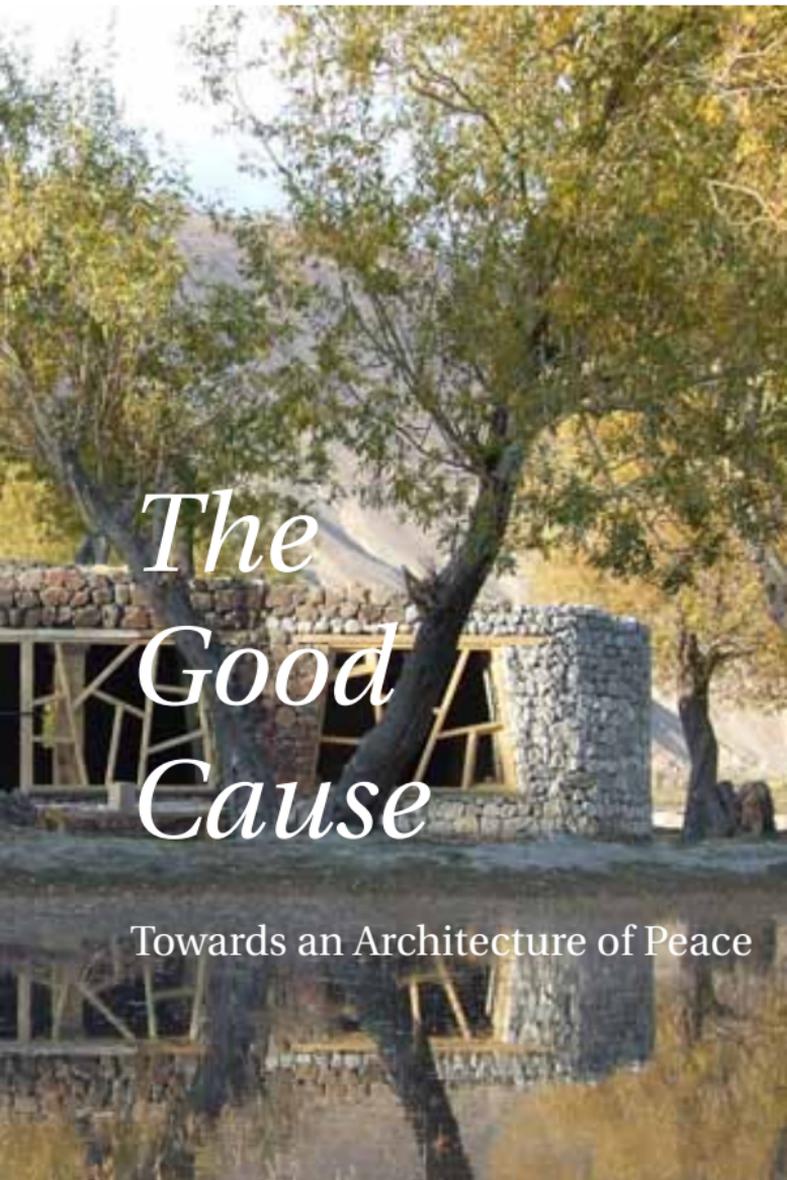


# Strömm



*The  
Good  
Cause*

Towards an Architecture of Peace

# The Good Cause

## Towards an Architecture of Peace

War and conflict are of all ages. To confront this reality, peace missions, rebuilding operations and international law have been developed as tools to help create stability and peace after conflict. This is very impressive indeed, but the road to a sustainable peace appears to be arduous and troublesome. The vacuum of political leadership and the lack of social stability stand in the way of a sustainable recovery. Furthermore, rebuilding and urban planning strategies can rekindle old conflicts.

Archis is an international think tank devoted to spatial issues and cultural reflection. In 2010 they started *Architecture of Peace*, a research project focusing on the role of architecture in the design of a sustainable peace. Based on this research, Archis presented the exhibition *The Good Cause* at the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal (Canada) in 2011. An updated version of this exhibition, augmented with a chapter dedicated to the city of The Hague, will be on view at Stroom Den Haag.

### ***The Good Cause***

9 March - 1 June 2014

Basis guide design: Thonik, Amsterdam  
Cover: The façade of the Pamir visitors centre  
Photo: © AFIR Architects / Anne Feenstra

Through inspiring case studies from Afghanistan, Kosovo, South Africa, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine, *The Good Cause* shows what reconstruction could look like if it were designed with an eye for local structures. This requires a specific attitude and strategy, for example modesty, a sensitivity for context, trust and attention for continuity. These 'factors for success' are checked for each case study.

It is with good reason that *The Good Cause* is shown in The Hague. As the International City of Peace and Justice The Hague plays an important role in conflict prevention and sentencing in conflict situations. The Hague hosts more than 160 institutions, large and small, that concern themselves with (world) peace, justice and security. This not only affects the public image of The Hague all over the world, but also has a great impact on the city itself and on its inhabitants.

The exhibition is part of the longterm Stroom Den Haag program *See You in The Hague*, a multifaceted narrative about the ambitions and reality of The Hague as International City of Peace and Justice.

# The Good Cause

## The exhibition

*The numbers refer to the numbers on the floor plan*

### 1. War and peace

On each side of this revolving wall there is a map: one with all the wars in the world since World War II and one with all the peace missions that were organized as a result. A large amount of data is incorporated in this map: from the number of victims to the country of origin of soldiers on peace missions. One surprising outcome is that there are no Western countries in the top 10 list of peace missions. Number one on this list is Bangladesh.

### 2. Complexity of peace

Conflicts are not over when the shooting stops, they linger and smoulder. Gerd Junne, sociologist and former professor of international relations at the University of Amsterdam, explains what peace in a post-conflict area really means and what it requires of the people involved in the reconstruction. The other side of the wall features a series of photographs by the architect Jolyon Leslie showing the different meanings of words like poverty, order, illegality and enemy.

### 3. Negative peace

Negative peace is the situation in which the weapons have been put down, but the conflict can flare up at any moment. The diagram shows the factors that make negative peace so complex and why it is so difficult to come to a lasting, 'positive peace'.



Order  
Photo: Jolyon  
Leslie

#### 4. Case studies

The eight very diverse case studies originate from six countries: Afghanistan, Kosovo, South Africa, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine. They are the result of an intensive process of negotiation, of small adaptations and interventions introducing a form of normalcy in the damaged situation. The cases studies are shown through photographs, documents and objects (in archival boxes), documentaries and interviews (on the ipads) and objects.

#### 5. Universal jurisdiction in The Hague

The Hague hosts many important instruments of international law in the form of various courts of law. By on the one hand prosecuting war crimes and crimes against humanity (ICC and tribunals) and on the other hand preventing war between nations (ICJ), the city of The Hague has a major influence on countries

and situations in other parts of the world. However, this universal jurisdiction is not without dispute. Effectiveness (cost and duration versus 'profit' in the number of convictions) and geopolitical prejudice (the idea that only African countries are dealt with) are obstacles in this field. In addition, universal jurisdiction is being curtailed elsewhere. In principle victims of crimes against humanity can claim their right in the countries that have signed the treaty by starting lawsuits against the alleged criminals. Spain limits this right to its own citizens only. This puts increased pressure on the ICC. This map forms the transition to the downstairs area where The Hague as International City of Justice and Peace is the focal point.

#### 6. International City: ambition

The International City of Peace and Justice, this is not something you can become in the blink of an eye. It has many consequences and it creates various obligations. The map of The Hague shows 90 institutions that are actively concerned with peace and justice. A number of basic facts of each institution is listed. Three of them are highlighted: the International Criminal Court with a live stream of the court cases, the International Court of Justice with an instruction video and The Hague Institute for Global Justice with The Hague Rules. The majority of these institutions can be found in that beautiful area of the city better known as the 'International Zone'. The area is representative, spacious and easily accessible. The municipal authorities would like to reinforce this zone, expand it and use it for innovation in the field of security. This spatial specialization has very clear benefits, but also leads to a widening gap between the international community and local city dwellers.

### 7. International City: reputation

'The Hague', the word has not only a positive connotation the world over. The prosecution of mainly African heads of state has created feelings of animosity in that region. There is a gap between the internationally felt desire 'to do something' about war crimes and crimes against humanity and The Hague's international public image. Reports and news shows give us an idea of this reception. On the other hand, The Hague has managed to be perceived as not 'just' the seat of Dutch government, but also as the global center of international law. To get this kind of global publicity and attention, most cities would have to organize the Olympic Games, no less.

### 8. International City: promotion

The city of The Hague is committed to enforcing its image of a city of peace and justice. It has by now even become the central theme of the 'city branding' campaign of The Hague. No opportunity is left unused to haul in new institutions and events related to this sector. In this context, the Nuclear Security Summit will take place in March 2014 in The Hague.

### 9. International City: reality

The international presence has a direct and noticeable impact on the city's inhabitants: a positive one, like the creation of jobs; a more neutral one, like the increasing occupation of space; and a negative one, like the (temporary) disruption of public space. Visitors to the exhibition can use this wall to leave photographs, newspaper clippings and post-its that refer to the impact of the International City on their everyday life.

### 10. International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

In 2002 photographer Friso Keuris created a series of photographs dedicated to the Tribunal during the trial of Slobodan Milosevic. In 2013 he made a new series featuring the people who are involved in the trials of, amongst others, Mladic and Karadzic. In order to speak justice about the abuses that have taken place in the former Yugoslavia, many people work on different levels and areas of expertise within the Tribunal. Keuris gives these people a face and as such insight into an important part of our modern history. In 2002 and 2003 the artist Ivan Grubanov visited the trial against his former president Milosevic. Confronted with the man and the events that shaped his life, Grubanov looked for a way to capture the intensity of this experience. He started to make drawings, in an attempt to relate to this chapter in history. The whole series of 160 drawings will be presented as a slideshow.

*International  
Criminal Tribunal  
for the Former  
Yugoslavia  
Photo: Friso  
Keuris*



# Architecture of Peace

*Architecture of Peace* is an international long-term research into the potential of architecture and urbanism in (post) conflict areas. The goal of the project is to provide insight into the spatial aspects of conflict management in the establishment of a sustainable peace or in the prevention of conflict. On the one hand it aims to influence governmental political and military decision making with regard to peace- and reconstruction missions; on the other hand it wants to provide architects and urbanists with extra tools and with insights into their action radius. The project is based on the assumption that the field of spatial

UNDP South  
Sudan  
Photo: Mark  
Duffield



design can contribute to peace and social stability in post-conflict situations, that this involvement has been far too modest up to now, and usually established at a late stage. During the course of the project, these assumptions have become the starting points for the development of a plan of action.

After an initial research into the relation between socio-spatial development, conflict management and design, and the way in which the knowledge and experience of architects and urban planners could be used in the process to lasting peace, a number of good practices has been collected. This phase resulted in a conference at the Netherlands Architecture Institute, a special issue of *Volume Magazine* and the first episode of *The Good Cause* in the CCA Montreal (Canada).

The balance sheet:

- A lot is happening, but in the early stages of conflict management and reconstruction relatively little is done with the efforts of architects and urban planners;
- There are many good intentions, but relatively few good results;
- A good 'outcome' is more incident and coincidence than the result of a systematic approach;
- There is much interest in this type of research both from the world of design and from social scientists and policymakers.

An important next question concerns the 'footprint' of peacekeeping missions during the second phase of conflict management, when the weapons are (more or less) silent. The outward manifestation of peace missions in the city, but also of social workers (NGOs)



A Skateistan team in the streets of Kabul (photo: Skateistan)

looks more like war than peace (walls, tanks, barbed wire, roadblocks, use of space). How to design the balance between security and openness? How to close the gap between intention and appearance?

A second important question is which spatial instruments should be used after the arrival of peacekeepers to prevent major social disruptions and seemingly insoluble (social) spatial problems? What is the role of public space in this matter?

Finally, the project focuses on the translation of experiences from former war zones to (potential) situations of conflict in (Western) cities. A question architects and planners asked themselves after the riots in the 'banlieues' of Paris and London is how the environment plays a role in the emergence of conflict. And therefore how architecture and urban design can play a preventive role.

## FACTORS FOR SUCCESS

Despite all the difficulties and differences between post-conflict situations, certain factors can be determined that should be included in the strategy for intervention or building.

### □ TRUST

Mutual trust is essential for the viability of a project.

### □ PUBLICNESS

Architects should stimulate civic life by providing gathering spaces.

### □ EMPLOYMENT

By training and hiring locals, expertise and employment will be strengthened.

### □ OWNERSHIP

Architects should collaborate with local partners in order to develop a sense of responsibility and commitment.

### □ CONTINUITY

The project should be able to continue following the withdrawal of its initiators.

### □ MODESTY

Architects must take into account and work with local concepts of city, public space and civil society.

### □ SAFETY

Provision of individual and collective security needs to be sustained.

### □ TIME

Patience and perseverance are vital.

## See You in The Hague Ambition and reality

'During my work in Kenya, I sometimes find it very hard to explain that The Hague is a real city and not a courtroom and jail.' Jin Ho Verdonchot, working at Hiil (The Hague Institute for the Internationalisation of Law), epitomizes why the respectable identity of International City of Peace and Justice also has a downside. In certain parts of the world, The Hague is seen as the city that puts 'beloved' leaders on trial, and even 'kills' them. At least that is what the Serbian newspapers wrote after the death of Milosevic in his prisoncell in Scheveningen in 2006.

Nevertheless The Hague is working steadily on the build-up of its image, and it seems to be paying off. In the wake of well-known institutions like the International Criminal Court, the International Court of Justice and the ICTY and lesser-known ones like the OPCW and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, numerous NGOs and other organizations in the field of law, peace and security have settled in The Hague. Most of these are to be found in the International Zone.

The fact that The Hague is the International City of Peace and Justice has a long history in which idealism and internationalism play an important role. In 1899 the first International Peace Conference took place in The Hague. Here it was decided that The Hague would become the seat of the Permanent Court of Arbitration.



*The Hague as  
World Capital*  
Marjolijn van der  
Meij, drawing on  
paper, 2013

This decision inspired The Hague physician and pacifist P.H. Eijkman and his private secretary Paul Horrix to set up a Foundation for Internationalism (1905). The Foundation was intended to establish a World Capital of Internationalism in the vicinity of The Hague as a realization of their ideas to promote world peace and understanding among people. Eijkman asked the architect and theosophist K.P.C. de Bazel to design this new World Capital. It consisted of a large octagonal center in the dunes north of The Hague from which broad avenues ran to several academies, and a wide boulevard lead to a peace palace on the Mussenberg, that could be seen from miles around. This plan met with resistance from the main supporter, the American steel magnate Andrew Carnegie, and it was decided - without consulting Eijkman - to build the Peace Palace at its current location.<sup>1</sup>

As proposed in De Bazel's design of a World Capital, the International City of Peace and Justice has a cluster of international institutions. However, the openness, idealism, consistency and positive attitude of the World Capital are mostly absent from the International Zone as we know it. The zone is not a clearly marked area. It is a loose and fragmented collection of buildings surrounded by residential areas with luxury villas and residential towers, parks and roads. The zone's presence is felt as soon as you see the first sign 'Reserved for International Organization', and becomes increasingly clear when you see the elevated police posts, anti-tank poles, CCTV cameras, massive flower boxes and high fences. The buildings are turned inward and reveal little of what is happening inside. The embassies are recognizable by their bronze nameplates and national flags, but

*The International Zone in The Hague*  
Photo's: Brigitte van der Sande, 2013



many organizations prefer the anonymity of a joint office with a shared reception area and strict policies for access.

It is quite unique for these international organizations to be stationed in a residential area, but it also has its drawbacks. The security measures of these international institutions are so strict that the buildings are hardly visible from the street. In 2010 this was the topic of a workshop organized by the Government Buildings Agency and the National Coordinator for Security and Counterterrorism. Six designers were asked to design an embassy incorporating security as an integral aspect of the design process. They came up with different proposals for embassies, where security measures were designed in such a way that secure and enjoyable buildings were created.<sup>2</sup>



In addition to the economics of security, The Hague could reinforce its identity by engaging intensively with the design of security, from an urban, architectural, cultural and product perspective. Deputy mayor Henk Kool seems to hint at this in his speech at the opening of the The Hague Security Delta, where he spoke of The Hague as 'a living lab' for answering the questions of how the International Zone could be protected without the installation of fences. During the Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague on March 24 and 25, 2014 we will still have to deal with the high fences. For example they will block out our view of the Kurhaus Hotel, where many of the world's heads of state will stay.

The cultural program *See You in The Hague* - with its exhibitions, lectures, presentations, excursions and workshops - focuses on this complex relationship between ambition and reality, identity and image, the constructive contribution to world peace and the sometimes destructive effect on the quality of life in specific areas of the city: operating on the world stage and switching to the local stage, a comfortable peace versus an unpleasant security, an open society versus prohibited areas.

In this respect *The Good Cause* holds up a mirror to the city. The exhibition shows that peace and rebuilding missions greatly benefit from a specific attitude and strategy of the parties involved, including designers. Therefore, the creation of mutual trust is essential, as is ownership and continuity. It also requires humility and determination, and the stimulation of public space, employment and security. These factors for success ensure a better local embedding,

a less hostile atmosphere, more public space and an increased chance of engagement by the local population. What would The Hague, and more specifically the International Zone, look like if these factors for success would be applied here as well?

1. Thru January 2014 the presentation *The Hague World Capital* was on view in the library of Stroom, featuring sketch drawings, brochures and photographs, accompanied by an indepth essay by Arnold Mosselman. See: [www.stroom.nl](http://www.stroom.nl)

2. Participants in the workshop were: Anne Holtrop, Buro Harro, DUS architecten, Lola Landscape Architects, Michael Schoner and Sander Hofstee. See: [www.rgd.nl/fileadmin/re-dactie/Smaak/SMAAK-49.pdf](http://www.rgd.nl/fileadmin/re-dactie/Smaak/SMAAK-49.pdf)

# Stroom School

**Stroom School is the umbrella term for the side program accompanying exhibitions. Themes are highlighted and more profoundly explored.**

The Stroom School accompanying *The Good Cause* consists of a number of guided tours on Sundays, a congress and an excursion of the International Zone.

For up to date information see insert.

Or check:  
[www.stroom.nl](http://www.stroom.nl)

**Opening exhibition with introductory program**  
*Saturday 8 March, 5 pm*  
*Introduction from 4 pm*

**Guided tours on Sunday**  
On a number of Sundays during the run of the exhibition there will be guided tours where people will present their personal view of the exhibition and its underlying themes.

Price: free  
Reservations not needed

**Lunch tours on Friday**  
Sign up for a guided tour plus lunch on a Friday afternoon. For more information and bookings, please contact Stroom:  
[rondleidingen@stroom.nl](mailto:rondleidingen@stroom.nl)  
Price: 12,50 euro per persoon

**Guided tours for students**  
Students can request a guided tour on weekdays. For more information and bookings, please contact Stroom: [info@stroom.nl](mailto:info@stroom.nl)  
Price: free

# Colophon

*The Good Cause*  
Curators: Archis (Arjen Oosterman, Lilet Breddels i.c.w. René Boer) i.c.w. Stroom Den Haag. Design: Vanessa van Dam and Adriaan Mellegers i.c.w. Markus Lange. Special thanks to: Friso Keuris, Ivan Grubanov, Nick Huls, Gerd Junne, Asser Institute.

*The Good Cause* is made possible in part by Mondriaan Fund, Creative Industries Fund NL and municipality of The Hague.

*The Good Cause* was developed in 2011 on commission by The Netherlands Architecture Institute for the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal. Curators: Archis (Arjen Oosterman, Lilet Breddels) and NAI (Saskia van Stein). Design: Gerlinde Schuller, The World as Flatland.

*The Good Cause* is a project by Archis, developed in collaboration with: The Canadian Centre for Architecture; Prince Claus Fund; Het Nieuwe Instituut; University of Amsterdam; Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen (KNAW); Espérance - Association des Jeunes Sportifs de Kigali (Rwanda); ERSTE Stiftung, Vienna; Architekturmuseum, München and Stroom Den Haag.



This exhibition is part of the Stroom program *See You in The Hague*, a multifaceted narrative about the ambitions and reality of The Hague as International City of Peace and Justice.

*See You in The Hague* is an initiative of Stroom Den Haag and made possible in part by Mondriaan Fund, DOEN Foundation, Stokroos Foundation, Creative Industries Fund NL, vFonds (National fund for peace, freedom and veteran care), Foundation for Democracy and Media and the city of The Hague. The program is created in collaboration with numerous partners both within and outside of the art world and developed in close collaboration with curator Brigitte van der Sande.

[www.archis.org](http://www.archis.org)  
[www.seeyouinthehague.nl](http://www.seeyouinthehague.nl)



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