

Work Report 2011

2011 the IFGK has gained two new active members: Anne Dietrich who recently returned after several years of working in a Civil Peace Service Project abroad, and Roland Vogt, specialist on conversion, who like Anne did accompany the IFGK from its beginnings. At the end of 2011, the IFGK has had ten active members: Martin Arnold, Anne Dietrich, Reinhard Eismann, Albert Fuchs, Gudrun Knittel, Barbara Müller, Achim Schmitz, Christine Schweitzer, Roland Vogt and Oliver Wolleh.

Research, Teaching, Consulting, Events

Martin Arnold: His comprehensive study on „Gütekraft“ („Truth Force“) which was accepted by the University of Siegen 2009 as a dissertation thesis, has been published in 2011 in four books and on the internet (in German language. (see www.martin-arnold.eu > Forschungsergebnisse):

- *Gütekraft. Ein Wirkungsmodell aktiver Gewaltfreiheit nach Hildegard Goss-Mayr, Mohandas K. Gandhi und Bart de Ligt. Mit einem Geleitwort von Johan Galtung.* Nomos-Verlag, Baden-Baden. 2011. Reihe Religion – Konflikt – Frieden: 4. 284 Seiten. ISBN 978-3-8329-6975-2. 19,00 €
- *Gütekraft – Hildegard Goss-Mayrs christliche Gewaltfreiheit.* Verlag Bücken & Sulzer, Overath. 2011. 149 Seiten. ISBN 978-3-936405-65-1. 12,50 €
- *Gütekraft – Gandhis Satyagraha.* Verlag Bücken & Sulzer, Overath. 2011. 411 Seiten. ISBN 978-3-936405-66-8. 24,80 €
- *Gütekraft – Bart de Ligts humanistische Geestelijke Weerbaarheid.* Verlag Bücken & Sulzer, Overath. 2011. 321 Seiten. ISBN 978-3-936405-67-5. 17,90 €

Achim Schmitz continued in 2011 (together with an external colleague) a three-year evaluation on the project „Fair Understanding – Intercultural and social competencies in school and vocational training“ for *act for transformation*.

He also just concluded a study financed by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation on the protest movement against the new railway station in Stuttgart. Subject of that study are practices that civil society uses to achieve “more democracy”, more nonviolent conflict transformation and more solidarity in society.

In Stuttgart he taught communications at the *Studium Generale* (courses open for the general public) of the University of Stuttgart and at the *Ludwig Schlaich Akademie* in Waiblingen.

Christine Schweitzer spent most of her time in 2011 as Interim Program Director of the INGO *Nonviolent Peaceforce*. Aside of that, she conducted an evaluation of the training work of the *Center for Nonviolent Action* (CNA) Sarajevo / Belgrade and gave various presentations at conferences. Another focus has been the continued work as an editor of the magazine *Peace Forum*, with major topics being „Conscious Objection International”, “Caucasus“ and “War and Peace in the Literature”.

Study Days

In spring 2011 the IFGK did not hold a study day of its own but instead invited all members and supporters to the annual conference of the Federation for Social Defence in Minden.

On the 15th October 2011 the IFGK organized a Study Day in Cologne on the topic of “Gütekraft” (Truth Force). A report (in German language) can be found soon on www.guetekraft.net.

Networking

Since autumn 2011 the IFGK is member of the network „Friedensbildung Rheinland-Pfalz“ (Peace Education), and as a member of that network is offering to give hours on peace – related topics in schools in Rheinland-Pfalz.

Martin Arnold continues to represent the IFGK at the *Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung (AFK)*.

Christine Schweitzer represents the IFGK at the *Plattform Zivile Konfliktbearbeitung* and at the *War Resisters' International (WRI)*.

Several members participated at the annual conference and assembly of the *Federation for Social Defence (BSV)*.

Administration and Communications

The IFGK continues to share administration and communication tasks among its members. Barbara Müller continues to be responsible for finances and personnel. Achim Schmitz handles the IFGK Website and the reporting to the newsletters of the BSV.

Christine Schweitzer is dealing with the organization of study days, general mailings, an information booklet and the annual report. The chair of the registered association of the IFGK are Achim Schmitz and Martin Arnold, treasurer is Barbara Müller. All this work is done on a volunteer basis.

A Glance at 2012

Spring Study Day: „Nonviolent Trainings“

In Cooperation with the Archiv Aktiv in Hamburg

28. April 2012, in Hamburg

Autumn Study Day

In Cooperation with the Friedensmuseum Nürnberg

13. Oktober 2012, in Nürnberg