second half examines three institutes in greater detail. These latter three institutes were selected due to their particular relevance and similarity to Wales, as a result of originating circumstances, size of the national territory and particular research focus.

This summary report contains the introduction, analysis, conclusions and recommendations sections of the full report only. For anyone wishing to read the full report, please visit the Wales for Peace Website at:
http://www.walesforpeace.org/world_peace_institutes.html

We thank Emily for her extensive and invaluable work.

Context:

The 2007 proposal to create a Military Academy in St Athan, concentrating British military training in South Wales and transforming Wales into an effective focal point for war training, shocked and dismayed many within the region, particularly those in the peace movement. Proposals for a Wales Peace Institute grew out of the campaign against the establishment of a military Academy. In particular the need for high quality impartial research was felt to be important when campaigning on issues related to peace and human rights, so that evidence presented would be credible and respected. With this in mind, this was felt to be the main aspect of work which a future Wales Peace Institute should focus on.

A Wales Peace Institute could enable citizens to be better informed about relevant Welsh Government policies, and to reflect critically upon them. It could also be a source of information and resources for organisations campaigning on peace and human rights issues, though it would necessarily be independent of them. A peace institute could add value to a range of Welsh Government policy areas – for instance economic development, regeneration, the environment, education and training, health, the voluntary sector, transport, tourism, planning, the Welsh language, domestic violence and bullying – and benefit Welsh society in general.

Definition and selection of institutes:

This report defines a peace institute as an “independent, impartial, academic research organisation that aims to promote peace through its work.” The peace institutes within this report have been selected to represent the immense variety and scope of work that is pursued internationally in the name of peace. The list of chosen peace institutes includes bodies that focus upon particular regional conflicts such as

the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East (PRIME), and others that focus upon specific international issues and broader concepts. It includes small regional institutes such as the International Catalan Institute for Peace and Aland Islands Peace Institute which appear more similar to the proposed Welsh Peace Institute in terms of situation and size; however to demonstrate the great variability of international peace institutes this report also includes the US Institute of Peace (USIP); European Institute of Peace (EIP) and International Institute for Peace (IIP under the United Nations) -thus showing the considerable impact and influence that peace institutes can gain when operating upon a truly international scale.

It is hard to summarise and compare the research of the institutes because their programmes are extensive, varied and just very different. The summaries enclosed are based on the Institutes' own summaries, using their own terminology, and are not based on a detailed independent analysis of all their projects.

When selecting institutes to compare, this report will focus primarily upon independent institutions and will therefore not include many admirable and highly respected Peace Departments that are affiliated with Universities and other International Organisations.

NB. Please see recommendations in conclusion for more detail on university research departments.

Criteria for Comparison:

In order to aid the establishment of the Wales Peace Institute (WPI), this report will seek to compare thirteen current international peace institutes by focusing upon nine set criteria:

Location- city and country in which the peace institute is located.

Flag/Logo- link to the representative image/icon of the institute.

Origins- Circumstances or context in which the institute was created or that led to the creation of the institute.

Framework- structure around which the institute has been created, usually consisting of a governing element; an advisory element and a working secretariat.

Remit/Specialisation- primary focus of the institute (predominantly research and detail of core research topics).

Other services- Education; Publishing; Events and other services offered by the respective institutes.

Funding- Primary and where possible additional sources of funding for the institute.

Impact- what effect peace institutes have had on the regions / countries they are based in

Partners- other organisations with whom the institute collaborates; frequently national parliaments and Universities.

The Peace Institutes included within this report are as follows:

Part One:

1. Aland Islands Peace Institute
2. Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC)
3. International Catalan Institute for Peace
4. European Institute of Peace (EIP)
5. Flemish Peace Institute
6. Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF)
7. International Institute for Peace (IIP under the United Nations)
8. Peace Research Institute (Khartoum – PRI)
9. Peace Institute-Slovenia
10. Peace Research Institute in the Middle East (PRIME)
11. Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)
12. Stockholm International Peace Institute (SPIRI)
13. US Institute of Peace (USIP)

Part Two:

- Aland Islands Peace Institute
- International Catalan Institute for Peace
- Flemish Peace Institute

Overall this report seeks to highlight common factors across varying successful international peace institutes that the proposed Welsh Peace Institute may incorporate into its framework in order to best fulfil its purpose and serve the Welsh people.

ANALYSIS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ANALYSIS OF PEACE INSTITUTE RESEARCH:

Location:

As seen from the comparison, the geographical location of Peace Institutes can vary immensely and institutes can exist in both developed and developing states. The three institutes highlighted in Part II of the report: The Aland Island Peace Institute; the International Catalan Institute for Peace and the Flemish Peace Institute, are of particular relevance to the proposed Welsh Peace Institute as the autonomous status/nature of the first two is comparable to that of Wales, and an element that both established institutes have incorporated into their research framework with success. The WPI, ICIP and Flanders also possess other similarities in terms of territory and population size; it is encouraging to see that two established institutes situated in modest-sized locations have had such a great impact in the field of peace research and education, as this would suggest that Wales could achieve the same success.

Origins:

Whilst the institutes' originating circumstances may differ, there are common themes that can be seen. Certain institutes have been created specifically as non-governmental, non-profit organisations whilst others have evolved from separate institutions or organisations, as can be seen with the Peace Research Institute of Khartoum that has emerged from the University of Khartoum or the International Institute for Peace under the auspices of UNESCO. The creation of other institutes has been facilitated more directly by law- the Catalan Peace Institute and the Flemish Peace Institute were both adopted through official legislation passed by their parliaments; and the work of national governments as can be seen with relation to the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Of these differing origins it is interesting to note how individual circumstance has led to the creation of the respective Institutes- SIPRI having been created by the Swedish Prime Minister to commemorate Sweden's 150 years of unbroken peace; Flanders the result of an arms scandal; PRIME and PI Slovenia a direct consequence of regional conflict. Following this trend, the St Athan Military Academy scare has been cited as a motivating factor for the creation of a Wales Peace Institute, this historical event similarly serving as a reminder of the continued importance of peace work.

Remit/Specialisation:

Academic Research has been the primary focus when comparing the peace institutes within this report. Whilst all of the chosen institutes place emphasis on the active research and dissemination of the resulting peace-related publications, some institutes have focused their attention on specific topics and subsequently built extra advisory, educational and additional services around an area of specialisation that frequently links to the location, history or main interest of the Institute.

Certain institutes, like PRIME in Palestine, exist solely to focus upon a particular research agenda such as the resolution of the Arab-Israeli Conflict through education. The Aland Island Peace Institute has similarly used its history and unique status to define its specialisation- of security, autonomy and minorities in order to create its “Aland Example” identity and thus define an uncontested place for itself within the field of peace research.

The Wales Peace Institute will need to carefully consider how its location, history, culture and political experience combine in order to identify select topics of specialisation that it can develop to become the authority on these issues. **It would also be worth conducting further research to determine which topics would add most value to the Welsh public, government and other services**, in addition to avoiding a conflict of interests with other peace institutes. By comparing the content of peace research programmes that are currently underway, both within peace institutes and the peace research departments linked to universities, the Wales Peace Institute should reach a greater understanding of where its attention and research would have the greatest impact.

Additional Services:

As highlighted in the comparison, peace research does not constitute the only service offered by the various peace institutes. Dissemination of peace research through different publication mediums, as well as active engagement and educative services offered to different audiences:

Publications:

Taking the Aland Islands Peace Institute, International Catalan Institute for Peace and Flemish Peace Institute as examples, the most common methods of dissemination of peace research include publishing books and reports, articles in both established academic journals and on the Institute websites, as well as monthly e-newsletters.

Education:

AIPI, ICIP and Flanders place emphasis on the transfer of knowledge and they offer educative services to officials, academics and to the general public. The publication of educational resources on research topics within their respective libraries is one means by which the institutes ensure that information is in a format and location that is readily accessible to the general public.

Education-focused projects such as AIPI's "Peace In Schools on Aland"; "Step by Step" and Girl and Boy Groups on Aland are prime examples of collaborative projects working with young people, from primary school children to young adults at university, to reach set objectives- such as the understanding that everyone at school has a right to a safe and equal learning environment, without bullying and sexual harassment. Similarly, AIPI has a long and rich experience in implementing youth activities within the framework of the European Union's youth programme, including youth exchanges and training activities for youth leaders. Education is a key priority for these three institutes and they provide a perfect example of how successfully peace institutes can positively impact society through their projects.

Events:

The running of seminars, guest lectures, conferences, public debates and the publication of film series, exhibitions, documentaries, discussions with specialists and reading groups are other examples of how these three institutes actively engage with the general public and help them to engage with the research topics.

The broad range of publications, educational resources, events and services offered by the aforementioned institutes share many common characteristics and as such could be useful templates when designing the products and services that a Wales Peace Institute would offer to benefit the community within Wales and the United Kingdom. The resources and events offered by the institutes are continually being improved and updated however please see the "Additional services" heading in Part II for further detail and links to the educational resources currently on offer.

Funding:

National governments constitute a significant source of funding for many of the institutes included within this comparative report. This is true of the Flemish Peace Institute and United States Institute of Peace where government funding supports the great majority costs incurred; government funding also significantly contributes to the working costs of the Aland Islands Peace Institute; Peace Research Institute Oslo; Stockholm International Peace Research Institute; International Catalan Institute for Peace and European Institute for Peace which is funded by its nine state members. It would be highly desirable to secure some funding from the British or Welsh governments for the Wales Peace Institute in order to reduce the risk faced by

institutes when research grants are cut or stopped from other sources- as evident in the case of the Aland Islands Peace Institute which experienced a 90% decrease in funding from the City of Mariehamn between the years 2012 and 2013, with significant impact on research programmes.

Funding sourced from councils, cities and large institutions is also common: the Aland Islands Peace Institute, Bonn International Center for Conversion, International Catalan Institute for Peace, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Peace Research Institute of Khartoum, Peace Institute Slovenia and Peace Research Institute Oslo are amongst the institutes that receive contributions from benefactors including national cities, local and regional councils, additional government offices/administrative bodies and national or private research councils. Further details are listed within the specific peace institute profiles.

Larger national or international institutions constitute a common source of peace institute funding. The European Union research programme, European Council and European Commission currently support the work of AIPI; PRIF and PRIO amongst others, notwithstanding the European Institute of Peace. The United Nations Development Programme and African Union contribute to PRI's running and research programme expenses and the IIP similarly benefits from its close ties to UNESCO. These examples demonstrate that it is possible to secure funding from many of the global international organisations, in addition to profiting from their significant resources and expertise in the field.

Finally the vast majority of the peace institutes take the form of non-governmental non-profit organisations that benefit from their charity status in the form of significant public and private donations. As charitable organisations, the institutes successfully win research programme grants from a range of sources within the sector, including the Human Rights and Governance Grants Programme, Think Tank Fund, Rights Initiative which constitute just a few of PI Slovenia's current benefactors.

Please Note: Further details of funding sources for each of the institutes can be found within the individual institute profiles or on the comparative spreadsheet.

Impact of peace institutes:

Unsurprisingly given their broad remit, peace institutes can have a considerable influence upon their constituent societies. The research and peace programmes offered allow peace institutes to impact upon different layers of society, from the very local: running educational events for differing audiences, and expanding public discourse on certain issues; to the professional: creating dialogue with political leaders and diplomats, stakeholders, private organisations and offering consultancy services on select issues. This network of relationships allows some peace institutes

to have a considerable influence upon national and international policy, to support efforts to craft treaties on issues relevant to international peace, whilst contiguously working to encourage the participation of the individual, often through seminars and public debate.

A brief analysis of elements of AIPI, ICIP and Flanders' recent programmes reveals the impact and effect that these institutes have had in recent years:

Aland Islands Peace Institute:

In 2013 the Institute completed a research project on territorial conflict solution. In response to unrest in Syria, the Middle East and parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, the Research Council decided to concentrate the 2013-17 research agenda on civil-society in addition to core research areas (migration, security etc.), thus ensuring that future programmes and education will be highly relevant to modern peace issues.

Between 2010 and 2013 AIPI participated in a research project ELDIA (European Language Diversity for All) that studied and compared 14 different Finno-Ugric language communities in eight European countries. The project produced the EuLaViBar- a language vitality barometer, a tool for studying and evaluating the situation and vitality of minority languages, thus creating a better understanding of minority languages, and how language maintenance can be supported in the future. The results of this project are beneficial not only to the Finno-Ugric languages studied, but to all minority language communities worldwide and future efforts to conserve them.

A third example of the impact of AIPI's work can be seen in the Mediation Office: 2013 saw a 50% increase in the number of cases received. The service offers parties to a civil or criminal case the opportunity to "own their conflict and find a solution through constructive discussions" run with the help of trained impartial volunteer mediators. The Mediation Office is run by AIPI as a conflict management tool at an individual level, as part of the wider peace work conducted by the institute, and a strong example of how the institute is positively impacting upon the local community.

*Source: 2013 Activity report- Available at:
www.peace.ax/images/stories/pdf/Activity%20report_2013_online.pdf [Accessed
23.10.2015]*

International Catalan Institute for Peace:

The International Catalan Institute for Peace has convened the ICIP "Peace in Progress Award" every year since 2011. This aims to publicly recognise individuals, entities or institutions that, in an outstanding and extensive manner, have worked for,

and contributed to, the promotion and building of peace. The Award is granted by the agreement of the Governing Board of ICIP and consists of public recognition, a sculpture created by Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel, and a financial prize of 4,000 Euros. In addition to recognising the achievements of outstanding individuals, the ICIP Peace in Progress Award serves to consolidate, inspire and encourage further work on Peace, thus having an international reach.

In 2014: The award recognised the century-long involvement of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) in the work of women for peace.

In 2013: The award recognised the courage of the ex-general of Serb origin who defended Sarajevo during the Balkans War and his extensive civic work on behalf of victims of the war.

In 2012: The award recognised the courage and exemplary nature of the persistent struggle of the Mothers of Soacha of Colombia. Their children were extra-judicially executed by the Colombian army between 2007 and 2008.

Source: ICIP Peace in Progress webpage- Available at icip.gencat/en/premi-constructors-de-pau/ [Accessed 23.10.2015]

Flemish Peace Institute:

During Flemish preparations for the Centenary of the Great War, the Flemish Peace Institute contributed by offering official circles and civil society a clear vision of a pluralistic approach to commemoration and remembrance so as to ensure that the Flemish authorities clearly communicated a message of peace during their activities. The Flemish Peace Institute uses its strong links with parliament to impact upon national events and ensure the continuous promotion of peace in all events.

The Flemish Peace Institute also examines legislation and policy on the international arms trade, and monitors the facts and figures on arms production and arms trade in Flanders and Belgium. Regulations on arms trade and arms use are increasingly determined at the European and international level which is why the Peace Institute closely monitors the regional, European and international situation: on 25 June 2013, the annual report, "Flemish foreign arms trade 2012" was published and delivered to the Flemish Parliament. The following clear examples demonstrate the importance of the Flemish Peace Institute's relationship with the Parliament:

- Since 2013, at the request of the Flemish Parliament, the Government of Flanders has exercised greater caution when dealing with arms exports to Israel and to the Middle East and Northern Africa.

- In view of UN negotiations in New York of 18-28 March 2013 concerning a global Arms Trade Treaty, the Flemish Peace Institute advised the Federal and Regional Governments of Belgium, as well as other actors involved in the negotiations, to address certain focal points during the negotiations. In March 2013 negotiations were successfully concluded and, on 2 April 2013, the United Nations Member States adopted the International Arms Trade Treaty by a large majority.

This advisory relationship highlights the importance of the Flemish Peace Institute in holding the Flemish and Belgian governments to account for their arms trade policy, and in encouraging future policies that have an international impact in creating a more peaceful world.

*Source: 2013 Annual Report- Available at:
www.flemishpeaceinstitute.eu/sites/vlaamsvredesinstituut.eu/files/files/yearreports/annual_report_2013.pdf [Accessed 32.10.2015]*

Further examples and detailed description of the impact of the work of the other peace institutes can be found within their respective annual reports.

Relationships with Local Government/ National Parliament:

The advisory or consultative status that some institutes have with national governments or other organisations, such as the aforementioned Flemish Peace Institute example, is also noteworthy as this is the result of a strong working relationship and arguably proof of respect for the institute's authority on the topic at hand. As such these relationships are to be considered a sign of the institute's success within its field of peace research.

A strong working relationship between institutes and local/national governments is mutually beneficial in numerous ways. Firstly, regular and thorough impartial academic research on topics of relevance to the State is highly valuable to governments, as it enables the tailoring of policies and legislation to reflect information presented on the issues at hand- as seen with the Flemish Peace Institute's annual report on the Flemish Arms Trade. Governments are thus better informed and have a reliable and authoritative source of up to date information. The reputation of both peace institutes' and governments benefits from the collaborative efforts of the two parties; governments appearing more democratic and interested in international peace which appeals to the general public and other international states; whereas the authenticity and authority of the peace institute is affirmed with the support of its national government and other influential organisations.

National and local governments and parliaments frequently meet a number of institute expenses; which results in a vested interest in the peace institute by the

government/parliament and therefore changes the relationship, frequently increasing the institute's importance in the eyes of the government who wishes to ensure value for money.

Further research on this topic would be beneficial in order to understand any challenges that might arise and to fully appreciate the advantages of a governmental relationship to current peace institutes, and to a prospective Wales Peace Institute.

Relationship with Universities:

A significant number of the peace institutes included within this comparison have strong relationships with academic institutions, notably with universities. As demonstrated in the case of BICC and PI Khartoum, Universities are a highly effective means of carrying out the educative remit of the peace institutes, as university students are highly receptive to the research which is consequently disseminated throughout the students' professional and social lives. The academic collaboration between peace institutes and university staff and students serves to raise the quality of the research emerging from the institute, in addition to offering students and staff an opportunity to gain valuable professional experience, whilst also enhancing the university's reputation. Partnerships with universities therefore have a huge impact on both parties. These partnerships add significant value to both the institutes and their university counterparts; **it would however be useful to conduct further research to quantify this added value, as having a greater understanding of the advantages would aid the Wales Peace Institute in forging its own future relationships.**

Recommendations for Future Research:

Having identified nine common factors and compared these across thirteen peace institutes, three of which were then observed in more depth, certain areas have emerged as necessitating further research in order to better understand and contribute to plans for a Wales Peace Institute.

It would be highly desirable to:

- See what progress peace institutes, particularly the Aland Islands Peace Institute, International Catalan Institute for Peace and Flemish Peace Institute have made since their initial formation. What changes have been made, has the funding been consistent, how have they evolved in accordance with their initial purpose and has their relationship with their local government/parliament developed?

- Compare the international research specialisations of the current peace institutes, including those within this report, but also the attached list of peace departments affiliated with universities across the world. It would be useful to identify which subject areas are not yet adequately researched and which of these potential topics might be of interest to a Wales Peace Institute, particularly in terms of adding value to the government and Welsh / British society.

List of peace departments:

<http://sydneypeacefoundation.org.au/resources/peace-with-justice/research-institutes/>

- Create a detailed list of current educational peace resources available from both peace institutes and peace departments that the Wales Peace Institute and Wales Centre for International Affairs could share on their website in order to better disseminate peace-related information and reach a larger audience.
- Research the value added by partnerships, specifically universities, governments and large international organisations such as the European Union and United Nations. How do these relationships work and how have other peace institutes created these partnerships? What advantages do they offer that the Wales Peace Institute could offer its own government and universities?