



International Network of
Museums for Peace

Pioneering Honorary General Coordinator



Peter van den Dungen

I was much involved in the organisation of the first international conference of peace museums that was held at the University of Bradford (UK) in 1992. Its main aims were the promotion of the establishment of a peace museum in the UK, the creation of a network of such museums, and the holding of an international conference every three years. I was the network's (honorary, i.e., unsalaried) general coordinator from 1992 until 2017 and remain chief editor of its newsletter (1993-2002 & 2011-). From 2008 until 2017 INMP maintained a secretariat in The Hague following an invitation by one of the world's leading peace cities.

From 1976 until 2015 I was lecturer/visiting lecturer in the Department of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford. As a peace historian and educator, I have always been passionate to see the creation of museums dedicated to the rich but little-known history of the idea of world peace as well as movements and organisations related to it – to inform, inspire and encourage visitors to contribute to the development of a culture of peace and nonviolence. No other museums are as important and necessary in a world threatened by annihilation as peace museums – but the museum landscape continues to be dominated by war and military museums.

The professional and personal contacts with like-minded educators and activists from around the globe and within INMP have greatly enriched my life and continue to be rewarding. My gratitude also goes to the dedicated volunteers in the INMP secretariat at the Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University who have greatly contributed to the strengthening of INMP thereby securing the future of its vital work.



With 1976 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mairead Maguire
at INMP's 25th anniversary conference in Belfast, 2017