

**THE WEIMAR PEACE DECLARATION**  
**OF THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> GREEK-GERMAN WRITERS FESTIVAL**  
**WEIMAR, 2015**

Writers, intellectuals and politicians met in Weimar on May 8-10, 2015 during the 2nd Greek-German Writers Festival held during the last days of the Weimar LesArten 2015.

Writers, artists and intellectuals have always been at the forefront when it comes to speaking out for peace on the political and social level; they have always stood up for peaceful coexistence among the peoples.

We are convinced that writers, artists and intellectuals should continue and intensify their [our?] efforts in playing a major role in promoting world peace. Though such initiatives as the Program of Action on the Culture of Peace of the UN (1999) already exist, we find that war and hostilities are constantly increasing, while initiatives have had no practical results.

We believe that

- More emphasis should be given to paying attention to, listening to, and understanding what we say to each other. All of humanity suffers from this lack of human (intellectual) communication in all areas.
- Writers, artists and intellectuals must make an effort to enhance communication and influence it towards peace, freedom, and peaceful coexistence.
- The importance of writers in promoting peace is important, as great literature transforms the person who reads it towards the attitude of the person who wrote it.
- Differences among peoples and nations must be esteemed as the hopes and dreams that unite humanity.
- Private properties, assets, and resources of nations and peoples are to be respected.
- The dignity, integrity and well-being of all peoples and life on the planet is the foremost goal of humanity and its actions.

As first steps, writers could support in their writings the following aspects that would aim to eliminate and reduce armed conflicts:

- A responsible arms policy on the part of politics, business, and industry, which is to be made transparent to all peoples who, as the sovereigns of their countries, must have the final decision in arms production, purchase, sales, and use.
- Military spending is to be reduced and kept to a minimum. Freed assets and budgets shall be used to support peace initiatives, the transformation of the military industrial complex into peaceful industries; to assist the peoples and countries damaged or influenced by war in advancing in their economic development and reconstruction, so that potential sources of conflicts are eliminated.

- Wars of aggression are to be outlawed. Initiators of such conflicts are to be prosecuted by the UNCOJ and UN courts accordingly, whether or not the instigators or instigating nations recognize these institutions.
- All resources, as well as all income from any resources of any kind, belong to the peoples / countries they are located in, and shall thus be treated as their properties. The right of the states / nations to act accordingly based on majority vote of their citizens must be respected.
- The use of "peacekeepers" is to be regulated solely by the UN, national and regional representations, and cannot be decided or coordinated by the military itself.
- The use of mercenaries is to be supervised by the UN, and has to be completely transparent.
- The use of drones, nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons must be outlawed. Such stocks must be destroyed worldwide.
- We demand that all international human rights treaties, conventions, and the UN Declaration on Human Rights be respected.

Weimar, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

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