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Re: IPRA-Newsletter November 2015

Johan Galtung: Founder of Peace Research at 85



Johan Galtung's 85th birthday on 24 October 2015 coincided with the 70th anniversary of the United Nations. Its Charter had been signed in June 1945 in San Francisco by another cofounder of IPRA, John W. Burton who was at the age of 30 the head of the foreign service of Australia. As the only surviving cofounder of IPRA in December 1964, Johan Galtung addressed the 50th anniversary conference of IPRA in Istanbul. Born in Norway Johan founded the International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (1959), the world's first academic research centre on peace studies, and the *Journal of Peace Research* (1964) and he helped to establish other peace centres around the world. He has inspired both as a gifted and enthusiastic speaker, as a theoretician, empiricist and sharp political

analyst generations of peace researchers around the globe as the most cited peace intellectual of the 20th century. He taught as a professor of peace studies at universities all over the world. Since 1957, Johan Galtung has mediated in over 100 conflicts, has authored or co-authored of more than 1600 articles and over 160 books, i.a. on peace theory and practice, conflict mediation, reconciliation, nonviolence, theory of structural violence, on negative vs. positive peace, peace education and peace journalism. He combined Gandhian ethics of peaceful means and harmony with a systematic scientific inquiry using both quantitative and qualitative

methods. Besides peace studies, he contributed to human rights, basic needs, development strategies, theory of civilizations, federalism, globalization, theory of discourse, social pathologies, deep culture, peace and religions, social science methodology, sociology, ecology, and future studies. In 2000, at the age of 70, Johan founded the TRANSCEND Peace University building on TRANSCEND-International, a global non-profit network for Peace, Development and the Environment that emerged in 1993.

Johan Galtung received the Right Livelihood Award (Alternative Nobel Peace Prize) and in July 2014, he was awarded in Yokohama (Japan) one of the first five lifetime achievement awards by the [International Sociological Association](#) for most distinguished contributions to futures research with Ulrich Beck (Germany), Fernando Henrique Cardoso (Brazil), Wendell Bell (USA) and Eleonora Barbieri Masini (Italy). All IPRA members and peace researchers wish Johan Galtung many more years with scientific creativity and good health both to inspire but also to provoke us to think and work harder as an organization and as researchers in realizing the goals we analyse in our research.

