

Participation Info

The conference welcomes participants from various civil society organizations, media representatives, religious leaders, politicians, educational workers etc. Everyone interested in participating should go through the registration process as soon as possible due to time-consuming visa formalities. Those who don't need visa should register by no later than 17th of October 2014 on our website:

www.genevapeaceconference.com Upon registration participants will receive a Conference Registration Form which must be filled in by each participant independently.

Venue and Date

October 24, 2014

Palais Des Nations, Building E Room XVIII

Avenue de la Paix 8-14

1211 Geneva, Switzerland

Languages

Please note that the working language of the conference will be English. There will be simultaneous interpretation for Turkish at the opening ceremony and for each of the panel sessions.

Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF)



JWF has been established by a group of distinguished writers, scholars and journalists in 1994 to contribute to peaceful coexistence and dialogue by bringing together intellectuals from all political spectrums with different cultural, religious, ethnic and ideological backgrounds that belong to the many diverse disciplines in science, religion, philosophy, politics, and art. The JWF holds General Consultative Status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council, being the first and only institution to achieve this status in Turkey.

The Institute of Dialogue and Intercultural Cooperation (Dialog-Institut)



Dialog-Institut is a politically neutral non-profit organization, founded in 2004. Dialog-Institut promotes intercultural dialogue and constructive relationships within cultural diversity. It seeks to reduce prejudices and fears of one another, and work to build a common future between different cultures. It allows a dialogue between individuals but also between communities. The Institute strives to promote the diversity of cultural resources to build mutual understanding and implementing common constructive work. It opposes all forms of exclusion and constantly strives to promote understanding between people. Its work is based on common values. The Swiss example shows that it is possible to build a society that can live together despite cultural differences. This experience should also help us to solve our current problems and to improve the future of our country.

Contact:

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GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE

MOBILIZING CIVIL SOCIETY FOR BUILDING PEACE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2014 GENEVA

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The Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF) and Dialog-Institut, in partnership with other civil society organizations, will organize **“Geneva Peace Conference: Mobilizing Civil Society for Building Peace”** on October 24, 2014 at United Nations Office in Geneva.

Building on the experience and outcomes of numerous high level dialogues and meetings of the UN, The Geneva Peace Conference aims to foster the mobilization of civil society for building peace, which will offer alternative ways of discussing this topic. Secondly, the UN is still the milieu where the debates on this topic are to be organized. Therefore, the conference also aims to build on the work that has been done so far by the respective institutions within the system of UN and it should be considered as a continuation of these crucial works. In order to highlight this aspect, the conference is deliberately held on the United Nations Day, October 24.



Programme

October 24, 2014 – Friday

08:00-09:00 On-Site Registration and Access to Palais des Nations

09:30-10:30 Opening Ceremony & Key-note Addresses

Andres Smith Serrano
External and Inter-Agency/ Political Affairs Officer
Office of the Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva

Mustafa Yeşil
President, Journalists and Writers Foundation

Ela Gandhi
Peace Activist, Granddaughter of Mohandas Gandhi, South Africa

Dr. Heinrich Kreft
Director for Public Diplomacy and Dialogue among Civilizations,
Foreign Ministry of Germany

10:30-12:00 **Freedom of Religion &
Building and Sustaining Peace**

Gunnar Johan Stålsett
Member of Norwegian Nobel Committee, Norway (Moderator)

Prof. Tariq Ramadan
Oxford University, Faculty of Oriental Studies, UK

Dr. Samya C. Marasinghe
Daughter of Mr. Ariyaratne, Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement, Sri Lanka

Rabbi Ehud Bandel
Vice President of the International Council of Christians and Jews, Israel

Prof. Thomas Michel
Georgetown University, Faculty of Theology, US

12:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:30 **Peace and Journalism**

Joost Lagendijk
Columnist at Today's Zaman (Moderator), Netherland

Myung-bok Bae
Editorial Writer & Diplomatic Correspondent, JoongAng Ilbo, South Korea

Dr. Petra Aczél
Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary

Dr. Cengiz Aktar
Lecturer at Süleyman Şah University, Istanbul, Turkey

15:30-16:00 Coffee Break

16:30-17:30 **Education & Sustaining Peace**

Prof. Abdeljalil Akkari
Prof of International Education, University of Geneva (Moderator)

Prof. Toh Swee-Hin
Distinguished Professor, University for Peace, Costa Rica

Prof. Radhi Al-Mabuk
Professor of Education at the University of Northern Iowa, US

Daniel Hyslop
Institut for Economics and Peace, Australia

18:00-20:00 Reception and Cocktail
Venue: Restaurant des Délégués, Building A, 8th floor



Several important factors for peaceful coexistence will be discussed, including **the roles of freedom of religion, media and education** as catalysts in the process of creating conditions for such coexistence. Furthermore, NGO participants will also join the discussion by submitting **oral and written statements** with regards to the topics of the three separate sessions.

