



The Road to Ottawa

Introduction and Background

Level: Grades 9 - 11

This two-part unit is designed to help students understand the roles played by non-government organizations (NGOs), the press, and the Internet in influencing public perception and shaping foreign policy agendas, on specific issues.

Part One: Grassroots Movements explores the strategies employed by non-government organizations to foster public awareness and create political change during the land mine treaty campaign. Highlighted is the Internet's role in raising public awareness and uniting NGOs around the world.

Part Two: Land Mines and the Media explores the decisions made by journalists and editors in bringing the story of the land mines treaty movement to the public.

Background

For Students:

The following materials provide background reading on the land mines movement.

- the article "[Defusing the Demon](#)" and
- the handout "[Where the Mines Are](#)"

For Teachers:

Teachers wishing to examine the issues surrounding land mines and the land mine treaty movement in more depth may wish to use the following resources.

- Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs' [Introduction](#) to the Ottawa process
- The detailed [Chronology of the movement to ban land mines](#), from the Physicians for Global Survival, Canada website.
- [Selected Resources](#) containing a listing of videos, books, reports, articles, music and web sites that relate to the land mines treaty movement.

And Now for ... The Lessons!

[Part One: Grassroots Movements](#)

[Part Two: Land Mines and the Media](#)