

The UN Interagency Framework Team for Preventive Action cordially invites you to  
a brown-bag lunch discussion on:

## Understanding and Addressing Humiliation and Conflict

*UNDP/BCPR Conference Room, One UN Plaza (DC-1), 20<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Thursday, 2 December 2010  
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.*

Dr. Evelin Lindner will speak about honor, dignity, and humiliation as themes that are salient for conflict prevention and conflict transformation at the individual micro level as much as at the macro level in relation to political and other forms of violence in the world. From domestic violence and bullying in schools to the economic crisis and global terrorism, honor and dignity are being hurt in many ways and on many levels. What makes Lindner's approach interesting is that she uses a large-scale geo-historical lens to understand these dynamics.

The human rights ideal of equality in dignity for all is historically rather recent and represents a profound shift in the ways humiliation is being defined and felt. To give a particularly stark example for practitioners in the field of conflict resolution, it is crucial for them to have a deep understanding of how a person feels who defends humiliated family honor with so-called honor killing, and why another person is appalled and convinced that honor killing represents a case of double humiliation rather than a remedy. As a path out of this conundrum, Lindner advocates the principle of unity in diversity, the "Gandhi way" of respecting-but-not-appeasing, or the "Mandela way" of understanding-but-not-condoning.

### About the presenter:

**Evelin Lindner** is a transdisciplinary social scientist and humanist, covering subjects from neuroscience to political science and philosophy. She holds two PhDs, in medicine and psychology. She is the Founding President of Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies (HumanDHS, [www.humiliationstudies.org](http://www.humiliationstudies.org)), a global network of academics and practitioners and a professor at the upcoming World Dignity University. From 1997-2001, Lindner carried out her doctoral research on humiliation and its role in war and genocide, interviewing over 200 people who were either implicated in or knowledgeable about the mass killings in Rwanda, Somalia, and Nazi Germany. Lindner subsequently developed HumanDHS as an international platform for further work on dignity and humiliation.

Lindner is the author of the following books: *Making Enemies: Humiliation and International Conflict* which was honored as a Choice 2007 Outstanding Academic Title; *Emotion and Conflict: How Human Rights Can Dignify Emotion and Help Us Wage Good Conflict*; *Gender, Humiliation, and Global Security: Dignifying Relationships from Love, Sex, and Parenthood to World Affairs*. See her other publications at [www.humiliationstudies.org/whoweare/evelin.php](http://www.humiliationstudies.org/whoweare/evelin.php).

*Please feel free to disseminate this invitation to all interested colleagues.*

*Please be informed that there will be one organized pick-up at 12.45 p.m. in the DC-1 lobby for participants who do not have a UN pass which is needed to enter the building. We regret that arrivals after that time cannot be picked up and escorted into the building and will not be able to attend.*

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We have set up a telephone bridge for colleagues abroad who cannot join in person. Please see the instructions below on how to use **the telephone bridge**:

Call **+ 1 212 906 6244**

1. Wait till the system prompts you for the conference ID
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