

Committee for the Interreligious & interconvictional Dialogue

www.coe.int/en/web/ingo/interreligious-and-interconvictional-dialogue

WEBINAR

Peace-Activities of the Faith based INGOs

DATE

Monday, 18th November 2024, 18.00 – 19.30

ZOOM

Please register in advance:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join-link>

After registering, an e-mail will be sent with information on how to attend the session

Simultaneous translation English & French

CONTENT: We cordially invite you to our upcoming webinar, which will focus on one of the most pressing issues of our time: how to stand up for peace in a world characterized by multiple threats and military conflicts. The central question raised by our committee in the new legislative period is how we as civil society and as people of faith can cooperate to foster and strengthen peace.

In this webinar, we will introduce some remarkable initiatives presented by dedicated peace building faith-based organizations. These actions are not only inspiring, but also an impressive testimony of solidarity of civil society towards victims of war and violence. Our aim is to share the suffering of the people affected and to help alleviate this through the activities presented here.

Be part of this important discussion and let's find ways together to actively promote peace. We cordially invite representatives of all religions and beliefs to participate in this open dialogue. **Our committee is wholeheartedly engaged in peace-building efforts between all religions and beliefs.** Together we can foster understanding, build bridges and help shape a future for people crushed by suffering of warmongering aggressors.

We look forward to your active participation and a constructive, stimulating dialogue. Please do not hesitate to forward this invitation to anyone who might be interested!

SPEAKERS:

Dr. Elizabeta Kitanovic (CEC) completed her studies in Orthodox Christian Theology and the Political Science Faculty, University of Belgrade in Serbia. She works as human rights advocate at the Conference of European Churches, teacher of human rights and religious freedom in Brussels.

She will be presenting CEC project Path ways to peace – advocacy for legal, political, security and financial protection of the worship places and cultural heritage.

Robert Harrap (SOKA GAKKAI Europe) After a degree in French and Italian literature at UCL, Robert worked advising and representing clients in court in areas with a human element. In 2013 as General Director of the Soka Gakkai UK for ten years. He has been a regular contributor to BBC Radio 2's 'Pause for Thought'. In May last year he was appointed as Co-Chair of SGI Europe. The SGI Int. is partner of ICAN (the international campaign to abolish nuclear weapons) who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017.

Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum (WOMEN WAGE PEACE), a dual Israeli-American citizen, helped to establish the Israeli movement Women Wage Peace in the aftermath of the fifty-day Gaza War in 2014. Women Wage Peace was chosen as a nominee for this year's Nobel Peace Prize along with its Palestinian sister movement Women of the Sun. Rabbi Kirshbaum currently serves as the rabbi of a synagogue in New Hampshire in the northeastern US and continues as advocacy chair of a clergy task force devoted to the prevention of domestic violence.

Dr. Stephen Fulder (TOVANA) was born in London in 1946, was educated at Oxford University, and has a PhD. He is the founder and senior teacher of Tovana (the Israel Insight Society), which is the major Buddhist practice organisation in Israel. Stephen has been teaching intensively for 30 years and has written many books, including his new title: *How To Thrive in Hard Times: A Buddhist Manual* (Watkins Publishers). He has been deeply engaged in peace work in the Middle East for many years and is the founder of The Middleway organisation and leader of the Transformation of Suffering Palestinian-Israeli workshops funded by the Oslo Peace Fund.

MODERATOR: **Dr. Thea Mohr**, EBU, trainer of intercultural communication.

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