This is the eighth year of the Holdstock-Piachaud Essay Prize, set up to encourage students to explore the themes covered by the journal *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*, and in memory of Douglas Holdstock and Jack Piachaud who were for many years inspirational editors of the Journal.

The Medact/IPPNW Health through Peace 2017 Congress (University of York, September 4th-6th) will bring together health professionals and peace activists from across the world to debate key conflict and public health issues for our changing and unstable world. The invited commentaries are on some of the issues covered in the Congress.

We invite commentaries* on:

- The securitisation of health: towards a safer world or wolf in sheep’s clothing?
- One hundred and twenty-two countries signed the 2017 Treaty on the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons: a glass half full or glass half empty for a nuclear free world?
- International weapons treaties – immunization programs for global health?
- Mortality data in conflict situations: what can we believe?
- Is collective responsibility for the health consequences of forced migration possible?

*Commentaries may offer (but are not limited to) reflections on current events, interventions in debates, personal viewpoints, field reports and preliminary research results.

COMPETITION DETAILS

- The closing date for entries is 17.00 on 31 January 2018.
- The competition is open to all students, including those completing their studies in 2017.
- The word limit is 2500.
- The commentary should be fully referenced.
- Entries must not have been previously published elsewhere.
- The entries will be judged by members of the MCS editorial board and the Medact board.
- The winning entries may be selected by the editors for publication in *MCS*.
- First prize: £500, second prize: £300; winners will also receive a year’s subscription to *MCS*.
- E-mail your entry with a completed entry form (see below) to: MCS.Prize@googlemail.com

For details and application form and for any queries, please contact MCS.Prize@googlemail.com
Medicine, Conflict and Survival
A designated journal of IPPNW and its UK affiliate, Medact

Medicine, Conflict and Survival is an international journal for all those interested in the health aspects of violence and human rights. Founded in 1985 it is a designated journal of IPPNW and its UK affiliate, MEDACT. Published quarterly by Taylor and Francis / Routledge, the Journal plays an important role in debates around health, peace and violence.

Medicine, Conflict and Survival covers:
- The causes and consequences of war and group violence.
- The health and environmental effects of war and preparations for war, especially from nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction.
- The influence of war and preparations for war on health and welfare services and the distribution of global resources.
- The abuse of human rights, its occurrence, causes and consequences.
- The ethical responsibility of health professionals in relation to war, social violence and human rights abuses.
- Non-violent methods of conflict resolution.
- Medical and humanitarian aid in conflict situations.
- Relationships between the environment, development and global security.
- The roles and responsibilities of governments and of international governance in reducing the risk of violent conflict.

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