



“Empowering Youth for Peace through Interreligious Cooperation, Education and Humanitarian Action.”

“Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) meeting on the international Day of Peace”

Program

September 21, 2020

15:00 Session I: Heiner Handschin, IAPD

UN International Day of Peace Interfaith learning Workshop.

Intergenerational Panel with youth interacting with 6 established faith leaders representing 6 faith communities in/around Geneva:

This session will feature a webinar involving 6 major faith communities in/around Geneva. Each faith leader will be invited to present core tenets of their respective religious traditions and their efforts for interreligious trust and cooperation, followed by time for discussion and interaction with youth representatives.

Protestant Cathedral: Dean (em.)

Rev. Dr. William A. McComish

World Council of Churches:

Rev. Dr. Simone Sinn, Bossey Ecumenical Institute

Catholic Parish of Geneva, Basilique Notre Dame :

Mgr. Pierre Farine

Confrérie Soufie Alawiyya :

Cheikh Khaled Bentounes (tbc)

Islamic Cultural Centre and Interknowing Foundation:

Mohamed Levrack & Hafid Ouadiri

Liberal Jewish Community of Geneva, GIL

Rabbi François Garai

Sikh Gurudwara

Bachittar Ughra Singh

16:30 Conclusion

Interreligious Association for Peace and Development – Regional Office for Europe and Middle East

c/o UPF - Rue Anne-Torcapel 10 – 1202 Geneva

Ch. de la Pierreire 1D, 1092 Belmont

www.switzerland.upf.org,

www.upf.org

Tel. +41 21 729 9862

September 22, 2020

11:00 Opening Session

Welcoming remarks, **Mr. Jacques Marion**, President, UPF Europe & Middle East
Rev. Dr. Ioan Sauca, General Secretary a.i. WCC (tbc)

11:15 Session I:

The role and importance of Youth in society:

Creating a stable culture of peace requires the education and integration of youth in every facet of society; religion, culture, politics, economy, development, policy- and decision making. How do these different sectors reach out to young people, and value their contribution?

Moderator: Carolyn Handschin, Director WFP Offices for UN relations

Speakers:

Major General Germaine J.F. Seewer, Head of education for high military personnel, Swiss Army

Dr. Claude Béglé, former Member of National Parliament, Switzerland

Sheikh Nuru, Mohammed, Shia-Islamic leader, Ghana & UK

Dr. Barbara Heer, Table Ronde des Religions, Biel, Member of the Cantonal Parliament, Basel

Dr. Jonathan Schopping, Head of Youth & Leadership programs of Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities. (SIG)

Ms. Laleh Ashrafi, UNODC, Geneva

Q & A

12:45 Lunch break with Videos

14:00 Session II

Interreligious Youth Council (IYC) Meeting

Special Session on: "Empowering Youth for Peace through interreligious cooperation, education and humanitarian action."

As a special feature, the 13th Model UN Interfaith Youth Panel will be convened as has been proposed as part of the "UN SDG Action Zone", a project of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York.

Moderator, Rabbi Kevin De-Carli

Speaker 1, Mélanie Komagata, IAYSP, Switzerland

Speaker 2, Srruthi Lekha Raaja Elango, UN representative of WFP Geneva, India

Speaker 3, Nida-Errahmen Ajmi representative of Islam

Speaker 4, Ranim Asfahani, Edinburgh, UK

Speaker 5, Asif Ulfat, President FFWPU, Afghanistan

Speaker 6, Aischa Hamdi-Pacha Representative from Iras Cotis

Q & A

15:30 Closing remarks:

Dr. Taj Hamad, Head of IAPD International, Vice-President UPF International