

"What does it take to build a world of peace?"

International Day of Peace of the United Nations

21 September

01.09.1939: 85th anniversary of the beginning of World War II

1914: 110th anniversary of the beginning of World War I

LINK: <https://hanglberger-manfred.de/en-steps-to-peace-pdf.pdf>



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Areas of Peace

1. Peace in the hearts of people
2. Peace in families
3. Peace within nations
4. Peace between nations
5. Peace between religions and cultures

Causes of discord

1. Spiritual and religious causes
2. Psychological causes
3. Worldview (ideological) causes
4. Historical causes
5. Domestic injustice
6. Global injustice

1. Causes of discord: Spiritual causes

1. Authoritarian religious education
(culture of obedience, paternalism, spiritual abuse, ...)
2. Violent images of God: punitive education >>>
3. Understanding of the need for redemption and salvation (sins?) >>>
4. Feelings are evaluated instead of understood (anger is sin?) >>>
5. Negative evaluation of physicality and sexuality >>>
6. Dominance of a religion that promotes intolerance
(oppression of minorities and people of other faiths)
7. Deficits in religious doctrine (ideologies become powerful):
 - *No interpretation of space and time (natural sciences)*
 - *No interpretation of mental processes (psychology)*
 - *No interpretation of social processes (social doctrine)*
8. Deficits in spirituality
 - *Prayer culture >>>*
 - *Liturgy*
 - *Proclamation and catechesis*
9. *Original sin as the cause of "evil" >>>*

Dismantling spiritual causes of discord (1)

1. Formulating doctrine on maturity, freedom and (self-)responsibility
 - *Understanding feelings and dealing with them responsibly >>>*
 - *Positive view of matter, physicality and sexuality*
2. Message of the Sermon on the Mount:
 - *Mental Control Circle*
 - *Love of enemies: Universal love and respect >>>*
3. Understanding the need for redemption and salvation:
 - *Feelings of inferiority and fears instead of sinfulness >>>*
4. Historical-critical understanding of the "Holy Scriptures"
5. Clarification of rationality and spirituality >>>
6. Doctrine of faith that interprets the world and the process of time
(*Overcoming extreme afterlife orientation*)
7. Culture of prayer and liturgy that address the problems of people and a contemporary doctrine of faith

2. Causes of discord: Psychological causes

1. Compensation of feelings of inferiority >>>
2. Shifting emotional needs to other areas of human needs >>>
3. The effects of childhood burdens >>>
4. Intergenerational burdens have an effect >>>
5. No explanation of the causes of destructive human behavior (aggression, violence, contempt for humanity) >>>

Dismantling psychological causes of discord (2)

1. Healing burdens from childhood:
 - *Burdens from injuries* >>>
 - *Burdens from deficit experiences* >>>
 - *Burdens from helper roles* >>>
2. Healing intergenerational burdens >>>
 - *Creating a therapeutic family tree* >>>
 - *Compassion for the ancestors*
 - *Respect for the fate of the ancestors*
3. Spiritual rites
 - *Asking for the blessing of the ancestors*
 - *Prayer culture* >>>
 - *Integration into liturgical rites*

3. Causes of discord: Ideological causes

1. Absolute claim of a worldview:
Under certain circumstances, combating other worldviews
2. Communism
3. National Socialism (fascism, social Darwinism)
4. Capitalism

Dismantling ideological causes (3) of discord

1. Formulating alternative doctrines of faith
2. Exposing theoretical and practical deficits in ideologies
3. Uncovering serious human rights violations
4. Identify and address own spiritual and historical deficits:
“Church Day of Mourning” >>>

4. Historical causes of discord

1. Colonialism
2. Former oppression
(Partition of Poland, attempt to destroy Polish culture, suppression of German culture in South Tyrol, ...)
3. Earlier defeats
 - *Battle of the Field of Blackbirds (1389),*
 - *Genocide of the Serbs by Croatia in World War II)*
4. Wanting to restore "greatness" in the past

Dismantling the historical causes (4) of discord

1. Establishing justice today
2. Commemoration events together between perpetrators and victims
3. Research and make known possible ideological and psychological causes of violence
4. The perpetrators are particularly active when victims are in need
5. Values Dialog
6. Cooperation

J-C. Juncker (analogously):
"Anyone who doubts the sense of the EU should visit war graves in Europe."

5. Causes of discord: domestic injustice

1. Unjust laws (e.g. discrimination against women, ...)
2. No equal opportunities
3. Too little support for the weaker
4. Corruption (power of those who have money and influence)

Dismantling domestic injustice (5)

I. Just laws

II. Equal rights for men and women in all areas of life

III. Exploring the unconscious psychological background of social problems and offering ways of healing: E.G.:

- *Unconscious psychological reasons for aggression, violent tendencies and border crossings of all kinds (criminality, warmongering, violent educational methods, ...)*
- *Unconscious psychological reasons for nationalism, fascism, racism, xenophobia, ...*
- *Unconscious psychological reasons for domination, abuse of power, authoritarian behavior, preference for hierarchical decision-making structures, ...*
- *Unconscious psychological reasons for addictive behavior of all kinds*
- *Unconscious psychological reasons for religious and ideological fundamentalism, ...*
- *Unconscious psychological reasons for greed and rigorous capitalism*
- *Unconscious psychological reasons for selfishness and ruthlessness*
- *Unconscious psychological reasons for inability to engage in dialog and devaluation of other opinions, ...*

6. Causes of discord: Global injustice

1. Economic dependencies and exploitation
2. Child labour
3. Work slaves
4. Paternalism and blackmail of the poorer countries by the rich countries
5. The rich countries collaborate with the rich upper class of the poorer countries at the expense of their poorer populations

Dismantling global injustice (6)

1. Trade agreements on equal terms
2. Supply chain law to protect human rights
3. Tying support to respect for human rights
4. Sanctions against dictators
5. Global solidarity of trade unions
6. Globally active religions promote democratization [>>>](#)
7. ...

Prayer for Peace

God of all people and nations,
every human being is your concern.
Help us to understand better
why some people are aggressive, violent
and full of contempt for others,
why they do not respect others in their individuality,
but try to impose their will on them
or exploit them and abuse them for their own interests.
Make us sensitive to all forms of injustice;
for justice is often the path to peace.

Help us to protect ourselves in the right way and to stand up for the
weaker ones,
who cannot help themselves.
But keep us from demonizing any person,
so that we give them the chance
to recognize their wrongdoing and change.
But to do so, we must deprive him of all the means of power,
by which he can exercise dominion over other people.

Continuation: <https://hanglberger-manfred.de/en-prayer-for-peace.htm>