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**Peace Leaflets
A Starting point for Dialogue**

THINKING GLOBALLY - GLOBALIZATION

The journey from narrow nationalistic thinking to global co-responsibility requires forward-looking attitudes. Thinking globally, which is something that involves global solidarity, is not the same as globalization. The latter is a phenomenon that encompasses the merger of big enterprises to the disadvantage of smaller ones. There is merciless competition resulting in the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer.

In a better world, which is what we all strive for, the word “globalization” could take on a more ethical, humanitarian meaning, one that would allow it to be synonymous with global solidarity. But how does one go about creating such a meaning? What insights are necessary to take us away from our egocentric attitudes towards caring about the common welfare of others? Can such insights and attitudes be taught?

Unfortunately, insights like these cannot be taught and learned like algebra. They are predicated on corresponding personal experiences. How then do we gain these experiences?

I have addressed this question in previous articles, and I have come to the conclusion that personal acquaintances and, above all, cooperation in worthwhile causes are the best antidote to the absurdity of chauvinistic, backwoods thinking.

Insights gained from our personal experiences allow us to change behavior – something we have documented at the First Austrian Peace Museum. They give us the ability to take far-sighted actions in service to communities, both small and large.