

Emeritus Professor Stuart Rees

Country: Australia

Description of specific project, practice, or technique:

Emeritus Professor Stuart Rees AM is an Australian academic and author who is the Director of the Sydney Peace Foundation and Emeritus Professor at the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney in Australia. Professor Rees' awards include a Simon Fellowship at the University of Manchester, a Humanities Fellowship at the City University of Hong Kong, and honorary doctorate and the Award of Highest Honour for 'Contributions to World Peace' conferred in 1998 by Soka University, Japan. For four years he was an elected Fellow of the Senate of the University of Sydney.

Description of organisation that individual is associated with, the history and scope of its work or how the individual partners with others:

From 1978 to 2000 Rees was Professor of Social Work and Social Policy at the University of Sydney. Prior to this he taught at University of Aberdeen and University of Southampton in the United Kingdom, at University of Toronto and Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada, and at the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Texas at Austin in the United States.

Describe the context in which the individual works, analyse the conflict, and indicate how this analysis has influenced the peacemaking work of the individual:

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Impact of the individual's work, including credible policy and advocacy influence that contributes toward peace:

For six years he was a member of the Aboriginal Reconciliation Council of New South Wales and is currently a council member of the Toda Research Institute into Global Governance and Human Security. He chairs the Energy Council of the State of New South Wales. Rees has published numerous books and non-academic activities have included community development, probation services and social work in the UK and Canada; work with War on Poverty programs in the U.S.A.; and work with the Save the Children non-governmental organisation in India and Sri Lanka. Rees is a regular broadcaster on Australia's ABC Radio about the "means and meaning of peace with justice".

Tell us a story about this individual's peacemaking work:

In 2005 he was awarded a Membership of the Order of Australia for service to international relations, particularly as Director of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney. He founded the Sydney Peace Foundation, which is dedicated to the promotion of peace with justice, and the philosophy and practice of non-violence in conflict resolution. He also established the annual Sydney Peace Prize Award, which has enabled the honouring of many deserving humanitarians and workers for peace; many of whom may otherwise have remained unknown. The benefit of this recognition to the recipients has not only been the cash awarded, but the prestige afforded by the award, which enhances their standing in their own country. This often results in more funding for the recipients' work for humanity. Stuart is one of the kindest most compassionate people, whose heart and head are synchronised, making him an astute, wise, compassionate and humble person, one who is truly deserving of this recognition.