



ARC•PEACE

International Architects Designers Planners for Social Responsibility

NEWSLETTER No 59 March 2019

HUMANITARIAN AID AS A POLITICAL WEAPON

Editorial / Page 2



VENEZUELA: PREY OF THE AVARICIOUS

The enormous natural wealth added to the mistakes of Maduro personalistic government is suffered by millions of Venezuelans who live hungry and sick when not emigrate. *Left:* shipments of medicines and food are destroyed by the inhumane regime, which accuses neighbouring countries of trying to invade Venezuela. *Right:* the necessary participants in this crime: Nicolás Maduro, Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping.



Scientists for Global Responsibility
Scientists • Architects • Engineers • Technologists

Science and the corporate agenda
The detrimental effects of commercial influence on science and technology
Chris Langley and Stuart Parkinson

SGR
Promoting ethical science, design and technology

TOURIST RIO DE JANEIRO IS DECLARED BY UNESCO AND UIA "WORLD CAPITAL OF ARCHITECTURE"

ARC • PEACE is surveying whether to hold its 21st General Assembly in Rio (07/15/2020). *Page 4*



Left: "Science and the Corporate Agenda" by Chris Langley and Stuart Parkinson (from 'Scientists for Social Responsibility', SGR / UK) is a very revealing book. *Page 3*

HOUSING IN SUDAN PRESERVES SUSTAINABLE CULTURE

Left: Design and build constructions employ low energy consumption materials. *Page 5*



Right: colleague Mewahib Yagoub initiates a new stage of humanitarian aid, at Oxford, England. *Page 7*



YOU WILL FIND MORE ARTICLES INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER. THANKS FOR READING AND SHARING!

Humanitarian Aid as a Political Weapon

Immediately after the rulers of a sovereign State become corrupt, groups of activists defend them.

They are just agents of a spurious regime subsidized by the Taxpayers.

With the speed with which the quality of life of the ordinary citizen worsens, the corrupt ones' improves.

It is typical of populisms to transfer to their historical external and internal enemies the problems that they themselves create to their people. Clinging to power, they use time only to orchestrate solutions that fit their own interests. With fiery 'patriotic' speeches they loudly proclaim these decisions through the State propaganda; an apparatus paid for by the citizens. In a bellicose and offensive tone they repeat the Official Story with slogans built on non existing invincible forces, to silence the voices of those who think differently.

Shamelessly, they employ right and left ideologies as and when it suits them best in each situation, hoping to justify their blatant absolutist aims.

This exercise of public power is at the antipodes of a society in true freedom.

Such is the case of Venezuela, one among many birthplaces of men who fought to make the New World independent from the imperial Spain conquerors and colonizers. A very rich state like the 'Bolivarian' is purposely impoverished by this political class that imposes its greedy vision with a discourse as puerile as it is aggressive.

It is believed it does cover the lie, theft and violence, under the pretext of improving citizens' quality of life.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, said these days, *"The situation in Venezuela clearly illustrates the way in which violations of civil and political rights may accentuate a decline in economic and social rights."*¹

From a site that demands total impartiality, the former president of Chile remains faithful to her political convictions. She left it in evidence when adding that the political, economic and social crisis in the South American country has been *"exacerbated by international sanctions"*, alluding to the United States, the European Union and most of the American States. But, she took great care not to mention the support that the Chavista regime receives from powers such as China and Russia (in addition to Cuba, Turkey and other dictatorships), which Maduro freely chooses as his business ideal partners.

What really irritates those of us who try to be part of the solution - not of the problem - is the political set of decisions rejecting the help needed by millions of victims, as offered from neighbouring countries. That humanitarian aid is considered a territorial invasion! The easiest thing would be to put aside that tedious victimization and accept the help of recognized international organizations, such as the Red Cross².

That is an institution whose organized human efforts are always ready where and when it is necessary to impartiality assist the most vulnerable and weak. **Even though it does not come from governments the Chavista regime does not allow any outside help!**

The Swiss Henry Dunant founded the Red Cross after assisting wounded in battlefields in 1859: and, since 1863, it was expanded to include prevention and care for those who suffer at all times and in all places: the victims of armed conflicts; those of natural and other disasters in times of peace; preventive actions in favour of Social Welfare and quality of life, and other social actions.

These aids are based on 'International Humanitarian Law' and include: Mediation; Assistance to prisoners and refugees; Prevention and relief; Health; Action against disasters; Relief (roadside assistance, etc.); Development cooperation; Plans for peace; Defence of Human Rights, Environment. To this help we should add countless person to person small efforts daily made from over the world.

How can anyone deny hunger, disease and the absence of equal opportunities, such as those suffered by Venezuelans?

We support from this editorial all programs meant to resolve conflicts via peaceful mediation, re-establishes internal peace, and allows millions of displaced persons to come back home. We always want to collaborate from our professions advocating public awareness on the benefits that social peace brings around the world.

The Editor

Notes

1)<https://elcomercio.pe/mundo/venezuela/crisis-venezuela-michelle-bachelet-dice-crisis-pais-sido-exacerbada-sanciones-nicolas-maduro-noticia-nndc-613991>

2)<https://www.cruzroja.es/principal/web/cruz-roja/nuestra-historia>

Post-truth imposes its Story from the UN and the information industry



Left: the UN High Commissioner, Michelle Bachelet, makes statements of the investigations on the transgressions to the UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights), in Venezuela. Soon after, a plague occupied the media defending the interests of irresponsible and hypocritical individuals that violate the Common Welfare.

EL PAIS

DIARIO INDEPENDIENTE DE LA HABANA

"The UN sends a team to Venezuela to investigate human rights crimes. The mission will visit the country between March 11 and 22 at the invitation of the Government of Nicolás Maduro." Such are the typical titling and subtitling by the incongruous Post-truth tales.

https://elpais.com/internacional/2019/03/08/actualidad/1552036811_386231.html

Harmful Effects of Trade on the Pacific Use of Technology

This is an unmissable scientific analysis of the influence of human activities on the destruction of sustainable life on Earth; as summoned by NL from "Science and the Corporate Agenda", a highly recommended book by British professors Chris Langley and Stuart Parkinson.

Very few doubt that the globalized tendency is to accumulate wealth to dominate the world. The authors of this excellent research confirm this when they say:

"It is no secret that the links between the commercial sector and science and technology are increasing. Many policymakers, business leaders and members of the scientific community argue that this is positive for both science and society." Those who profit from a trade without thinking about its harmful effects should read this:

"There is growing evidence that the science marketing agenda brings with it a wide range of detrimental effects, including biases, conflicts of interest, a narrowing of the research agenda and a misrepresentation of the results of the research activity."

The findings that Langley and Parkinson share are the result of having penetrated deep into the harmful effects detected in 5 dominant sectors:

1. Pharmaceutical products; 2. Tobacco; 3. Military / Defense; 4. Oil and Gas; 5. Biotechnology.

In this first article we will comment only two summaries of such harmful effects of commercial influence on science, engineering and technology (SET): *I. In the military and defense industry. II. In the oil and gas industry.*



I. In the military and defense industry.

I.1. Negative influence on the direction of the research agenda.

I.1.1. Strong support is created for a weapon-based high-tech security approach that marginalizes the consideration of alternative approaches.

I.1.2. Public financing of military research and development (R & D) is large compared to several important civil sectors, such as health and the environment. Much of military R & D is used to finance work within the industry, which is forging ever-growing links with universities. This reduces available scientific and technological resources to address urgent non-military problems in areas such as poverty reduction and environmental protection.

I.1.3. Corporate participation confers a business spirit on the research environment, which can make it difficult to alter native and non-commercial ways of understanding security problems.

I.1.4. The presence of military corporations as funders or consumers of experience on the university campus (in training or teaching) is associated in the minds of researchers and policy makers with a sense of prestige. This encourages the search for more financing of this type.

I.2. Negative influence on the direction and results of specific research studies (both intentional and unintentional).

I.2.1. Consortia involving military companies and / or their governmental partners reduce non-military work that could be undertaken individually by researchers.

I.2.2. Some limited evidence that less peer-reviewed publications have military support.

I.3. Negative influence on a greater openness in research studies.

I.3.1. R & D financed by the military, government and corporate sector in universities tends to be carried out in a less transparent manner than work not financed with military funds.

Secrecy and evasion can prevent a more open and healthy discussion of the investigation.

I.4. Negative influence in public perception and interpretation of research results.

I.4.1. Military corporations strongly promote a high-tech approach based on weapons in public forums, when dealing with security problems, including R & D in support of that approach.

I.4.2. To carry out their lobbies, the military corporations use their own managers, as well as the representatives of the military and aerospace industry as a whole.

This is how their security agendas and their priorities related to R & D come together, both in the public and private sectors.

Pakistan and India face the possibility of a nuclear war

India has called for the safe and immediate return of the fighter pilot captured by Pakistan after incursion into Kashmir against an extremist group in its training camp. It was in retaliation for the death of at least 40 Indian troops in a previous attack.

For its part, Pakistan claims to have shot down two Indian military aircraft, and captured one of its pilots (right photo). Imran Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, asked without euphemism to his Indian counterpart:



"Can we really afford a miscalculation with the weapons that both nations have?"

Translated and Adapted by The Editor of the link: Tribune News Service, 02/28/2019.

(Read Part II of this article on NL#60)

Rio de Janeiro: World Capital of Architecture for 2020

Chilean **Ernesto Ottone Ramírez** (left picture), UNESCO vice director general of Culture; American **Thomas Vonier** (central picture), International Union of Architects (UIA) president; and Brazilian **Verena Vicentini Andreatta** (right picture), Rio de Janeiro Municipal Secretary of Urbanisme, announced this designation which will be used to designate future UIA Congress venues.

Ernesto Ottone said that "This initiative marks the commitment of UNESCO and the UIA to preserve the architectural heritage in an urban context", and that Rio de Janeiro will show "the crucial role of architecture in the culture and sustainable urban development."

In accordance with the collaboration agreement between UNESCO and the UIA, the tourist city will also host the XXVII World Congress of the UIA in 2020, an event held every three years at elected venues in different Continents.



The World Capital of Architecture will thus become an international forum for debate on pressing global challenges from the perspectives of culture, cultural heritage, urban planning and architecture.

As the first World Capital of Architecture, Rio de Janeiro prepares a series of events under the motto "**All worlds. One world**", and will promote the 11th Objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

"To make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable."

Various Rio institutions work on projects with the participation of architects, urban planners, artists, writers, social groups and political representatives.

ARC•PEACE IBERO AMERICA WORKS ON 'PALMA – RIO 2020'

A work team operates from Balearic and Canary Islands (Spain), Chile and California (USA)

Adapted by The Editor

<https://es.unesco.org/news/rio-janeiro-brasil-nombrada-capital-mundial-arquitectura-2020>

The nomination decided by UIA and UNESCO for Rio de Janeiro (July 2020), will undoubtedly summon thousands of guests in Rio de Janeiro. And it awoke an immediate reaction in members of ARC•PEACE Ibero America, the Spanish-speaking associate.

The Editor learned that after a series of work meetings between January and the beginning of this month, the bases were laid for organizing a series of events in Palma de Mallorca, capital of the Balearic Islands. The possibility of carrying out some of these events simultaneously in Rio was evaluated, since both are linked by the fact that they are tourist centres receiving visitors from all over the world.

The project aims to give participation to children from 6 to 13 years of age, and to show through drawings, paintings and models the vision they have of the urban space in which they live.

The organizers hope that in July 2020 a selection of children works from Palma and Rio will be displayed at the headquarters of the XXI General Assembly of ARC • PEACE International. Another activity will be the realization of a children mini soccer tournament. The champion would travel to Rio to play a match with the representative team from Rio.

The plastic arts teacher **Teresa Ruiz de Lobera** will coordinate the urban work with the children. With a degree from the UK, in addition to creating and exhibiting her works, Teresa spends time teaching children and adults to paint and model.



Based in Chile, Uruguayan businessman **Marcelo González** assesses the sport event. He is a driving force behind the Mini Football worldwide.



Head of Chile's Mini Football Association since 2017, he is mentor of the World Tournament whose 2019 edition will be played in Australia.

These activities would be impossible if there was no team of collaborators. Thanks to a number of great friends with convictions, drive and goodwill, this team is taking shape and is already operating in Europe and America.

Marcelo Morales is a Uruguayan whose passion and special human qualities make him very valuable as a PR Coordinator.



Sergio Brandoni is from the city of Rosario, Argentina. His task is to ensure quality and fluency to communications that are sent from Palma.



Sergio aims at finding innovation and seriousness that make attractive and reliable all publications.

Alan Hernández is from Los Angeles, California, USA. With a vast experience as audiovisuals and websites creator, he is also a producer.



His contribution comes with the typical quality 'Made in USA', and the human warmth that distinguishes him.



Leticia Baldomir is from Uruguay, lives in the Canary Islands, and has a passion for human relations, like Marcelo Morales.

From Las Palmas de Gran Canaria Leticia is a key contribution to the image this project wishes to show.

Research and information by The Editor

HOUSING IN SUDAN THAT PRESERVES SUSTAINABLE CULTURE

A Sudanese scholar supports the transfer of technology to solve the construction crisis in his country



Dr. Akram Ahmed Elkhalifa Elhassan

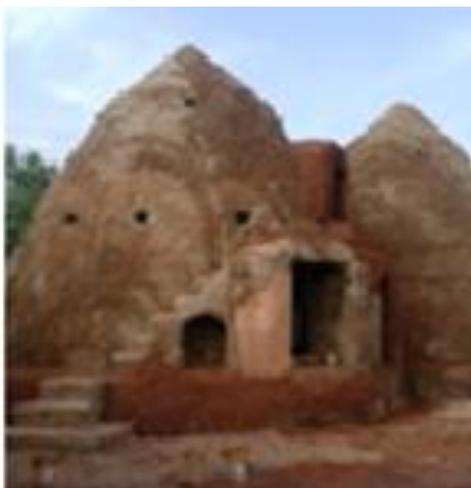
works in the Department of Administration and Economy of Construction, in the Faculty of Architecture, University of Khartoum, Sudan.

The Sudanese colleague has studied in Germany the issues of population growth and high rates of urbanization, which as he explains are those that "exert greater pressure on the provision of adequate and affordable housing and add more challenges to urban problems".

He agrees with those who see that in developing countries, such as Sudan, "the informal sector dominates the provision of housing for the middle and lower income classes." It is in them that "building materials represent one of the main issues to consider" declares.

He further highlights the important role played in developing countries by "small businesses and self-employed workers in the construction, maintenance and repair of homes"; something that architects of international fame ignore at the time of judging the labor factor in their works. In Sudan, he argues, the lack of capacity to resolve the deficit in housing "can be attributed to the lack of: infrastructure, financing, production facilities, skilled labor and education and training programs."

Encouraging the search for alternative materials and affordable construction technologies for middle and low income, Dr. Elkhalifa Elhassan is committed to "the transfer of knowledge and technology to the construction sector for housing as alternative solutions for urban housing problems in a sustainable way".



For this, he highlights the importance of the literature that analyzes "the role of technology transfer in sustainable construction, the factors that affect its success and the difficulties faced by its application".

In a document of his authorship, the colleague provides three case studies presenting innovative building technologies for housing in Sudan.

The three studies are based on interviews to the suppliers of the innovative technologies under investigation.



He explains that one of his "three case studies shows the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the process of transfer of construction technologies and their application. Two projects developed by the NGO Practical Action¹ that works in Sudan are taken as examples." They "demonstrate the role of technology transfer in the provision of sustainable housing construction, which responds to the immediate needs of the majority of the population of the country suffering from famines, wars, conflicts and natural disasters."

Adapted by The Editor

¹ NGO founded by Prof. H. Frederick Schumacher, and continued by his family, from the United Kingdom. Schumacher coined the concepts of 'intermediate technology' and 'sustainability', in his book 'Small is Beautiful', whose Spanish version (Lo Pequeño es Hermoso) belongs to the architect Oscar Margenet Nadal, co-founder of ARC • PEACE International.

Photos show a 'dome' house in adobe, and the Corinthia hotel in Khartoum.

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE CONTEMPORARY ART TO THE WORLD



Sibila Foong, is an artist of international trajectory; she was born in Las Toscas town, Canelones, Uruguay.



Here, on two of her works we can appreciate the expressive power of her talent and positive constructive vision.

Many thanks Sibila!

The Editor

Prose to the attempt..

It is not enough to want

- searching for
- asking
- shouting

It is necessary....
-to be

For demonstrating,
To act
for achieving
And to live conscient,
-for teaching.

S. Foong, March 2019

The right of Children to Architecture and Recreation

This year marks the 60th Anniversary of the Declaration. Unjustly forgotten since 1959, many signatory countries trample it without scruples. Claiming the rights of children, we present two projects easily replicable anywhere in the world.



Prof. **Teresa Ruiz de Lobera** (photo above, right) is already working with members of ARC • PEACE Ibero America in the first group outing to the urban space of Palma. Children and some parents will capture the visualization of the urban environment in a plastic way.

The goal of the project is for adults to know what children see or want to see in the city that we leave them with few successes and many problems. ARC • PEACE aims for those attending the XXVII Congress of the UIA in Rio to reflect on this.

More about this subject in:
<https://arquitectura.medellin.unal.edu.co/escuelas/habitat/galeria/displayimage.php?album=75&pid=6704>
<https://www.plataformaarquitectura.cl/cl/tag/ninos>
https://ep01.epimg.net/politica/imagenes/2017/09/07/diario_de_espana/1504774828_170079_1504785932_noticia_normal.jpg
<https://www.humanium.org/es/declaracion-1959/>



Businessman **Marcelo González** (photo above, left) supports ARC • PEACE to organize a mini soccer tournament for children aged 6 to 13 years old.

It seeks to raise awareness among the media and the population on the Child Universal Rights. The location is Palma, capital of the Balearic Islands.

The photos are from the Editor and show children playing mini soccer in Bunyola, Mallorca; and one of the trophies won by the players. **The Editor**

NL congratulates a dear architect



Sudanese colleague **Mewahib Yagoub Mohamed** (Left) was ARC•PEACE Board member a few years back, when she also acted as *Treasurer*, after co-chairing the

XXVII GA held at Copenhagen, in 2011. Most recently, Mewahib has become *Strategic Business Development Manager* with OXFAM. OXFAM works in more than 90 countries with the most vulnerable people and communities. They are a team made up of more than 1,230 people employed and almost 1,800 volunteers.



They aim at building a future with no poverty in which all people enjoy their rights. ARC•PEACE coincides with that humanitarian task and shares it for the knowledge of those who have a heart for the most needy in the world.

We wish Mewahib success on her new responsibilities at Oxford, England.

The Editor

ARC•PEACE Board Member and the importance of social networks

Bahrain colleague practically shows that a never heavy agenda justifies not having time to interact via social networks.



Prof. Ahmed Abdurahman Al Jowder is a most recognized University tutor. He's been ARC•PEACE strong supporter for several years now. His vision about improving people's life quality is that the world neediest citizens are a priority in the architect's agenda.

Many distinguished colleagues should imitate Al Jowder, at least by saying Hi now and then at our social network.

The Editor

Architecture and HR must be a UIA Work Programme

ARC•PEACE Co-chair, **Graeme Bristol** (right), last year proposed to the UIA the establishment of a new Work Programme on human rights.



The RAIC, a member of the UIA, made a formal presentation of it to the UIA Council and Bureau.

As any Work Programme must have representation from each of the UIA 5 regions: Western Europe, Eastern Europe & Middle East, the Americas, Asia & Oceania, and Africa the ARC•PEACE Executive Committee (EC) decided in the last online meeting to send letters to as many UIA National members as possible. This, in order to move forward with Graeme's most justified proposal.

URBAN IMPACT

ANALYZED BY ARC•PEACE MEXICO

The Associate Mexican group continues with an ambitious study programme with academical and official levels.

Sandra Sosa Castro announces this March seminar on the Urban Code Proposal to Queretaro State in Mexico.



Spanish speaking readers could follow this at:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10217994442163433&set=pcb.2352899664988242&type=3&theater&ifq=1>

CLIMATE CHANGE

We must stop it NOW!



Leticia Baldomir, from Canary Islands, recommends NL readers to ponder the students' reaction to the official lack of resolution facing the endless battle for survival of our Planet.

Many ignore the crucial stage of this counter clockwise struggle. There are many videos to show to react by taking now the right actions; try this:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qFRHVYj_sPO



ARC•PEACE INDIA FOUNDATION IN ITS FOURTH YEAR

Left: the official Certificate of the Indian Chapter registration in 2015. It will be 4 years old next September.

Right: a picture of ARC•PEACE India Board; at top centre is Secretary Ruma Shukla, and ARC•PEACE International Emeritus Member Prof. Bijay Misra at the extreme right, on the front line. The group is working hard at obtaining titles of land and houses for women.



THE ARC • PEACE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT INFORMS

The web page that had been hacked on February 2018 is actually being renewed Thanks to a new hosting.

The new link is:

<http://arcpeaceinternational.org/>

The old link still is:

<http://arcpeace.org/index.php/en/>

English Facebook page of ARC•PEACE International, had been not managed for some time is now administered by a new team.

You may get into it by clicking at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ArcPeace-International-425665954845118/>

Now we have ARC•PEACE Videos in Youtube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbHXx4SpD1QZ34r_AGteX2A

And we have also started an Instagram account:

[arcpeaceinternational](https://www.instagram.com/arcpeaceinternational)

HUMANITARIAN AID ARRIVES INTO VENEZUELA VIA PRIVATE WAYS



The Newsletter Editor has had access to reliable information. It affirms that social workers and doctors are able to receive boxes with a large quantity of medicinal products thanks to the safe 'person to person' way via postage.

Because of the political situation that exists in the South American country, we must be very cautious in the information; due to which we will not give data that can be used against both the numerous beneficiaries and the benefactors that have bridged Europe with Venezuela. To be part of this enormous help write to ARC•PEACE Secretariat (See email address below)



Mandu'a Deluxe recently launched a line of **bio toys** (anti-allergic and anti-bacterial) made in ' baby alpaca ', in La Paz, Bolivia. They are toys designed by the company, and filled with recycled polypropylene. It is made of these natural materials so that babies do not put their health at risk when they send them into the mouth. In addition, **Mandu'a** directly helps numerous families of Andean weavers of Bolivia, giving meaning to their work and making it known in Europe, where this type of fair trade product is valued more and more.

ABSENT URBAN POLICIES

Many 'homeless' live in residual public spaces under the highways. They are generated by insatiable politicians, who make use of the government to fulfil their only interest: to live well at the expense of power; while these forgotten families get what they can thanks to own spontaneous efforts.



OBITUARY

Dr. Yagoub Abdallah, one of Sudan's environmental studies pioneers died on March 3. He was Director of the Environmental Studies Institute (IES) at the University in Khartoum and President of the Association of Environmentalists. We pay homage to his valuable life, with our condolences to his family, friends, and students. *El Editor*



DONATIONS AND SUBS PAYMENTS

Option 1: PayPal account of ARC•PEACE
Addressed to: Oscar Margenet
www.paypal.com

Option 2: Bank Account:
ES49 2100 0222 7401 0059 6279
EBAN: CAIXESBBXXX
Bank Branch: C/ La Creu 13, 07110 Bunyola, Mallorca, Islas Baleares, España

Option 3: DHL or other Courier (Not WU)

You are invited to join ARC • PEACE. You just have to write to the Secretary:
secretariat@arcpeaceinternational.org

Primary School in Peru

Colleague **Marilú Sánchez Hurtado**, former ARC•PEACE Co Chair, is in charge of the construction of a school in a deprived Andean area. All details of this most expected building on Newsletter #60.

This Newsletter is edited by ARC•PEACE International Secretariat. The Secretary of the NGO, its Editor, thanks the following people and institutions for collaborating by providing material of excellent quality: Drs. Chris Langley and Stuart Parkinson (SGR, UK); Prof. Teresa Ruiz de Lobera, Sibila Foong; Marcelo González; ARC•PEACE Mexico, ARC•PEACE India; Graeme Bristol; Ahmed Abdurahman Al Jowder, Leticia Baldomir, and the sponsor MANDU'A. The team includes two valuable collaborators: Marcelo Morales and Sergio Brandoni. If you wish to cooperate, send your own or selected material that matches the vision and objectives of ARC•PEACE. We need translators in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, German and Arabic. Volunteers are eligible as full members. **Join us for Social Responsibility!** Newsletter # 60 will be released by June 2019.