

CORA WEISS, President, Hague Appeal for Peace



Photo courtesy of Anna Schori

Cora Weiss, President of the Hague Appeal for Peace, has been well known as a peace activist since the early 1960s when she was a national leader of Women Strike for Peace, an organization that played a major role in bringing about the end of nuclear testing in the atmosphere. She was a leader in the anti-Vietnam War movement in the U.S., who organized demonstrations, including the largest one on November 15, 1969 in Washington, D.C. As Co-Chair and Director of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Prisoners Detained in Vietnam, she organized the exchange of mail between families and POWs, which revealed names of those prisoners still alive. She also arranged for and accompanied some returning POW pilots.

As a Trustee of Hampshire College, she persuaded the Trustees to support the student campaign to divest stocks in companies doing business in South Africa. Her long record of support for the United Nations began in the 1950s when she hosted colonized Africans who were petitioning for the independence of their countries.

Weiss has devoted most of her life to the peace movement, the advancement of women, and to civil, as well as human rights. She is among the 1,000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize, nominated in June 2005, and was herself nominated in 2001 for her leadership in organizing the Hague Appeal for Peace Conference in 1999. She was the first recipient of the William Sloane Coffin Award for Peace and Justice offered by the Yale Divinity School, October 2003. Among her many other awards are the Peace Studies Medal of Manhattan College, the George F. Kennan Award of the New Jersey Peace Action, and recipient of the first annual William Sloane Coffin Award for Peacemaking by Peace Action in October 2007. In May of 1998 she and William Sloane Coffin were honored at The Riverside Church of New York on the 20th anniversary of their founding the Riverside Disarmament Program which she directed for 10 years. In 1999 she was honored by the Phelps Stokes Fund for her work on Africa: from 1959 to 1963 she was Executive Director of the African-American Students Foundation, which airlifted over 700 students from East Africa to the U.S. for higher education. In July 2004, she received the International Golden Dove for Peace Award (Colombe d'Oro per la Pace), from the Institute for International Research, Archivio Disarmo, Rome, Italy for peacebuilding and human rights.

She was President of the International Peace Bureau, (Nobel Laureate 1910) from 2000-2006. Weiss participated in the Nobel Centennial Symposium held in Oslo, Norway in December 2001. She is also Joint-Principal of the Peace Boat's Global University, an Advisory Board Member of Peace Child International's Millennium Action Fund and Fundacion CEPPAA, Centro de Estudios para la Paz, Costa Rica, is Honorary Patron of the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations, and a Member-at-Large of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organization's Committee on Education. As President of the Hague Appeal for Peace, she is leading a campaign dedicated to the abolition of war. It seeks to re-focus our minds on the vision of a world in which violent conflict is publicly acknowledged as illegitimate, illegal, and fundamentally unjust. To implement that vision, the Hague Appeal for Peace has launched a [Global Campaign for Peace Education](#).

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