

ALERT UNIT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Nº 4, April 2006



castellano | català | english



HEADLINES OF THE MONTH

» [RECOMMEND THIS NEWSLETTER](#) «

worsening

- **CHAD:** Violence persists between Chad's armed groups and the Government of Idris Déby, while tension grows between Chad and Sudan.
- **EGYPT:** Clashes between Muslims and Christian Copts in Alexandria.
- **NIGERIA (Niger Delta):** The Ijaw community and the Nigerian government meet to try to stop the increase of violence Niger Delta region.
- **THAILAND:** Increase of violence in the South, following the Government's decision of prolonging for three more months the state of emergency in the region.
- **UZBEKISTÁN:** UNHCR reluctantly closes office, following the instructions of the Uzbek government.

alert

- **ERITREA – ETHIOPIA:** The UN Security Council warns both countries that the mandate of the UNMEE might be revised, unless there is advancement of the border demarcation before mid May.
- **GUINEA-BISSAU – SENEGAL (CASAMANCE):** Guinean armed forces declare they will continue fighting until they destroy the camps of the separatist Senegalese group, MFDC.
- **WEST SAHARA:** The POLISARIO Front refuses K. Annan's proposal to establish direct negotiations with Morocco.
- **SERBIA and MONTENEGRO (KOSOSVO):** Third round of conversations about the final political status of the region starts, while key stakeholders reassert their positions.
- **SRI LANKA:** The LTTE indefinitely cancels negotiations with the Government.

progress

- **RUSSIA FEDERATION (CHECHENIA):** The UNHCR announces that it will open a new office at the region as soon as security conditions improve.
- **GEORGIA (SOUTH OSETIA):** Russia and Georgia agree on creating a peace working group for South Ossetia.
- **HAITI:** Parliamentary elections take place in Haiti, after several years without Parliament.
- **INDONESIA:** The leadership of GAM returns to Aceh to express their support to peace, after several years sent into exile.
- **LIBERIA:** The former President of the country, C. Taylor, who has been charged for war crimes, will be extradited to the International Criminal Court.
- **NEPAL:** The King re-opens the Parliament after intense and massive protests lead by the democratic opposition in the country.
- **PALESTINE:** The Government of Norway declares it is willing to meet with representatives of Hamas in Oslo.
- **SUDÁN (DARFUR):** Negotiations in Niger continue to try to close armed conflict in Darfur.



ISSUE OF THE MONTH

Following a month of intense protest against the authoritarian regime of the King Gyanendra, Nepal's Parliament, that was cancelled four years ago, celebrated its first new session. Unable to deal with the pressure of the protest, the King Gyanendra decided this month to authorize the re-opening of this Chamber. An unusual alliance between armed opposition groups and democratic opposition groups of Nepal has propitiated that thousand of people have protested against the King's authoritarian regime in the main cities of the country during several weeks. King Gyanendra perpetrated a coup- d'état a year ago and dismantled Nepal's democratic institutions. After the coup d'état, King Gyanendra also hardened control over political opposition and press. The political crisis in Nepal cannot be understood without making a reference to the country's armed conflict. The dispute started in 1996, when the Maoist armed opposition group decided to rebel against the Government, alleging that it was not a truly democratic regime;

and with the objective of establishing a Socialist Republic in Nepal. Despite the cruel legacy of this conflict (13.000 people dead since the beginning of the hostilities), it has often become a forgotten problem for the rest of the world. The situation of violence worsened because of the strong political tensions of the last decade in Nepal, that finally ended up with the coup d'état of the King Gyanendra in February 2005. The democratic process of the 90's had many deficiencies and the authoritarian character of the Nepal's Monarchy has also represented an obstacle to a serious democratic advancement. Moreover, the situation has been also delicate due to the constant human rights violation that both the government and the rebels constantly have perpetrated during the conflict. Nevertheless, in the last months the Maoist group has declared its renunciation to the use of violence to leave a space to political alternatives. This announcement has brought some hope for both for peace and democracy.



ARTICLES, REPORTS AND PRESS RELEASES

- "Peace in Aceh?: local challenges and global opportunities", Papeles de Cuestiones Internacionales, nº93, Centro de Investigación para la Paz
- "rEVOLution Morales? Concentric reflections about Bolivia, the Andes Region and Latin America", Papers nº 35, Lliga dels Drets dels Pobles



AGENDA

- Parliamentary Elections Fiji	6th of May
- Presidential Elections Peru (second round)	7th of May
- Parliamentary Elections Azerbaijan	13th of May

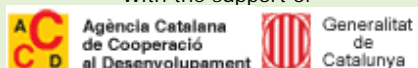
- Presidential Election Comoros	14th of May
- Parliamentary Elections Dominican Republic	16th of May
- Parliamentary Elections Cyprus	21st of May
- Referendum Montenegro	21st of May
- Presidential Elections Colombia	28th of May

» [RECOMMEND THIS NEWSLETTER](#) «

If you wish more information on the Alert Unit and the School of Peace Culture (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) please visit our website: <http://www.escolapau.org>

For any comments or suggestions, please write to: alerta.escolapau@pangea.org

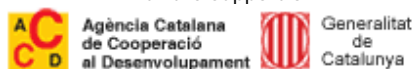
If you do not wish to receive any further information from the School of Peace Culture, please [click here](#)
With the support of



If you cannot see the image, please [click here](#)

If you do not wish to receive any further information from the School of Peace Culture, please [click here](#)

with the support of



If you cannot see the image, please [click here](#)