



PEACE BUREAU TO AWARD MACBRIDE PEACE PRIZE TO BETTY REARDON

Nov. 4, 2009. *Contact from Nov 12: Colin Archer IPB (via State Plaza Hotel) 202-861-8200 OR (via Peace Action office): 301- 565-4050*

The International Peace Bureau announced today that its annual award, the Sean MacBride Peace Prize, will be given to the pioneering peace educator Dr. Betty Reardon.



IPB President Tomas Magnusson declared: *“Betty Reardon’s contribution to peace education and to the wider peace movement is unique. She helped lay the intellectual foundations for a whole new cross-disciplinary field at a time when the political atmosphere was intensely hostile. She has influenced thousands of educators who have read her work and attended her courses. In particular she has contributed powerfully to the development of a feminist analysis of peace questions and has been able to place it in a fully global perspective – a fact that is testified by the number of visiting professorships and advisory positions she has been invited to take up in locations all over the world.”*

The prize will be awarded during the IPB's annual conference, which this year is to be held at Georgetown University, Washington DC. The ceremony will take place on Saturday Nov. 14, during the first day of the five-day program*.

Betty A. Reardon is a world-renowned leader in the field of peace education, with 46 years of experience in international peace education and 33 years in the international movement for the human rights of women. She is Founding Director Emeritus of the International Institute on Peace Education (IPE), a global network of peace educators developed through the annual institutes that have been held throughout the world. Her work with IPE was recognized with a special honorable mention by the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education. She is also a founder of the Hague Appeal for Peace Global Campaign for Peace Education, and has taught at universities in the United States, Japan and Europe.

She has served as a consultant to several UN agencies and national and international education organizations. Her work on the theory and development of peace and human rights education, and in gender and peace issues, has been widely published and was recognized by the 2008 Award for Outstanding Contributions to Peace Studies from the Peace and Justice Studies Association.

Dr. Reardon has a new book coming out in 2010, jointly edited with Asha Hans, an Indian political scientist, entitled "*The Gender Imperative: Human Security vs. Human Security*" - to be published by Routledge. She also has a new publication from the University of Puerto Rico on human rights learning. An archive of her published and unpublished work has just been opened at the University of Toledo (Ohio) as "*The Betty A. Reardon Collection*" in the Ward M. Canaday Center Special Collections of the Library. This collection is a project of the University's Center for Democratic Education and Nonviolence.

***LOCATION: RIESS Science Auditorium, Georgetown Univ. Campus, 37th St NW, Washington D.C.**

**Transport details and full Conference program available at: www.ipb.org (front page)
See annexe for details of the Prize, previous laureates and the IPB itself.**

ANNEXE:

About the Prize

Every year the IPB awards a special prize to a person or organisation that has done outstanding work for peace, disarmament and/or human rights. These were the principal concerns of Sean MacBride, the distinguished Irish statesman who was Chairman of IPB from 1968-74 and President from 1974-1985. MacBride began his career as a fighter against British colonial rule, studied law and rose to high office in the independent Irish Republic. He was a winner of the Lenin Peace Prize, and also the Nobel Peace Prize (1974) – awarded for his wide-ranging work, which included roles such as co-founder of Amnesty International, Secretary-General of the International Commission of Jurists, and UN Commissioner for Namibia. While at IPB he launched the *Bradford Proposals on World*

Disarmament, which laid the ground for the first UN Special Session on Disarmament, held in 1978. He also launched the *MacBride Appeal against Nuclear Weapons*, which gathered the names of over 11,000 international lawyers from all parts of the world, many of them at the very highest level. This effort paved the way for the *World Court Project* on nuclear weapons, in which IPB played a major role. This resulted in the historic 1996 Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Use and Threat of Nuclear Weapons. MacBride died in 1988, but the Prize was not established until 1992, IPB's centenary year.

The award is decided by the IPB Steering Committee. IPB members are welcome to make suggestions and provide background documentation on potential candidates. The Prize is a non-monetary one, consisting of a medal cast by a well-known Irish craftsman.

Sean MacBride Prize Laureates, 1992-2008

2008: Jacqueline Cabasso, USA, anti-nuclear activist, Executive Director of Western States Legal Foundation, California; representative of Mayors for Peace.

2007 : Jayantha Dhanapala, Sri Lanka, former UN Under Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs

2006 : Mayors for Peace

Awarded in Helsinki to **Tadatoshi Akiba**, Mayor of Hiroshima; and in Nagasaki to **Ichio Itoh**, Mayor Nagasaki (who was subsequently murdered).

2005: No award made

2004 : Leaders of the Geneva Initiative on the Middle East: Yossi Beilin + Yasser Abed Rabbo + Prof Alexis Keller (Switz).

2003 : Nihon Hibakusho, the Japanese hibakusha or survivors of the A bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. They have devoted the rest of their lives to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

2002: Barbara Lee, only member of US Congress to vote against the war on Afghanistan.

2001 : Rosalie Bertell, Canada-based public health advocate, scientist, author – who has put her professional skills at the service of victims of nuclear and other disasters.

2000: Praful Bidwai and Achin Vanaik, Indian journalists who have been at the forefront of the international campaign against the nuclearisation of South Asia. The IPB salutes their persistence, commitment and scholarly attention to detail which have earned their work wide acclaim.

1999: Barbara Gladysch, Mothers for Peace, Germany, as a tribute to her outstanding and long-lasting commitment, both to disarmament and to practical solidarity with victims of war and disaster.

1998: John Hume, a member of the European Parliament for consistently advocating non-violent solutions in Northern Ireland. Subsequently awarded Nobel Peace Prize.

1997: The Seeds of Hope group, UK for disarming a Hawk aircraft bound for Indonesia.

1996: Selim Beslagic, Mayor of Tuzla, Bosnia, a key proponent of a multi-ethnic solution to the Bosnian crisis.

1995: The Committee of Soldiers' Mothers of Russia, foremost among Russian citizens' groups opposing the war in Chechnya.

1994: Mordechai Vanunu, Israel, a former nuclear technician, sentenced to 18 years solitary confinement for revealing details of Israel's nuclear arsenal.

1993: Hilda Lini, Vanuatu, a former health minister who played a key role in the WHO's decision to approve a request to the World Court on the legal status of nuclear weapons.

1992: Michael D Higgins, Ireland, a human rights lawyer, member of Parliament, Labour Party President and Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and a former Minister for Arts, Culture & the Gaeltacht.

The International Peace Bureau is dedicated to the vision of a World Without War. We are a Nobel Peace Laureate (1910) and over the years 13 of our officers have been recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize. Our 300 member organisations in 70 countries, and individual members, form a global network bringing together expertise and campaigning experience in a common cause. Our current main programme centres on Sustainable Disarmament for Sustainable Development. We welcome your participation.