

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE PROGRAMME  
of the  
WELSH CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. GENERAL COMMENTS

(a) The Welsh Centre for International Affairs Brochure contains information on the background, objectives, structure of the Centre and also a list of the Organisations and Institutions represented on the Standing Conference.

(b) The Centre will endeavour to maintain a maximum of flexibility that will enable it to initiate studies of whatever problems seem the most urgent at the time. It will recognise the importance of the theory of international relations, involve itself in projects of a practical application, and endeavour to prepare workable solutions to the problems it tackles. As part of this practical concern, the Centre will endeavour to adopt an interdisciplinary approach bringing together administrators, academics, industrialists, lawyers, politicians, scientists and trade unionists.

(c) The Centre will endeavour to foster activities, through the medium of the Welsh and English languages, in all parts of Wales. These might best be done on a County basis. Discussions could take place with the County Council representatives and appropriate Standing Conference members to examine how best activities could be generated in their areas, and whether any County Committee structure need be established. Enclosed is a list of the services which the Centre would endeavour to supply in each Authority area.

(d) In the practical functioning of the Centre, due note will have to be paid to the fact that, although Standing Conference members are very interested in international affairs, this is invariably not the prime function of their organisation. It may be, therefore, assumed that their representatives would prefer not to be involved in too many Committees, but rather associate themselves with the Centre in a more practical way, when projects and proposals, in which they would like to be involved, arise.

At the Annual Meeting of the Centre of course, member organisations will frame the general policy outlines, within which the more specific activities would operate.

2. SPECIFIC PROJECTS

(a) 1973-4 Population and Development

1974 is World Population Year, the highlight of which is to be a major United Nations Conference in Bucharest in August.

— A Youth Forum will take place side by side with the inter-Governmental Conference and, to prepare for this, Conferences are being organised in various member countries of the United Nations.

The Conference for young people of the United Kingdom is being organised by the Welsh Centre for International Affairs at Cardiff, 14th - 16th December 1973, in conjunction with the Centre for Population Growth Studies, University College, Cardiff, and

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financed by a grant from the UN Fund for Population Activities.

The conclusions will be sent to Her Majesty's Government as it prepares its official papers for the Bucharest Conference.

The UNFPA has invited the Director of the Welsh Centre for International Affairs to co-ordinate the United Kingdom follow-up programme.

Appropriate member organisations of the Welsh Centre for International Affairs Standing Conference have been invited to send delegates, together with organisations throughout the United Kingdom interested in the topic.

A Public Meeting on the theme of 'Population and Development' will be held at Bridgend on Friday, 15th March 1974, prior to the Annual General Meeting of the UN Association, with a distinguished speaker.

(b) 1974-5 The Settlement of International Disputes

With the Middle East crisis very much in our minds, and also the 'Cod War' with Iceland, an examination of the ways in which international disputes can be settled in a nuclear age would prove instructive and invaluable.

(i) Political Aspects, e.g. can disputes be eliminated by better education or communication, or is learning how to manage more effectively and less dangerously the clashes in policy which inevitably arise between states the best that can be done?

(ii) Legal Aspects, e.g. is the existing framework of international machinery for the settlement of disputes satisfactory, what use is actually made of it, how can its structure and effectiveness be improved?

(iii) UN Peacekeeping Forces - How can they be made more effective? how far are they military in essence or what degree of community participation is required?

(iv) Problems of Peaceful Change. A specific case study could be the law of the Sea and Sea-bed. The UN is scheduled to hold a conference on the Law of the Sea in 1974.

Discussions are being undertaken with Brigadier Michael Harbottle, former UN Chief of Staff in Cyprus, with a view to holding a Conference on this subject in NE Wales in late 1974.

(c) 1975 - Environmental Studies

The David Davies Memorial Institute, a constituent organisation of the Centre is studying the uses of waters around the United Kingdom. Discussions have taken place with a view to holding a Conference in West Wales on the Celtic Sea in 1975.

(d) 1975-6. The Role of the Superpowers with special reference to the USA on the 200th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It is said that 18 of the 55 signatories of the Declaration were of Welsh extraction.

(a), (b), (c) and (d) are, of course, large themes emerging in contemporary international relations. The study of these would continue to be pursued and the Conference and studies followed up in an appropriate way. The fact that specific projects would be high-lighted does not mean the exclusion of other issues.

(e) Schools' Curriculum Project

CEWC-Cymru is considering a curriculum development project for 15-18 age group from an internationalist viewpoint.

A distinctive feature would be the attention given to the methods of presentation and modes of student involvement.

The final stage would be the publication of materials for general use and the holding of short courses (in association, it is hoped, with the Department of Education and Science and/or Faculties of Education) for teachers intending to use materials developed in the Project.

3. POLICY VIS-A-VIS INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGNS, UN AGENCIES AND UK CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEES

The Centre would also see it as part of its general policy to co-ordinate the Wales response to international campaigns. This function has already been carried out in the past at the Temple of Peace, e.g. 1954 UNICEF Campaign, 1960 World Refugee Year, 1962 Freedom From Hunger Campaign, 1965 International Co-operation Year, 1968 Human Rights Year, 1970 Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the UN.

The Centre would also try to act as the co-ordinating point in Wales, through which links with the UN Agencies are established, such as the UN Fund for Population Activities, as in the Population and Development Conference described above, UNICEF, with which the UN Association has contacts, UNESCO, with which CEWC concerns itself, and with the Food and Agricultural Organisation, of which the FFHC(Wales) is part.

The Voluntary Committee for Overseas Aid and Development (VCOAD) is the Committee which co-ordinates the information and educational programme of the various aid agencies and which receives considerable Governmental support. Consideration is being given to extending the VCOAD structure to Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales. If this materialises, a paper is before the VCOAD (UK) Committee proposing that VCOAD (Wales) be based at the Centre and form a development centre within the Welsh Centre for International Affairs.

4. POLICY VIS-A-VIS RESEARCH STAFF, LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS

In the immediate future, the Centre would have no permanent research staff. It would work through ad hoc groups, conferences and seminars. This is clearly an area where close contact with representatives of the relevant departments of the constituent Colleges of the University of Wales is necessary and, in time, it may well be that a Welsh Centre for International Affairs/University of Wales Fellowship of some kind could be established.

In this area, too, lies the publication of a Journal, of books, pamphlets, reports and papers on important long-term problems, and the publication of papers dealing with more immediate matters, and also the building up of a library. The Journal could initially be published on an annual basis containing reports of research and selected contributions by authors in Wales on aspects of international affairs.

.... A list of publications already received is appended.

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## 5. STAFFING

The administrative planning of the Welsh Centre for International Affairs proceeded from the paper containing recommendations of the Officers approved by the UN Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Committee, at its meeting on the 31st March 1970. It was based upon the following principles:

- (i) that the existing machinery at the Temple of Peace be used as extensively as possible to avoid duplication of effort, to cut administrative costs, and to achieve the maximum economy.
- (ii) that the UN Association, Council for Education in World Citizenship-Cymru, Freedom From Hunger Campaign, and the David Davies Memorial Institute serve as executive agencies of the Centre, whose work would be co-ordinated by the Director, working through the Co-Ordinating Committee.

When sufficient funds become available, the posts of Secretary of the Centre, Information Officer and Editor, and Youth and International Service Officer would be separately created. In the meantime, the Assistant Secretaries of UNA and CEWC would act in Centre matters as assistants to the Director in their respective spheres. The Director would remain the Chief Executive of the organisations of the Co-Ordinating Committee to ensure the maximum co-ordination.

In effect, the Centre now has a Director backed by two assistants. (There is no need to appoint a special Schools' Officer, as schools in Wales are well covered by CEWC., one of the Centre's constituent organisations).

Approaches are being made to H.M. Government, County Councils, Industry and Commerce, Trusts, and to any other potential sources of finance, to enable the Centre to expand to its target of five executive and five secretarial staff.

Details of the ways in which it is proposed to implement the general policies of the Centre can best be gleaned from the 'job descriptions' of the staff. The number of staff and the volume of activity is, of course, governed by the availability of funds.