



Sous le Haut Patronage  
de S.A.S. Le Prince Albert II de Monaco



University for Peace  
Université pour la Paix



**PRESS RELEASE**

## The University for Peace Partners with Peace and Sport

**Monaco, 26 November 2009** – During the 3<sup>rd</sup> Peace and Sport International Forum that is currently taking place in Monaco, (25-27 November) “*Peace and Sport, l’Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport*” and the University for Peace (UPEACE) today announced that they have signed a Partnership Agreement.

This unprecedented collaboration will underpin the emphasis that the UPEACE curriculum places on teaching and analysing the influence of sport in conflict resolution and in peace consolidation throughout the world.

The University for Peace, based in Costa Rica, is a first-rate international institution. It teaches tomorrow’s decision-makers to understand the threats and obstacles to world peace. It stimulates cooperation and diplomacy that help to promote inter-cultural understanding, tolerance and respect for Human Rights.

Peace and Sport is an international initiative based in the Principality of Monaco under the High Patronage of His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco. It works in all areas of the world to put the values and practice of sport at the service of education, dialogue, social stability and the reconciliation of divided communities.

One benefit of the partnership will enable the two organizations to set up a training program for graduates of UPEACE. Each year, Peace and Sport will grant internships to graduates of UPEACE, who will spend time at the Monaco Head Office and work on Locally-based Projects, so that they can have practical education about the central role of sport in the resolution of conflicts and the process of social reconstruction.

John J. Maresca, Rector of UPEACE said: *“At UPEACE we are well aware of the unique value of sports for reaching young people and making them aware of universal values such as respect for other individuals and cultures, playing by rules, and settling differences without violence. The use of sports for communicating these values is particularly valuable with young people who have no other references, or no responsible adults to show them the way. Under-privileged youth can learn key lessons in life through sports. We teach about sports with this in mind, and are therefore delighted to establish a partnership with Peace and Sport, an organization which shares our views.”*»

Joel Bouzou, President and Founder of Peace and Sport, added: *“Through the federating values and the ordered environment it offers, structured sport is a recognised instrument to alleviate inter-community tension, to promote social stability and to encourage rapprochement of nations. We are honoured and proud of this partnership that unites Peace and Sport and UPEACE. This partnership will enable future diplomatic leaders and researchers to better understand the enormity of the role that sport can play to contribute to sustainable peace, so that they will consider to a greater extent in their vocations.”*

**For more information, please contact Peace and Sport**  
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### **About Peace and Sport**

Peace and Sport, L'Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport is a neutral and apolitical international initiative.

Peace and Sport puts sport and its structuring values at the heart of development projects led within communities in crisis around the world. With interventions in post-conflict zones, extremely poor areas or areas lacking social cohesion, Peace and Sport makes sport a vehicle for tolerance, respect, sharing and citizenship at the service of sustainable peace.

Supported by governments, world sport governing bodies, international organizations, major international companies in the private sector and international sports champions, Peace and Sport creates synergies between various different stakeholders to carry out four types of action:

- Organizing an annual International Forum (next edition in Monaco, 25 -27 November 2009)
- A Resource Centre for sport and peace,
- The Peace and Sport Awards, to reward individuals and initiatives contributing to peace,
- Locally-Based Projects; concrete actions in different regions of crisis in the world.

Today, Peace and Sport has operations in Cote d'Ivoire, Burundi, Israel-Palestine, Timor Leste, Colombia and plans to intervene in Haiti in the near future.

Peace and Sport was founded by Joel Bouzou, current President of the organisation. Mr. Bouzou is an Olympic medallist, world champion of Modern Pentathlon and current Secretary General for the International Union of Modern Pentathlon (UIPM). He is also an Advisor to H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco.

### **About the University for Peace**

The University for Peace (UPEACE) was created as a Treaty Organization within the framework of the United Nations, pursuant to Resolution 35/55 of the General Assembly in December 1980 to support the central peace and security objectives of the United Nations. Its mission is to ***“provide humanity with an international institution of higher education for peace with the aim of promoting among all human beings a spirit of understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, to stimulate cooperation among peoples and to help lessen obstacles and threats to world peace and progress”***.

The headquarters of the UPEACE system is in Costa Rica, the country which initiated the process for the establishment of the University. UPEACE's activities include: teaching, research, distance learning, and outreach. The UPEACE system also includes offices in Addis Ababa, Geneva, Manila and New York and partnership agreements with numerous other institutions worldwide. The Costa Rica campus serves as a laboratory for the UPEACE system in curriculum development and face-to-face-teaching programmes.

UPEACE currently offers nine regular MA programmes and seven special programmes and has 200 students from 60 countries.

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