

# The World March for Peace and Nonviolence



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## Footprints

Bi-Weekly Bulletin with News on the World March from the US and Abroad

### US NEWS

#### President of UN General Assembly Offers Support for Marchers



UN General Assembly President Miguel d'Escoto and International World March coordinator Rafael de la Rubia met at UN headquarters in New York City on June 16 to discuss the objectives of the World March. In a watershed meeting attended

by US World March coordinators and lasting more than an hour, d'Escoto expressed his personal support for the March, noting its consistency with UN founding principles, and offering to help secure the support of UN member nations, including Nicaragua, his home country. Mr d'Escoto agreed with de la Rubia on the goal of "zero tolerance" for nuclear weapons and complete eradication. In a release issued later by his office, d'Escoto stated that the World March "offers a new paradigm for the 21st century that draws upon the prophetic work of the world figures such as Leo Tolstoy, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King."

#### World March Featured in Social-Justice Plan Book

Designed to help thousands of educators across the country translate their vision of a just education into concrete classroom activities, the 2009-2010 edition of "Planning to Change the World: A Plan Book for Social Justice Teachers" ([www.justiceplanbook.com](http://www.justiceplanbook.com)), will include a section on involving students in the activities for the World March.

### RECENT USA ENDORSEMENTS

#### • La Universidad de Puerto Rico

The oldest and most established university system in Puerto Rico.

#### • Veterans for Peace

National organization with chapters across the US whose membership is comprised of war veterans for whom war is not the answer .

#### • Peace Brigades International/USA

US-based organization fielding teams of international observers to protect activists working under threat in areas of conflict.

#### • Lucient Dossier

LA-based performance artist-troupe/vaudeville circus embodying a newly awakened style of vaudeville glamour infused with circus mischief.



**Dr. Cornel West**, racial justice champion; author of 19 books, including the bestselling *Race Matters* (1993), a searing analysis of racism in America; and one of America's most provocative intellectuals. Dr. West has taught at Union Theological Seminary, Yale, Harvard, the University of Paris, and is currently on the faculty of Princeton.



**Jody Williams**, along with the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), of which she is founding coordinator. Launched in October 1992 by six NGOs, ICBL grew to 1,000 NGOs in 60+ countries with Ms. Williams as chief strategist/spokesperson. ICBL achieved unprecedented cooperation with governments, UN bodies and the International Committee of the Red Cross, accomplishing its goal of an international treaty banning antipersonnel landmines in September 1997.

To see all US endorsements, go to [www.worldmarchusa.net](http://www.worldmarchusa.net)

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### On Top of the World in Iceland



160 mountain climbers set out on July 11 to scale 24 Icelandic mountain peaks, with plans to plant World March flags on each summit. The action is being followed on Icelandic Radio.

negativity toward social change. Led by Katherine Han of the Center for Nonviolent Communication, the interactive workshop incorporated elements of role play and group interchange with the aim of identifying mechanical reaction patterns and discovering new ways of surpassing conflict through the use of more effective communication skills.

### Peace Bridge Joins Portugal and Spain in Support of World March



Thanks to the collaboration of the Tui and Valença do Minho town councils, more than 500 residents of the two border towns joined hands on June 16 across the old International Bridge linking Spain and Portugal. The

World March will make the crossing on November 1 this year.

### The Emperor of the Mossi People Marching for World Peace



On July 3, Mogho Naaba Baongo, Emperor of the largest ethnic group in Burkina Faso, endorsed the World March, an event marked by a special ceremony in the Royal Palace in Ouagadougou and attended by

Minister for Promotion of Human Rights, Salamata Sawadogo. A self-described "convinced peace militant," Buongo stated that he had no choice to join the initiative as "peace is the contribution of every individual, and it's also a daily work that must be promoted in all actions taken individually or collectively." The Mossi people live mostly in the villages of the Volta River Basin, constituting 40% of the population, or about 6.2 million people.

### Making Peace With the Internal Enemy



On June 22, 70 peace activists, NGO employees and graduate students in Seoul participated in a workshop designed to help participants transform the internal image of "the enemy" and their own

## RECENT INTERNATIONAL ENDORSEMENTS



**The Most Reverend Rowan Williams**, Archbishop of Canterbury; internationally renowned theological scholar, teacher and writer on philosophy, theology, spirituality and religious aesthetics; as well as on moral, ethical and social issues. Since becoming archbishop, he has increasingly turned his attention to contemporary cultural and interfaith issues and is an opponent of the war in Iraq and nuclear weapons.



**Pedro Almodovar**, two-time Oscar winner and internationally acclaimed Spanish film producer, script writer and director of *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* (1988), *All About My Mother* (1999), *Talk to Her* (2002), *Bad Education* (2004), and *Broken Embraces* (2009).

**Brenda MacIntyre**, Native Canadian musician, healer and speaker. *"Every time you think a thought that fills you with gratitude, hope, peace, love, joy, inspiration, compassion and/or hope, that thought creates a chain reaction. Imagine what happens when a large event like the World March takes place -- what a grand chain reaction we can create of positivity, not only for us as individuals, organizations, communities or even countries, but for the world."*

To see all international endorsements, go to [www.theworldmarch.org](http://www.theworldmarch.org)

