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23/7/93

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JOINT PROGRAMME ON INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND ETHNICITY

INCORE

prospectus

THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

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JOINT INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMME ON CONFLICT
RESOLUTION
AND ETHNICITY

INCORE

"It is in fact easier and cheaper to prevent war than to end a war once it has started. This preventative capacity is based largely on research and access to information that can help us to anticipate events more effectively. By way of example then we may hope that the Programme on conflict resolution and ethnically divided societies, which will soon be launched in Northern Ireland under the auspices of The United Nations University, will provide us with information that can be used to solve the direct problems posed by the new international environment".

Dr.Boutros Boutros-Ghali,
Secretary-General of the
United Nations,
February 1993.



The United Nations University Headquarters
Jingumae
Shibuya
Tokyo



University of Ulster
Magee College campus
Londonderry
Northern Ireland

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JOINT INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND ETHNICITY

The United Nations University and the University of Ulster has established a Joint International Programme on the subject of Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity (INCORE). The new Programme will set out to provide a systematic approach to the study of ethnic conflict and to encourage links between research, training, policy, practice and theory.

INCORE will be located in Northern Ireland.

Full funding of £515,000 ($772,500) has already been raised for Phase 1 of the Programme. Funding support is now sought from governments and foundations for the five year Phase 2 amounting to £6,835,000 ($10,252,500). The Northern Ireland administration has pledged financial support, and negotiations with Derry City Council in Northern Ireland for suitable accommodation are well advanced.

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1. ETHNIC CONFLICT:
A Threat to World Order

Since the end of the Second World War there has been a marked increase in the number and severity of violent conflicts caused by ethnic tensions. Of the 94 wars recorded between 1945 and 1988, sixty-nine were intra-state conflicts. The effects of this violence have been immense: up to 30 million people have died, the great majority of them civilians; in 1988 the United States Committee for Refugees estimated that there was a total of 29 million refugees or displaced persons, and this number could rise to 100 million by the turn of the century; the financial costs are inestimable, but even in a relatively low-level conflict such as that in Northern Ireland, they reached £4.8 billion between 1969 and 1982. Less easily measured but equally important are the psychological effects, the diminution of human rights and the reduced respect for democratic processes.

The effects are heightened by the tendency for ethnic conflicts to become internationalised. In the former Soviet Union, for example, there were twenty-three borders between republics; twenty of these were disputed. It is no longer possible to regard ethnic violence, in contrast to international disputes, as a second level threat to world order.

2. THE UNITED NATIONS:
Addressing the Deepest Causes of Conflict

The United Nations has become increasingly concerned with the growing threat of international and internal conflicts throughout the world.

The UN established thirteen peace-keeping operations between its formation in 1945 and 1987. In the three years between 1988 and 1992 it was necessary to establish another thirteen. The rate has increased further since 1992.

In that year the Secretary-General of the UN remarked that 'we have entered a time of global transition marked by uniquely contradictory trends.' On the one hand were encouraging signs of greater regional cooperation; on the other, new threats to state cohesion by 'brutal ethnic, religious, social, cultural or linguistic strife.' (B Boutros-Ghali, An Agenda for Peace, 1992). These new threats arise mainly from the growing menace of internal ethnic conflicts.

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The Secretary-General went on to define the UN's main aims:

'to seek to identify at the earliest possible stage situations that could produce conflict, and to try through diplomacy to remove the sources of danger before violence results;

where conflict erupts, to engage in peacemaking aimed at resolving the issues that have led to conflict;

through peace-keeping, to work to preserve peace, however fragile, where fighting has been halted and to assist in implementing agreements achieved by the peacemakers;

to stand ready to assist in peace-building in its different contexts: rebuilding the institutions and infrastructures of nations torn by civil war and strife; and building bonds of peaceful mutual benefit among nations formerly at war;

and in the largest sense, to address the deepest causes of conflict: economic despair, social injustice and political oppression. It is possible to discern an increasingly common perception that spans the world's nations and peoples, and which is finding expression in international laws, many owing their genesis to the work of this organisation.'

3. RESEARCH AND TRAINING:

A chronic lack of provision

How has the international academic community responded to these developments? In 1992 the Ethnic Studies Network at the University of Ulster carried out a survey of its members, which comprised researchers from twenty-five countries, representing every continent. It examined the current level of activity and resources in both research and training in the areas of ethnic conflict and conflict resolution. The survey was supplemented by regional studies from South Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, West Africa and South Africa, written by experts working within each region. All commented on a recent and remarkable increase of inactivity, but identified serious inadequacies in research and training provision, some of which were being exacerbated by the new interest in conflict resolution. Four problems in particular were highlighted:

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a. The uneven pattern of research and training

Europe and North America still dominate research and training in the broad area of ethnic conflict and conflict resolution. Some of the regions worst affected by ethnic violence lack an academic infrastructure, while in others local research is often carried out in ignorance of comparative and theoretical work elsewhere. In some settings where there is a substantial level of high-quality indigenous work, inadequate publication and communication outlets ensure that it is not well-known outside the region.

b. Inadequate and uneven funding

There is a serious shortage of funding available for training and research, especially in the Developing World and Eastern Europe.

c. Lack of appropriate training facilities

While some excellent training facilities are available, many programmes adopt a narrow approach to training, often ignoring problem-solving approaches from Third World cultures. This problem has been intensified by the rapid growth and diversity in conflict resolution techniques from both private and academic sectors, many of which do not monitor adequately their own initiatives.

d. Lack of interaction

Perhaps the most serious finding in the study is the growing fragmentation of work on ethnic conflict and conflict resolution: there is inadequate research input to training programmes; neither research nor training sufficiently address the needs of politicians, institutions and others engaged in the management of conflict; policy-makers rarely look to research for guidance; liaison between researchers and international agencies affected by the problems of ethnic conflict is unsatisfactory; and the disparate nature of conflict studies has been an obstacle to the development of theory.

These formidable problems demand an academic response which feeds into national and international policy concerns. The need for a new intellectual agenda to inform and underpin the UN's concerns is as urgent as the concerns themselves.

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INCORE:
Origins and Mission

The United Nations University and the University of Ulster have established a Joint International Programme on the subject of conflict resolution and ethnicity (INCORE) to address these issues. The concerns of the United Nations have led directly to the proposal to establish INCORE. INCORE will undertake programmes of research and training, and will collaborate with the UNU's work in the field of conflict resolution and ethnicity. Its aim will be to encourage links between research, training, practice, policy and theory, and especially to repair the breaches between research and policy. The programme will be located in Northern Ireland.

The mission of the new Programme is:
to provide a international focus for the study of conflict resolution and ethnicity;
to co-operate with international organisations, especially the UN and regional bodies;
to develop a systematic approach to the problems of ethnic conflict;
to agree a prioritised agenda for comparative research;
to seek an agreed approach to training;
to stimulate research and training in the Developing World;
to encourage links between research, training, policy, practice and theory.

In 1991 the University of Ulster was commissioned by The United Nations University to conduct a study into the feasibility of establishing a Joint Programme on conflict resolution and ethnicity in Northern Ireland. The partnership drew on the strengths of both institutions. The University of Ulster has a record of commitment to these issues through the Centre for the Study of Conflict, which has been engaged in a wide range of research into the Irish conflict since its formation in 1979, and the Ethnic Studies Network, which the Centre had formed to develop its comparative and collaborative work on ethnic conflict. The United Nations University adds to this a strong global mandate. The study was funded by Northern Ireland's Department of Education and the Central Community Relations Unit.

A Planning Study Team, made up of international experts, was assembled to prepare a feasibility study:

Professor John Darby, Director, Ethnic Studies Network, N. Ireland (Chair);
Professor Seamus Dunn, Director, Centre for the Study of Conflict, N. Ireland;

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Professor Enda McDonagh, Maynooth College, Republic of Ireland;
Professor Peter Shikhirev, Institute of Psychology, Russian Academy of Science;
Professor Rodolfo Stavenhagen, El Colegio de Mexico;
Dr. Anjoo Upadhyaya, Banaras Hindu University, India.

The feasibility study was evaluated then and approved by a panel of 24 experts from a variety of countries experiencing ethnic or racial problems, including Croatia, Great Britain, India, Israel, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka and the United States. The Programme that developed from the Report was approved by the Council of The United Nations University at its February 1993 meeting in Tokyo.

5. INCORE

An Innovative Programme

An agreement has now been signed by Professor Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, Rector of The United Nations University and Professor Trevor Smith, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ulster, to develop a Joint International Programme on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity. The University of Ulster will be the host institution for the Programme, which will be developed through two phases over an initial six year period.

Phase 1 which will start in 1993, will comprise an agreed programme of preparatory activities.

Phase 2 which will last initially for five years, will implement an agreed programme on research and training.

Approach

The proposed approach - of integrating research, training, practice, policy and theory - is an innovative one. It will seek to draw on existing expertise, and to add to it approaches not currently represented in training programmes. In particular, the new Programme will have a strong policy emphasis. Regional reports and a survey commissioned by the Planning Study Team revealed much dissatisfaction, especially in the Developing World, with current practices in research and training. During the early years of INCORE, therefore, emphasis will be placed on drawing into the planning process as many elements as possible which have contributions to make to the development of training and research. Invitations will be sent to selected

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individuals who can contribute to this process through a series of workshops and fellowships. These will be selected to represent both the best current practice and the broad variety of need, especially from the Third World. From these discussions it is planned to develop INCORE's detailed approaches and programmes.

Implementation

Phase 1 is envisaged as a preparatory period, establishing INCORE and determining its approaches. A programme of activities has already been agreed. These include:

1. International workshops on 'Approaches to Training in Conflict Resolution' and on 'Research Needs in Conflict Studies'.

2. The publication of two books in collaboration with the UNU Press: 'Conflict and Change' will comprise selected and edited papers from the First Conference of the Ethnic Studies Network, held at the University of Ulster in June 1992; and 'Training and Research Provision on Conflict and Conflict Resolution', which will be the first collection of regional studies of research activity and training provisions in a number of regions experiencing ethnic conflict, including Latin America, Northern Africa, Southern Africa, South Asia and the countries of the former Soviet Union.

3. A project to examine comparative methodologies and approaches to conflict resolution and governance; this project will be a collaborative enterprise with the UNU programme on governance, which is located in Barcelona.

4. A research investigation into aspects of United Nations peace-keeping operations. It is anticipated that this will be a multi-national study.

Phase 2 will cover the five years from 1994 and will implement programmes of training and research developed during the first phase.

Its main function will be to provide an international focus for research and training into conflict resolution and ethnicity. It will be based on the substantial consultations already carried out during the feasibility study, and will focus on activities and targets already widely agreed. The most important thrust in developing this early

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agenda will be on problems in the fields of ethnic conflict and conflict resolution, which are particular concerns of the United Nations. These are likely to include, among others:

- Peacekeeping operations.
- The early identification of problems likely to lead to ethnic violence.
- The problems of refugees.
- Improvements in training for conflict resolution.

There will be a formal review of the Joint Programme during its third year.

Staffing

The work of INCORE will be carried out through two types of staffing arrangement: a. a small core staff, and b. visiting or associated staff. The core staff will comprise a director, professional staff and support staff.

It will also be an integral part of the Programme's approach to involve international advisers and experts in a variety of different ways. These will include visiting professors, senior and junior fellows and temporary consultants through workshops and other approaches appropriate to INCORE's aims. The Joint Programme will make full use of visiting fellows. Their function will be to add an international dimension to the conduct of the Programme and to advise on INCORE's research and training directions. Fellowships should normally last for six months or one year. They will include visiting professors, who will be persons of international distinction; senior fellows, who will be established scholars and practitioners; and junior fellows, who would both benefit from the training experience and contribute to INCORE's programmes. The Joint Programme will also retain consultants, where appropriate, for a variety of tasks including the preparation of policy papers or situation papers for workshops.

The use of workshops will be an essential part of INCORE's activities, and should be seen as a staffing resource. Workshops will be used to focus attention on particular

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research themes, approaches to training, and problems of practice or policy. While some workshops will bring together those facing similar problems in different countries - academics, diplomats, politicians, practitioners, and people from industry - they are also an excellent means of combining experts from academic, policy, training and practice backgrounds. Workshops will form the basis of a number of INCORE's publications.

Location

The Planning Study Team strongly advocated that INCORE should be located in Northern Ireland. Its arguments were:

a. Northern Ireland's familiarity with conflict;
b. Its approach to conflict management and resolution;
c. Its academic infrastructure, notably the Centre for the Study of Conflict and the Ethnic Studies Network at the University of Ulster; and
d. The strong support offered for the initiative, both in Northern Ireland and internationally.

The project will be based ultimately in the University of Ulster's Magee College campus in Derry and will commence in the University's Coleraine campus.

International Links

There is a paradox at the heart of ethnic studies: it is that each ethnic conflict is essentially parochial in its origins and manifestations, and yet is part of an increasingly universal phenomenon. For that reason an international and comparative approach has been particularly important in setting up the INCORE programme, and will continue to be encouraged in the following ways.

An International Advisory Board will be established and members shall be appointed on the basis of their international standing or academic excellence.

Associated Centres will be established in other countries during Phase 2. Each Associated Centre will have special responsibility for those elements of research and training that are appropriate to the region in which it is based and will report regularly to the Director of INCORE. It is envisaged that up to four Associated Centres will be established during Phase 2, probably in Latin America, South Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe.

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The international dimensions of the INCORE programme will also be reflected in new approaches to distance learning, and discussions have already been initiated with The Open University in the United Kingdom to explore the application of distance learning to training.

6. INCORE:
Costs and Contributions

Costs

Total funding support for the first phase of the Joint Programme, amounting to £515,000 ($772,500), has been provided by the two universities and external funding bodies. It is estimated that the basic costs for the five year second phase will amount to £6,835,000 ($10,252,500), and negotiations have already started with funding bodies to secure this Phase 2 support. Given the breadth and gravity of the problems associated with ethnic conflict, it is a deliberate policy to seek funding support from a wide range of sources. These will include governments, regional organisations, trusts, foundations and private donors. These funds shall be sought jointly by the University of Ulster and The United Nations University.

The funding for Phase 2 comprises £2,682,000 ($4,023,000) for staffing, £589,000 ($883,500) for accommodation, £579,000 ($868,500) for recurrent costs, £2,014,000 ($3,021,000) for programmes and £971,000 ($1,456,500) for overheads.

The University of Ulster will contribute to the Joint Programme by subsidising overheads, including staffing, finance, legal and other services. It is emphasised that visiting teaching and research fellows will be regarded as members of staff during their period at INCORE, and will be expected to contribute fully to its activities.

It is necessary to have assured funding to sustain INCORE's basic programme for Phase 2, so that a planned and integrated central core of activities can be implemented. It is anticipated that the central core of activities will be supplemented by additional programmes which are in sympathy with INCORE's philosophy and objectives.

It is intended to establish INCORE on a permanent basis after the completion of Phase 2. The permanent programme will be financed from an endowment fund, which will be established during Phase 2, and by income from research and training.

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Contributions

a. General donations

Funding bodies and other organisations and individuals are invited to support the INCORE core programmes through:

Contributions towards core costs may take the form of:

(i) a single contribution;
(ii) a grant spread over five years; or
(iii) a donation to the endowment fund.

b. Specific donations to elements of INCORE's costs

Funding bodies may become involved in INCORE by contributing towards the costs of elements of its activities. These would include:

- the purchase of a building or part of a building;
- the furbishing or equipping of a building or part of a building;
- the endowment of a chair;
- the endowment of other staff positions;
- scholarships to cover the costs of attending workshops; for example, from regional organisations, governments or other interested bodies;
- fellowships, at either senior or junior level, which may be dedicated to specific research or training functions.

c. Funding of a specific research or training programme

Grants are invited for research and training programmes which fit within INCORE's general approach and philosophy. These programmes may be commissioned by national or international bodies, foundations and other agencies, following discussions with INCORE.

d. Funding of Associated Centres

A key element in INCORE's plans is the establishment of Associated Centres in a number of other countries, especially in regions affected by ethnic violence including the Developing World. Funding support for such Associated Centres would be particularly welcome.

e. Joint grants with another organisation

INCORE wishes to encourage jointly funded support from both foundations and public agencies. It will establish an endowment fund to encourage jointly funded projects.

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COSTINGS FOR INCORE (£K STERLING)

PHASE 1		PHASE 2 YEAR 1	PHASE 2 YEAR 2	PHASE 2 YEAR 3	PHASE 2 YEAR 4	PHASE 2 YEAR 5	PHASE 2 TOTALS
a. STAFFING	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Director	8	54	59	65	71	76	325
Training Director	26	47	54	59	64	68	292
Manager	49	49	54	59	64	68	294
Research & Support Staff	21	91	114	126	141	162	634
Fellowships	24	85	233	253	273	293	1,137
b. CAPITAL COSTS							
Accommodation*			92	107	188	202	589
c. RECURRENT COSTS							
Property Rental*	56	52	55	60			167
Equipment & Furniture	35	7	30	35	40	45	157
Computing	7	35	25	25	20	22	127
Telecommunications	6	8	10	10	11	12	51
Library	5	15	17	20	12	13	77
d. PROGRAMMES							
Workshops	95	119	131	144	158	174	726
Training Programmes	95		278	306	336	368	1,288
e. OVERHEADS**	88	182	170	215	196	208	971
ANNUAL TOTALS	515	744	1,322	1,484	1,574	1,711	6,835

*Property will be rented into the third year of the INCORE programme, during which time accommodation will be purchased or refurbished in Derry. These figures are based on existing University of Ulster costings for accommodation.

** Overheads cover use of services supplied by the University of Ulster, including staffing, finance and maintenance costs, as well as such services as electricity, water and local rates. The University of Ulster normally calculates gross overhead costs at 40% of total direct costs, but has agreed to allow a reduced percentage of 25% as its contribution to INCORE's costs. This 25% comprises e. Overheads, and part of c. Recurrent Costs.

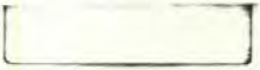
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COSTINGS FOR INCORE ($K US)

PHASE 1		PHASE 2 YEAR 1	PHASE 2 YEAR 2	PHASE 2 YEAR 3	PHASE 2 YEAR 4	PHASE 2 YEAR 5	PHASE 2 TOTALS
a. STAFFING	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Director	12	81	89	98	107	114	489
Training Director	39	71	81	89	96	102	439
Manager	74	74	81	89	96	102	441
Research & Support Staff	32	137	171	189	212	243	952
Fellowships	36	128	350	380	410	440	1,708
b. CAPITAL COSTS							
Accommodation*			138	161	282	303	884
c. RECURRENT COSTS							
Property Rental*	84	78	83	90			251
Equipment & Furniture	53	11	45	53	60	68	237
Computing	11	53	38	38	30	33	192
Telecommunications	9	12	15	15	17	18	77
Library	8	23	26	30	18	20	117
d. PROGRAMMES							
Workshops	143	179	197	216	237	261	1,090
Training Programmes	143		417	459	504	552	1,932
e. OVERHEADS**	132	273	255	323	294	312	1,457
ANNUAL TOTALS	776	1,120	1,986	2,230	2,361	2,568	10,266

*Property will be rented into the third year of the INCORE programme, during which time accommodation will be purchased or refurbished in Derry. These figures are based on existing University of Ulster costings for accommodation.

** Overheads cover use of services supplied by the University of Ulster, including staffing, finance and maintenance costs, as well as such services as electricity, water and local rates. The University of Ulster normally calculates gross overhead costs at 40% of total direct costs, but has agreed to allow a reduced percentage of 25% as its contribution to INCORE's costs. This 25% comprises e. Overheads, and part of c. Recurrent Costs.



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FURTHER INFORMATION

Detailed breakdowns of all costings of the Joint Programme, by year and by function, are available from INCORE. Individuals or organisations interested in further information regarding costs and contributions or in learning more about INCORE and its work are invited to contact the Director at the address below:

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