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Foreword

by James K. Galbraith

Economists for Peace and Security (EPS) is a world-wide organization of professionals, united in the belief that economists can contribute usefully to the pursuit of peace, security, and the conditions for prosperity and development. We hold in particular that the economic dimension of wars, civil conflict, armament, and violence should be examined, measured, and exposed to scrutiny. We hope, in so doing, to help in our way to reduce the violence that blights so many human lives and that, in some measure, endangers us all.

The Economics of Peace and Security Journal (EPSJ) is our new initiative. It is prepared by scholars and specialists, but intended to be accessible to the broader community. In the first issue, we present articles on the problems of violence, war, and armaments in contemporary Africa. Future issues will similarly feature a theme, covering over the years a wide range of economic issues related to conflict and peace.

We acknowledge a deep debt to Ruth Leger Sivard, whose *World Military and Social Expenditures* reports provided inspiration for what we hope to do here. The final volume of Ms. Sivard's work appeared in 1996, and we are pleased and honored to continue in her footsteps, albeit in different form.

We welcome your participation, as a reader, in this endeavor. We also invite your membership in EPS, your participation in our affiliates worldwide, and in our periodic meetings and conferences. We seek your support for a wider commitment of economists to work on these vital issues, through research and teaching as well as participation in public and policy discussions.

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