

III WORK IN PROGRESS

We need vision, and we need prophets. Without them we have nothing to aspire to, and no sense of direction. Nothing however can be a greater mistake than to imagine that the evolution is complete when we are still in the chrysalis phase. Everything we do must lead towards the end point, which is in this case the total abolition of war. The end is achievable, perhaps in a shorter time than we think. But in the meantime, there is a great deal of hard work to be done. The transformation is by no means automatic but depends on sustained endeavor and on the ability to hold a vision while coping with all the chaotic messiness of *realpolitik*.

The following chapters outline work in progress, and provide an agenda for the beginning of the millennium.

(i) **Genocide and Politicide in Global Perspective: The Historical Record and Future Risk**

Authors: Barbara Harff and Ted Robert Gurr

If we are serious about tackling the problem of genocide we must first of all make sure we now exactly what we are talking about. Barbara Harff and Ted Robert Gurr apply a rigorous sociological discipline to defining and analyzing the problem as a prerequisite to purposeful action. They first of all draw attention to the scale of the problem and provide clear and workable definitions. They then develop a structural model for the preconditions of genocide and politicide, and identify accelerators and decelerators in at-risk situations. Finally applying their defined criteria they identify current high risk cases and point the way forward from early warning to early response. Their work is an essential basis for systematic preventative action.

(ii) **The Military Dilemma: Lessons from Experience**

Author: Satish Nambiar

General Satish Nambiar speaks with the authority of experience, derived from his service as Field Commander in the most tragic and confused of UN interventions, in former Yugoslavia. He records in detail the problems which he faced, and presents a series of powerful structural recommendations for future intervention. Prominent among his recommendations are the need for structural reform of the Security Council, proper definition of mandate, clear command and control, and the availability of resources necessary for the carrying out of mandates.