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PRESS RELEASE [02/IPD-PMM/06]

International Day of Peace, and other events initiated in the Republic of Macedonia

Dear friends of Peace,

We are glad to announce that Civil continues marking the International Day of Peace in Macedonia. Following this global initiative, inspired by the UN Resolution on celebration of the Day of Peace (55/282), Civil will organize a press conference one day ahead of the Day, appealing to all Macedonian citizens, institutions and individuals to make a contribution to the peace efforts and to processes of overcoming violence, gun culture, prejudices and hatred anywhere in the world, starting with their own neighborhood.

The slogan for this year is:

Peace is the message!

The design of the leaflet is:



Printing of the peace leaflet that will be disseminated throughout the country is financially supported by Caritas France in Macedonia.

In the appeal to the Macedonian and world public, Civil states:

Courage, strength and wisdom are needed for peace. Peace is a long-lasting process, sometimes hard and complicated, but it leads to prosperity, happiness and dignity. Therefore...

WE APPEAL to all citizens, civil associations, groups and individuals, public persons, political and religious leaders join the celebration of the International Day of Peace, September 21. On that day, each and everyone of us, regardless of the status and function in the society is CALLED and CAN give his/her contribution to overcoming violence and arms, overcoming threats, prejudices and intolerance of any kind in Macedonia, the region and the world.

Inspired by the International Day of Peace, this day we take as a beginning of the Month of Peace in Macedonia, an initiative first started last year, when a number of organizations, institutions and individuals get the opportunity to take activities to support peace processes. Their actions, statements, or other forms of support to this initiative will be publicly presented during the Peace Unlimited Festival (October 25-29). This period is long enough to consider all options except violence. **Peace is the message!**

During the Peace Month in Macedonia (September 21-October 21), Civil will support, encourage and initiate a number of different activities in the country and the region.

Beside initiation and support to other NGOs, Civil will organize several workshops for youth during the Peace Month in Macedonia, all under the title Arts Against Arms.

Literature, theatre, music and plastic arts workshops will result in public presentations as part of the program of the Peace Unlimited Festival in October 25-29, a multimedia manifestation that Civil organizes for seven years now, dedicated to raise public awareness on tragic effects of violence and weapons in the society.

Last year, Civil proposed this date to become a part of the program of activities of South East European Network on Control of Arms, and so it was; member organizations throughout the SEE region have accepted the initiative and today mark the International Day of Peace within their countries and local communities.

PLEASE, FORWARD THIS MESSAGE TO AS MANY ADDRESSES AS YOU CAN.

May Peace prevail on Earth!

Sincerely yours,

Xhabir M. Deralla
President of Civil

Skopje, September 18, 2006

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