

# FUTURE PEACE PER COUNTRY AND PER RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC GROUP

From Minnesota Futurists by Earl C. Joseph & Hank Lederer (<http://www.mnfuturists.org>) – 12/30/06

SUBJECT	21 <sup>st</sup> CENTURY DIRECTIONS & FUTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DEFINING THE ISSUES</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the major inhibitors to future peace?</li> <li>• What are the current desires of various peoples in nations, religious and ethnic groups for achieving some form of future peace?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• POSSIBILITIES – Meaning of Peace</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Israel wants:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ To remain a separate country</li> <li>➤ Avoid being nuked</li> <li>➤ The successful Israeli disengagement from the Gaza Strip (August-September 2005), presented an opportunity for a renewed peace effort. However, internal Israeli political events between October and December 2005 have destabilized the political situation and peace.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Iran               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The elimination of Israel</li> <li>➤ Denial of Holocaust</li> <li>➤ To become a nuclear power</li> <li>➤ Become the primary power in the Mid-East</li> <li>➤ Take over Shiite portion of Iraq</li> <li>➤ Control Iraqi oil reserves</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Saudi Arabia               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Counter the growing power of Iran in the Mid-East</li> <li>➤ Maintain stable oil production</li> <li>➤ Control oil prices</li> <li>➤ Maintain monarchy</li> <li>➤ Non-support of democracies in Mid-East</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Palestine               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ End of civil war between warring religious and ethnic groups</li> <li>➤ But each warring faction equates compromise with dishonor</li> <li>➤ Leaders do not recognize Israel's right to exist</li> </ul> </li> <li>• United States               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Minorities want more power and wealth and less harassment</li> <li>➤ End of US troop participation in Iraq</li> <li>➤ Working classes upset over perceived increase in unequal wealth distribution</li> <li>➤ Wealthy want to continue increased percentage of economic pie</li> <li>➤ Voters want less corruption in government and corporations</li> <li>➤ Democrats want middle class and poor to gain more share of economic pie</li> <li>➤ Bush wants to continue to democratize the Mid-East and to make them capitalist</li> <li>➤ Stop being at "war" with nature (environment)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Iraq               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ End of civil war (aka sectarian violence)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Each group (Shiite, Sunni and Kurd) want separate statehood within Iraq but each wants share of oil revenue</li> <li>➤ But each considers that compromise equals dishonor</li> <li>• China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Avoid revolution of rural poor by improving their economic situation and quality of life</li> <li>➤ Continue high rate of economic growth</li> <li>➤ Urban population aspires to US consumption levels</li> <li>➤ Want to avoid foreign intervention in internal policies</li> <li>➤ Communist government wants to maintain dictatorial power even as China becomes a stronger capitalistic society</li> <li>➤ Stop competing with themselves economically</li> <li>➤ Stop the rioting</li> </ul> </li> <li>• India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Public wants less corruption which permeates their country</li> <li>➤ Public wants to continue with democratic form of government</li> <li>➤ Wants more economic islands</li> <li>➤ Public wants to continue population growth levels</li> <li>➤ Continue to maintain peaceful coexistence of multiple religions (can Mid-East learn from this?)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Muslim minorities are protesting discrimination</li> <li>➤ Muslims espouse more control of news outlets and public speech</li> <li>➤ Many in Europe want to expand the EU to include social concerns rather than just economic areas</li> <li>➤ Corporations want to reduce welfare system in order to be more competitive worldwide (note: the U.S. companies want in the U.S. more welfare so they don't have to pay for medical costs, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SOCIETAL IMPACTS &amp; CONSEQUENCES</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All countries have varied desires for and inhibitors to peace</li> <li>• Need for peace initiatives to avoid escalation to nuclear war is an overriding concern</li> <li>• Achieving peace is far more complex and difficult than waging war</li> <li>• Can US government succeed in achieving peace as a global police force when faced with the existing level of complexity and divergent goals of various countries?</li> <li>• Is it possible to achieve global education for peace and if so, how?</li> <li>• Will "human nature" accept global peace in the foreseeable future?</li> </ul>

References: