Dear friend,

As you will see in the subsequent pages of this newsletter, we have been busy! As people around the world learn about the existence of our unique work, they are increasingly accessing our resources in order to better understand and more effectively apply nonviolent action in difficult situations.

This is evidenced by the scale of interest and demand for our work, and the spread of its use in diverse situations around the world. In fact, this year, people in nearly every country have turned to our publications, workshops, and consultations for guidance.

With the help of dedicated activists and translators, we have produced seven new translations of our writings in six languages—Dari, Armenian, Portuguese, Korean, French, and Chinese. We have conducted over twenty-five workshops or in-depth consultations with groups from over thirteen countries—including Turkey, Vietnam, Burundi, Venezuela, Eritrea, and Ethiopia.

Our work has been featured in numerous media outlets—including the Financial Times, Gazeta.ru, The Guardian, Reuters, Open Democracy, and The Week.

We have grown our online presence this year, and have published our first five English-language ebooks, which are now available for sale on our website and through Amazon.com.

Our social media presence continues to grow, as we highlight important and often underreported news on nonviolent action each day. This year, we have reached almost nine thousand Facebook followers, and almost six thousand Twitter followers (over one thousand more than last year).

continued on p. 16
RUSSIA AND WEST ASIA

TURKEY

In January, Institution staff met with a professor from the International Center for Conflict Resolution in Yarlova, Turkey, where scholars are interested in expanding their program focus to include research on nonviolent action.

AFGHANISTAN

A Dari edition of our publication, *The Anti-Coup*, by Gene Sharp and Bruce Jenkins, was printed and distributed in Afghanistan this year through a network of activists, schools, and NGOs.

This important book, first published in 2003, details measures that civilians, civil society groups, and legislative bodies can take to prevent and block coups d'état and executive usurpations.

The project is being overseen by a group of Afghan citizens, along with former government and military officials, who recognize the importance of preparing the population to defend against coups and other acts of internal aggression.

In August, Lebanese activists contacted us to request permission to distribute *From Dictatorship to Democracy*.

In that same month, as trash piled up in streets throughout Lebanon, public anger at the government’s inability to provide social services like trash collection sparked the “You Stink” movement. The movement takes aim at government corruption, which many feel is to blame for the trash crisis.

“You Stink” is one of the first movements that has unified various religions, ethnicities, and classes within Lebanese society. It has led to a number of government concessions, such as the formation of a comprehensive waste management plan, but the larger goal of ending corruption remains unmet.

Initially, the Lebanese Government reacted to the growing protests by erecting a 15-foot high concrete wall around government buildings to prevent protesters from approaching. Protesters quickly responded by painting murals and graffiti on the wall, which proved embarrassing to the government. One sentence read: “Beware of the monsters behind this wall!” Twenty-four hours later, the government removed the wall. One Lebanese official, who chose to remain anonymous, called the installation of the wall “an embarrassing decision.”

Jamila Raqib was interviewed for the Lebanese newspaper *Al-Maghreb* in September. The article states that our *198 Methods* have been circulating among Lebanese activists this year. One activist told reporters that they were mobilizing nonviolently “because we apply what came in the books of the Albert Einstein Institution.”
**ARmenia**

In June, Armenian protesters began the #ElectricYerevan movement against increased electricity rates that many believe are the result of government corruption and Russian influence in the economic system.

The movement has attracted widespread participation, with activists holding demonstrations, sit-ins, and hunger strikes. Acts of civil disobedience have occurred in every major city and town.

One group of activists conducting workshops in nonviolent resistance contacted us for authorization to translate and publish *From Dictatorship to Democracy* in Armenian.

Another individual is currently translating *There are Realistic Alternatives* into Armenian.

Efforts to end government corruption and bring about greater accountability continue with protests against proposed constitutional amendments that would extend President Serzh Sarkisian's hold on power beyond his second term.

**Russia**

In June, the Russian government announced plans to fund new research on how to undermine nonviolent action used against it and how to employ nonviolent action to advance domestic and foreign policy objectives. According to the *Moscow Times*, the Russian Government sees “mass civil resistance as one of the greatest threats to its hold on power.” Referring to past uses of organized nonviolent action against established governments, Major General Mikhail Smyslov said, “Recent events have shown that these threats are real and long lasting. Naturally, we have to understand how these threats are repelled.” In September, Russian military leaders announced plans to engage in joint counter-protest training exercises with Belarus and Serbia.

In July, *Gazeta.ru* asked Dr. Gene Sharp to comment on the Russian government’s fear of nonviolent action. He responded that, “If there are those who prefer to manage with dictatorial methods, their fears may be justified.”

In October, the Russian Senate named the Albert Einstein Institution one of the top twenty most dangerous organizations in the world, along with organizations such as the National Endowment for Democracy and the Soros Foundation. It has been reported that our Institution and its educational materials are soon to be banned from Russia, and those found in violation of the ban will face heavy fines or imprisonment.

In late October, we spoke to a journalist writing for *Waging Nonviolence* about the Russian government’s use of nonviolent action to gain power in Ukraine, particularly in Crimea. Reports indicate that the Russian government has used demonstrations and other forms of nonviolent action to give the appearance of widespread local support for Russian annexation. (One of the more notable developments in the field of nonviolent action this year is the use of nonviolent methods by governments, who are using the technique as a component of their military strategy.)

Despite the crackdown against civil society groups using nonviolent action in Russia this year, the Committee of Civic Initiatives reported a 15% increase in the number of political protests. On our website, visits from Russia remain the second highest in the world, after the United States.

*Protesters shout slogans during a demonstration against an increase of electricity prices in Yerevan*  
(Karen Minasyan/AFP)

*A demonstrator replaces the Ukrainian flag with a Russian flag.*  
(Instagram / vonori)
In accordance with our mission to reduce the reliance of governments on violence as an instrument of policy, Executive Director, Jamila Raqib, traveled to Sweden this year to meet with a number of government officials, including members of the Green Party. The discussion centered on ways in which nonviolent action can be a powerful tool to advance a government’s foreign policy and international development efforts. These conversations sparked an ongoing interest from several officials, with follow-up meetings planned for next year.

While in Sweden, Jamila also met with representatives from the Fellowship of Reconciliation and various campaigns against the arms trade.

In September, the Institution consulted with a Swedish organization, Peace in the Present, on the fundamental importance of nonviolent discipline in movements, and techniques that activists can use to maintain it.

In February, Jamila took part in a panel discussion at an event co-sponsored by the Peace Research Institute of Oslo and the Human Rights, Human Wrongs Film Festival alongside Bahraini human rights activist, Maryam al-Khawaja, and others. The discussion centered around a screening of a new film, *We are the Giant*, which tracks the recent wave of pro-democracy protests across the Arab world. Jamila’s presentation titled, “Beyond the Arab Spring,” addressed some of the crucial issues that activists, academics, and policymakers face four years after the start of the Arab Spring.

While in Norway, Jamila was invited to ISFIT, the world’s largest international student festival, where she introduced Bahraini activist, Ayat Al-Qurmezi, who was awarded the 2015 Student Peace Prize. Jamila spoke about how important it is for young people to gain knowledge about nonviolent action and to dare to act to improve their societies and the world.

The Institution worked this year with French translator, Bernard Lazarevitch, and Canadian publisher, Écosociété, to prepare the French-language edition of *Waging Nonviolent Struggle* and to make it available for international distribution.

The four French-language books now available for sale through the Institution’s website, in both print and ebook formats, are *From Dictatorship to Democracy, The Anti-Coup, There are Realistic Alternatives*, and the newly translated, *Waging Nonviolent Struggle.*
LITHUANIA

In January, the Lithuanian Defense Ministry released a 98-page manual titled *How to Act in Extreme Situations or Instances of War*. In addition to sharing information with citizens about how the government and emergency services may respond to natural disasters or war, the manual describes methods of civil resistance that can be used to oppose aggression or occupation. It states that “...appropriate forms of civil disobedience in the event of an occupation [include] strikes, blockades, disinformation, and the online organization of cyber attacks against the enemy.” If citizens are not able to do any of these things, the manual advises that they should at least do their jobs less effectively.

Lithuanian Defense Minister Juozas Olekas commented that, “When Russia started its aggression in Ukraine, our citizens here in Lithuania understood that our neighbor is not friendly.”

There is a history to interest in the use of nonviolent action to address defense needs in the Baltics. In 1991, Lithuanian leaders credited our book, *Civilian-Based Defense*, for their successful nonviolent resistance to the Soviet Union. After consultations with our Institution in 1996, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia adopted civil resistance as part of their national security policy, with Lithuania establishing a State Civil Resistance Training Center. This history is outlined in Grazina Minio-taitė’s *Nonviolent Resistance in Lithuania: A Story of Peaceful Liberation*.

It appears that these policies, which were found to be valuable in the nineties, are being reexamined today in light of the new challenges that Lithuania faces.

In August, the Lithuanian Prime Minister unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi beside the Pregolya river, which divides the village of Rusne from the Russian city of Kaliningrad.

ROMANIA

Mass protests began in Romania on November 3rd following a nightclub fire that resulted in the death of sixty people.

The club was on the basement level and had only one working exit. It was insulated and soundproofed with cheap, highly flammable materials, which ignited quickly during a pyrotechnics display. When it was revealed that the club was granted an operating license without a fire permit, many citizens were outraged by what they felt was an example of widespread government corruption and ineptitude.

On November 4th, Prime Minister Victor Ponta and numerous other government officials resigned to “satisfy the people who came out in the streets.”

However, many consider the struggle ongoing as these resignations do not put an end to what they call “the culture of political corruption” in Romania.

We have been contacted by activists in Romania seeking to learn more about the technique of nonviolent action and about how to form a strategy for the next phase of their movement.
**EAST ASIA**

**VIETNAM**

In September, we met with a pro-democracy activist and journalist from Vietnam who is interested in promoting knowledge of nonviolent struggle among Vietnamese citizens and exile groups. An interview with Gene Sharp during the meeting was published on a Vietnamese-language website.

**KOREA**

World Without War, a South Korean organization affiliated with War Resisters’ International, contacted us late last year after holding a public screening of *How to Start a Revolution*, the 2011 documentary about Gene Sharp and the work of the Albert Einstein Institution. The screening stirred public interest in how nonviolent action could be used to address serious issues facing South Korean society.

Korean publisher, Hyunsil Publishing Co., has prepared, and is now distributing the Korean translation of *From Dictatorship to Democracy*.

**JAPAN**

In February, Jamila traveled to Japan at the invitation of Doshisha University in Kyoto to discuss the operation and potential of nonviolent action with university students and scholars who are interested in its relevance for Japanese society.

The invitation for her visit was timely, as Japanese citizens this year have participated in large-scale nonviolent demonstrations in response to a series of bills that would reinterpret Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution. Article 9 renounces war as a right of the state. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has pushed for numerous new permissions, such as the right to send troops overseas in defense of Japan’s allies. The bills have sparked widespread debate in the country. Opposition to what is seen as the militarization of Japan has drawn protests numbering in the hundreds of thousands. Many participants belong to a younger generation of students, a group many previously assumed to be politically apathetic.

**TAIWAN**

In August, Institution staff consulted with a prominent Taiwanese activist concerned with the expansion of Chinese influence in the Taiwanese political and economic system.

Working closely with the Institution, Taiwanese activists completed a Mandarin translation of *How Nonviolent Struggle Works* this summer. It is now available and being distributed through civil society networks in Taiwan.

**BURMA**

In January, we met with an activist working along the Thai-Burma border to discuss how nonviolent struggle can be used to more effectively organize and defend the rights of Burmese minority groups who often face harsh discrimination and violent attacks.

We were also notified that our work is being used in Burma by a young group of pro-democracy activists known as “Generation Wave.”
In May, human rights lawyers and nonviolent activists, Tang Jingling, Yuan Xinting, and Wang Quingying stood trial in China, accused of inciting subversion. Evidence included, among other things, the distribution of five books, including the Einstein Institution’s *From Dictatorship to Democracy*, which the Chinese Government claims contains “serious political mistakes,” as well as two of our other titles. Jingling and others have been subjected to harsh conditions since their imprisonment last spring, and are currently facing sentences of up to 15 years.

At the request of individuals connected to the case, the Einstein Institution wrote a public statement on their behalf. Gene Sharp and Jamila Raqib were also interviewed by the *Financial Times*, where Jamila stated that just last year a Chinese state-owned publisher contacted our Institution requesting exclusive rights to the Chinese translation of *From Dictatorship to Democracy*, one of the books that the three men are accused of distributing.

No member of the public has been allowed to view the proceedings, though numerous cases of judicial irregularities have been reported by family members and attorneys. The trial reportedly closed on July 24th without a verdict, and the three men remain incarcerated. Excerpts of the final statement Jingling delivered to the court have been leaked and translated into English. Among other things, he said, “I do not want to use any defense to lessen a harsh sentence that I may receive...Over these years, I have only done one thing: push for a citizen non-cooperation movement...to bring about a democratic and free China.”

In July, the Chinese government began imprisoning hundreds of human rights lawyers. We remain in contact with individuals and organizations working to free these political prisoners.
In June, sixteen young activists were arrested and charged with “preparatory acts to rebellion” and “plotting against the President and other institutions.” The sixteen were members of a book club that was reading, among other publications, *From Dictatorship to Democracy* by Gene Sharp.

Since June, the Einstein Institution has had significant contact with activists working for the release of the sixteen individuals, who have now been imprisoned for over five months. These activists have told us that President José Eduardo Dos Santos, who has been president for 36 years, is less concerned with street protests against his regime, and more fearful that young people might learn how to use nonviolent action more effectively. In the words of *The Guardian*, our book was at the center of “the book club that terrified the Angolan regime.”

In July, we issued a formal statement regarding the arrest of these young men, and more recently, Gene and Jamila have spoken to numerous media outlets including *Radio Angola*, the *Index on Censorship*, and *Rede Angola*. When asked if his book is subversive, Gene said, “My book is only subversive to people who defend dictatorships.”

The trial for the book club members began on November 16th. Access to the trial has been heavily restricted, but some details can be found on fidh.org.

The Institution has witnessed a significant rise in interest in our work from sub-Saharan Africa this year. Citizens and civil society leaders are increasingly using nonviolent action as a means to fight government corruption and the suppression of human and political rights.

These remarkable cases are often overlooked by mainstream media and the international community, but we continue to grow our research and outreach efforts in this region.

We have been approached this year by various activists working in the Democratic Republic of Congo where President Nguesso has sought constitutional changes that will remove presidential term limits.

In February, Jamila gave a presentation on the potential for nonviolent struggle in Ethiopia, which later aired on a prominent Ethiopian radio station.

We have also consulted with pro-democracy activists in Eritrea on how to distribute our publications more effectively to citizens throughout that country.
**BURUNDI**

Institution staff met with Burundian activists twice this year following President Nkurunzi-za's announcement that he would run for a third term despite constitutional term limits. A nonviolent movement to remove him from office gained traction before a failed coup attempt by military officers brought a wave of harsh repression from the government. Analysts fear that the country is now poised on the brink of civil war. We remain in contact with Burundian citizens who are working to revive the nonviolent movement.

![Demonstrators raise their hands at a rally held by women in Bujumbura, Burundi, on May 10, 2015. (AFP)](image)

**UGANDA**

Solidarity Uganda is an organization dedicated to empowering activists and other organizations in Uganda to effect change in their communities. This year, we learned that they are using our publications and online resources in their nonviolent action and social change trainings.

Nonviolent action has enabled groups to achieve important successes in Uganda this year.

For example, in the northern Ugandan village of Apaa, several women, including a grandmother named Karamela Anek sought to prevent their village’s land from being sold to developers by disrobing in front of government ministers, surveyors, soldiers, and policemen who came to re-demarcate the land. The women’s action caused the ministers to withdraw from the village and cancel the re-demarcation.

In another case in Uganda, a group of young activists known as the Jobless Brotherhood released a crate of painted pigs into the streets of Kampala in a creative protest against government corruption.

Soon after, one of the activists, Tumuhimbise Norman, disappeared. Fearing that he had been arrested and was being tortured, friends and family quickly spread news of his disappearance to the media. Fellow activists began circulating posters claiming that Norman was “dead at the hands of a dictator.”

According to reports, these rumors forced the government to release him in order to prove that he was alive.

Despite continued repression against him from the government, Tumuhimbise Norman continues his efforts for a more democratic Uganda.

![The image announcing Norman’s “death”. (Uganda Youth Platform)](image)
US AND CANADA

CALIFORNIA

In October, Einstein Institution staff met with a technology specialist working in Los Angeles to discuss how new and existing technological innovations may be helpful for activists to amplify their message, to avoid government surveillance, and to connect with resources. We also discussed how scholars working in the field of nonviolent action can use technology to conduct research on past and current movements.

TEXAS

In March, Jamila traveled to the esteemed Rothko Chapel in Houston to give a workshop on nonviolent action to a community of activists, organizational leaders, and others. The evening before the workshop, the Chapel hosted a screening of Ruaridh Arrow’s documentary, How to Start a Revolution.

In November, Jamila presented to a classroom at Prairie View A&M University in Texas as part of a course titled “Gandhi and King: Nonviolence as Strategy and Philosophy” in which students read a number of works by Gene Sharp.

NEW YORK

In July, our two summer interns joined Jamila at the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Education First Initiative, where she gave a number of workshops to young adults from U.N. member nations who are interested in the potential of nonviolent action to advance human rights and to defend democratic freedoms in their societies.

In November, Jamila was invited to present a TED Talk in New York City. The event, which took place in Broadway’s Town Hall Theater, included six nights of programming on different topics. Jamila spoke about nonviolent action as an innovation in conducting conflict during each of the two nights dedicated to the topic of “War and Peace.” Her talks were met with considerable praise and appreciation by both presenters and attendees, many of whom had been impacted by violent conflict or who are seeking alternative and innovative solutions to current national and international problems.

Some of the TED Talks from the six nights will be featured online on TED.com and in a primetime PBS special in the spring of 2016. We will send out information on how and where Jamila’s talk can be viewed as this information becomes available.

Among other contacts made through this event, Jamila spoke with individuals connected to Mothers Against Terror, a group of parents who have lost their children to ISIS recruitment and are seeking nonviolent ways of combating violent movements.

JAMILA RAQIB DELIVERING A TED TALK IN NEW YORK CITY THIS NOVEMBER
**MASSACHUSETTS**

In September, Institution staff attended the performance of three oratorios written and produced by Severyn Bruyn, a retired professor at Boston College. The first described the women’s “Rosenstrasse” protests which saved their Jewish husbands’ from being sent to concentration camps in Nazi Germany. The second presented the overthrow of the Guatemalan ruler, Jorge Ubico, in 1944. And the third focused on Gandhi’s Salt March in 1930. After the performance, Jamila and Alia answered questions on the three cases portrayed and their relevance for contemporary conflicts.

In October, the Harvard Kennedy School of Government hosted a panel titled “Political Prisoners: Incarceration Methods vs. Strategies for Defenders and Activists.” Activists from Venezuela, Cuba, China, Egypt, and Azerbaijan discussed political imprisonment in their countries. The next day, the Institution met with a number of the panelists to talk about how nonviolent action can play an important part in efforts to free political prisoners and in the achievement of their political objectives.

**ILLINOIS**

In January, we met with a business leader and entrepreneur based in Chicago to discuss how the principles of nonviolent action may be used to increase innovation in business culture and operations.

**BOSTON MAYOR DESIGNATES “GENE SHARP DAY”**

This April, the Mayor of Boston issued a proclamation honoring the work of Gene Sharp, naming April 27th as the official “Gene Sharp Day” in the city of Boston. The Mayoral Proclamation declared, “I urge all Bostonians to recognize the contributions Gene Sharp has made toward a more peaceful and just world, and to help understand and promote this powerful means of action as an alternative to violence and passivity.” Citations of Gene’s work were also presented by the Governor’s Office, the Boston City Council, and the Massachusetts State Senate.

These honors were presented before a large gathering at District Hall, hosted by the Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition, the South Asian Arts Council, and the Future Boston Alliance.

There were a number of speakers and artists that presented throughout the night, including the Massachusetts Assistant Secretary of Business Development, Nam Pham, who spoke about the huge impact of Gene’s work on his own thinking and work, which he first encountered as a student in Vietnam.

Charles Coe, co-Chair of the Boston chapter of the National Writers Union, presented two poems in honor of Gene, and a Grammy nominated string quartet, A Far Cry, played music by one of Gene’s favorite composers, the Norwegian Edvard Grieg.

Finally, a professor at University of Massachusetts, Boston, Dr. Barbara Lewis, spoke about the contribution of Gene’s ideas to the ongoing struggle for racial justice in the United States, while a group of young adults from a Boston group called Medicine Wheel Productions presented him with artwork made in his honor. The latter group spoke about Gene’s influence on their own work on racial justice and reconciliation.

Gene spoke to the assembled group about the power of nonviolent action. One person live-tweeted a quote, “It’s not that you become an angel; it’s that you can be stubborn politically…it has great potential.” His remarks were met with a long standing ovation.
In October, the Mexican radio station, Radio Latina, spoke with Gene Sharp about the relevance of nonviolent action for Mexican society.

Visits to our website from Guatemala increased significantly (from an average of six per week to an average of 137 per week) in July amid protests calling for the resignation of President Otto Pérez Molina and other public officials. The protests were sparked by reports of corruption that tied the President and others to organized crime and to major financial malfeasance. The protesters came together under the slogan: Renuncia Ya! (Resign Already).

Despite investigations into his criminal activity, President Molina vowed that he would never resign. The protests continued to spread with remarkable exercises of nonviolent discipline despite government repression.

In August, organizers decided to expand their activities beyond symbolic street protests, organizing a general strike in which people throughout the country refused to work.

At the same time, farmers in rural areas blocked major roads causing difficulties for national transportation. Within five days of the strike, President Molina, along with dozens of other public officials implicated in the corruption scandal, resigned.

The activists involved in the movement that forced the resignation of President Molina realize that their struggle is not over. They understand that they need to expand their goals in order to combat corruption in their society, protect indigenous rights, and ensure free and fair democratic practices.

We have learned from members of the movement that they are currently reading the Spanish translation of our book, How Nonviolent Struggle Works, to gain insight for the next phase of their struggle.

In October, the Mexican radio station, Radio Latina, spoke with Gene Sharp about the relevance of nonviolent action for Mexican society.
In June of this year, another corruption scandal rocked the country of Honduras. Government officials have been accused of embezzling between 200 and 300 million dollars allocated for public healthcare. In a country where many struggle to obtain basic services, this revelation was infuriating to large swaths of citizens.

Each Friday, a group called Oposición Indignada began holding demonstrations carrying torches through the streets of Tegucigalpa and stopping in front of the Supreme Court building to demand the formation of a commission against impunity. The small Friday night demonstrations have swelled to thousands in the capital, and many more in over 50 other cities.

We have been contacted by numerous activists in Honduras who are using our work to help strategize on how to move beyond this phase of protests, and we are discussing the possibility of consultations.

This year, Institution staff held a number of consultations with Atuação, a Brazilian organization that is working for the development of Brazilian democracy, focusing on social participation, public transparency, and political culture.

Using our guidelines, Brazilian translators completed Portuguese editions of There are Realistic Alternatives and How Nonviolent Struggle Works. Two thousand copies were printed and will be distributed among key individuals and groups in Brazil. A free download will soon be available from our website.

In November, Gazeta do Povo published an article by Jamila Raqib discussing the importance of strategic nonviolent action to defend democratic freedoms.

Jamila also traveled to Brazil in November to speak at the First Annual Democracy Week, an event organized by Atuação, which focused on political participation and combating corruption. While in Brazil, she gave a number of smaller presentations to groups interested in improving the political climate of the country through nonviolent action.
**INSTITUTION STAFF**

Dr. Gene Sharp - Senior Scholar  
Jamila Raqib - Executive Director  
Jessica Drawe - Director of Operations  
Alia Braley - Director of Programs  
Chris D’Urso - Assistant to the Senior Scholar

We are excited to introduce the Institution’s two newest staff members.

Alia Braley began her work at the Einstein Institution in September 2014 as an intern while completing her studies at Harvard Divinity School. She focused her studies on nonviolent action, interning at the Center for Applied Nonviolent Action and Strategies in the summer of 2014, then at the Einstein Institution during the academic year. Her master’s thesis explored the strategic possibility of a grassroots nonviolent response to ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

In May, Alia joined us as a full-time staff member and began working closely with the Executive Director to prepare writings, lectures, and presentations for outreach and organizational development.

Chris D’Urso serves as the Assistant to the Senior Scholar, assisting Dr. Sharp with writing, editing, research, and other publishing duties.

Before joining the Institution, Chris was a professor of political science in the United States and in Brazil.

Chris holds a Master of Arts degree in Political Science from Northeastern University and speaks fluent (Brazilian) Portuguese.

We welcome Alia and Chris to the Institution, and look forward to the results of their efforts to advance our work.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Albert Einstein Institution is to advance the worldwide study and strategic use of nonviolent action in conflict.

The Institution is committed to:

- defending democratic freedoms and institutions;
- opposing oppression, dictatorship, and genocide; and
- reducing the reliance on violence as an instrument of policy.

This mission is pursued in three ways, by:

- encouraging research and policy studies on the methods of nonviolent action and their past use in diverse conflicts;
- sharing the results of this research with the public through publications, conferences, and the media; and
- consulting with groups in conflict about the strategic potential of nonviolent action.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Nelia Sargent - Chair  
Curt Goering  
Mary E. King  
Elizabeth Defeis  
Dr. Gene Sharp  
Jamila Raqib

This year, we began a multi-year effort to publish all of our existing print publications in ebook format in order to make them available to a wider audience. Five English-language ebooks are now available on Amazon.com, including: The Anti-Coup, How Nonviolent Struggle Works, On Strategic Nonviolent Conflict, and From Dictatorship to Democracy.

Two important books from the Albert Einstein Institution—Civilian-Based Defense and Before Lexington: Resistance, Struggle, and American Independence 1765-1775—have been out of print for many years. In light of the numerous annual requests we receive for copies of these titles, we have decided to republish them, both in print and as ebooks. We have begun working on both re-issues and expect to make them available next year.

Another project we are excited to share with you is the completion and printing of The Wise Monkeys. This story, based on a fourteenth century Chinese parable by Liu-Ji, will be published next year an illustrated book. Josh Cornillon, a Boston-based illustrator, adjunct professor at Lesley University, and comics teacher at the Elliot school, is creating sixteen full-color illustrations and a cover page to help bring this important story to life.

Gene Sharp, with the help of Chris D’Urso, is currently working on two additional new publications. The first focuses specifically on political power and the second analyses the verities of principled nonviolence and what is required for believers in principled nonviolence to participate in nonviolent action in major crises.

Once these are completed, he plans to continue work on a publication titled Einstein’s Quest, which explains how Einstein’s views on war and peace evolved throughout his life.

In addition to these new publications, Gene wrote a short essay this year titled “What if ‘they’ also use Nonviolent Action.” The essay addresses questions we often receive from activists, donors, and government entities about the use of nonviolent action by groups whose objectives and interests differ with their own.
Our website remains an important resource for individuals and groups seeking to access our educational materials. We often notice sharp spikes in web traffic from countries in which there is a large and active nonviolent movement.

This year, for instance, we observed an increase in website visits from Guatemala during their nonviolent revolution this summer, and from Lebanon this autumn as the “You Stink” anti-corruption movement gained widespread participation.

Recognition for our work is growing in new and exciting ways as people learn that accessing—and applying—the knowledge we provide can greatly impact their effectiveness in conducting struggle.

If people don’t have access to this knowledge, they may falsely believe that their only options are to remain helpless or to turn to self-defeating violence. We have a critical responsibility to continue our work and to make it available to the people who need it most.

To do that, we need your help.

This is a crucial time for the Albert Einstein Institution, and for the field of nonviolent action in general. With worldwide recognition of the power of nonviolent action, we receive far more requests for assistance than we are able to fulfill. We need to build our capacity as an organization in order to meet this demand, and also to expand the research and outreach that can impact some of the most difficult conflict situations in the world.

Please join us in this vital effort.

Jamila Raqib
Executive Director

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Executive Director

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