



European Bureau for  
Conscientious Objection



POST Research Institute



Initiative for Conscientious  
Objection in Cyprus

## **J O I N T P R E S S R E L E A S E**

### **2 October: International Day of Non-Violence Seminar/workshop in the Buffer Zone in Nicosia, Cyprus**

Nicosia, 30 September 2012

The International Day of Non-Violence is marked on 2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. According to General Assembly resolution [A/RES/61/271](#) of 15 June 2007, which established the commemoration, the International Day is an occasion to "*disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness*". The resolution reaffirms "*the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence*" and the desire "*to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence*". Mahatma Gandhi had said: "*Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man*".

On 2 October 2012, on the occasion of the International Day of Non-Violence, the European Bureau for Conscientious Objection (EBCO), the POST Research Institute (POST RI) and the Initiative for Conscientious Objection in Cyprus organise a seminar/workshop in the Buffer Zone in Nicosia, Cyprus, with the support of the Youth in Action programme of the European Union.

**Place:** CCMC (Cyprus Community Media Centre), Ledra Palace Buffer Zone, 1703, Nicosia

**Date and Time:** Tuesday 2 October 2012, 19:00

**Programme:**

- Welcome and introduction to the seminar/workshop – Gina Chappa, EBCO Board Member
- Commemoration of Gerd Greune (Former EBCO President and co-founder) – Gina Chappa, EBCO Board Member
- Non-violence vs. pacifism - Mehves Beyidoglu Onen, POST RI President
- Conscientious Objection in Cyprus and Europe - Murat Kanatli, Member of the Initiative for Conscientious Objection in Cyprus
- Non-violence and peace education - Loizos Loukaides, POST RI Member
- Discussion

**Press contacts:**

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**Youth  
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