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Since 2018, every June Normandy becomes the world capital of the "peacemakers". Over several days, some 250 speakers (Nobel Peace Prize winners, heads of state, experienced diplomats, academics, geopolitical experts, NGO leaders, community leaders, journalists and civil society representatives) come from every continent to exchange ideas, bear witness and work together to build lasting peace in the world.

By dint of conferences, workshops and debates, these peace fighters alert us, challenge us and make us think about the main causes of international conflicts, such as the arms race, religious fanaticism, the questioning of multilateralism, and global warming, which is taking over more and more. Within a few decades, one billion people are expected to be displaced by climate change, especially among the poorest people who will be the new damned of the earth.

Yes, peace is a struggle, a long, constant struggle. As Camus wrote on 8 May 1945, the day after Hiroshima: “In the face of the terrifying prospects opening up to humanity, we see more clearly how peace is the only fight worth fighting. It is no longer a prayer, but an order which should rise up from the people to governments, the order to definitively choose between hell and reason.”

We have neither the power nor the notoriety of the greats of this world, but here, together, at the Normandy World Peace Forum, we can tell them that the greatness of a country does not lie in the number of nuclear warheads, or in the repeated expression of mediocre nationalism, but in a country’s ability to fight global warming, to carry a universal message of peace and rapprochement among peoples, an ideal of freedom and democracy.

Peace is a hope, but above all it is about will.

Hervé Morin
President of the Normandy Region
WHY NORMANDY FOR PEACE?

Normandy’s history is inextricably linked to the ideas of peace, freedom and Human rights. The Normandy for Peace initiative is the result of the Region’s determination to continue the remembrance work which began in 1945. Many regional initiatives, led by local authorities, museums or educational communities, have emerged to help new generations understand the contemporary world and building sustainable peace.

It was in this spirit that in 2017 the Normandy Region launched “Normandy for Peace”, a global initiative with events programmed in Normandy and abroad to promote the universal values of peace and freedom, as well as a World Forum linked each year to the commemorations of 6 June 1944 and the Battle of Normandy.

The Normandy World Peace Forum is an opportunity for reflection and discussion on tensions around the world, and on peace-building. It is run by experts in geopolitics, alongside representatives of States, the academic world and civil society.

“We salute the remembrance work accomplished by the Normandy Region and all the initiatives and actions carried out by local authorities, teachers and associations. Remembrance must be passed onto the new generations in order to help them understand the world and its challenges, and firmly refuse any trivialized projects based on exclusion and the decline of freedoms.”

DENIS MUKWEGE, laureate of the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize

“Humanity owes a great deal to Normandy.”

RAMÓN LUIS VALCÁRCEL SISO, former vice president of the European Parliament

“We saluted the remembrance work accomplished by the Normandy Region and all the initiatives and actions carried out by local authorities, teachers and associations. Remembrance must be passed on to the new generations in order to help them understand the world and its challenges, and firmly refuse any trivialized projects based on exclusion and the decline of freedoms.”

Denis Mukwege, laureate of the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize

“They are talking about Normandy for Peace”

“Normandy for Peace has sent out a message: we must work together to resolve conflicts and achieve lasting peace.”

BAN KI-MOON, former secretary general of the United Nations

“It was here that peace-building efforts began; this led to the creation of the European Union. The way in which Normandy honours its historic duty is therefore fitting. It is important that regions play a mediating role between public opinion and the power of states. It is good news that there’s a peace factory in Normandy.”

Jean-Pierre Raffarin, former French Prime Minister, president of Leaders for Peace
A SERIES OF INITIATIVES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS, SYMPOSIA, SEMINARS, UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES, ARTISTIC CREATIONS... THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, NORMANDY FOR PEACE GIVES RISE TO MANY ACTIONS ORGANIZED BY THE NORMANDY REGION AND ITS PARTNERS.

4 MAJOR THEMES

NORMANDY FOR PEACE
CAMPUS

NORMANDY FOR PEACE
RESOURCES

NORMANDY FOR PEACE
DIALOGUE

NORMANDY FOR PEACE
CULTURE AND SCIENCES

TOPICS PROMOTED BY

THE FORUM

THE EVENTS

THE NETWORK

THE NORMANDY FOR PEACE CALL FOR INITIATIVES
As part of the Normandy for Peace call for initiatives, the Normandy Region supports projects which are local or related to Normandy and encourages the development of new projects to promote the universal values of peace and freedom. Supported initiatives and projects receive the Normandy for Peace label.

normandiepourlapaix.fr/en/submit-project
As part of the Normandy for Peace initiative, the Region is creating the conditions for cooperation between international academics and ones from Normandy to build an innovative, open Chair of Excellence for Peace, with a strong societal dimension.

Launched on 5 June 2019, in partnership with the French National Centre for Scientific Research and the University of Caen Normandy, the Normandy for Peace Chair of Excellence is designed for an initial period of four years and is devoted to a theme central to contemporary issues: peace, environment and the rights of future generations.

Its holder is Antonio Oposa, a Philippine lawyer internationally recognized for his work on climate justice and environmental protection. He is supported by Professor Nicholas Robinson, an eminent environmental law specialist professor at Pace Law University and Chair Emeritus of the Chair’s multidisciplinary senior expert panel.

In 2018, the Normandy Region launched the Freedom Prize in partnership with academic authorities and the International Institute for Human Rights and Peace. It gives young people aged 15 to 25 from all over the world the opportunity to choose an exemplary public figure or an organisation, committed to the fight for freedom. The first Freedom Prize was awarded in July 2019 to Swedish activist Greta Thunberg for her commitment to the climate.
SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS' ARGUMENTS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Linked to the International moot Competition for lawyers, organised by the Caen Memorial, the moot Competition for secondary school pupils is open to all secondary school in France and French secondary schools abroad. After the regional heats, the best candidates compete in the national final which takes place at the Caen Memorial. Four prizes are given: the Memorial prize, the Civic Engagement prize, the Amnesty International prize, the Reporters Sans Frontières prize & the student panel prize.

UNIVERSITY OF PEACE

The University of Peace, organized by the International Institute for Human Rights and Peace, is attended by around fifty international students for a week each year in Caen. The participants come to be trained on a topic related to peace from a multidisciplinary perspective.

WALK THE GLOBAL WALK

Supported by the European Commission and with 13 European countries, the Walk The Global Walk educational programme enables a thousand secondary school pupils from Normandy to show their commitment to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals throughout the school year. The International Institute of Human Rights and Peace is rolling out this project in the 5 departments of Normandy and organises feedback on the project each year on the occasion of the Normandy World Peace Forum.

THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Throughout the year, the Normandy Region finances educational projects on remembrance of Holocaust victims in Normandy’s apprentice and secondary schools. The annual initiative includes a day at the Caen Memorial with a guest speaker who escaped from the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp and a public presentation of educational materials at the Caen Memorial. Every year, 150 young people from Normandy benefit from this educational initiative, developed by the Holocaust Memorial, working closely with the Normandy Rectorate.
**ONLINE CONTENT**

Fuelled by Normandy’s international partners for Peace, the online resource centre provides the public with multidisciplinary content in a variety of formats. News and analysis articles, educational resources, reports and studies are available for online reading, video or download using a dedicated search engine. A video gallery is also online, thanks to partnerships with the Institut National de l’Audiovisuel (National Institute of Audiovisual), the Projet Imagine (Imagine Project) and The Conversation.

→ normandiepourlapaix.fr/en/contributions

**A POP-UP BOOKSHOP**

Each year the Forum hosts a pop-up bookshop, so that people can find the publications of the Forum’s speakers and a vast selection of other publications on peace, democracy and remembrance of the D-Day landings.

**THE NORMANDY INDEX OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

The Normandy Index of the European Parliament was published for the first time in June 2019 during the Normandy World Peace Forum. It was designed and prepared by the Research Service of the Institute for Economics and Peace in order to measure each year, based on scientific knowledge, the conflicts worldwide, for each country.

Within the context of Normandy for Peace, the European Parliament has published every year since 2018 a study on the European Union policies’ contribution to peace and safety.

**Evaluer les menaces à la paix et à la démocratie au niveau mondial**

Introduction à l’Indice Normandie

In-depth analysis of the EPRS / European Parliamentary Research Service: "Mapping threats to peace and democracy worldwide - Introduction to the Normandy Index"
In addition to the public programming, the Normandy World Peace Forum hosts mediation seminars, working sequences on building conflict resolution models and in camera meetings aimed at strengthening international and inter-regional dialogue.

For example, the 2019 Forum hosted a two-day seminar by the Russia/Ukraine/EU Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission, in partnership with the Collège des Bernardins.

Throughout the year Normandy hosts meetings, general meetings and working seminars for NGOs or networks working on peace, freedom, Human rights and democracy.

Within this symbolic setting provided by Normandy, the Region offers facilities for hosting and organising people involved in peace work for them to carry out their discussions.
IN ADDITION TO ANALYSING CONFLICTS AND GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS, NORMANDY FOR PEACE HIGHLIGHTS THE CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND HERITAGE INITIATIVES THAT RAISE AWARENESS OF THE VALUES OF PEACE AND FREEDOM.
SPOTLIGHT
ON THE NORMANDY WORLD PEACE FORUM

AN INTERNATIONAL EVENT OPEN TO ALL, THE NORMANDY WORLD PEACE FORUM IS A LABORATORY FOR THINKING AND MEDIATION ON THE THEMES OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

Every year in June, over 200 renowned speakers and several thousand participants, including many secondary school students, meet in the historic grounds of the Abbaye aux Dames in Caen. Bringing diplomats, intellectuals, researchers, lawyers, humanitarian workers, economists and political representatives from many countries together in the same place, this Forum is a valuable tool for sharing views and analyses on the different forms that contemporary conflicts take and promoting the search for solutions.

ON THE AGENDA: plenary conferences, topic-based debates, project presentations, testimonies, a pop-up bookshop with book-signings, exhibitions, meetings with NGOs and associations, etc.

EXAMPLES OF THEMES COVERED:
Combining the experiences and testimonies of leading personalities, the conferences provide a global overview of cross-cutting themes. Among the topics discussed: “Terrorism and new forms of violence: how to cope?”; “The paths to peace: mistakes and successes”; “Building lasting peace”.
To go further into the conferences and shed light on current topics, the debates make it possible to tackle more specific topics around the points of view of experts with complementary profiles: “How should international law reflect new conflicts?”; “Western Balkans: endless post-war”; “GS Sahel: an ideal framework for peacekeeping?”; “Yemen: the war behind closed doors?”; “Women as leaders for peace: a force for the future”; “Colombia: peace and then what?”; “Brexit: European construction/destruction”; “Syria: what balance of power after the conflict?”; “Climate change and natural resources: tomorrow’s wars”.

The following took part in previous forums:
- Ruby Bridges Hall, the first African-American pupil to go to a white school in the United States
- Pierre Buyoya, former President of the Republic of Burundi
- Michel Chikwanine, former child soldier
- Mohamed ElBaradei, laureate of the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize
- Leymah Gbowee, laureate of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize
- Latifa Ibn Ziaten, founder of the “Imad-Ibn-Ziaten” charity for youth and peace
- Ban Ki-moon, former Secretary General of the United Nations
- Jean-Pierre Lacroix, under-secretary-general for Peace Operations, United Nations
- Nancy Lindborg, president of the United States Institute of Peace
- Denis Mukwege, laureate of the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize
- Park Myung-Lim, professor at Yonsei University and Director of the Kim Dae-Jung library
- Général Jean-Paul Paloméros, former Chief of Staff of the French air force and allied commander Transformation at NATO
- Antoine Petit, president of the CNRS
- Jean-Pierre Raffarin, former French Prime Minister, President of Leaders for Peace
- Hubert Védrine, former French Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Jody Williams, laureate of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize
Ban Ki-moon, former Secretary General of the United Nations
2018 Normandy World Peace Forum

Debate in the grounds of the Abbaye aux Dames
2019 Normandy World Peace Forum

Closed-door meeting between Jean-Pierre Raffarin, Hervé Morin and Ban Ki-moon
2018 Normandy World Peace Forum

Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso
former Vice President of the European Parliament
2019 Normandy World Peace Forum

Debate in the grounds of the Abbaye aux Dames
2018 Normandy World Peace Forum

Launch of the Normandy Peace Chair of Excellence in the presence of Hervé Morin, President of the Normandy Region, Pierre Denise, President of Caen Normandy University and Antoine Petit, President of the CNRS
2019 Normandy World Peace Forum

2018 Normandy World Peace Forum

Presentation of The Normandy Manifesto for World Peace, by the following 6 authors and first signatories:
Denis Mukwege, Mohamed ElBaradei, Jody Williams, Leymah Gbowee, Sundeep Waslekar and Anthony Grayling
2019 Normandy World Peace Forum

Walk the Global Walk
Presentation of the work by young people from Normandy on one of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals
2018 Normandy World Peace Forum

Normandy’s appeal in favour of the Rohingya people by Hervé Morin in the presence of Tun Khin in partnership with Human Rights Watch
2018 Normandy World Peace Forum

Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, former Vice President of the European Parliament
2019 Normandy World Peace Forum

Frédérique Bedos, founder of the NGO Le Projet Imagine and François-Xavier Priollaud, Vice President of the Normandy Region in charge of European and International Relations
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2018 Normandy World Peace Forum

2019 Normandy World Peace Forum

Award ceremony for the 1st Freedom Prize and tribute to veterans to mark the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings
2019 Normandy World Peace Forum
THE NORMANDY FOR PEACE NETWORK

INITIATED BY THE NORMANDY REGION, NORMANDY FOR PEACE BRINGS TOGETHER PARTNERS AND CREATES SYNERGIES WITHIN A NETWORK OF NGOS, THINK TANKS, AND INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL RELAYS. SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY IS ENSURED BY NICOLE GNESOTTO, PROFESSOR AT THE CONSERVATOIRE NATIONAL DES ARTS ET MÉTIERS (CNAM) AND BERTRAND BADIE, POLITICIST, PROFESSOR AT SCIENCES PO.
Arising from the Normandy Region’s dual ambition to create the first international meeting dedicated to issues of global peace, security and stability, and to make future generations aware of their challenges, the Normandy World Peace Forum is supported by a network of corporate sponsors who share the universal values of ethics and solidarity, thereby demonstrating their desire to contribute to a better world.

You too can get involved by joining the Entrepreneurs for Peace circle. Alongside the Normandy Region, you can make a financial contribution to the Forum or make your company’s know-how available for the event (promotion, transport, accommodation, catering, etc.).

By choosing to associate your company with the Normandy World Peace Forum, you will display your corporate citizenship values, regardless of the size of your company, and will be allowed to display a “Normandy for Peace Entrepreneurs” label.

“... shares the Normandy for Peace World Forum’s ethical values and its support for peace. Access to reliable energy at a global level which makes effective use of our resources is a guarantee of regional progress, development and stability.”

Alban Verbecke, Regional Officer, EDF Normandy