

AWARDS

Hellman/Hammett Grants

The Hellman/Hammett grants are given annually by Human Rights Watch to recognize the courage of writers around the world who have been targets of political persecution and are in financial need. Twenty-eight writers from twenty-two countries received grants in 2000. Among them are Taoufik Ben Brik of Tunisia, Mamadali Makhmudov of Uzbekistan, and Nadire Mater of Turkey, who were jailed for writings that offended their governments. Of those who were forced into exile, some like Jonah Anguka (Kenya), Kadhim-Joni Mahdi (Iraq), and Alejandra Matus (Chile) received asylum in the United States. Others were victims of bloody conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, Sierra Leone, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In many countries, governments use military and presidential decrees, criminal libel, and colonial-era sedition laws to silence critics. Writers and journalists are often threatened, harassed, assaulted, or thrown into jail merely for providing information from nongovernmental sources. As a result, in addition to those who are directly targeted, many others are forced to practice self-censorship.

The Hellman/Hammett grant program began in 1989 when the estates of American authors Lillian Hellman and Dashiell Hammett asked Human Rights Watch to design a program for writers in financial need as a result of expressing their views. By publicizing the persecution that the grant recipients endure, Human Rights Watch focuses attention on censorship and suppression of free speech. In some cases the publicity is a protection against further abuse. In other cases, the writers request anonymity because of the dangerous circumstances in which they and their families are living.

Following are short biographies of those recipients in 2000 whose names can be safely released.

Jonah Anguka (Kenya), writer and former government administrator, was tortured and held in solitary confinement for three years on fabricated charges that he had murdered Robert Ouko, the foreign minister. After his acquittal by the Nairobi High Court, he was dismissed from his job and put under constant surveillance by President Moi's intelligence service. Fearing for his life, Anguka fled to the United States and was granted asylum. In exile, he published a book, *Absolute Power: The Ouko Murder Mystery* in which he named people whom he believes were involved in the murder plot, examined the police role in the cover-up, and listed possible motives for the assassination.

Claudia Anthony (Sierra Leone), journalist, has contributed to many independent newspapers in Freetown and to the BBC World Service. She is best known for writing about the rights of women and children. In February 1997, she founded her own paper, *Tribune of the People*. She is also the founder and executive director of the Alliance for Female Journalists in Sierra Leone. In January 1998, the ruling junta warned her to stop filing reports to the BBC, a serious threat in the context of Sierra Leone's brutal civil war. Anthony continued reporting. One month later, after that day's paper had published a story describing a looting incident carried out by a well-known rebel commander, armed rebels stormed her office. She escaped by pretending to be someone else. During the rebel invasion in January 1999, armed men damaged and looted the offices of *The Tribune of the People*, and it was forced to close. Anthony stayed in Freetown at great risk.

Taoufik Ben Brik (Tunisia) is one of the few journalists to break the silence of self-censorship that has pervaded the Tunisian press under President Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali. As a result, Ben Brik has repeatedly been the target of government harassment. His passport was confiscated to prevent him from leaving Tunisia; he was physically assaulted by presumed state agents; his phone lines are frequently cut, and his family's property has been vandalized by suspected plainclothes policemen. On April 3, 2000, Ben Brik was summoned before a state prosecutor for questioning about articles he wrote for European newspapers about the human rights situation in Tunisia. He then began a hunger strike to protest his treatment and that of other human rights defenders. After twenty-eight days, the government dropped the charges against him and gave him a new passport. Ben Brik continued his hunger strike until his brother was also released.

Yorro Jallow (The Gambia) is the founder and managing editor of the *Independent*, a bi-weekly newspaper that strives to provide an alternative to the country's pro-government press. One month after launching the paper, Jallow and his staff were arrested, held but not charged, threatened, and released. The next day, they were told to report to the National Intelligence Agency with documents relating to the newspaper's registration. After several weeks of hassling, the paper resumed publication. Jallow suspects the harassment is due, at least in part, to an editorial that the paper ran condemning human rights abuses committed in The Gambia.

Gakoko John (Uganda-Kenya) was born to a Tutsi Rwandan refugee family in southern Uganda and escaped to Kenya in 1981 when the Ugandan army accused his family of sympathizing with the rebels and murdered them all except his cousin and himself. He lived freely in Nairobi for more than a decade until a new Kenyan policy forced him into Kakuma Refugee Camp. In the camp, he has been writing articles and poetry for the newsletter and teaching in the adult education program. In 1996, when Hutu refugees arrived in Kakuma, they started to harass him, alleging that his writing showed a Tutsi bias that made him an unwelcome neighbor. In February 1998, they set fire to his house at 2 a.m. while he slept. He narrowly escaped and has been living in fear for his life.

Mohsen Kadivar (Iran) is a legal scholar whose writing on the theology of freedom has been critical of the doctrine of Velayat-e Faqih (Rule of the Supreme Jurist), an innovation in Shi'ite political thought instituted in Iran by Ayatollah Khomeini in 1979. This controversial theory places temporal and spiritual power in the hands of the most qualified religious scholar. Kadivar and an increasing number of religious scholars in Iran have questioned the religious authenticity of this form of autocratic rule. In 1999, Kadivar was convicted by the Special Court for Clergy and sentenced to eighteen months in prison on charges of having spread false information about Iran's "sacred system of the Islamic Republic" and of helping enemies of the Islamic revolution.

Zeljko Kopanja (Bosnia), editor of *Nezavisne Novine*, Bosnia's main independent paper, received numerous complaints and death threats after publication of front page articles giving detailed accounts of war crimes committed by Serbian armed forces in Bosnia. On October 22, 1999, he was seriously wounded when a bomb exploded as he opened his car door. Doctors were forced to amputate both his legs. The perpetrators have not been found, and Kopanja continues to write.

Christiana Lambrinidis (Greece) writes experimental conflict-resolution plays based on testimony of women living in areas of ethnic or political conflict. Following production of one play in Athens in 1998, she received death threats, there was a bomb scare at the theater, her women's literature seminar was canceled, government funding that had been promised was withheld, and book stores refused to stock her book.

Hamide Berisha-Latifi (Kosovo), journalist, received death threats, lost her job, was harassed, beaten, and arrested for her work as a writer. In March 1998, she discovered that her name was on a police “blacklist.” Soon afterward, after taking a photo of the police beating an Albanian student at a peaceful demonstration in Pristina, she was turned over to the police by a Serbian journalist. She pretended to be a foreigner and was released. Unable to work, she went to England, where she coordinated the Alliance of Kosova Journalists and edited its magazine, *Pa Cenzure-Uncensored*. In May 2000, she returned to Kosovo.

Li Shizheng (China), a journalist and poet, is widely known under his pen name Duo Duo. In 1989, while attending an international poetry festival, he gave interviews that made it dangerous for him to return to post-Tiananmen China. He settled in Holland and is struggling to publish.

Kadhim-Joni Mahdi (Iraq), fiction writer, was jailed in 1991 for speaking against the government and jailed again in 1994 for his involvement with a literary group. On release from prison, he fled via Jordan and Saudi Arabia to the United States where he was granted refugee status. He now lives in Phoenix, Arizona, and supports himself as a barber while trying to finish a novel.

Mamadali Makhmudov (Uzbekistan) is a poet in the traditional “dastan” style of epic verse, which typically features a hero with magical qualities. Under the Soviet government, the dastan was labeled “impregnated with the poison of feudalism” and Makhmudov was forced to repudiate his work. After the Soviet Union collapsed, his most famous work, *Immortal Cliffs*, was retroactively awarded the Cholpan Prize. In 1991, Makhmudov supported the political party of a fellow writer, Muhammad Salih. The party lost the elections and has been banned since 1993. Makhmudov was first arrested in 1994 when his house was raided and police produced a firearm as evidence that he was guilty of terrorism. This charge met with widespread disbelief and was dropped. Next he was charged with embezzlement and sentenced to four years in prison. An international campaign was mounted on his behalf, and when no evidence was produced, he was given a presidential amnesty and released. In February 1999, after a car bomb exploded in Tashkent, he was picked up and taken to an unknown location. He “reappeared” in May, was tried with little access to a lawyer, and sentenced to fourteen years in prison.

Nadire Mater (Turkey), journalist, writes about Turkish politics including the Kurdish issue. In 1999, she wrote *Mehmet's Book*, telling the stories of soldiers who fought in southeast Turkey. The book was published in April. A court banned it in June and ordered all remaining copies seized. Mater is on trial for “insulting the armed forces.” If convicted, she could be sentenced to six years in prison.

Alejandra Matus (Chile), journalist, received her first death threat after recording a radio program in which she recounted stories that aimed to give a voice to the poor. In 1994, after she published a story that exposed corruption in Santiago’s Military Hospital, complaints were filed against her for sedition and insulting the Chilean army. She narrowly escaped prosecution although the reports proved true. She continued political investigations, including inquiries into the “disappearance” of Chilean citizens under Pinochet and the murder of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier. In 1999 she published *The Black Book of Chilean Justice*, which was banned in Chile in April 1999. Facing arrest under a law that criminalizes “insulting” high government officials, she fled to the United States and was granted political asylum. At this writing, she does freelance reporting from Miami.

Tshimanga M’Baya (Democratic Republic of the Congo), journalist, is president and one of five founders of Journaliste en Danger (JED), a nongovernmental press freedom group that exposes and protests abuse and repression of journalists by the government of President Laurent Kabila. JED members have received countless anonymous telephone threats, been denounced as “traitors” in the pay of “imperialists,” detained, questioned by intelligence service agents, and physically attacked.

Shannon McFarlin (United States), former reporter at the *Celina Daily Standard*, won first prize for investigative reporting from the Ohio Associated Press and a Pulitzer Prize nomination in 1991 for a year-long series on the local sheriff that resulted in his resignation and conviction on criminal charges. In 1996, a new publisher took over management of the paper. At the time McFarlin was working on a story about possible misuse of public funds by the new school district superintendent. Before writing the story, she was fired and threatened with court action if she tried to contact any school official, even as a private citizen. She was maligned in *Daily Standard* editorials by the publisher and the mayor. In an attempt to clear her name, she asked for and was denied speaking time at a local school board meeting.

Yilmaz Odaba i (Turkey), poet, writer, and journalist, is a native of southeast Turkey. Odaba i was first arrested at age nineteen following the September 1980 military coup and charged with “disseminating separatist propaganda.” He was held for several weeks during which he reported being tortured. In 1987, he was arrested again, prosecuted for membership in the Socialist Party, and sentenced to eight years in prison, but the sentence was overturned by the Turkish Supreme Court. In 1994, he served ten months in prison for writing about the uprising of Seihk Said. In 1998, he served six months of an eighteen-month sentence for writing *Dreams and Life*, a collection of essays on poetry and culture. In March 2000, he was returned to prison on a seven-month sentence for “insulting the court,” a charge arising from comments he made while on trial.

Carlos Pulgarin (Colombia) is a journalist at *El Tiempo*, a Bogota-based national daily newspaper. Soon after Pulgarin reported on the assassination of indigenous activists by right-wing paramilitary forces, he began receiving death threats accusing him of being a front for the revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, Colombia’s largest guerrilla movement. He spent two months in hiding, worked anonymously for three months without further harassment, and then the threats resumed. He was kidnapped and held briefly, so he fled to Peru where he made great efforts to conceal his whereabouts. But after a few weeks, he was again receiving threatening messages. The Peruvian government agreed to provide police protection for a limited period, and journalist groups arranged for him to go to Spain where he is seeking political asylum.

Reach Sambath (Cambodia), journalist for Agence France-Presse, has been on his own since the age of thirteen when his entire family except one brother was wiped out by the Khmer Rouge. In the past seven years, he has covered two elections, the death of Pol Pot, and various human rights and political issues. He has also been a volunteer journalism teacher in Phnom Penh.

Svetlana Slapsak (Serbia), university professor, has written fifteen books on semantics and literature, political essays, and a mock-adventure novel. She and her husband, a Slovenian, were active in the peace movement, and when war broke out, Slapsak was branded a traitor and fired. Unable to find work in Belgrade, she took a part-time job at the university in Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, where her husband is a professor. She organized a women’s group, “Silence kills; Let’s speak up for peace!” This caused two colleagues to denounce her as a “Serbian spy,” and she lost her part-time position. In 1995, she started a feminist quarterly, *ProFemina*, in Belgrade. It has been continually attacked by the state media. Several days after the NATO bombing began, police seized the building where *ProFemina* was located and took all its papers. *ProFemina* is now registered in Montenegro.

Abdolkarim Soroush (Iran), scholar and a leading proponent of political reform within the Islamic Republic, is the author of many books on Islamic philosophy. He has been banned from teaching since 1994. He has received harassing phone calls threatening him with imprisonment

if he continues to criticize the government, and has been subjected to intimidation and physical assault by religious conservatives and their supporters. He has periodically been denied permission to travel to international conferences.

Vu Thu Hien (Vietnam), writer of fiction and film scripts, was arrested in 1967 and held in prison without trial for eight years. Apparently Vu Thu Hien's arrest related to his father's disagreements with the leadership of the Vietnamese Communist Party, his father having been a high ranking party official until 1963. After Vu Thu Hien's release from prison, he wrote under a pseudonym, including a novel that won first prize from the Vietnam Writers Association in 1989. All the while, he was under surveillance by the Cultural Police. In 1993, he fled to Moscow, but word that he was writing a memoir leaked to the Vietnamese Embassy and Hanoi's secret police searched his apartment. He moved to Poland where he was warned that another attack was imminent. This forced him to flee and seek political asylum in Paris.

Pavel Zhuk (Belarus), editor of successive newspapers, has struggled to provide an independent source of news and analysis in the face of government efforts to silence all alternative views in Belarus. In November 1997, *Svaboda* was shut down by the Lukashenka regime in retaliation for coverage of the political opposition. Zhuk and his staff continued to produce an Internet version and resumed publishing in print in January 1998 under a new name, *Naviny*. In September 1999, after losing a libel suit filed by the head of Belarus' Security Council, *Naviny* was forced to close. Police raided Zhuk's home in an effort to collect the libel fine. He again continued publication via the Internet. In October the regime suspended registration of nine independent publications, including *Nasha Svaboda*, Zhuk's intended replacement for *Naviny*, which had not yet published its first issue. Zhuk's coverage of an anti-government demonstration in mid-October prompted the regime to order tax inspectors to audit *Naviny*'s advertisers and its printer. The police issued an arrest warrant for Zhuk, who spent several weeks in hiding. International pressure caused the regime to suspend its pursuit of Zhuk and helped restore registration for *Nasha Svaboda*, which as of June 2000 was publishing five days a week and was posted on the Internet.

MISSIONS

Africa Division

Angola: Advocacy, including report release (December 1999).

Belgium: Advocacy (December 1999).

Burundi: Research; work with local nongovernmental organizations (December 1999, February-April, August-September).

Democratic Republic of Congo: Research; advocacy on government measures to demobilize child soldiers and for the release of long-term political prisoners in Kinshasa; work with local nongovernmental organizations (December 1999, February-April, May, August-September).

Guinea: Research on treatment of refugees from Sierra Leone and Liberia and attacks on Guinean civilians by suspected rebels from Sierra Leone and Liberia (September).

Malawi: Advocacy regarding ratification of the Rome Treaty to establish the International Criminal Court; work with national nongovernmental organizations on campaign plans for speedy ratification (October).

Namibia: Advocacy regarding ratification of the Rome Treaty to establish the International Criminal Court; work with national nongovernmental organizations on campaign plans for speedy ratification (October).

Netherlands: Advocacy (December 1999).

Nigeria: Research on the deteriorating situation in the Delta; and work with local nongovernmental organizations (November-December 1999).

Republic of Congo: Research, Brazzaville (May).

Rwanda: Research and advocacy; work with local nongovernmental organizations (December 1999, February-April, August-September).

South Africa: Research on sexual violence and harassment in the schools and the right to education (March-April); follow-up research and hold workshops on farm violence and the criminal justice system, in partnership with the National Land Committee, a local nongovernmental organization (September); advocacy on the International Criminal Court (October).

Swaziland: Advocacy on the International Criminal Court (October).

Uganda: Research on the northern border of Kenya on the relief effort in Sudan and work with local nongovernmental organizations (July); work with local nongovernmental organizations (December 1999, February-April, May, August-September).

Zambia: Advocacy during the World Bank's Consultative Group meeting; release of report with Afronet, a local nongovernmental organization (December 1999).

Americas Division

Brazil: Meet with government officials to discuss recent developments in policy affecting human rights (October).

Colombia: Research in the area of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, FARC) on laws of war violations (May-June).

Chile: Attended appeals court hearings on Pinochet's immunity (April); meetings with officials and human rights lawyers to discuss Pinochet case and freedom of expression concerns (June).

Haiti: Research on the post-election parliamentary situation and continued human rights abuses since the OAS/U.N.'s mission departure (June-July).

Panama: Mission to intercede with Panamanian government not to grant political asylum to former Peruvian spy-master, Vladimiro Montesinos (October).

Peru: Research election conditions (March); research conditions for run-off election (May); observer of meeting of Peruvian NGOs with OAS representative Lloyd Axworthy and OAS Secretary General Cesar Gaviria (June-July); observed election protests (July).

Asia Division

Austria: Advocacy, U.N. Crimes Commission Congress (April); research on Trafficking (June).

China: Participant in a U.N. workshop on human rights in the Asia Pacific region, Beijing (March).

Cambodia: Advocacy with Cambodian NGOs and government officials about draft legislation to try Khmer Rouge leaders and to monitor negotiations between the U.N. and the Cambodia government on establishing a tribunal (January); research on the situation of Vietnamese asylum-seekers in Cambodia and UNHCR policy towards them (March); research and networking with Cambodian NGOs working on the issue of confiscation of indigenous minority lands by the Cambodian military for a case due to go to trial in December (November, 1999).

East Timor and Indonesia: Research of continuing obstacles to justice (establishing accountability) for the terror and destruction in East Timor after the U.N.-supervised vote in September 1999 (August); research in East Timor and West Timor (October-November 1999).

India: Convened a meeting of state representatives to the National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights—a nationwide NGO coalition born out of Human Rights Watch's work on caste-based abuse and discrimination in India—on future campaign strategies; advocacy in several national-level campaign events, including a protest rally in the capital that culminated in the submission of 2.5 million signatures to India's prime minister demanding the abolishment of "untouchability"; trial observer during the Justice Mohan Commission hearings in Tamil Nadu, set up to look into allegations of excessive use of force by the police during labor protests that resulted in the deaths of seventeen lower-caste laborers on July 23, 1999, in Tirunelveli district (December 1999).

Japan: Advocacy (June).

Malaysia: Research on treatment of Burmese refugees in Malaysia (November-December).

Sri Lanka: Attended the Neelan Tiruchelvam Commemoration in Colombo, held to honor the life and work of Neelan Tiruchelvam, a renowned Tamil human rights activist who was killed in a LTTE suicide bombing in 1999 (January/February).

Switzerland: Advocacy in Geneva at the Preparatory Meeting for Beijing +5 (January); advocacy at the U.N. Commission on Human Rights (April); present at first prepcom for the U.N. World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance; advocacy for the inclusion of caste and other forms of descent-based discrimination on the agenda, with Dalit NGO representatives of the International Dalit Solidarity Network (May); advocacy on Malaysia refugee report through meetings with UNHCR and donor governments (July); UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting (September-October).

Thailand: Advocacy at meeting of the Asian Development Bank and People's Forum 2000 and an alternative NGO gathering convened prior to the ADB Meeting (May 2000); concerning the International Criminal Court (June); at the Asia regional Experts Meeting in preparation for the U.N. World Conference Against (September); the International Conference on Corruption, Democracy and Development (September); the Regional Seminar on Job Discrimination Against Women (September); and participation in a meeting on Research Training on Trafficking of Women. Research on changes in Thai policy toward Burmese refugees and on forced relocation of villages in Burma (February/March).

United Kingdom: Convened London meeting resulting in the formation of the International Dalit Solidarity Network (March); advocacy to release report, *Reform or Repression? Post-Coup Abuses in Pakistan* (October); advocacy (October).

United States: Observer at the World Trade Organization summit December 1999 in Seattle, Washington (December, 1999); legislative Hearings on Sexual Abuse of Women in Prison (October); General Assembly Special Session on Women (June).

Europe and Central Asia Division

Austria: Attend OSCE migration seminar (September).

Azerbaijan: Research, human rights in the pre-election period (September-October); research (May).

Belarus: Research, allegations of labor rights violations in Minsk, Gomel, Mogilev, Brest, and Belarus (December 1999).

Belgium: Advocacy, meetings with the E.U. on Turkey and Central Asia (November 1999 and May).

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Research on refugee returns (March, May, October).

Croatia: Research, pre-election conditions (November 1999).

Czech Republic: Attend IMF/World Bank annual meetings (September).

Europe: Advocacy on Chechnya and Central Asia in Czech Republic, Poland, France, and Switzerland (March).

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia/Kosovo: Research on war crimes (November 1999); research on impunity and security in post-war Kosovo, particularly as they affect minorities (May).

Serbia: Research on post-election transition (October).

France: Advocacy on Chechnya at the Council of Europe (January, April, September); attended Europe regional meeting for World Conference Against Racism (September-October).

Georgia: Advocacy for release of report (September); ongoing research from Tbilisi office.

Germany: Advocacy, on the current situation in Kosovo (April).

Ireland: Attend Council of Europe Human Rights Conference (March).

Russia: Ongoing research and advocacy through Moscow office; ongoing presence in Ingushetia to research abuses in Chechnya (November 1999 to May 2000).

Switzerland: Advocacy on Central Asia at the U.N. Commission on Human Rights (March); meeting on migrants' rights issues (Sept.-Oct. 2000).

Tajikistan: Ongoing research from Dushanbe office through May 2000.

Turkey: Attended OSCE Summit (November 1999); attended Turkish Human Rights Association's conference on prison conditions and investigated conditions in small-group isolation prisons (January 2000); met with civil society and government officials regarding prison conditions and planned reform; released a report on prison conditions (May); monitored trial of journalist Nadire Mater (September).

Uzbekistan: Ongoing research and advocacy from Tashkent office. Research on violence against women (May-June).

Middle East and North Africa Division

Algeria: Research and government meetings (May).

Egypt: Government meetings (March); research (August/September).

Geneva: Advocacy (July).

Iran: Research (April-May).

Israel/PA: Advocacy (May); NGO and government meetings (June); research on recent violence (October).

Jordan: Research (February/March, August/September).

Kuwait: Research (April).

Lebanon: Research (May); trial observation (June).

Morocco: Conference-workshop on improving NGO advocacy (March).

Yemen: Advocacy and consultation with nongovernmental organizations (February).

Arms Division

Belgium: Participation in Landmine Monitor Researchers Meeting (February).

Bulgaria: Advocacy, Sofia (December).

Denmark: Advocacy, presentation on the humanitarian impact of arms flows to Africa (June).

Egypt: Participation in Landmine Monitor Regional Researchers Workshop and Regional Conference on Landmines (April).

France: Advocacy, public events on landmines, Paris, and ICBL coordination committee meeting (September).

Netherlands: Participation in Landmine Monitor Researchers Meeting (May).

South Africa: Meeting with government officials and other contacts in advance of the release of report on South Africa's arms trade and human rights (October).

Sweden: Participation in meeting on corruption in the arms trade co-hosted by Sweden's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Transparency International (February).

Switzerland: Participation in diplomatic meeting on stockpile destruction and in first meeting of states parties to Protocol II or Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW) (December 1999); participation in diplomatic meeting on general operation and status of mine ban treaty (January); participation in ICBL coordination committee meeting (May); participation in diplomatic meeting on stockpile destruction and on general operation and status of mine ban treaty (May); participation in the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Mine Ban Treaty (September).

Ukraine: Participation in Landmine Monitor Regional Researchers Workshop (October).

United States: Participation in U.S. Campaign to Ban Landmines events in Des Moines, Iowa (January); briefing on "Landmines in Mozambique" to conference co-sponsored by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the U.S. Department of State and the National Intelligence Council in Washington DC (April); participation in General Electric shareholders annual meeting in support of resolution on GE's landmine production in Richmond, Virginia (April); participation in Peacejam board meeting in New York City on behalf of Jody Williams (June); participation in U.S. Campaign to Ban Landmines events in Washington D.C. (July); participation in Carnegie Endowment for International Peace event (September); small arms seminar hosted by NISAT and the Red Cross (October).

Children's Rights Division

Canada: Participation in the International Conference on War-Affected Children (September).

Hungary: Participation in UNICEF-sponsored conference: "Children Deprived of Parental Care: Rights and Realities" (October).

Nepal: Participation in Asia-Pacific Conference on the Use of Children as Soldiers (May).

Switzerland: Advocacy at the U.N. Working Group negotiating the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (January); participation in the Committee on the Rights of the Child day of discussion on state violence against children (September).

United States: Child Farmworkers in the United States (June 1999-April 2000); violence and Discrimination against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Students in U.S. Public Schools (October 1999-October 2000); California, Georgia, Kansas, Massachusetts, New York, Texas, Utah Discrimination Against Girls in South African Schools (March-April).

Women's Rights Division

Algeria: Research, violence against women during the armed conflict and discrimination against women in family law (May).

Guatemala: Research, labor rights of female live-in domestic workers as well as maquiladora workers (May-June).

Netherlands: Advocacy in The Hague to discuss sex crimes during the Kosovo conflict (May).

United Kingdom: Advocacy in London to discuss report on Kosovo, *Rape as a Weapon of "Ethnic Cleansing,"* and the OSCE (October).

Morocco: Research and advocacy on discrimination and violence against women in the family (June-July).

Peru: Research, violence against women in the family (December 1999).

South Africa: Research, violence and discrimination against female farm workers (March-April, September).

United States: Research on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues in California, Georgia, Kansas, Massachusetts, New York, Texas, and Utah (October 1999-October 2000); research into sexual abuse in women's prisons (January-February).

Uzbekistan: Research, violence against women in the family (May-June).

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