



CAUX

Initiatives of Change Initiatives et Changement Initiativen der Veränderung



www.caux.ch





**Cornelio Sommaruga, President of
Initiatives of Change International**

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Dear Reader,

More than sixty years of encounters in Caux – more than sixty years of intense work in the spirit of Moral Rearmament for ethical values in our society. Since the end of the Second World War, the Caux conference centre of Mountain House, in all its splendour as a 'Belle Époque' palace-hotel has seen thousands of encounters between tens of thousands of people of goodwill, from all over the world. They have come to recharge their batteries, to find a fresh impetus for personal reconciliation, to learn about mediation in different fields, to promote good governance, a globalization of responsibility and human security. Hundreds of leaders from all walks of life, politicians, academics, religious leaders and others have launched appeals from the Caux platform for greater humanity in the world. Top level cultural events have enlivened the encounters of Initiatives of Change and reinforced the bonds of friendship between participants, forged by the community life of Mountain House.

The extraordinary position of this 'house on the mountain', between the Alps and the pre-Alps and with an unbeatable view over the Lake of Geneva,

has always encouraged introspection, a spiritual search and an encounter in silence with the Almighty, without which nothing could have been achieved.

An anniversary is a time to thank all those who in one way or another have been committed to this work, through the delicate period of rebuilding hearts and minds in the first post-war years, in dialogue despite the Cold War, in reconciliations after the fall of the Berlin Wall, always reaching towards a greater respect for human dignity.

It is also an opportunity to think for the future of Caux and its Mountain House, and of Initiatives of Change in general. We must go forward – there is still so much to do. And the future depends in part on all those of you who have taken the time to read these lines, and who will continue to think over what this brochure has to offer.

Cornelio Sommaruga

Caux and *Initiatives of Change*

Since 1946, the former Caux-Palace has housed an international conference centre of *Initiatives of Change*. It has offered a space for dialogue, for meetings and encounters, for reflection and re-direction. Each summer the Caux conferences draw between 1,400 and 2,000 people of every generation, background and religious outlook, and from every continent.

Caux makes it possible for individuals and groups – who cannot always do so easily – to meet. The conditions of fruitful dialogue can be established, removed from economic, political and media pressures.



The former Caux-Palace Hotel is now an international conference centre for *Initiatives of Change*

Caux is also a resource for governments and other bodies who want to bring people together for purposes of reflection or conciliation.

Initiatives of Change (IofC) works on the principle that changes in people's motives, attitudes and behaviour are not only possible but are the only sure basis on which wider lasting change in society can be brought about. This is the experience of millions of people, whether involved in IofC or not, who have decided to start the 'change process' in their own lives. *Initiatives of Change* helps people to become agents of change, using their homes, through training courses, conferences, seminars, publications, music and stage productions, or some other action to address a need in their community or country.

Caux has already contributed to significant moves towards reconciliation between peoples.

- It played a role in the post-war Franco-German reconciliation, and in the decolonisation process in Africa, where several countries were helped towards independence, in part without violence, thanks to encounters in Caux.
- The dialogue between cultures is a central concern of the movement and the conferences that it organizes.
- Caux plays a part in the re-building of civil society in the post-communist countries of Eastern Europe and in difficult situations like Cambodia, Somalia and Lebanon.

Often initiatives born in Caux continue 'in the field' and have led to setting up programmes in the four corners of the world.

The conferences in Caux

Among the conference participants, you will find intellectuals from Eastern Europe in search of values for democracy; young people eager to shape the world they live in; industrialists and trade unionists concerned that economic leaders act responsibly and ethically; Africans, Asians and Europeans determined to root out corruption; opposing leaders in divided countries who are working for peace; community leaders from different ethnic backgrounds seeking justice in multiracial societies.

Many, 'ordinary person' or leader, are attracted by the breadth of the Caux conferences. They come seeking a solution to a particular problem or to take part in the practical running of the centre, this 'home for the world'.

Conference in community

A special characteristic of the Caux conferences is the communal life of the assembly.

■ Participants are invited to join communities of between 12 and 20 people in which topics can be discussed in an atmosphere of confidence and mutual respect.

■ These groups also take part in the running of the house (dining-room service, vegetable preparation, cooking, housekeeping, etc). This offers everyone a chance to serve, as well as to learn from one another.

■ The conference schedule also allows time for quiet reflection.

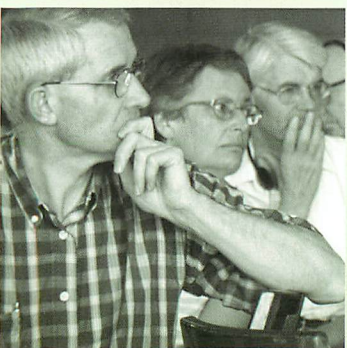
■ The programme includes meetings, seminars, lectures and cultural evenings, with simultaneous translation. There are also opportunities for outdoor exercise.

■ Families are welcome, and there are regular family and inter-generational conferences.

'Most striking of all, you find here the global and the intimate linked in a surprising way.'

*French philosopher Gabriel Marcel, in
Fresh Hope for the World (1959)*

The Caux sessions concentrate on sharing experience rather than theory: on the spiritual journey of the individual or on initiatives which have contributed to political or social change.



Dialogue between the cultures, human security

Agenda for Reconciliation

www.afr-iofc.org

Agenda for Reconciliation (AfR) has grown into a global network active in conflict prevention and transformation.

AfR's work and its conferences are based on the conviction that:

- Healing the past must become the common practice of the 21st Century;
- Forgiveness and Reconciliation, along with a search for more just solutions, form the basis of sustainable peace;
- The causes of conflict such as corruption, poverty, disease and oppression need to be addressed in a comprehensive human security approach.

The *Agenda for Reconciliation* conferences that have taken place in Caux since 1996 offer participants coming from situations of tension and conflict a safe space and the opportunity to learn from one another.

Since 2002, these conferences also deal with issues of good governance, human security and development, as the preventative approaches to conflict transformation.

Creators of Peace

www.cop.iofc.org

In 1991, at another conference in Caux, *Creators of Peace* was launched as an international women's initiative, to strengthen the role of women as peace-makers.

In the field, the networks of *Agenda for Reconciliation* and *Creators of Peace* support the efforts of people working for a change in society, notably through seminars and training programmes, often in partnership with other non-governmental organizations.

The Geneva office of the *Initiatives of Change International Association* develops links with the United Nations and facilitates contacts and exchanges, especially in the area of reconciliation and conflict prevention.

Solid foundations for democracy

Foundations for Freedom (F4F)

www.f-4-f.org

Foundations for Freedom (F4F) is a programme for training and developing young leaders in Central and Eastern Europe. The programme fosters commitment to the values which underlie a truly free society at all levels of government and civic life.

Alongside the needed technical and political support to help develop young democracies, there needs to be an inspiring vision, and a shared purpose with common values in those working for change.

Since it was launched in Caux in 1993 *Foundations for Freedom* has supported the emerging democracies to develop individuals and teams to the point where they are able to sustain their own initiatives for transforming their lives and societies, offering up to twenty training courses in a single year. The course is now on demand in other parts of the world: South Africa, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Sierra Leone.

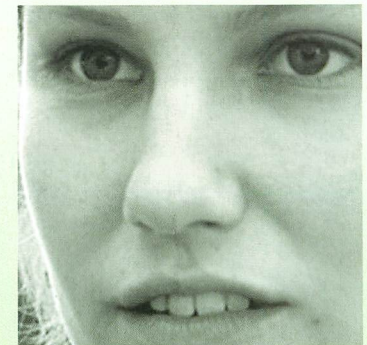
Clean Elections Campaigns

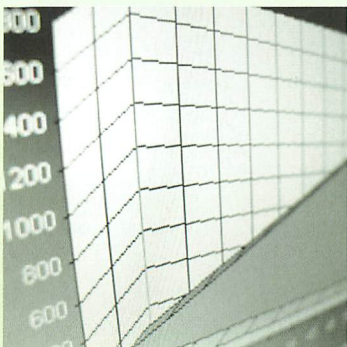
The idea of a *Clean Elections Campaign* was in part a citizens' initiative born in Taiwan. It then spread to Latin America, and has recently played a role in the Solomon Islands, and is today active in several African countries, as a grass-roots civil society initiative, often in opposition to the regimes in place.

'The strategy is clear; the promise that voters can make is simple: don't accept bribes; don't sell your vote; don't resort to any corrupt practice, before during or after the elections,' said an Australian journalist.

In 2003 the Clean Elections concept gave birth to another initiative aimed at training young Africans, for sustainable development.

Now a *Clean Africa Campaign* is under way in Kenya, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.





The economy, society and the human factor

Caux Initiatives for Business (CIB)

www.cauxinitiativesforbusiness.org

Caux Initiatives for Business (CIB) aims to engage business people and decision-makers to promote a human face to economics.

Participants are motivated by a shared commitment to personal integrity. They aim to address economic problems of immediate or long-term concern.

■ *Caux Initiatives for Business* engages individuals in honest conversations on the broad issues associated with globalization and the role that the individual can play in bringing positive changes in business and economic life.

■ Its mission is to 'strengthen the motivations of care and moral commitment in economic life and thinking, in order to create jobs, correct economic and environmental imbalances and tackle the root causes of poverty'.

When individuals are motivated to do business ethically and in socially responsible ways, communities and organizations change.

These conferences and training programmes under the auspices of *Caux Initiatives for Business* have led to other independent initiatives with similar aims. For example:

The Caux Round Table (CRT)

www.cauxroundtable.org

The *Caux Round Table* (CRT) is an international network of principled business leaders working to promote a moral capitalism. The CRT advocates implementation of the *CRT Principles for Business* through which principled capitalism can flourish and sustainable and socially responsible prosperity can become the foundation for a fair, free and transparent global society. These principles are a widely-recognized benchmark of ethical business.

Farmers' Dialogue

www.farmersdialogue.org

The *Farmers' Dialogue* network is active in many parts of the world. It aims to help farmers renew their calling to feed the world; to build farmer to farmer links across national boundaries and across set ways of thinking; to encourage the consumption of locally grown food; to strike a proper balance between farming and forestry in maintaining our soils.

Hope in the Cities

Hope in the Cities

www.hopeinthecities.org

With the massive migrations of the 20th Century, racism and ethnic divisions lie at the heart of many inner-city problems, notably in North America and Europe.

Born out of an unexpected clash between black and white Americans in Caux, *Hope in the Cities* (HIC) was launched in 1990, as an effort to bring together political, business and community leaders in Richmond, Virginia, USA, to address the issue of racial healing.

Hope in the Cities provides a framework for honest dialogue and collaboration among citizen groups. It creates conditions of trust between people of different racial and social backgrounds and divergent political views. It builds partnerships between leaders of public and private sectors, and different cultures and faith traditions. Now *Hope in the Cities* has reached far beyond its Richmond base, with local elected leaders and civil society groups taking part in programmes adapted to their local conditions in Great Britain, Brazil, South Africa, Australia and other countries.



Freedom and responsibility in the media and the arts

International Communications Forum (ICF)

www.icforum.org

The *International Communications Forum* was launched in Caux in 1991 as a world-wide network of media people who recognise that they have the power to influence society for good or ill. They want to participate in building a less corrupt, more compassionate world and in creating the moral basis of democracy.

Renewal Arts

www.renewalarts.net

Renewal Arts is a network that brings together professional and amateur artists, creators from different disciplines as well as those who appreciate art. Together they want to explore the arts as a 'catalyst for spiritual renewal' and to enable individuals and society to explore art's transforming power'.





Training and internships

During the summer, Caux offers young adults opportunities for training in reconciliation and applied conflict transformation, or to work as an intern during a conference session.

Caux Scholars Program

www.cauxscholars.org

Caux Scholars Program is a summer course for students from around the world to study the moral and spiritual dimensions of peacemaking and to look at the relationship between individual transformation and change in the world.

- It offers students an opportunity to explore the role individuals can play in bringing healing and in building a future where peace, justice and individual freedom flourish.
- Students learn about the various factors contributing to conflict between individuals, within communities and nations, and between nations.
- They study the way different worldviews affect the way we perceive and approach issues of contention and different models of conflict intervention.
- The course examines the personal, religious, social and cultural factors which create and sustain conflict, as well as how to deal with differences.

Internships in Caux

www.caux.ch/en/kurse.php

A summer-internship for energetic, self-starting young adults.

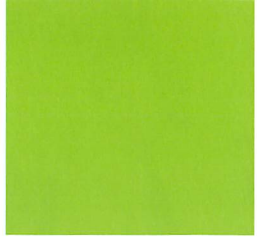
The *CAUX-Interns* accompany and lead an international, intercultural group of conference delegates, who, as part of the community-building process, participate voluntarily in the cooking serving, room-service, reception and other day-to-day practical work in the conference centre.

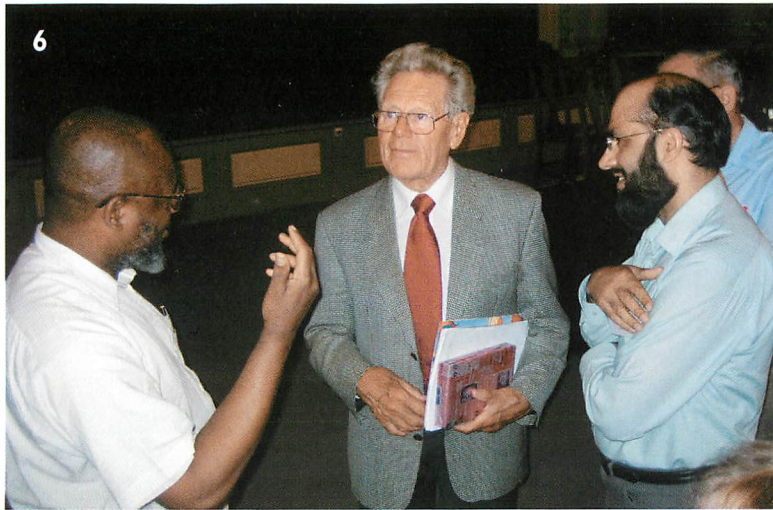
The Interns take part in leadership-training seminars and participate in plenary sessions of the conferences.

International: Action for Life (AfL)

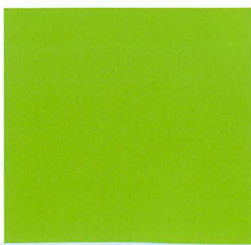
www.afl.iofc.org

Action for Life is a nine-month training and outreach programme bringing together an intergenerational, international, multi-faith team of 30–45 people. Participants learn from working with each other and with individuals and organisations bringing change mainly in Asia and Africa. They connect with and support individual change-makers and bridge-building organisations in different situations.



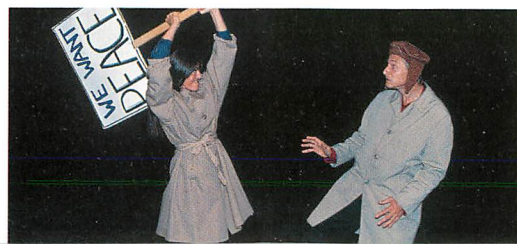
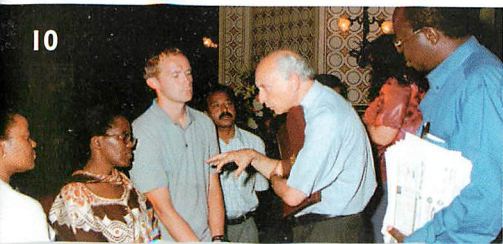


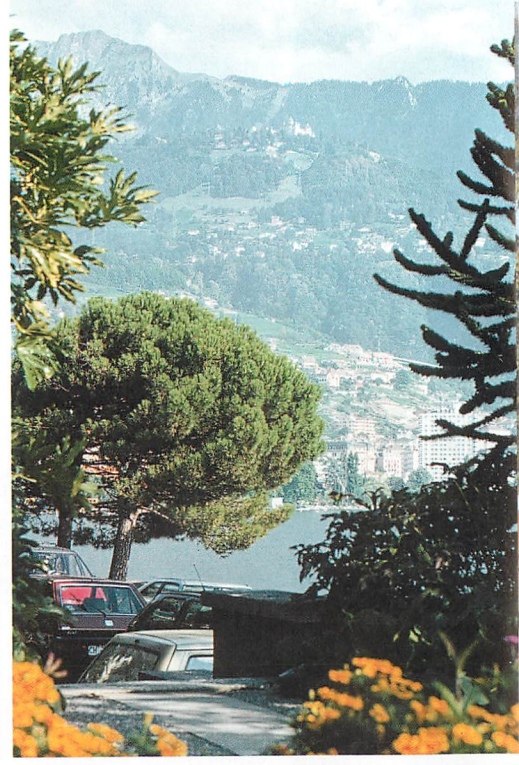
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The idea and the organization

The idea

Initiatives of Change is an international network open to people of all cultures, nationalities, religions and beliefs, who work towards change, locally and globally, by starting with change in their own lives.

Current initiatives are aimed at:

- Healing the wounds of history where cultures and civilizations meet;
- Strengthening the moral and spiritual foundations of democracy;
- Encouraging care and responsibility in family life and personal relationships;
- Bringing hope in cities and communities;
- Tackling the root causes of poverty and corruption;
- Strengthening moral commitment in economic life;
- Forging networks among people from different faiths and cultures.

The Swiss Foundation, CAUX – Initiatives of Change

The Swiss Foundation, *CAUX – Initiatives of Change* is an independent foundation with charitable status.

The Foundation is part of the international network of *Initiatives of Change* which seeks to promote moral standards of honesty, purity, love and selflessness as guiding lines for personal behaviour and for our commitments to society.

Its principal task is the management and maintenance of the conference centre in the former Caux-Palace Hotel above Montreux. Running the conference centre depends on many forms of voluntary work and donations.

The International Association

The Swiss Foundation is a founding member of the *Initiatives of Change International Association*, the overall legal and administrative body, which has its registered offices in Caux. It brings together the different national bodies, and aims to make available to the United Nations and other international organisations the movement's know-how and experience. The International Association has Consultative Status at the *Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC)*. It has also been granted Participative Status at the *Council of Europe* as an International NGO.

The Caux-Palace Hotel

When it opened its doors on 5th July 1902, the Caux-Palace was the largest and most luxurious hotel in Switzerland. The impressive building, looking out over Lake Geneva was a prized destination for jetsetters of the age before jets. In the early years of the century, celebrities such as John D. Rockefeller, the Maharajah of Baroda, Arthur Rubinstein, Rudyard Kipling, the Oppenheims, the Gillettes, and Kelloggs stayed at the hotel, along with celebrities of the theatre, the opera and the cinema.

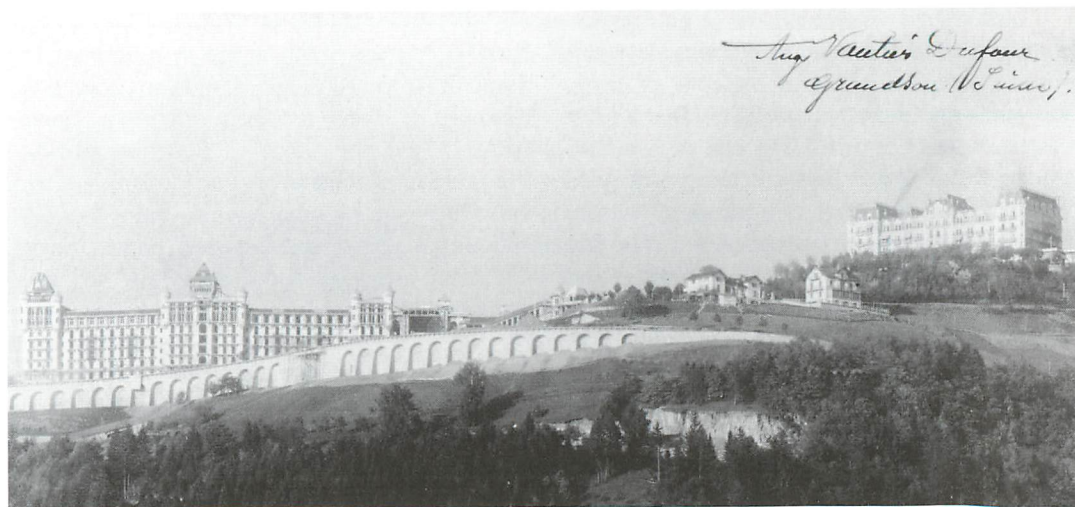
Through the First World War, the hotel was closed and clocked up a million Swiss francs in losses. Then it opened again, but its days of glory lay behind it.

Yet in 1930, the World Bobsleigh Championships were held in Caux. Olympic skaters trained there. The World Ice-Hockey and Toboggan Federations were founded in Caux. The 'piste du diable', the 'devil's run' was considered one of the most challenging descents in the new sport of skiing. Prince Ibn Saud, later to become the King of Saudi Arabia, and the writers Edgar Wallace, Daphne Du Maurier and Scott Fitzgerald were among the famous guests.

In 1929, a one million franc investment in renovations was completed – just in time for the economic turmoil of the 30s.

The rich clients were rarer and turned elsewhere – and the Caux-Palace's decline continued.

By 1936 the value of the 200 Swiss franc shares had fallen to 1 franc, and in 1937, the board of the hotel company announced to the press that they were looking for a buyer:





XIV^e Année. Samedi 12 Juillet 1902. Paraît le Samedi.

JOURNAL ET LISTE DES ETRANGERS

de Montreux, de Vevey, de la Vallée du Rhône et des Stations climatiques romandes
ORGANE OFFICIEL ET PROPRIÉTÉ DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES HOTELIERS DE MONTREUX ET ENVIRONS

Supplément au N° 28 Envoi gratuit de 4300 Ex.

L'Inauguration du Caux Palace sur Montreux-Territet
LE 5 JUILLET 1902

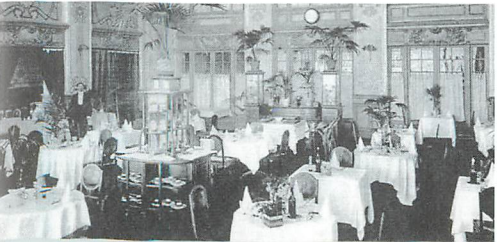


LE MONT DE CAUX ET LA DENT DU MIDI

Le mont de Caux est idéal. A ses pieds, Montreux est le lac qui s'enfonce à l'infini, dans les montagnes suisses, où les vallées semblent à des insectes qui dansent dans l'air et où les courbes de montagnes ressemblent des groupes de barques blanches, de tous

riges un hôtel luxueux et cosu, une maison hospitalière, un palais du prodige comme on appelle le Grand Hôtel de Caux! La station était créée; elle se développait, s'embellit, devint à la mode; la renommée porta au loin son nom. On y montait à pied; un chemin de fer vint la desservir.

Aujourd'hui, tout étant à point et à chef, on reste rassuré de tant de merveilles. Il est quatre heures et le flot des invités pénètre dans l'hôtel; très aimablement, les membres du Conseil se mettent à leur disposition; et nous voilà tous, par groupes, s'étant, examinant, appréciant. C'est au quatrième étage, c'est à dire au rez-de-chaussée, que se concen-



CAUX PALACE G^o HOTEL à CAUX

Rochers de Haye
1640 m

Menu

- Dîner 18 Mars 1902
- Caux 1100 m
 - Consommé de Volaille Garnie
 - Filet de sole en gajon à la crème
 - Pommes à l'anglaise
 - Roast beef piqué Dauphinois
 - Epaves au jambon
 - M^l Fleury 650 m
 - Volaille de Bresse rôtie
 - Salade
 - Pouding Solennel
 - Sauv. Vanille
 - Territet 400 m



Echange des Repas: Grand Hôtel Territet et Montreux Palace.





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»Ein Meisterstück deutscher, dänischer 21 und alliierter Nachkriegspolitik«

Nordschleswiger-Interview mit Minderheitenbeauftragter Renate Schnack und ihren Vorgängern Kurt Schulz und Thies Uwe von Leesen über die Bedeutung der Bonn-Kopenhagener Erklärungen

Der Nordschleswiger: Die Bonn-Kopenhagener Erklärungen vom 29. März 1955 wurden angeblich über 50-jährigen Beschern so groß wie noch nie markiert – mit einem Artikel im Sonderheft der Schöner in Appenweckel des dänischen Außenministers Anders Fogh Rasmussen und des deutschen Bundeskanzlers Konrad Adenauer. Teilen Sie den Eindruck, dass die beiden Minderheitenabklärungen mit in den letzten 50 Jahren verstrickt in die Revue der Völkerverständigung sind, während sie vorher allenfalls der Minderheiten bekannt waren?

Renate Schnack: Schon in der Weimarer Republik...



Sahen haben die Bonn-Kopenhagener Erklärungen eine Rolle gespielt – als Beleg, dass man mit wenigen Ausnahmen einig und wegsame Rechte klären kann, wie das Zusammenwirken von Staaten soll. Schade Die Bonn-Kopenhagener Erklärungen sind immer die Grundlage unserer Handlung geworden. Dazu haben wir uns gekümmert, es ist ein von Thies Uwe von Leesen richtig sagte – dass die schleswiger-erklärungen Anders wir gegen irgendeine westlichen Karte, nicht eingetren sind. Die Grundlagen waren immer gegeben. Von Leesen – auch für alle Parteien im Land! Schade, die Diskussion...



23

Freiheit

Erster von
Afrikanern
geschaffener
Gross-Farbfilm



Dynamische
Geschichte
aus dem Kontinent
der Zukunft

**Afrika
spricht
zur Welt**

Eastman Colour
Brettleinwand

MVA - Production
Verleih

24

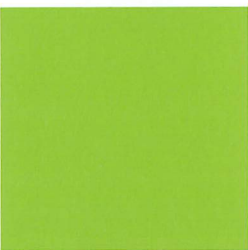
Manasseh Moerane Elsie Chiwuzie Kezia Fashina Hoghale Amata



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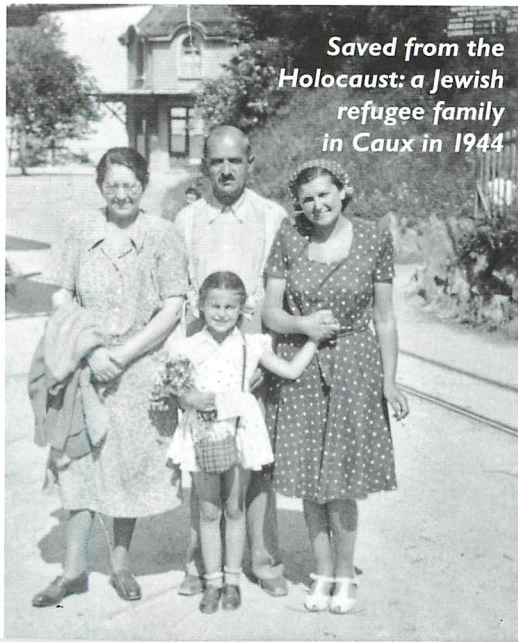


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War and a new beginning

In May 1944, the hotel was requisitioned first for civilian internees, then escaped Allied prisoners of war. From October 1944 to July 1945, Jewish refugees from Hungary were housed six to eight people in a room.

In 1999, a memorial plaque to the 1,400 Jews who found shelter in the Caux-Palace in 1944 – and to those who were turned away at the bor-



*Saved from the
Holocaust: a Jewish
refugee family
in Caux in 1944*

der was unveiled in Caux. Swiss Federal Member of Parliament Claude Ruey, then President of the Vaud Cantonal government, sent a message for the occasion, saying, that remembering 'is one of the highest, noblest virtues of men'. He concluded, 'The truth is a never-ending quest, involving memory and looking to the future.'

Finally, in 1946, after the Banque Populaire Suisse had taken over the shares of the bankrupt hotel company, the Caux-Palace was purchased by a group of Swiss who wanted to make available a place where Europeans torn by hate, suffering and resentment could meet again: a 'home for the world'.

They were encouraged by Frank Buchman, founder of Moral Rearmament (MRA). The Caux-Palace became a place dedicated to reconciliation and forgiveness.

The owner, the Swiss People's Bank (BPS) and the Mayor of Montreux, supported the transformation of the Caux-Palace into an international conference centre. The bank offered a reasonable price – 1,050,000 Swiss francs – and gave *Moral Rearmament* priority over other potential buyers.

In setting up shop in Caux... the leaders of *Moral Rearmament* saved this incomparable belvedere from the folly of speculators and the mercenary exploitation of tourism that has so disfigured many parts of Switzerland.

Paul DuBochet, in the Tribune de Genève (1971)

A hundred or so Swiss, individuals and families, supported the venture through sacrifice. For example, one family gave up plans to build their own home and gave the sum they'd put aside; a maid offered her savings.

The final contract was signed on 25th May 1946. In mid-July the first conference opened, after hundreds of volunteers had cleaned and modified the building in the intervening weeks.

In November 1946 the *Foundation for Moral Rearmament* (today *CAUX-Initiatives of Change*) was founded, as the legal entity responsible for the conference centre.

A stimulus to forgiveness

Building trust for just solutions

The Franco-German reconciliation

In 1946 already Frank Buchman and his team invited Germans to the first Caux conferences. It was almost impossible for Germans to get permission to travel, but the Allied occupation military authorities, in their desire to reinforce democratic values helped with travel papers.

Over the next four years more than 3,000 Germans came to Caux, among them many of the new emerging leadership: members of parliament, trade unionists, industrialists, media people. Konrad Adenauer, the future Federal Chancellor, came to Caux in 1948, and later expressed his gratitude for the hand of friendship that *Moral rearmament* stretched out to the German people. In Caux, the Germans met some 2,000 French, as well as people from the rest of Europe and the other continents. 'I fully expected to hear people say, "What are these criminals doing here?" But here the doors were open wide for us,' said Peter Petersen, one of those Germans, who later became a member of parliament. He and his friends were 'flabbergasted' to hear Irène Laure, a member of the Executive of the French Socialist

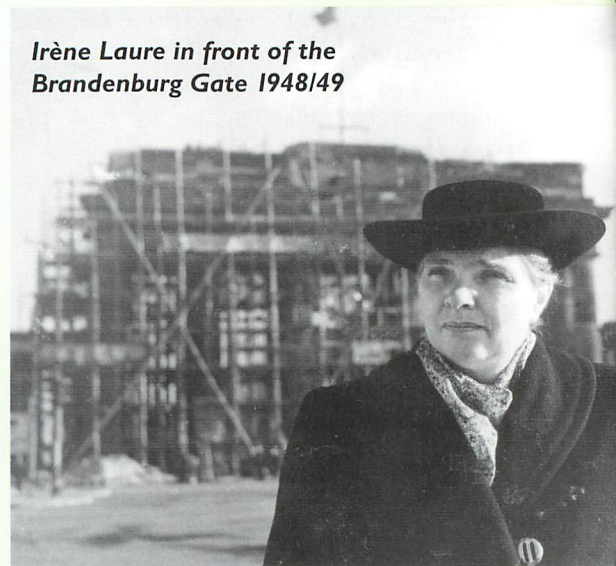
Party, say, 'I hated Germany so much that I would have liked to see it erased from the map of Europe. But I have seen here that my hatred was wrong. I would like to ask all the Germans present to forgive me.' Some days earlier, she had been on the point of leaving – the presence of Germans was unbearable for her. But she met with Buchman, who asked her 'How can you expect to rebuild Europe if you reject the German people? What kind of unity do you want for Europe?' This lead her to a radical turn-around.

Later, she travelled widely in Germany, with *Moral Rearmament* groups, bringing a message of reconciliation. The documentary film, *For the Love of Tomorrow* tells the story of her experiences.

Today it is used by different organizations and citizens groups in Burundi, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, the Solomon Islands and Vietnam and elsewhere.

The solving of the German-Danish minority problem

In 1953, nine years after the end of the war, the German federal parliament passed a new elec-



Irène Laure in front of the Brandenburg Gate 1948/49

toral law, with a 5% threshold of votes in order to obtain a seat. In the following elections in the region of Schleswig-Holstein, the Danish minority, with only 3.5% of the votes, lost all its seats.

At the same time, the German minority on the other side of the border gained seats in the Danish

parliament. This led to a wave of protests in Denmark. In 1954, at a meeting of the NATO Council, the Danish Prime Minister, Hans Christian Hansen, supported by the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Halvard Lange, posed as a precondition to Germany joining NATO the resolution of this question.

Shortly afterwards, a secret meeting took place in Hamburg, between the Danish Foreign Minister, Ole Björn Kraft, and a member of the German government, Heinrich Hellwege. Both had been to Caux. Hellwege felt that Germany should take the initiative.

On his return, he spoke to Chancellor Adenauer, who in turn invited the Danish Prime Minister to Bonn. The result of this visit has gone into the history books under the name of 'The Bonn-Copenhagen Declaration'. In this declaration, dated 29th March 1955, the German Chancellor and the Danish Prime Minister affirmed the rights of all citizens to speak their own mother-tongue, and practice their culture, and guaranteed the equality of treatment for the minorities on both sides of the border. 'The close cooperation today between Danes and Germans is still an example

'You may rightly recall the efforts of Frank Buchman to reopen the doors of dialogue for us Germans in the difficult post-war years. I know the great value of the international conferences of Moral Rearmament in Caux and their contribution to international understanding.'

*German President
Richard von Weizsäcker (1986)*

of the peaceful living together of cultures in Europe,' it says on the official Web site of the German regional government, at the close of a page on the history of Schleswig-Holstein.

Japan's regrets

Some commentators still believe that Japanese have made insufficient attempts to express regret for atrocities committed during the Second World War. But in the 1950s, prominent Japanese who had visited Caux made considerable efforts to set relationships right with their former enemies.

In June 1950, a group of leading Japanese, politicians, industrial and labour leaders, travelled to Europe and the United States. The group included the governors of seven provinces, and the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the two cities destroyed by atom bombs. Caux was their first port of call. In Washington, they were received in the Senate. The Diet member representing the Prime Minister expressed sincere regret for Japan's mistakes, which created a sensation in the American media.

'I have the best memories of my visit to Caux in 1950,' Yasuhiro Nakasone said later, when he was Prime Minister. He continued, 'At that time *Moral Rearmament* helped to bring Japan back into the family of nations.'

Today, *Initiatives of Change* in Japan works to create sincere and transparent relations with their Korean and Chinese neighbours. They help to promote regular visits by groups of parliamentarians and other citizens and women's groups. They are working with others towards an agreed history of the period, and a common approach to materials used in schools for teaching history.

For example Tunisia

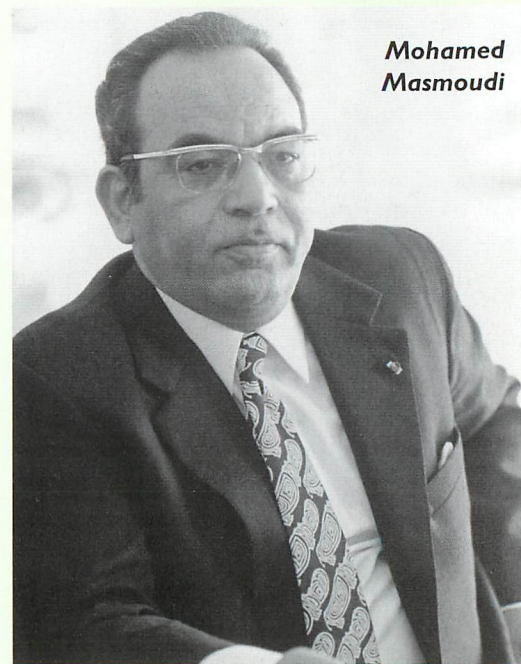
In the 1950s, the 'winds of change' were blowing through Africa. At the start of the decade, ten countries in the continent were independent; by the close, there were twenty-six.

In 1953, Tunisian Mohamed Masmoudi, a senior nationalist, came to Caux. He had reason to hate the French; he said later that his heart had been as full of hate as a bomb is of explosives. There he met French who astonished him by their open admission of their country's mistakes. While in Caux he received a letter from his eighty-year-old mother ending, 'God bless you, my son. God curse the French', he replied that she should indeed continue to ask God to bless him, but should cease cursing the French: he had found freedom from his hatred.

Shortly afterwards, at the MRA centre in Paris, Masmoudi met Jean Basdevant then responsible for Tunisian affairs at the French foreign ministry, and the two men developed a relationship of trust. Though still under thirty, Masmoudi was appointed to negotiate independence with the French government. During the negotiations, one witness noted, Basdevant and Masmoudi seemed

to have a harder time negotiating with their own delegations than they did with each other, and whenever deadlock threatened, the two of them would retire to the garden of the ministry for a private talk. After nine months of hard talking, independence was granted, and Masmoudi became the first Ambassador to France.

In December 1956, while leading the first Tunisian delegation after independence to the United Nations in New York, President Bourguiba declared, 'The world must be told what *Moral Rearmament* has done for our country.' Robert Schuman wrote to Buchman, 'There can be no doubt that the history of Tunisia and Morocco would have been different if it had not been for *Moral Rearmament*.' Masmoudi, now a member of the Tunisian Cabinet, said, 'Without *Moral Rearmament*, we would be involved today in Tunisia in a war to the death against France... Tunisia would now be a second Indo-China.'



**Mohamed
Masmoudi**

For example...

Maha Ghosananda, the Buddhist Patriarch of Cambodia, talking with Niketu Iralu, from Nagaland, India, meet in Caux



...rebuilding Cambodia

Long before peace returned to Cambodia, groups from what was then still *Moral Rearmament* in France, Australia and the United States, maintained intense contacts with the Diaspora.

Many of them have since returned to take up leading positions in their country. Their experiences in the field of reconciliation have meant that they have acted as catalysts in the process of national reconciliation.

In 1993 and 1994 seminars were organized by *Moral Rearmament* in Phnom Penh, and since then, several political and religious leaders have taken part in other training courses and in the Caux conferences, dealing with such themes as corruption, forgiveness and the spiritual dimensions of democracy.

The peace process has been supported through the widespread use of two Khmer-language video films, one on the life and work of French resistant Irène Laure, and the other, an adaptation of Buddhist texts appealing for an end to the chain of hatred and revenge.

Other initiatives are under way to promote reconciliation between Cambodia and Vietnam.



A training course for the Army, Police and NGOs

...and in Sierra Leone

Since 2000, several delegations from this war-torn country have taken part in the Agenda for Reconciliation conferences in Caux. They appealed for help from *Initiatives of Change* to organise training courses on 'the moral foundations of democracy' and reconciliation and change, for the police, army and civil society in Sierra Leone – courses which continue to be given.

For example...

... in South Africa and Lebanon

Children and young people are often the first victims of armed conflicts between States, and suffer even more in civil wars – and they are often recruited as fighters.

That's what happened to a Lebanese, M., today a leader of his community in Beirut. As a teenager he was recruited as a sniper by one of the militias in the civil war.

During a Caux conference, he heard a white South African woman speak. Ginn Fourie whose young daughter was killed in a terrorist attack was speaking on the need for forgiveness and healing in rebuilding South Africa after the decades of apartheid. Speaking with her was Mphahlele Letlapa who had ordered the attack that killed Fourie's daughter.

Nine years later, she had heard him speaking on the radio, and sought him out. 'She accepted my invitation to meet,' Mphahlele said, 'and that moved me. I saw in her somebody willing to listen. Freedom of conscience, of spirit, was elusive,

but her acceptance struck a cord in me. I felt my humanity was restored.'

Later, he invited Fourie to join him at the celebration when he was welcomed back to his village after eighteen years of exile. Their reconciliation has taken a concrete form, and they now work together for a foundation working for rural development and for the retraining of guerrilla fighters.

The Lebanese had to leave the meeting hall: he had seen in the South African mother's face the eyes of all his victims mothers. He'd gone out and wandered in the woods round Caux burdened by guilt and the stain of blood. He was already committed to healing and reconciliation, and many times in the years since he'd expressed public regrets for his past – but it was following him still.

A friend suggested that he might breakfast with Fourie and share his experiences. The following morning, M. called the friend to the table where he sat with Fourie and said, 'I'm alive again.' The three prayed that M. could return to Lebanon not just to work for peace, but at peace with himself.

A cedar of Lebanon



Dialogue and diversity

The dialogue between cultures is more than ever in the news, especially over the last few years. The issue of different communities living together in countries and cities has long been a theme of the *Agenda for Reconciliation* and *Hope in the Cities* conferences, and other programmes inspired by Caux. The UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, saluted *Initiatives of Change's* contribution in this field in a letter.

High level dialogues

In 1996, religious leaders, including the Dalai Lama and Cardinal Franz König of Vienna, took part in a public round table in Caux. Under the title 'Not by bread alone' the speakers looked to the 21st Century and underlined the vital importance of a healthy dialogue with Islam.

Muslims and non-Muslims in dialogue

In 2002 Muslims and non-Muslims from 18 countries took part in a dialogue on 'Peace, Justice, and Faith'. The press called it 'a summit peace meeting in the wake of 11th September 2001'.

The Muslims from different countries and traditions condemned all forms of terrorism and called for a greater recognition of the values of the non-Muslim world.

The Geneva Initiative

Initiatives of Change supports the *Geneva Initiative* for peace in Israel and Palestine. Four of the cosignatories of this initiative were in Caux on 15th August 2004, where they spoke of their vision and their hopes for a future where Palestinians and Israelis could live in peace.

Imams and Rabbis for peace

In a meeting that took place in Caux in June 2003, the founder of the NGO *Hommes de Parole*, Alain Michel, picked up the proposal of a Rabbi from Switzerland to organize a meeting of Imams and Rabbis, since the religious factor is used by some to promote conflict. In January 2005, a first world congress of 100 Imams and Rabbis for Peace was held in Brussels, and a second meeting in March 2006 in Seville brought together 150, many of



A Christian minister, a Rabbi and an Imam in Caux

whom decided to continue the friendships created back in their own countries.

Inter-cultural youth forum

In March 2005, the Foundation *Caux – Initiatives of Change* launched a programme to promote inter-cultural dialogue between young people in Switzerland at a seminar in Caux. With the support of the Zürich Institute for Collaboration and Dialogue between Cultures, an intercultural forum on 'living together with diversity' is being set up to encourage better understanding between young people of different backgrounds living in Switzerland.

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1. Lewis Cardinal of the Cree people (Canada).
2. The 100th anniversary of the Caux Palace, in 2002: A panel discussion with Prof. Bronislaw Geremek from Poland (far right).
3. Swiss trades unionist C. Levrat with business consultant C. Scheijgrond (Netherlands).
4. Australian aboriginal musician Johnny Huckle.

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5. Participants at a Young Politicians' Forum with Portuguese former President Mario Soares (centre).
6. Professor Hans Küng with an African journalist and an Imam of Pakistani origin from Nottingham (GB).
7. Sergei Kovalev, Human Rights Ombudsman (Russia).
8. A seminar on 'The Moral Lessons of Soviet History'.

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9. Guest speaker, Secretary of State Markus Ambühl of the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs (I.) in conversation.
10. Rubens Ricupero, Secretary General of UNCTAD (Brazil).
11. Lloyd Axworthy, former Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, with the Jamaican Governor-General, Sir Howard Cook.
12. The participants to the dialogue for Muslims and non-Muslims, under the patronage of Prince Hassan of Jordan, with Rajmohan Gandhi (India) and Cornelio Sommaruga (Switzerland).

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13. Partners of the Hope in the Cities programme from British cities.
14. The Maori Queen (centre) and the wife of the New Zealand Prime Minister.
15. The 'official day' in 2003: C. Sommaruga receives (from l. to rt.) Mgr J. Roduit of the Saint-Maurice Abbey; J. Somavia, Director-General of the ILO; P.G. Mirabaud, banker; R. Abbott, WTO and F. Blanchard, former Director-General of the ILO, and friend.
16. Participants at the Caux Round Table (CRT).

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17. In the 1930s, the company owning the hotel went bankrupt.
18. 1946: Thanks to the commitment of an army of volunteers, the Former Caux-Palace became a home for the world.

Page 21

19. A travelling exhibition on the work of Caux in the ruins of a German city after the Second World War.
20. Konrad Adenauer, the future Chancellor of Germany, in Caux.
21. A regional newspaper marks the 50th anniversary of the Bonn-Copenhagen declaration.
22. The French statesman Robert Schuman (l.) with Frank Buchman.
23. Former French resistance member, Irène Laure, with the Mayor of the German town of Duisburg.

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24. Freedom, a film from a play written by Africans in Caux.
25. French employers and trades unionists meet in Caux (union leader Maurice Mercier l.).
26. Two pioneers of the new South Africa, Seloape Thema and George Daneel.
27. Robert Carmichael, from France, with Jean Rey, President of the EEC (1957–1970).
28. Cardinal Franz König of Vienna (rt.), and Prof. V. Weisskopf, first Director of CERN (l.).
29. Carol Bellamy, outgoing UNICEF Executive Director.

Photo captions

Thank you – Merci – Danke

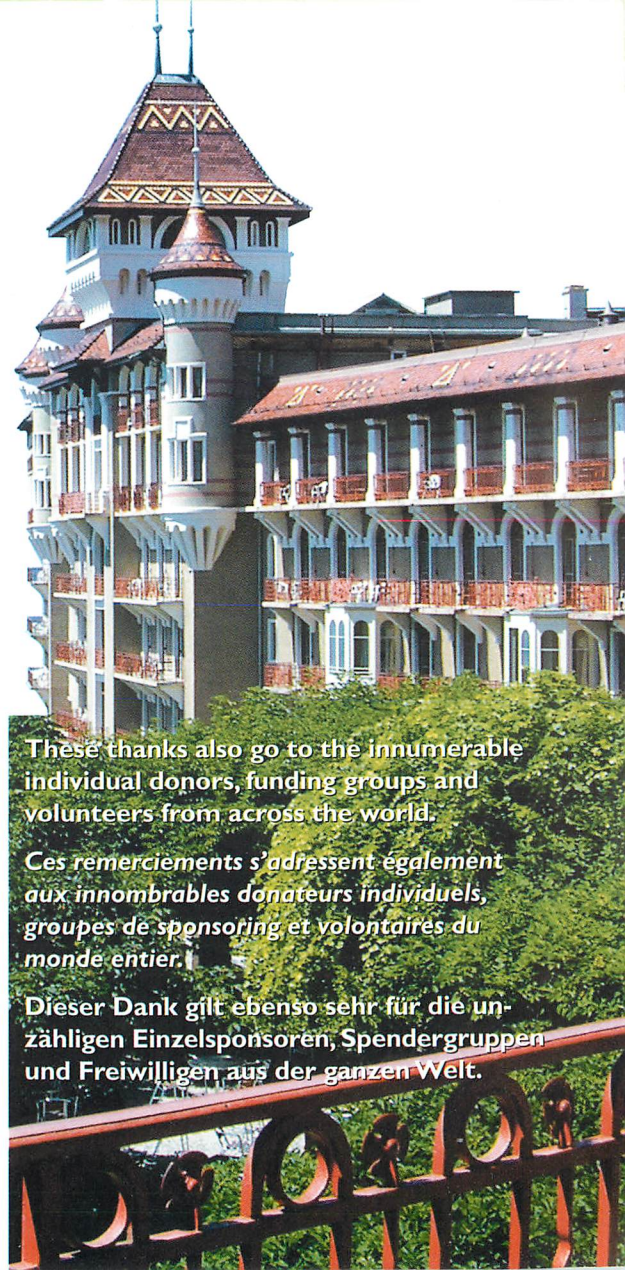
Many thanks go to partner organisations and institutional sponsors for the conferences and other events in Caux in the recent past.

Tous nos remerciements vont aux organisations partenaires et sponsors institutionnels pour leur soutien en faveur des conférences et autres événements de ces dernières années à Caux.

Ganz herzlichen Dank an unsere Partnerorganisationen und institutionellen Sponsoren für Konferenzen und weitere Anlässe in Caux in den letzten Jahren.

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