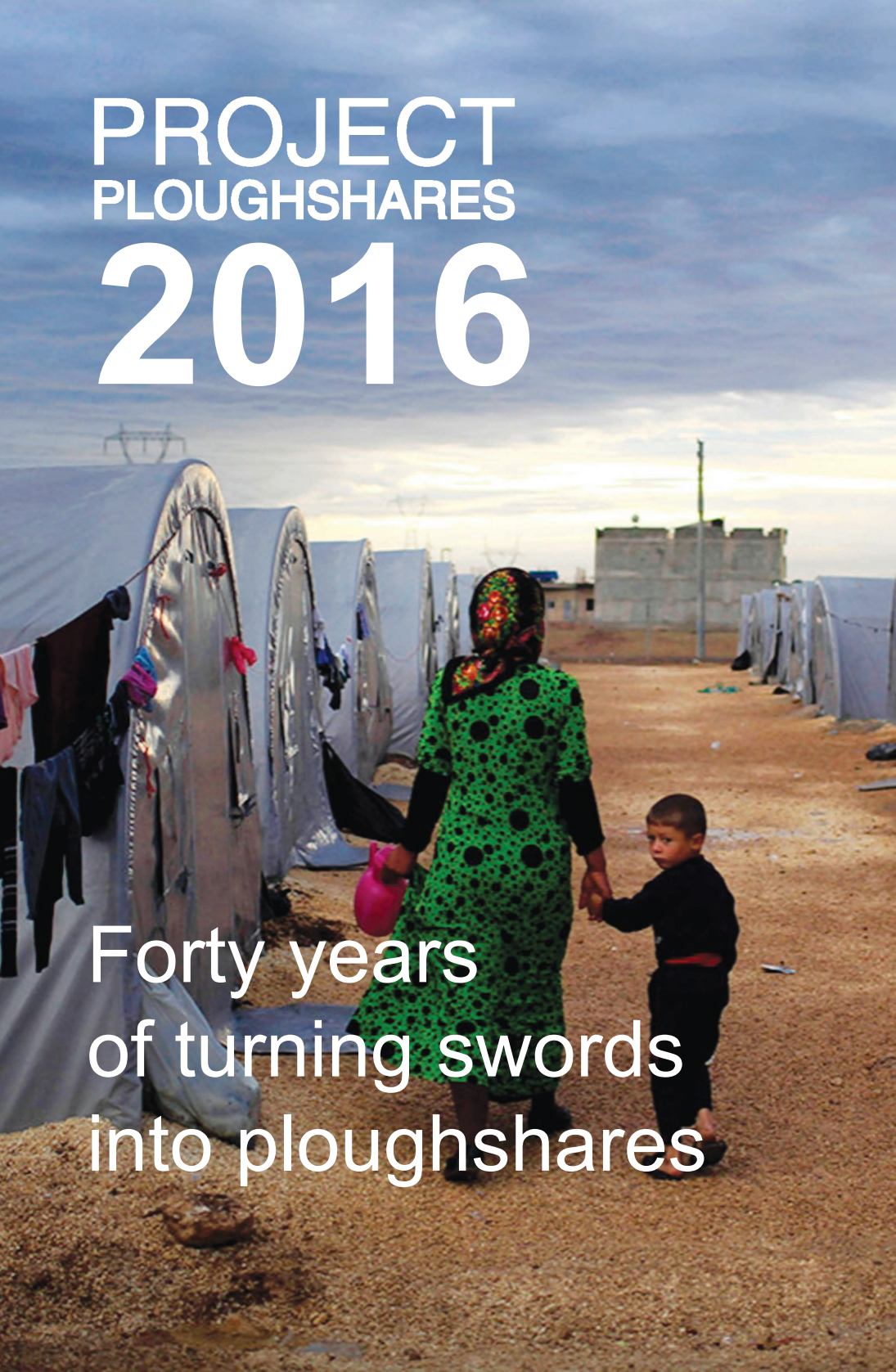


# PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES 2016

A woman wearing a green dress with black polka dots and a colorful headscarf is walking away from the camera, holding a pink water jug in her right hand. She is holding the hand of a young child in a black shirt and pants. They are walking on a dirt path in a refugee camp. On the left, there are several white tents with clothes hanging on lines. In the background, there are more tents and a concrete building under a cloudy sky.

Forty years  
of turning swords  
into ploughshares



# Forty years of turning swords into ploughshares

Did you know that the idea that would become Project Ploughshares was conceived while co-founder Ernie Regehr was working in southern Africa in the 1970s?

He noticed a pattern:

Zambia and Botswana were determined, as were other newly independent states in Africa, to assemble modern armed forces, with jet fighters, tanks and all the rest of the military paraphernalia that was assumed to be essential to modern security forces – all supplied by the arms factories of the North.

At the same time, it was obvious that the long-term viability of those states would depend on their capacity to provide for the human security of their citizens – education, health care and the economic wherewithal to meet daily needs of food and shelter. Tanks and jet fighters were not going to deliver human security; in fact they were an obvious impediment to reaching such goals.

After returning to Canada in 1976, Ernie explored the possibility of doing some research and writing on the theme of militarism and underdevelopment – notably, the role of the international arms trade in impeding social and economic progress in the developing world. Murray Thomson, then Executive Director of CUSO, responded with ideas and some seed money from CUSO. “Project Ploughshares,” a six-month project, was born.

In mid-1977, Ploughshares became an operating division of The Canadian Council of Churches.

In the following four decades, we have been on a journey to pursue a more just, peaceful, and secure world, becoming in the process one of the premier peace-and-security research groups in Canada.

The vehicle: credible research. The foundation: a strong belief in the moral and humanitarian imperative to protect human life and reduce human suffering. The strategy: engage and work collaboratively with churches, governments, and civil society, in Canada and abroad, to advance policies and actions to prevent war and armed violence and build peace. The sustaining framework: our valued and generous supporters.

As we mark our 40th anniversary in 2016, Project Ploughshares remains committed to working diligently, and to the best of our ability, to advance policies and actions to prevent war and armed violence and build peace. The staff and Governing Committee of Project Ploughshares have geared up to mark this important milestone in our history, in a determined effort to better engage the public on issues of sustainable peace and collective security.


While worthy of celebration, this moment in our history reminds us of all the work still to be done and pushes us to redouble our efforts as we launch another decade of work. The inescapable reality is that several key peace and security issues remain unresolved.

Tensions between nuclear superpowers Russia and the United States—which carry a high risk of dangerous escalation—are reminiscent of their Cold War rivalry. Sabre-rattling in the Korean peninsula continues to destabilize the region and the world. Millions of children, women, and men, forcibly displaced from their homes, are testing the international community's capacity to provide them with shelter and sustenance. The volatile Middle East is engulfed in multiple overlapping conflicts, now augmented by the violence of the Islamic State. Lethal autonomous weapon systems, which target and destroy enemies at a distance, are being developed.

As we embark on the next leg of our journey in the pursuit of sustainable peace and security, Project Ploughshares looks forward to collaborating with a wide variety of partners to achieve public policies that, driven by principle and guided by evidence, best meet the interests of Canadians and the international community.

Cesar Jaramillo,  
Executive Director



- 
- Throughout 2015 Project Ploughshares draws attention to questions surrounding Canada's \$15-billion military exports deal with Saudi Arabia—the largest military export order in Canadian history—with opeds, interviews and news reports.
  - In February publishes Briefing 15.1: *How Canada's pursuit of military exports has left a trail of secrecy and lax standards*
  - In February staff attends first Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) Preparatory Committee held in Trinidad and Tobago.
  - In April the leaders of the Canadian Council of Churches' 25 member denominations write to Prime Minister Stephen Harper about Canada's involvement in the military response to ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

# Highlights

## January to June



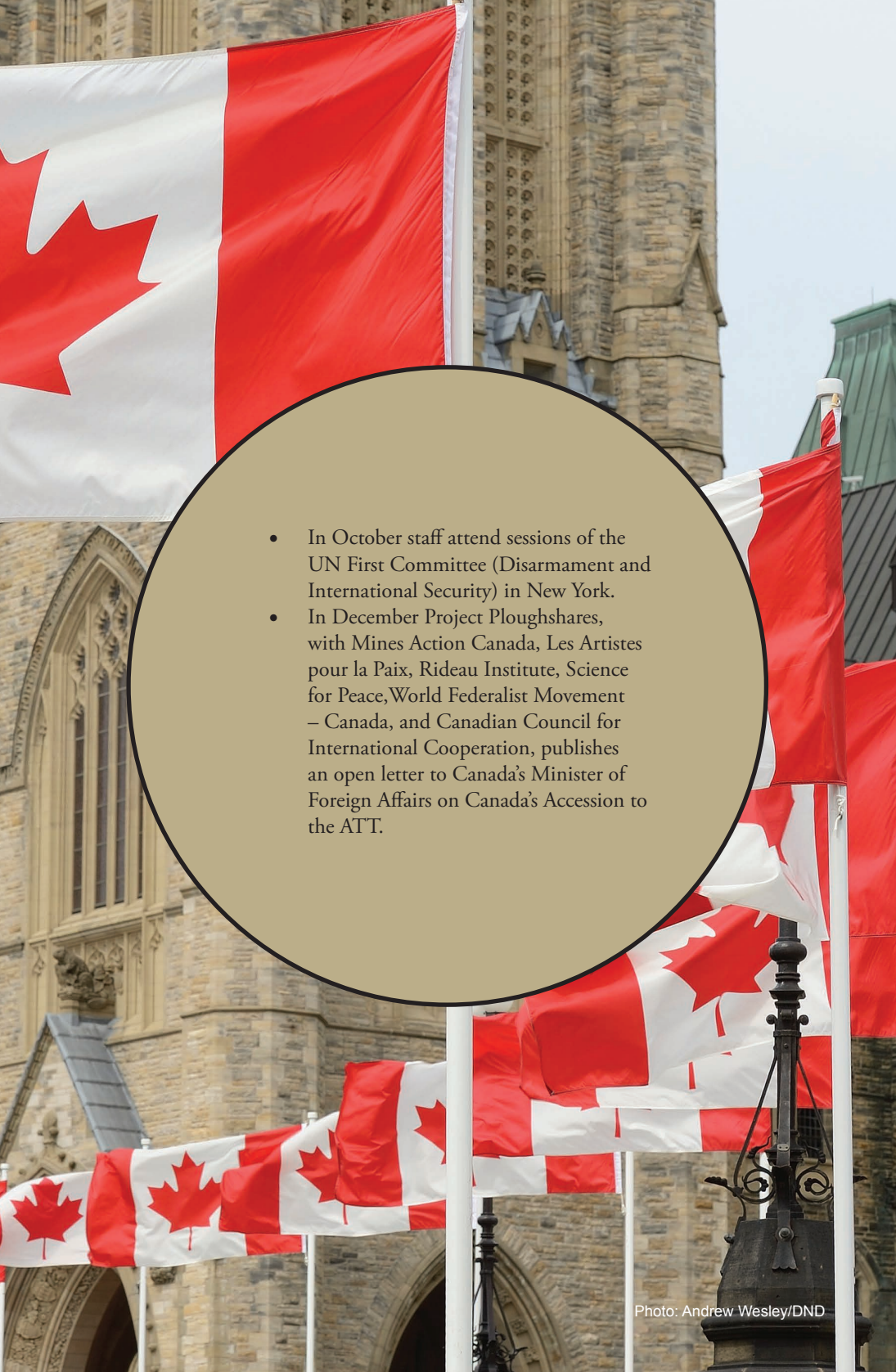
- In April staff attend preparatory meeting for the First Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty in Vienna.
- In June staff attend sessions of the 2015 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) at the United Nations in New York.
- In June several ecumenical organizations in Canada publish a Federal Election Resource ahead of Canada's October election.



- 
- In August staff attends commemorations for the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan.
  - In September in partnership with the MSCU Centre for Peace Advancement, Ploughshares hosts “Making a Killing? Canada and the Global Arms Trade,” an event bringing together panelists to discuss the Canada-Saudi arms deal.
  - In October Project Ploughshares in partnership with The Simons Foundation and the Institute of Air and Space Law at McGill University, with support from the Space Policy Institute at George Washington University, publishes *Space Security Index 2015*—the 12th annual, assessment of international developments that have an impact on the security of outer space.

# Highlights

## July to December

- 
- In October staff attend sessions of the UN First Committee (Disarmament and International Security) in New York.
  - In December Project Ploughshares, with Mines Action Canada, Les Artistes pour la Paix, Rideau Institute, Science for Peace, World Federalist Movement – Canada, and Canadian Council for International Cooperation, publishes an open letter to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs on Canada's Accession to the ATT.

# Armed Conflicts

The number of armed conflicts in 2015 remained unchanged from 2014. There were 29 conflicts in 26 countries. No conflicts were removed from the Armed Conflicts Report and no new ones were added. The conflict in the Philippines, involving the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA), had fewer than 25 deaths. However, it remained on the list as no formal ceasefire was signed and the death total for only one of the two preceding years fell below the 25-death threshold.

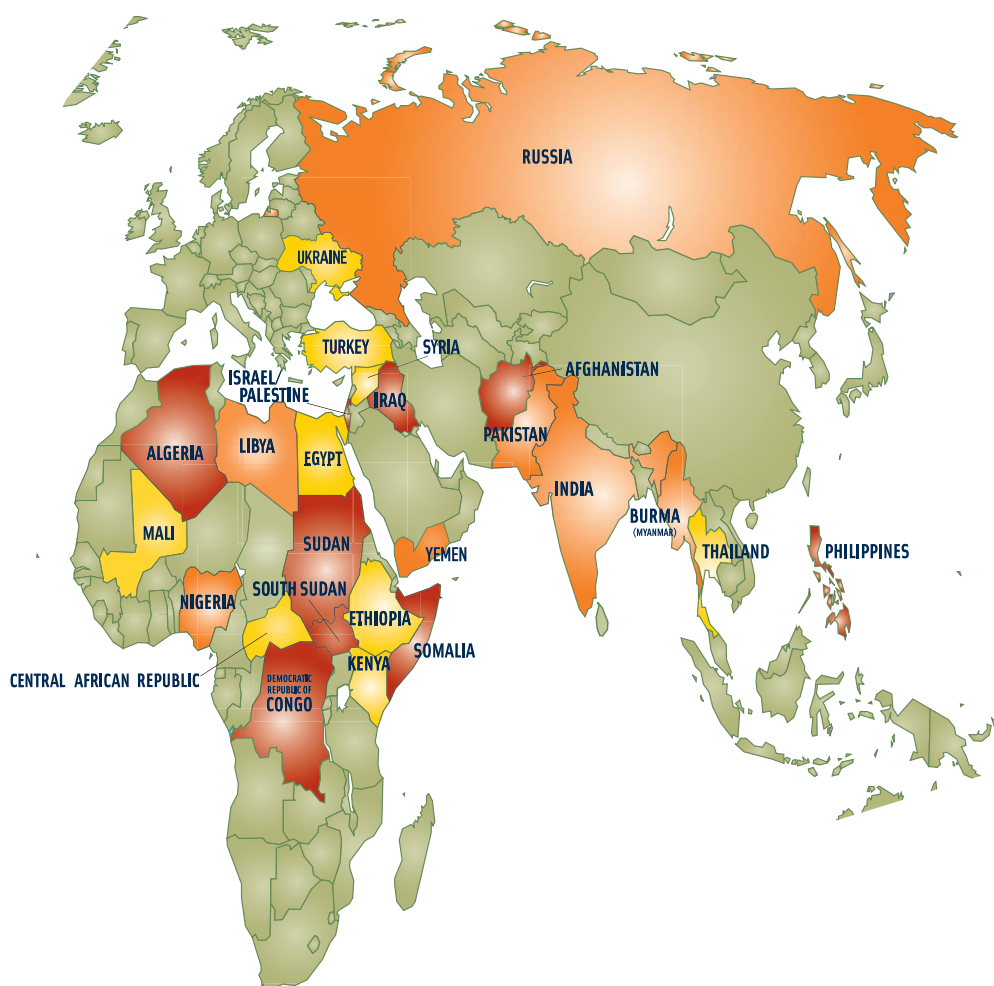
Africa continued to have the most conflicts (12), while the Americas had the fewest (one). In 2015, the three deadliest conflicts were Syria (55,219 deaths), Iraq (12,504), and Nigeria (10,933). Major conflict also occurred in Ukraine and Yemen. By contrast, low-intensity fighting continued to smolder in conflicts in Algeria (138 conflict deaths) and Kashmir (174 conflict deaths). On a positive

note, the number of conflict deaths declined in Colombia and Burma. Significant progress toward peace was made in both countries.



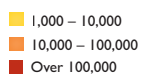
For conflict summaries, an interactive map, and more relating to the Project Ploughshares *Armed Conflicts Report*, please visit [www.ploughshares.ca](http://www.ploughshares.ca).





## Countries hosting armed conflicts in 2015

Civilian and military deaths during current phase of conflict(s)



# Founded in 1976

Project Ploughshares is an operating division of The Canadian Council of Churches, with a mandate to advance policies and actions that prevent war and armed violence and build peace.

Working with churches, governments and civil society, in Canada and abroad, Project Ploughshares undertakes research, dialogue and public engagement to prohibit the use, possession and manufacture of nuclear weapons; prevent the weaponization of space; control the supply and reduce the demand for weapons; reduce the resort to military force; and build sustainable peace in conflict zones.

Our print publications include *The Ploughshares Monitor* (quarterly), the *Armed Conflicts Report* (annual), *Space Security Index*, working papers, and briefings, as well as fact sheets and reports. The monthly Ploughshares E-Newsletter is a source of news and information about our programs.

Project Ploughshares is respected by government officials and politicians in Canada and abroad, who have come to expect high quality and accurate research, as well as forthright presentations of concrete policy options. The views of Project Ploughshares are listened to and sought out by decision-makers.

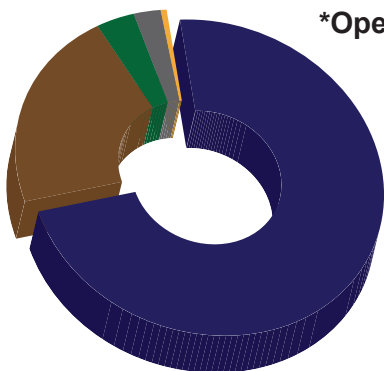
Project Ploughshares consistently provides expert analysis and policy options to the wider community of nongovernmental organizations. We help shape debates on issues such as nuclear disarmament, space security, the arms trade, Canada's role in Afghanistan, and Canadian security policy and spending.

Project Ploughshares has a broad and engaged constituency in Canada that includes its nine sponsoring churches, a donor base of more than 6,000 individuals, as well as foundations, religious orders, congregations and organizations. This informed Ploughshares constituency contributes generally to a higher level of public debate in Canada on peace and security issues.

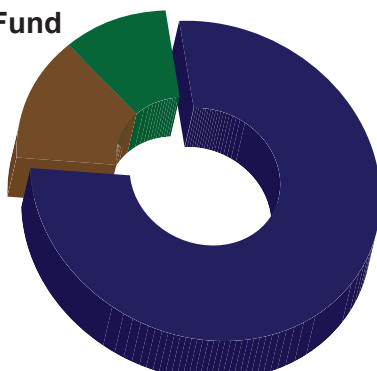
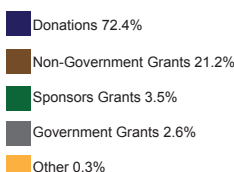
\*Project Ploughshares is audited each year by an independent accounting firm, and accounts are maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The audited financial statements are available on request.

# Financial Report 2015

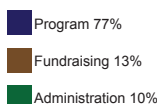
## \*Operating Fund



### Source of Funds



### Use of Funds



Total \$834,072

Total \$832,896

**Staff** Kenneth Epps, *Policy Advisor on the Arms Trade Treaty* • Yelena Gyulkhandanyan, *Armed Conflicts Report Team Leader* • Debbie Hughes, *Assistant to the Directors* • Anna Jaikaran, *Program Officer* • Tasneem Jamal, *Communications Officer* • Cesar Jaramillo, *Program Officer (until June 2015), Executive Director (from July 2015)* • Branka Marijan, *Program Officer* • Sonal Marwah, *Program Officer* • Matthew Pupic, *Director of Finance and Development* • John Siebert, *Executive Director (until June 2015)* • Wendy Stocker, *Publications and Records Management Assistant* • Barbara Wagner, *Financial Assistant* • Jessica West, *Program Officer*

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# Thank you

Project Ploughshares gratefully acknowledges the ongoing financial support of the many individuals, national churches and church agencies, local congregations, religious orders, foundations and organizations across Canada that ensure that our work continues.

We are particularly grateful to The Simons Foundation in Vancouver for its generous annual support. As well, we acknowledge the Presbyterian Church in Canada for funding the Peace and Human Security Internship Program.

In 2015 grants were also received from the International Development Research Centre and Parliamentarians for Global Action.

More than 6,000 individuals and organizations supported Project Ploughshares in 2015 at the Contributor, Associate and Sustaining Associate levels. The following individuals and organizations provided support at the Peace Advocate, Peace Builder and Peace Partner levels.

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To advance policies and actions  
to prevent war and armed violence  
and build peace.

## OUR VISION

A world without war —  
a just world at peace.

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