



J/P ALERT

CONFERENCE OF MAJOR SUPERIORS OF MEN JUSTICE AND PEACE OFFICE



OCTOBER 2013 (*en español*)

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Colorado's Floods, Oil and Gas Don't Mix

You've likely heard about the recent flooding on Colorado's Front Range. What is now making the news are the oil and fracking fluid spills associated with the flooding. Here's another example of why this industry needs to be forced to change its ways, and stop fracking on all lands until this process uses NON-TOXIC fluids. Read [the full article](#).

To engage these and other Care for Creation issues join the [Catholic Coalition on Climate Change](#).

Immigration Escalation

On October 8th, a coalition of 210 people risked arrest for the sake of exposing the injustice of our immigration laws. This group included [eight U.S. congresspersons](#), many union leaders, and at least eight religious leaders. Along with Catholic priest Rev. Cleo Kiley, CMSM's Eli McCarthy, was one of the Catholic leaders who participated in this civil disobedience.

Civil disobedience is not a light decision or a common practice. However, it has been drawn on by many of the most inspirational and transformative leaders of human history -- St. Paul and many early Christian martyrs, Thoreau, Gandhi, Ghaftar Khan, Dorothy Day, Rosa Parks, King, Cesar Chavez, Archbishop Oscar Romero, et al.



**For Eli's full reflection on why now and questions of impact, [click here](#).*

Lockdown of Deportation Buses Cancels Operation Streamline for Day

On October 10, twelve immigrant rights activists locked themselves to the wheels of two deportation buses headed to Operation Streamline at a federal court where six



system.

additional people had chained themselves to the entrance to protest the proceeding they say is criminalizing immigrants and destroying core principles of the justice

According to multiple sources, as a result of the three and a half hour long and continuing peaceful blockade, the court, for one of the only times in its' history, cancelled the proceedings where detainees are presented in shackles in front of a judge and sentenced as a group.

The protest is part of the [#Not1More Deportation campaign](#) calling on the President to use his authority to keep families together and provide immediate relief from deportations for those who could benefit from a permanent solution.

"Under the President's administration, nearly two million families have been torn apart through detention and deportation," explains **Marisa Franco** of the National Day Laborer Organizing Network. "Our communities can no longer wait for the President to rediscover his moral compass or for Congress to actually do its job. We will do what any mother or father would do and keep our families together by preventing ICE from being able to tear them apart."

"Anyone who witnesses Operation Streamline will come away convinced that it is both unconstitutional and immoral," explains writer and author, **Roberto Cintli Rodriguez**.

"There is no justice in that courtroom. It violates every principle the US claims to ascribe to. **When humanity is confronted with unjust laws, it is our responsibility to challenge them.**"

Photos are available: <http://flickr.com/ndlon> and <facebook.com/ndlon>

For background on Operation Streamline:

[Operation Streamline's Hard Line](#) and

[Grassroots Leadership Report: Costs and Consequences](#)

Blocking Deportation Buses



October 17th, on the heels of actions in Arizona (Eloy and Tucson), to stop ICE deportation

buses, a coalition of organizations in the Bay Area, did the same at the San Francisco Field Office of Immigration Customs and Enforcement.

Seven religious leaders from various denominations accompanied 10 undocumented young people and other allies, using their bodies to stop a bus full of shackled immigrant detainees. A dozen other clergy and religious leaders joined the crowd of over a hundred, shouting for an end to the deportations which inflict suffering and separation of 1000 families a day. The bus was stopped for 2 hours and, although initially threatened with federal felony charges, those who stopped the bus were released without citation. For the full article [click here](#).

Action: After our meeting with the White House, **join our interfaith immigration coalition call** to discuss next steps:

Circle your calendars! On **Wednesday, October 30, at 4 pm EST** Bishop Carcaño of the United Methodist Church will lead a faith call to discuss next steps that people of faith can take to ensure that the Administration stop deportations and expand DACA. Earlier that day many faith advocates will be meeting with White House staff and our primary asks will be to stop the deportations that have been so incredibly harmful to our communities and to expand DACA. We will share with you on this call the response of the White House staff to these important requests.

So please join Bishop Carcaño and many people of faith for an important discussion of how we can end deportations and expand DACA on **Wednesday, October 30, 4 pm EST**. The number to call is 605-475-480 and the access code, 540390.

Pope Francis on Migration

CMSM received a letter in the mail with the message of Pope Francis for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, which will be celebrated Jn. 19, 2014. The theme for the message is: "Migrants and Refugees: Towards a Better World." Read the [full text of the letter](#).

Drone Strikes Violate Law

Another reason why we should say clearly and unequivocally "stop armed drones:"

"Two leading human rights groups (Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International) have jointly released detailed reports on U.S. drone strikes that charge the government with violating international law by killing civilians, including a grandmother and a teen boy, and demand that the Obama administration prosecute anyone responsible for unlawful deaths."

Read two articles [here](#) and [here](#).

Read the [CMSM Statement on Armed Drones](#) (30 May 2013).

Catholic Social Ministry Gathering February 2-5, 2014

**Register Now for the 2014 Catholic Social
Ministry Gathering!**

Becoming "a Church that is Poor and for the Poor"

February 2-5, 2014, Omni Shoreham Hotel,
Washington, DC



**Special early bird registration rate ends
October 31st.**

Connect with Catholic social ministry professionals from around the country. Exciting plenary presentations, briefings, workshops, and strategy sessions will focus on pressing domestic and international social concerns and our response as Church. Speakers will include John L. Allen Jr., senior correspondent for the *National Catholic Reporter* and Rev. James Martin, S.J., Editor-at-Large of *America* magazine and author of numerous books.

Act now to be part of our special initiatives developing [diverse leaders](#) and [young leaders](#) in Catholic social ministry.

Join the discussion and be part of the solution.

To register or for more information visit: www.CatholicSocialMinistryGathering.org.

Ecumenical Advocacy Days

March 21-24, 2014 National Gathering Jesus Weeps – Resisting Violence, Building Peace

EAD 2014 National Gathering in Washington, D.C. to focus on the ways various forms of and policies promoting violence can be transformed to policies which enable peace



**Friday, March 21 – Monday, March 24, 2014
Doubletree Hotel, Crystal City, Virginia | Washington, D.C.**

Come to the 12th annual Ecumenical Advocacy Days and join hundreds of other Christians in "**Resisting Violence, Building Peace.**" Guided by the image of Jesus weeping over a capital city that turned from the true way of peace (Luke 19:41-42), we will expose the violence that pervades our culture and world:

- *Nearly 3,000 children in the U.S. killed by guns each year;*
- *A quarter of U.S. women experiencing domestic abuse at some point in their lives;*
- *A decade of war, nearly 1,000 civilians killed by drones, and Pentagon spending dominating our federal budget over poverty protections, healthy job creation, economic revitalization and true international human security;*
- *More than 45 million people worldwide uprooted from their homes by persecution and armed conflict; and*

Deadly conflicts over natural resources erupting around the world.

[Download](#) and share the EAD 2014 printed brochure.

As people of hope, we are consoled by the promise that "justice and peace shall embrace" (Psalm 85:10), and are reminded that **justice requires peace-making and that peace requires justice-making**. We will confront and imagine how to transform the violence in our world, and together will seek a vision of **peace in the community, peace among the peoples, peace in the marketplace**, and **peace with the earth**. Through prayer, worship, speakers, and advocacy training we will discover a faith-based vision for national policies that "guide our feet into the path of peace" (Luke 1:79), all culminating with Monday's Congressional Lobby Day on Capitol Hill.

[Read a comprehensive description](#) of EAD's 2014 National Gathering theme.

Israel/Palestine Negotiations

Recently, Secretary Kerry [told members of the Arab League](#), "The two parties have been engaged now in 13 meetings - serious meetings. They had three meetings in the last four days," Kerry said. "All the core issues are on the table. And they have been meeting with increased intensity." The next phase of the prisoner release that helped bring these negotiations to life should take place. Already, Haaretz reports that Israel's Housing Ministry intends on [publishing tenders on hundreds of settlement units](#) at the same time as the release of 25 prisoners in an "attempt to appease the right wing."

A JustPeace can't happen without your help! It is important that Israelis and Palestinians know that Secretary of State John Kerry's efforts have the support of the United States Congress. This summer we asked you to take action to tell your senators to support the peace process and you sent 3,500 messages, reaching every senator! Now it's time to support a similar measure in the House of Representatives.

After Churches for Middle East Peace sent out the action, 12 more representatives signed on. Today, H. Res. 365 has 57 co-sponsors. **Can you help that number keep climbing?**

[Take action](#) and share it with your friends!

Health Care Law



"A sweeping national effort to extend health coverage to millions of Americans will leave out two-thirds of the poor blacks and single mothers and more than half of the low-wage workers who do not have insurance, the very kinds of people that the program was intended to help, according to an analysis of census data by The New York Times." Read [the full article](#).

McDonald's and CEO Luxury

McDonald's just bought another \$35-million-dollar luxury jet. Yet their employees make so little they rely on public assistance just to get by. This costs taxpayers \$1.2 billion a year!

It's not right to impoverish your employees while sailing above them at a rate of \$2,500 an hour. It's immoral to do it with a taxpayer subsidy.

[Sign the petition telling Donald Thompson, CEO of McDonald's, to cancel his order for another corporate jet until he pays all his employees a decent wage.](#)

Marketing materials claim the jet, a luxurious Bombardier 605, "makes listening to Beethoven on the dual Blu-Ray Disc player, or watching a movie on either of the two 22" HD monitors, a real pleasure."

Syria: Media and Defense Contractors

In our recent debates over Syria, one of the elements often left out is the interconnected ties of the Military-Mass Media-Think Tanks Complex. The article below illuminates some of this.

Media analysts in Syria debate have ties to defense contractors



"**Military analysts** who made frequent media appearances during the recent debate over a possible U.S. strike on Syria have **ties to defense contractors** and other firms with stakes in the outcome, according to a new study, but those links were rarely disclosed.

The report by the Public Accountability Initiative, a nonprofit watchdog, details appearances by **22 commentators** who spoke out during this summer's Syria debate in large media outlets and currently have industry connections that the group says can pose conflicts of interest.

In several media appearances in September, Stephen Hadley, a former national security adviser to President George W. Bush, was a forceful advocate for strikes against Syria. While Hadley's role in the Bush administration was always noted, there was no mention of his ties to Raytheon, manufacturer of Tomahawk cruise missiles, which likely would have been fired from Navy destroyers stationed in the eastern Mediterranean in strikes against Syria. Hadley has been on the **board of directors of Raytheon** since 2009 and, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing from June included in the new report, owned 11,477 shares of Raytheon stock, now worth about \$875,000. Hadley was also **paid \$128,500 in cash compensation** by the company last year, according to SEC records."

Read [the full article](#).

J/P Ministry Tip: Share Stories of Peacemakers

One of the best ways to motivate and enhance a peacemaking imagination is to share stories that model Jesus' way of nonviolent peacemaking. Here is a set of [four short stories](#) about Karen Ridd facing prison guards in Guatemala with Peace Brigades International, David Hartsough facing a man with a knife during the civil rights movement in the U.S., Angie O'Gorman facing a male intruder at a Catholic Worker, and Colleen Williams transforming violent acts by the Hells Angels.

CMSM



- *assists major superiors in their role as leaders;*
- *promotes dialogue and collaboration with the conference of bishops and other major groups in church and society;*
- *provides a corporate influence in church and society.*

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It is also sent to justice and peace directors of CMSM member organizations,
and to others who have expressed an interest.
If you fall into the last category and no longer wish to receive this newsletter,
send an e-mail to postmaster@cmsm.org and you will be removed from the list.