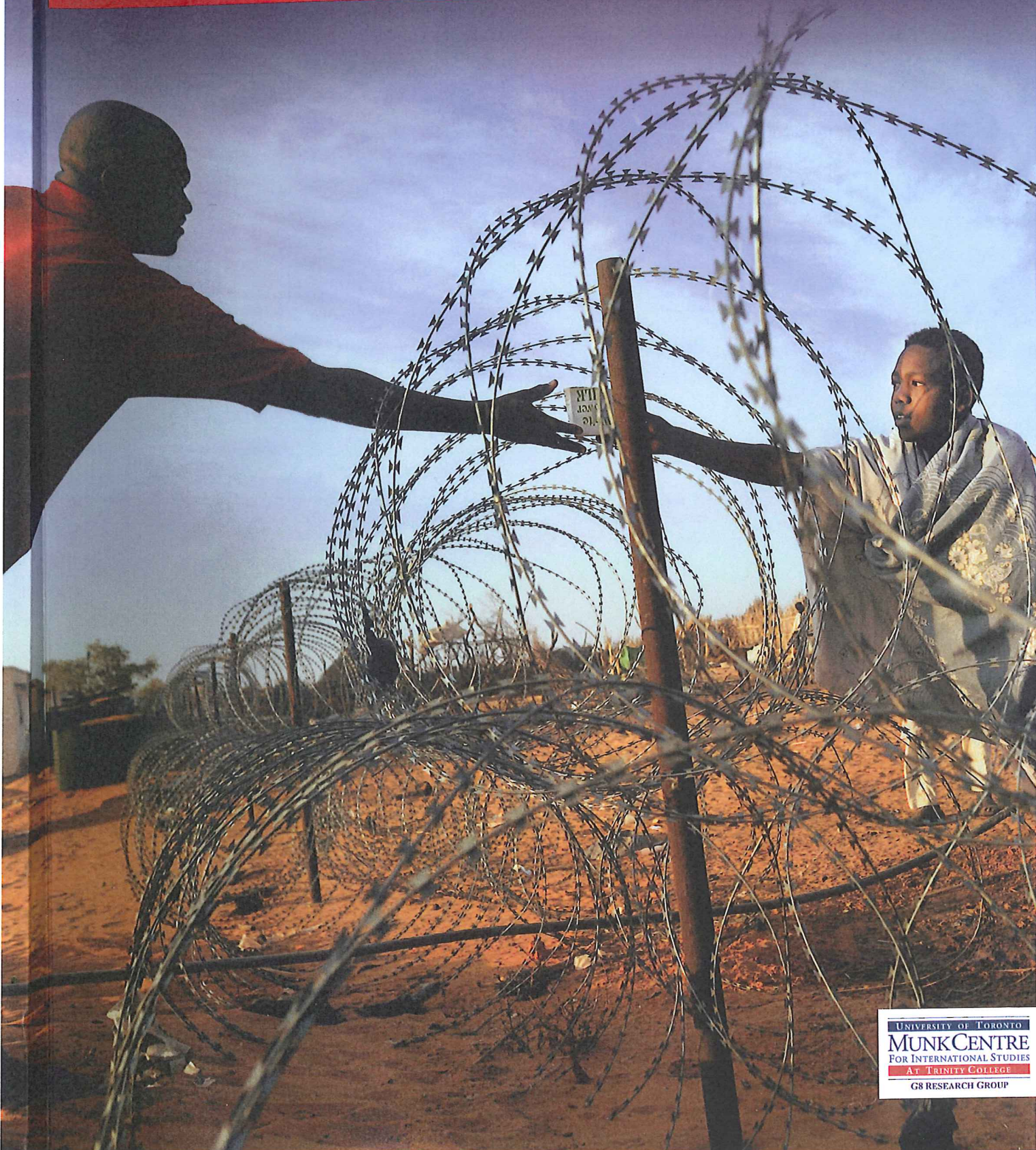


G8

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FROM LA MADDALENA TO L'AQUILA



Zero NO_x – making it possible

For years, the solution to one of our greatest environmental problems has been within reach. If all supply ships built recently were powered by gas instead of diesel, Norwegian NO_x emissions would have been reduced by 14,000 tons and CO₂ emissions by 90,000 tons per year. Such NO_x reductions represent about 50 per cent of Norway's obligations under the Gothenburg protocol



Eidesvik Offshore's gas-powered offshore vessel, *Viking Queen*

The 'Gothenburg protocol' states that Norway is committed to reduce NO_x emissions by 30 per cent within 2010. The coastal fleet is responsible for 40 per cent of Norway's NO_x emissions. Emissions of NO_x from Norwegian shipping have increased from 65,000 tons in 1990 to 73,000 tons in 2007. A significant part of these emissions come from more than 150 offshore vessels.

Even if 70 new supply ships have been added to the fleet in recent years, only four of the 150 supply ships operating on the Norwegian continental shelf are gas-powered. If all new vessels were powered by gas, the reduction in NO_x emissions would have corresponded to the emissions from 2.8 million cars, more than all the cars in Norway.

The technology is well known and easy to implement when building new vessels. Such ships are somewhat more expensive to build, but these costs are small, if you consider the environmental benefits.

What Norwegian authorities can do

Norwegian politicians are now aware of these new possibilities, and should not permit 'yesterday's' vessel technology to be used. Instead, they should:

1. Use their large ownership interests in the North Sea to demand that transportation to and from oil fields is carried out with low NO_x and CO₂ emission vessels.
2. Use their role as legislators to require the use of low emission

vessels on the Norwegian shelf and in local coastal traffic. Today's emissions would be greatly reduced if we motivate greater political willpower than we have seen in recent decades.

Eidesvik Offshore – heading for zero emission with the fuel cell

It has been seven years since Eidesvik Offshore demonstrated that gas-powered ships are possible, and built the first one in the face of opposition and doubt from the authorities. The world's first gas powered offshore vessel, *Viking Energy*, was launched in 2003. Eidesvik's second ship, *Viking Queen*, was launched in 2008, and the third ship, *Viking Lady*, was delivered in March 2009. *Viking Lady*, which will operate for Total E&P Norge, has the additional benefit of using fuel cell technology for internal power supply.

Eidesvik's dream is to build a ship powered only by fuel cells, where the NO_x emissions will be zero and the CO₂ emissions will be reduced by half, compared to today's vessel emissions. For more information on the Eidesvik story and its plans for the future, visit www.eidesvik.no



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