

CG5 Transcript Peace Boat US Presentation

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Slide 3: About Peace Boat - Title

Slide 4: Who is Peace Boat US?

The organization that we've had the pleasure of working with the past two semesters is Peace Boat US. Peace Boat was founded in 1983 and Peace Boat US was founded as a partner organization in 2005 in New York. It is a non-governmental organization. The vision of Peace Boat is to create a culture of peace around the world through fostering people to people connection, which consists of activism and advocacy, aimed at creating positive social and political outcomes. It mainly does this through grassroots peacebuilding efforts which include experiential travel based learning and advocacy campaigns.

Slide 5: Focus Areas

Some of the focus areas of Peace Boat US are conflict prevention and peace building, humanitarian support and disaster relief, disarmament and nuclear abolition, and sustainability. Within conflict prevention and peace building, we see support for the Global Article 9 Campaign to Abolish War, which refers to Article 9 of Japan's peace constitution. Which peaceboat has been helping to uphold and is also encouraging more peace constitutions around the world. The organization further assists with the Global Campaign for Peace Education. This means that Peace Boat is helping to facilitate introducing peace education into all educational institutions, building public awareness and public support for peace education, as well as promoting education for teachers of peace.

Within Humanitarian Support and Disaster Relief we see a plethora of efforts coming from Peace Boat US. This includes Emergency Relief Efforts, such as organizing the Relief Volunteer Centers and calling for donations in response to hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis and tornados. Peaceboat also works on cleanup and restoration projects within disaster relief.

Within Disarmament and Nuclear Abolition we see Peace Boat US' Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: the Hibakusha Project. This project is one in which atomic bomb survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki come together to give testimonies about effects of nuclear weapons. Peace Boat US also has a Youth 4 Disarmament program which we engaged with some projects we did within our time at Peace Boat.

Another focus area of Peace Boat US is Sustainability. We see this in their promotion of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They focus on education and advocacy, especially on their voyages of Sustainable Development Goals and their sailing for sustainability program. They also have a Youth for the SDGs program. Moreover, the two ships within the Peace Boat US ensemble are eco-ships.

Slide 6: CG5 - Title**Slide 7: CG5 & Peace Boat**

During our collaborative group time, CG5 decided to delegate tasks based on each team's members strengths. So if a CG5 member was experienced with making social media posts they would take the lead on that task and if another member had experience with editing and revising texts they would do that. We decided to delegate our tasks this way because we wanted to make sure all the assignments were completed to the best of our ability. We communicated with our GEI supervisor Emillie over skype and email. We had video calls with her every month during the 2 semesters. She let us know about the assignments she wanted done and the time they were due by. We emailed Emile if we had any questions that did not come up during our monthly video call. All CG5 members bonded over completing the assignments and Peace Boat's mission of promoting peace and human rights. We realized that our goal for the internship was to assist Peace Boat in with our skills in writing, social media, and social outreach. As the semester went on we became more relatiatant to each other because we knew that each of us brought something to the team. We all loved coming to our collaborative group time because we knew that everyone would want to complete what needed to be done. All members' experiences were needed and valued. We truly became a team. Overall, we loved being able to intern at one the top nongovernmental organizations in New York.

Slide 8: UNODA Report - Title**Slide 9: Outline of Report**

The first semester our main project was drafting a report about Peace Boat's nuclear disarmament educational efforts to be delivered to the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs as part of their Civil Society and Disarmament series. This diagram here outlines the breakdown of the overall report. It was divided into four main categories: Working with Youth, Local Initiatives, partners, and onboard programs/voyages; al with their respective supercategories underneath. Writing this report showed us how nuclear disarmament education ranges from large organizations to small grassroots movements. This book primarily focuses on disarmament education and gives an overview of Peace Boat's activities throughout the decades.

Slide 10: UNODA Report

One of the parts of the report detailed Peace Boat's collaboration with the Hibakusha Project. Hibakusha is a survivor of the 1945 atomic bomb explosions at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Since 2008, Peace Boat has invited survivors to participate in the Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project. Here, the survivors have the chance to share their testimonials around the world to schools, government, and media.

Additionally, Peace Boat collaborates with several organizations such as the UNODA and International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. The goal of the UNODA is to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. They have co-hosted several events to promote disarmament education. In April they hosted the “Youth Ambassadors Working Towards a Nuclear-Free Future” with the goals of empowering the youth through education. In October, they had an event- Youth Champions for Securing our Common Future calling upon the three pillars- disarmament to save lives, humanity, and future generations. Likewise, Peace Boat is part of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. ICAN is a global alliance formed to implement the nuclear weapon ban treaty. In 2017, ICAN was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons.

Besides that, this report illustrates several of Peace Boat’s Youth for SDGs Summer Programs. The Sustainable Development Goals are 17 clear goals that provide a blueprint for a sustainable future for the 2030 Agenda. This program welcomed students and young people between the ages of 18 - 30 years old from all backgrounds and nationalities who have a strong desire to learn about sustainable development. While sailing on board, the “Youth for the SDGs” scholars attend presentations, seminars, and workshops addressing the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Besides that, the youth are able to engage in immersing themselves in other cultures. On the boat, there are many opportunities to participate in cultural, educational, and social activities and events.

Slide 11: Social Media - Title

Slide 12: Social Media

While much of our efforts during the first semester focused on the compiling and writing of Peace Boat’s previous efforts into the report to the United Nations, this semester focused more around the promotion of Peace Boat’s message, and their events in the coming months. We did this through the creation and sharing of social media posts for Peace Boat. Here in the next couple of slides are some examples of our social media posts regarding a voyage in the summer. We also spent time promoting a fundraiser for the Australian bushfires through Peace Boat’s social media pages. In addition to this, we participated in social outreach to spread the word about Peace Boat to our peers by looking for clubs around campus that may be interested in their goals. As well as presenting in our GSP class about upcoming events and about Peace Boat as a whole. Putting our focus into social media posts gave us a way to work together and express our creativity. Using computer editing software, we gained added experience in poster design as well. Even a task like drafting social media posts can create opportunities to delegate authority among our collaborative group and build teamwork skills. As well as create good practice for taking on a group project as a whole.

Slide 13 Social Media - Examples

Slide 14: Reaching Out - Title

Slide 15: Reaching Out

For the purpose of introducing our summer program opportunity to more people, we also reached out to our classmates and student organizations on campus. First, we introduced to everyone in class about it thinking that the GSP community is a group of students who are passionate about making influences to the world with our love and positivity. Then we collected a list of student organizations on campus (such as *Justice for Earth Movement*, *Public Health Sustainability Initiative*, *University of Michigan Active Citizens*, etc.) and emailed them about the summer program to see if there was anyone interested in it. We also researched on some University of Michigan student scholarships and opportunity grants that would be applicable for those who might join the program to motivate them to be more involved in community services on a global scale. Also, we thought we would play a short movie about the program before or at the end of Chai Chatter to promote again, but it never happened due to the Coronavirus outbreak.

Slide 16: Takeaways - Title

Slide 17: Takeaways

So here, we are now in the takeaways section. I don't want to read everybody's takeaway word for word, but I would like to highlight, just in general, what we felt like with important things from this experience. So to summarize we really felt like we learned a lot about communication, and learned a lot about what it means to on work responsibility and accountability and making sure we're keeping up with, not only our CG members, but also our supervisor, Emilie. So, working on that was really important for helping us figure out how to balance out team dynamics.

We also learned a lot about sustainability and peace and how that is promoted by Peace Boat as an organization. We learned a lot about the different ways we could use our skills to implement that throughout our work. So, as we mentioned earlier, we did a lot with social media and social outreach, but we also spent a large part of our internship writing that book that was sent to the U. N. for the UNODA. It was really important to us... working together and working as a team and making sure that we were all taking into consideration what each person was contributing and how we could best balance that out between our group. So, we learned a lot about group dynamics, communication, and how that all connects to sustainability and peace efforts globally.

I do also want to give a mention to the pur CG members that, unfortunately, were not able to stay with us for the whole time during her internship, but they were a really big help in all our efforts and really integral to making everything work, from debate to the report, to communication with Emilie and social media. So, I want to acknowledge our other fellow CG members: Adaku, Dee, Anu, Dirmid, and Chingyi.