



LONDON 2012

London Olympic Truce Campaign

April 7th 2011

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Draft Olympic Peace Letters

This document contains three draft letters to set the 3 key networking steps in action. These are the draft letters that will be sent to all UN Member states participating at the Olympic Games with the intention that they all sign up to a global truce. This process will be made publically visible in the Olympic Peace London 2012 site.

Draft letter Step 1

To: RH Minister of Culture/Tourism/Environment/Education

Dear

Re: Olympic Peace London 2012

I would like to introduce you formally to the Olympic Peace London 2012 Campaign. There is a vision document (<http://destinet.eu/topics/sustainable-consumption-and-production/peace-through-tourism/olympic-peace-london-2012-campaign-overview>) outlining this globally important process, which I hope you can make time to read first in order to understand how such a momentous and historic process can actually happen. We are asking if you can then sign a declaration supporting the initiative and asking your fellow ministers to share a concerted effort between the ministries of culture, education sport, tourism and environment to issue a declaration asking your Foreign Affairs or Defense Ministry to sign a statement of intent that your country will respect the 16 days of Olympic Truce during the London 2012 Olympic Games, 25th July - 12th August 2012.

Meanwhile we ask that your respective ministries engage in pro-active processes designed to inform your citizens and businesses that your country is supporting the global truce and during that time you can showcase the best of your environmental and cultural tourism offers alongside your elite sporting celebrities and national sports.

Draft Declaration letters to be signed by the respective ministers:

NB These letters have been adapted from the Manual 16 Days of Global Peace Appendix 1: The Olympic Truce Demos and based on the text initially signed by Foreign Ministers of Greece and Turkey on 8 November 2001. The Olympic Truce 16 days Page 82

Draft letter Step 2 Declarations from the Ministers of Culture, Tourism, Sport and Education

In support of an Olympic Truce during the 2012 London Olympic Games

WHEREAS:

The idea of the Olympic Truce ('Ekechereia') dates back to an ancient Hellenic tradition. In keeping with this tradition all hostilities would cease during the Olympic Games. The Olympic Truce was fully respected for twelve centuries of Olympic Games in antiquity. In 1992, the International Olympic Committee urged the international community to observe this tradition anew, calling for all hostilities to cease during the Olympic Games, and beyond. Since then, numerous initiatives to promote understanding and solidarity through sport in communities around the world have been developed with the cooperation of National Olympic Committees. In July 2000, the International Olympic Committee and the Government of Greece established the International Olympic Truce Center. This Center seeks to further promote the observance of the Olympic Truce. The United Nations General Assembly, with the strong support of all of our countries, has five times called for member states to observe the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, most recently in its Millennium Declaration in September 2000, with the signatures of over 160 Heads of State and Government.

Today, the Olympic Truce has become an expression of Mankind's desire to build a world based on the rules of fair competition, humanity, reconciliation, and tolerance. Moreover, the Olympic Truce epitomises a bridge from the old and wise tradition to the most compelling purpose of today's world – the maintenance of international peace and the promotion of multicultural dialogue, cooperation, and understanding. The period of the Olympic Games, and beyond, should provide an opportunity for such a dialogue and the search for durable solutions for the restoration of peace in all areas of conflict, where the first victims are the children, the youth, women, and the aged.

Humanity's quest is for a world free of hatred, terrorism, and war, where ideals of peace, goodwill and mutual respect form the basis of relations among peoples and countries. The goal may still remain elusive, but if the Olympic Truce can help us to bring about even a brief respite from conflict and strife, it will send a powerful message of hope to the international community.

WHEREFORE, WE, THE UNDERSIGNED:

1. Ask our Foreign Affairs Minister to give peace a chance and to agree to join efforts to use the 2012 Olympic Games, to be held in London on 25th July - 12th August 2012, to take the opportunity to implement the 16 days of Olympic Truce as an instrument to promote peace and reconciliation in areas of conflict and strife; 2. Pledge to exercise our best efforts to ensure that the Olympic Truce appeal is observed in our countries and in our region during the upcoming Olympic Games as a way of promoting

goodwill and encouraging the peaceful settlement of conflicts in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations; and

3. Pledge to support and disseminate, individually and collectively, the symbolic call for Olympic Truce throughout all future Olympic Games and beyond, and to exercise our best efforts within our communities, countries, and relevant international organisations to achieve its recognition and observance.

Signed by either or all:

Minister of Culture

Minister of Tourism

Minister of Sport

Minister of Education

Country

Date

Draft letter 2 Step 3 Draft declaration to be signed by foreign ministers.

In support of an Olympic Truce during the 2012 London Olympic Games

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WHEREFORE, WE, THE UNDERSIGNED:

1. Urge world leaders, Governments, and International Organisations, to give peace a chance and to agree to join efforts to use the Olympic Truce as an instrument to promote peace and reconciliation in areas of conflict and strife; 2. Pledge to exercise our best efforts to ensure that the Olympic Truce appeal is observed in our countries and in our region during the upcoming Olympic Games as a way of promoting goodwill and encouraging the peaceful settlement of conflicts in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations; and
3. Pledge to support and disseminate, individually and collectively, the symbolic call for Olympic Truce throughout all future Olympic Games and beyond, and to exercise our best efforts within our communities, countries, and relevant international organisations to achieve its recognition and observance.

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Country

Date

For further information about this document please contact

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