

ANNUAL REPORT

2020



 Religions *for* Peace
50 YEARS

Our Movement in Numbers

1 global, multi-religious movement for peace

6 Strategic Priorities

10 World Assemblies to build consensus on the global peace priorities of the world's faiths

20+ innovative, interfaith projects resulting from our flagship Multi-religious Humanitarian Fund

50 years of bringing the world's religions together for peace

90+ affiliated national Interreligious Councils

100+ leaders representing the world's faith traditions

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For over 50 years, Religions for Peace has brought together the world's religious institutions and faith communities to work together for peace and security, human rights, and sustainable development. Religions for Peace is an organisation as well as a mission.

Through the decades, we have witnessed how multi-religious collaboration is a tipping point in securing human rights and dignity. All religions advocate for the most vulnerable among us, and thus not leaving anyone behind. Our 90 national and 6 regional Interreligious Councils, or "IRCs," are unique multi-religious platforms which combine influence as well as the priceless social capital of religious leaders, religious institutions, and grassroots women and youth networks.

In 2020, Religions for Peace launched its Strategic Plan, approved and adopted by our governing board of over 100 religious leaders (the World Council), each representing all religious institutions and communities from all over the world. It is the culmination of sustained multi-religious and multi-stakeholder debate and consensus-building for over a year, beginning with national and regional consultations held leading up to the 10th World Assembly and the meeting on Multi-religious and Multi-stakeholder Partnership for Peace and Development. The plan reflects the priorities of the world's faith communities and has been informed also by government officials, diplomats, United Nations representatives, leaders of partner organisations, and philanthropists.¹

The Strategic Plan has set six Strategic Priorities for the period of 2020-2025, aligned in language, intent, and indicators with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These are:

- Promote Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies
- Advance Gender Equality
- Nurture a Sustainable Environment
- Champion Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion
- Strengthen Interreligious Education
- Foster Multi-religious Collaboration and Global Partnerships

In pursuing these six Strategic Priorities, we work as a movement inclusive of our regional and national affiliates, and in partnership with governmental and intergovernmental entities, as well as non-governmental civil society actors. As we bring partners together with the Interreligious Councils (IRC), we strengthen social cohesion in service for the common good.

Advancing the Strategic Priorities is operationalised through joint advocacy, building leadership and service delivery capacities of the IRCs, as well as managing the heritage of

¹ Media Coverage included:

- [The Arc of Justice - the World's Religions Launch Strategic Priorities for Peace](#) from IPS News by Prof. Azza Karam and Rev. Kyoichi Sugino
- [The Arc of Justice - the World's Religions Launch Strategic Priorities for Peace](#) from All Africa by Prof. Azza Karam and Rev. Kyoichi Sugino
- [Religions for Peace Launches 2020-2025 Strategic Plan](#) from All Africa
- [Religious leaders call for increased collaboration on climate change, inequality](#) from Devex
- [Organizing Religious Communities to Work for a Just Peace](#) from Nonprofit Quarterly
- [Religious freedom, security, climate change top Religions for Peace agenda](#) from Angelus

multi-religious knowledge inherent in and generated by the collaboration between institutions and grassroots communities.

Shortly after the adoption of our Strategic Plan, Prof. Azza Karam, PhD, assumed her office as Secretary General in March, after being the first woman and first Muslim elected to the position by our global, multi-religious movement during the 10th World Assembly in Lindau, Germany in August 2019. She assumed her office just two weeks before our global headquarters in New York was placed under lockdown due to COVID-19.

Globally, over 73 million people have contracted the virus and over 1.6 million have died.² As governments worldwide stagger in their responses to COVID-19, faith groups have stepped in to provide spiritual support and emergency aid. Religious gatherings have been limited and adapted, and people of faith have proved resilient and compassionate.

Fostering multi-religious collaboration in response to the world's most urgent challenges has only become more critical. The urgent needs of humanity and the earth have only been amplified by the pandemic.

Religions for Peace adapted to the changing situation brought about by the pandemic and creatively started implementing our programmes to advance our Strategic Priorities within the context of COVID-19. We began as we always do: we convened – for the very first time virtually – leaders of the world's religious institutions and over 15,000 diverse believers for a shared moment of hope and solidarity and provided space to reflect together spiritually. This was the first of 40 virtual consultations with 37 diverse institutional partners in 2020, all of which were guided by our Strategic Priorities. These convenings each reached 120 participants on average, with thousands reached via Livestream.

We adapted our many existing and new partnerships (with multilateral, bilateral, and civil society, - including academic - institutions) using this virtual modality, and thus made the programmes and the knowledge resulting from them more inclusive and accessible to our movement members across the world.

At the same time, we gathered the resources needed to equip and encourage multi-faith responses to the pandemic by launching the first Multi-religious Humanitarian Fund. This unique mechanism is bringing religious actors together - *multi-religiously* - in humanitarian service.

² Data from Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Map is current as of the writing of this report on 15 December 2020.

The Tipping Point for Social Cohesion: Multi-religious Action

Supporting and cultivating humanitarian multi-faith action lies at the core of the Multi-religious Humanitarian Fund (MRHF), an initiative forged during the COVID-19 pandemic — but built to outlast it. The Fund supports diverse religious communities to work together in their frontline efforts to respond to communities facing humanitarian crises.

The Fund was created to encourage the world's largest first responders in humanitarian emergencies – religious actors – to work together to serve the now greater needs of all communities facing common crises. The Fund is not intended to replicate or duplicate or increase workloads. Instead, it is about providing a means for those faith actors already serving communities, to contribute *some* of their resources to delivering services *together*.

Investing in the Fund has demonstrated impact. Investments in multi-religious efforts are exponentially more beneficial than support for just one cause or religious community, with their value being two-fold: delivering immediate aid while building bridges between different religious communities, which has a lasting impact after the moment of specific need has passed.



On a cloudless day in northern Albania, a small delivery truck came to a halt in a dusty field. It had arrived just in time and with much needed supplies - the country had been struck by a catastrophic earthquake, leaving broken homes, destroyed families, and orphaned children in its wake. Following closely on its heels was the COVID-19 outbreak.

Standing shoulder-to-shoulder in that field that day was a Muslim schoolteacher and a Catholic nun. Together, they hoisted boxes off the back of the truck, surrounded by the orphaned children and widowed parents those supplies were meant to help.

THE FUND IN ACTION

From behind the dim glow of a computer screen, a young Muslim student in the Philippines began her own fight against COVID-19. Enlisting the help of her Christian and Buddhist friends, they messaged houses of worship, working with religious leaders identified families struggling to provide for themselves, and organised the delivery of hundreds of emergency food boxes.



Objectives of the Fund:

- Provide quick access to funds during humanitarian crises
- Engage a cross-section of local religions in projects
- Support and guide the working relationship between different communities
- Help guide the conversation between religious communities, Religions for Peace, and other involved organisations

The MRHF received over 100 applications, and currently finances 20 projects in 20 countries. As its impact becomes increasingly evident, more individuals, organisations, and foundations are choosing to invest in the idea that we can accomplish more together as people and institutions of faith, than apart.

The Fund has been lauded for its adaptability and ingenuity by the World Economic Forum and its successes have been shared by preeminent news sources, including AP and Yahoo! Finance.

By bringing together diverse faith groups during moments of crisis, our efforts foster cooperation and trust between these groups for years to come.

Select Media Coverage can be found in **Annex 1**.

Interfaith Moment of Hope and Solidarity

Over 17,000 people from 80 countries were virtually connected across the world on 1 April for a shared interfaith moment of hope and solidarity where senior religious leaders from 10 religious traditions offered prayers for healing and hope as many country continued and commenced their lockdowns due to COVID-19. In a joint commitment read aloud to conclude the virtual gathering, the believers committed to “respecting the value of scientific knowledge... as part of [a] spiritual obligation to care for all living things.”

Advocacy:

- At the outbreak of the COVID-19 crises, Religions for Peace's movement and leaders released several statements on the importance of working together to overcome the pandemic: Standing Together in Spirit and with Actions: Religions for Peace Statement about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (13 March); Statement by Religions for Peace on Coronavirus Crisis (19 March); A Joint Statement – Urgent Action Needed to Prevent COVID-19 (25 March); An Interfaith Call-to-Action on COVID-19 (8 May)
- Religions for Peace leaders stood with the United Nations Secretary General in his call for a global ceasefire during the COVID-19 pandemic: Faith Leaders Strongly Echo the UN Secretary-General's Call for a Ceasefire (14 April); Interfaith Youth Call for Global Ceasefire During the COVID-19 Crisis (27 May)³
- Religions for Peace leaders rededicated themselves to working multi-religiously on the most pressing global challenges: On the Occasion of World Refugee Day – Every Action Counts (19 June); on the 30th Anniversary of the World Summit for Children, World Religions for the World's Children (30 September)
- As G20 Finance Ministers met virtually on the crippling global health and economic impacts of the coronavirus, Religions for Peace called for a debt standstill for developing countries, more aid for countries, new processes to prevent financial

³ The statement from the World Council was received by H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and acknowledged with gratitude in a formal letter sent to the International Secretariat. The statement and video message from the International Youth Committee was received with gratitude by the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Ms Jayathma Wickramanayake, and re-shared on the UN Youth Envoy Twitter account.

crisis and measures that confront tax evasion and corruption: Religions for Peace to the G20: Debt Relief Cannot Wait⁴ (22 July)

Knowledge Management (Opinion Pieces & Media):

- Prof. Azza Karam wrote extensively on the impact of COVID-19 on faith communities, and the moral imperative of working multi-religiously in our response to the pandemic: 'In the Beginning was the Word': Why Covid-19 Renders Words even more Powerful from IPS News by Prof. Azza Karam (25 March); Religion can be a healing balm for COVID-19's disruption, if applied judiciously from Religion News Service by Prof. Azza Karam (17 April)

Capacity Building (Consultations & Convenings):⁵

- Religions for Peace, World Faiths Development Dialogue at Georgetown University, and United States Institute of Peace partnered to foster timely conversations between religious leaders, scholars, and experts on realities and responses to individual and national debt in a time of the COVID-19 pandemic. (7 April "Religion, Conflict, and COVID-19: Exploring Emerging Pitfalls and Potentials" and 24 June "Religion, Debt, and COVID: The Role of Faith Institutions")

INTERFAITH YOUTH CALL FOR GLOBAL CEASEFIRE DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS



Mr. Renz C. Argao
Assistant Professor,
University of Santo Tomas
Philippines | Christianity



Ms. Ana-Maria Daou
Community Engagement
Senior Coordinator,
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Youth Representative,
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Ms. Emina Frljak
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Ms. Japman Kaur
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Dr. Piero Liebman
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Federation of Young Jews
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Mr. Christian Lupemba
Chairperson, Interfaith
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Ms. Meera Lwin Mar Oo
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Ms. Ligia Matamoros
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Pastor, Latin American
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Costa Rica | Christianity



Ms. Lyka Mtambo
Youth Representative,
Public Affairs Committee
Malawi | Islam



Mr. Yusuke Saito
Youth Representative,
Rissho Kosei-Kai
Japan | Buddhism



Ms. Strina Tysk
Vice-Chairperson, World
Student Christian
Federation- Europe
Sweden | Christianity



⁴ Religions for Peace joined the largest religious, labour, human rights, development and environmental institutions by signing Jubilee USA's letter to the G20 ahead of the G20 Finance Ministers Meeting on 18 July discussing the rippling global health and economic impacts of the coronavirus. Religions for Peace is called for a debt standstill for developing countries, more aid for countries, new processes to prevent financial crisis and measures that confront tax evasion and corruption. Religions for Peace and World Faiths Development Dialogue partnered to convene leaders of thought and of faith for an interactive consultation at the intersection of debt, religion and COVID-19.

⁵ Our Strategic Priorities often intersect with and inform one another. Thus, some consultations and convening could be listed under multiple Strategic Priorities. These consultations have only been listed once to avoid repetition, but a comprehensive list can be found in Annex 3.

1st Assembly on Women, Faith, & Diplomacy

REDEFINING LEADERSHIP, RE-ENVISIONING FAITH, & RECONSTRUCTING DIPLOMACY

In a chaotic world, women and men's voices broke through silences to interrupt global narratives around the pandemic, terror, and destruction. Their insight provided a clear path forward towards peace during the 1st Assembly on Women, Faith, and Diplomacy: Keeping Faith, Transforming Tomorrow (10-13 November). Thanks to the continuing visionary leadership and support provided by the Lindau Foundation and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, whose partnership had enabled the historic 10th World Assembly in 2019, Religions for Peace convened a virtually convened 24,000 people from 97+ countries. Representatives from the world's religions were joined by leaders of governments, civil society, and multilateral institutions. It showcased, through testimonies and expert interviews, new ways to promote interreligious dialogue in difficult times and on several fronts: peacebuilding and terrorism, environment, leadership, hate speech, migrants, and gender violence.

The Assembly focused on the nexus of women, faith and diplomacy, giving prominence to women's respective roles and contributions and highlighting their leadership alongside the male leadership and within diverse institutions in governments, intergovernmental entities, and in civil society.

Global leaders acknowledged and affirmed multi-religious and multi-stakeholder collaboration as the tipping point by which we can achieve human rights, peace and security and sustainable development.



Among the hundreds of experienced voices, Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the Assembly noting that “peace is only durable if women are involved in the peace process.” United

Nations Secretary General António Guterres offered an address honoring the long legacy of "women of all religions working for peace in their communities and countries."

This groundbreaking virtual Assembly was streamed live from Lindau, Germany, in partnership with Ring for Peace. Staff worked behind the scenes, upholding strict COVID-19 guidelines.

Select Media Coverage can be found in **Annex 2** and on our website. All videos from the Assembly can be accessed here.

Advocacy:

- During March, in celebration of International Women's Day and in commemoration of 50 years of multi-faith collaboration for peace, our movement and partners highlighted the voices, stories, and leadership of faith-inspired women in our movement, using #FaithInspiredWomenforPeace.
- Marking the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence (25 November to 10 December), Religions for Peace showcased our commitment to and legacy of working multi-religiously to end gender-based violence. By sharing diverse stories from our leaders who serve on the frontlines of this shadow pandemic, resources and toolkits, and educational infographics on faith teachings and practices to eliminate gender-based violence, we illustrated how faith teachings translate into visible action, using #16Days.

Women are capable of transcendent kindness. They often possess the generosity of spirit to empathize—the primal understanding of what it means to suffer, not only of their own pain, but also the pain of others, which makes them powerful advocates for peace.

DR. LILIAN SISON
Former Chair of RFP Asia's Women of Faith Network



RESTORING DIGNITY:
A Toolkit for Religious Communities to End Violence Against Women



Unarmed women of faith intervened on behalf of child hostages held by the rebels. Approaching the rebels as "interfaith mothers," the women secured the release of 50 captured children, resulting in IRCSL's historic involvement in the Lomé Peace Accord in 1999.

Religions for Peace's Interreligious Council of Sierra Leone (IRCSL)



Capacity Building (Consultations & Convenings):

- Religions for Peace hosted an online high-level consultation to access the work of religious institutions and communities tackle violence against women during COVID-19 and beyond. The religious leaders were joined by H.E. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women to discuss the multitude of roles women of faith as well as male religious leaders have played combatting gender-based violence while confronting the global pandemic and explore opportunities to strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance gender equality and combat violence against women. (26 October "Multi-religious Leadership to Combat Gender-Based Violence")

Faith and Indigenous Leaders Stand Together Against Tropical Deforestation

The Interfaith Rainforest Initiative (IRI), to which Religions for Peace is an implementing partner, launched its "Resource Guide on Rainforest Protection for Religious Communities" on World Environment Day, 5 June. In support of this launch, the World Council of Religions for Peace issued a powerful statement to endorse the educational materials and call to raise awareness and support action on the protection of rainforests and indigenous peoples. In the lead up to the launch, Religions for Peace also shared the voices of indigenous leaders on our social media channels, highlighting the urgent, moral necessity of ending deforestation and how religious communities can lead this effort.

IRI released a "Forests and Pandemics" primer, which explains how stopping tropical deforestation and conserving biodiversity are necessary steps to reduce disease risk and future pandemics, and outlines how religious communities can get involved to make rainforest protection and its connection to global health a moral concern.

Expanding Influence to Halt Deforestation

IRI's country programmes, supported by our Interreligious Councils, have expanded their scope and influence significantly in 2020. IRI-Peru, with its 10 local chapters in regions most threatened by deforestation, is promoting a "Pact for the Amazon," generating commitments from public and private interest groups to advance an agenda of a healthy Amazon, the defense of its forests, and protecting the rights of its inhabitants. IRI Colombia now has 33 local chapters where religious and indigenous leaders are equipped with knowledge and positioned to lead efforts to halt deforestation. IRI Colombia also negotiated a commitment from the federal Congress to end deforestation as part of the country's National Development Plan. To conclude the year, IRI Colombia organised a national conference, where national and global experts discussed the vital importance of the Amazon rainforest and the work IRI is doing to mobilise action across the country.



In Indonesia, over 250 religious leaders gathered together with indigenous peoples, NGOs, scientists, government leaders, and the United Nations at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in Jakarta to launch the IRI country programme – which received strong endorsement by all major religious organisations. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Platform of Religious Denominations – constituted by the eight major faith groups in the country – issued a statement and advocated to the government for a need to pass a law for the protection and promotion of the rights of the Pygmy Indigenous Peoples. In Brazil, Religions for Peace is supporting the implementation of the country programme and will prepare its public launch in the beginning of 2021.

Faith for Nature

Religions for Peace partnered with the Government of Iceland and the UN Environment Programme to host the historic "[Faith for Nature: Multi-Faith Action](#)" from 5-8 October. [Prof. Azza Karam](#) opened the session alongside H.E. Guðni Th. Jóhannesson, President of Iceland; H.E. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP; His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew; and H.E. Prof. Nazir Ayad, Senior Representative of His Eminence Grand Imam of Al-Azhar.

The conference focused on the role of values, ethics, and moral responsibility towards nature-based solutions. Religions for Peace's Regional Interreligious Councils in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America hosted "regional hubs" which directly informed the outcomes of the conference.

The event concluded with the adoption of a declaration "[Our Sacred Commitment.](#)" The conference was addressed by more than 30 high-level leaders and attracted 450 participants from 60 countries and more than 6500 viewers of the live stream.

Advocacy:

- To halt deforestation and raise awareness of this crisis, on Earth Day 2020 (22 April), we launched a Faiths for [#ForestFriday](#) campaign on the Religions for Peace social media accounts. Every Friday, we share news and inspiration highlighting the intersection of faiths and forests.

Knowledge Management (Opinion Pieces & Media):

- For Earth Day, Prof. Azza Karam and H.E. Inger Anderson of UN Environment Programme wrote a joint opinion piece on the role of faith communities in environmental protection: [Opinion: Faith, COVID-19 and the push for a healthy environment](#) (Deutsche Welle, 19 April)

Capacity Building (Consultations & Convenings):

- Religions for Peace and the Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology recognise the critical need to generate energy around spiritually inspired environmental action. The organisations have committed to partnering to engage youth in the exploration of how religious, spiritual, or ethical approaches to environmental issues can complement approaches from science, policy, law, economics, or technology. (2 October "[Religions, Ecology, & Our Environment: An Interreligious and intergenerational conversation on religion and ecology](#)")
- For our movement to take more action on protection of the environment, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FaithInvest. They will identify opportunities and offer technical guidance for our action. A youth-led consultation inaugurated the partnership. (19 October "[Responding to Climate and Ecological Crisis through Multi-religious Collaboration: Challenges and Opportunities with Practical Way Ahead](#)")

Open Letter to United Nations Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres

On 22 September, Religions for Peace leaders sent an open letter to the United Nations Secretary-General expressing grave concern about multiple, repeated, and serious violations of Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – freedom of thought, conscience and religion – committed by several Member States of the United Nations, against many religious communities. The leaders urged Member States of the United Nations not only to respect and honour all their religious minorities, but also to take extra precautions and clear measures to support, realise and uphold the rights of all communities of faith.

Training Peacebuilders to Uphold Fundamental Freedoms

Religious communities have a moral obligation to prevent violence and discrimination. For this reason, Religions for Peace and interfaith partners launched the Southeast Asia: Advancing Interreligious Dialogue and Freedom of Religions or Belief (SEA-AIR) project to enhance local capacities to combat religious discrimination and prejudice.

SEA-AIR unites six organisations across Southeast Asia, including our Interreligious Councils in Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Thailand. As part of the project, 60 action-oriented faith leaders and activists participated in an interfaith peacebuilding fellowship where they were trained in mediation, communication, peer learning, analysis, and process design. To support their work, 25 fellowship grants were provided this year. To further equip the fellows, Religions for Peace, adapted its “Citizenship; Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion of Belief and Protection of Vulnerable Communities” guide that was produced for the Middle East and North Africa regions, for the South East Asian context.

Advocacy:

- Religions for Peace leaders called for calm when news of Hagia Sophia dominated news waves. Our leaders said Hagia Sophia is “meant to be shared with all the world” and committed to “the universality of heritage as something that can create peace and respect for all faiths.” Religions for Peace Speaks Out on Hagia Sophia: Living Together with Peace and Respect⁶
- In the wake of terror attacks in Austria and France, our diverse religious leaders stood together to “Condemning Violence in the Name of Religion – Committing to Building Bridges with Love” (4 November)

⁶ Media Coverage of this statement included:

- Is Hagia Sophia Merely a Place of Worship? Fair Observer
- Religions for Peace: Hagia Sophia meant to be shared with all the world Orthodox Times
- Experts Raise Concern Over State Department Deal with Turkey Over Religious, Cultural Heritage Pappas Post

⁷ Media Coverage of this statement included:

- Cardinals join religious leaders in over 90 countries in recommitting to build “bridges of love, compassion and care” after terror attacks Pressenza International Press Agency
- Cardinals join religious leaders in over 90 countries in recommitting to build “bridges of love, compassion and care” after terror attacks Novena News
- Don't let terror attacks divide us, says cardinal The Tablet UK
- Cardinal Bo joins leaders in call for calm after terror acts UCA News
- Myanmar's Cardinal Bo calls for peace in the face of terror acts around the world Mizzima Myanmar
- No alla violenza: il messaggio della Conferenza Mondiale delle Religioni Vatican News

Knowledge Management (Opinion Pieces & Media):

- In the wake of terror attacks in Austria and France, Prof. Azza Karam featured the stories of Judge Mohammed Abdel Salam, who represents the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar on our governing board and Imam Sayyed Razawi, the Secretary General of the Scottish Ahl al-Bayt Society, and a Trustee of Religions for Peace. Both Muslim leaders firmly attest that these atrocities are against what they believe, what they live, and what they preach, which is: peaceful coexistence, reconciliation, lawfulness, and upholding compassion, love, and forgiveness: Not in Our Name, Never in Our Name: A Conversation with Muslim Faith Leaders Echoing the Wisdom of a Pontiff from IPS News by Prof. Azza Karam

Capacity Building (Consultations & Convenings):

- More than 150 religious actors and prominent leaders welcomed the momentous step taken by the representatives of the Christian, Kakai, Shia, Sunni and Yazidi communities in Iraq through the adoption of an Inter-Faith Statement on the Victims and Survivors of ISIL in March 2020. This was convened as part of a virtual conference hosted jointly by the Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, the UN Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for the Crimes committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD) and Religions for Peace. (16 July "Affirming an Interreligious Response to Supporting Peaceful, Inclusive and Just Societies: Building on a Historic Interfaith Statement on ISIL Accountability in Iraq")



Standing Commissions

The Religions for Peace created six Standing Commissions, one for each of our Strategic Priorities. Members of each Standing Commission serve as advisory bodies for our work in those respective areas. Inaugural meetings were held in September or October.

The Standing Commissions are composed of a group of religiously diverse global leaders, including our Co-Presidents, Honorary Presidents, leaders of our women and youth networks, Advisors, Trustees and Ambassadors. Also present are expert representatives from FBO and UN entities, scholars, and academics.

Each Standing Commission will provide guidance, advice and oversight to the work under each of the respective Strategic Priorities and inform our work within each priority from the perspective of their religious tradition and professional expertise. Members of Standing Commissions will represent the movement at meetings and events to share the work and raise the profile of Religions for Peace.

Youth-led Research and Education

Religions for Peace signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF) on 23 October. The organisations committed to work together on a new Long-Term Faith Plans Programme. Activities within the programme include convening a technical workshop, developing an interactive online course, hosting a learning exchange, developing and disseminating a toolkit, and more. All activities will highlight the centrality of faith in youth driven contributions to sustainable development, peace, and global action.



Advocacy:

- To increase trust, respect, and understanding, we spearheaded a digital interreligious education campaign on Instagram to deepen understanding and celebrate the diversity of faith traditions, using #ReligionsInPills. From September to October, we shared descriptions of 10 religious symbols from diverse traditions for our social media audience to learn about the traditions of others in our movement.

Knowledge Management (Opinion Pieces & Media):

- Religions for Peace launched a weekly series of conversations from May through June to better understand "How Faith Matters" within multilateral institutions. Episodes featured conversations with UN Women, the UN Environment Programme, the World Bank, and more. Global leaders highlighted how and why they partner with religious actors and the specific contributions and challenges of working with faith-based actors. These interviews were widely disseminated via email and social media to equip our Interreligious Councils as they engage with multilateral institutions in their own work.

Global Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Initiative

Faith-based communities play a critical role in shaping behavior and attitudes that can improve the lives of marginalised children, youth, women, and families. For decades, we have partnered with UNICEF and Joint Learning Initiative (JLI) for a focused, systematic, and scaled up engagement of religious actors on behalf of children. Most recently, our joint programme, Faith and Positive Change for Children Initiative (FPCC), was adapted to support children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 7 April, our senior religious leaders and the UNICEF Executive Director issued a joint statement expressing commitment to multi-religious respond to COVID-19. Since issuing of the joint statements, we have been translating the commitments expressed in the statement into actions. We organised seven regional consultations in four different languages – Arabic, English, French, and Spanish – and engaged nearly 700 people from across the globe. In addition, we have developed and are in the process of developing six new guidance documents for religious communities to adapt religious practices, promote sanitation, counter stigma, and combat violence against children.⁸ Currently, efforts are underway to roll out of the FPCC initiative at the regional and national levels.

Religions for Peace | unicef



Dr. Vinu Aram
Director, Shanti Ashram



Rev. Kosho Niwano
President Designate,
Rissho Kosei-kai



H.E. Shaykh Abdallah bin
Bayyah; President, Forum for
Peace in Muslim Societies,
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H.E. Metropolitan Emmanuel
Metropolitan of France



Ms. Bani Dugal
Principal Representative
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International Community



Mr. Homi Gandhi, President,
Federation of Zoroastrian
Associations of North America



The Most Rev. Antje Jackelen,
Archbishop of Uppsala,
Primate of Sweden,
Church of Sweden



H.E. Sheikh Shaban
Ramadhan Mubaje
Grand Mufti of Uganda



H.E. John Cardinal Onaiyekan,
Archbishop Emeritus of
Abuja, Nigeria



Ms. Aruna Oswal, Vice
President, World
Jain Confederation



Grand-Father
Dominique Rankin,
Algonquin Hereditary
Grand Chief



Chief Rabbi David Rosen,
KSG CBE, International
Director of Interreligious
Affairs, American Jewish
Committee



Bhai Sahib Mohinder
Singh, OBE KSG
Chairman, Guru Nanak
Nishkam Sewak Jatha

⁸ Media Coverage included:

- [Why informal networks will be key to the COVID-19 recovery](#) from World Economic Forum
- [Launch of Global Multi-Religious Faith-in-Action Covid-19 Initiative](#) from UNICEF
- [We need responsible multifaith solidarity to fight the pandemic](#) from OpenDemocracy
- [UNICEF and faith groups release new guidance on how to support communities in times of COVID-19](#) from UNICEF
- [Faith leaders have key role in stopping spread of COVID-19, UNICEF says](#) from Devex
- [Religious scholars and Urdu media work with UNICEF to promote behaviours that prevent spread of COVID-19](#) from India Education Diary



Multi-religious Council of Leaders to Tackle Global Displacement Challenges

Religions for Peace has been at the forefront of migrant and refugee response since its founding in 1970. Today is no different. Building on our decades long partnership with the UNHCR, we have committed to forming a “Multi-religious Council of Religious Leaders” comprised of religious leaders serving in conflict zones and advocating at the highest levels. Together, these leaders will address the roots causes of displacement and fostering the systematic inclusion of refugees and migrants in all societies.⁹

Religious leaders representing the world’s diverse faith traditions committed to form the Council during the first ever high-level strategic roundtable on 14 September co-hosted by Religions for Peace and UNHCR.

Global Week of Faith in Action for Children

Religions for Peace co-hosted a high-level roundtable on 19 November with Arigatou International, the Global Partnership to End Violence, the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty, UNICEF, and World Vision International, as part of the Global Week of Faith in Action for Children on 16 to 20 November 2020. The roundtable provided a unique opportunity to exchange different views about the gaps in the response to the exacerbation of poverty and violence against children, as well as the disruption of education due to the pandemic. Children, with partners and religious leaders, identified concrete recommendations to address these issues through joint actions.

Co-hosting organisations agreed to a framework which fosters dialogue and joint actions between faith communities and with organisations working for children at the grassroots level. This framework ensures that children’s voices and participation are at the core of the responses.

Knowledge Management (Opinion Pieces & Media):

- The Religions for Peace Youth Media Team was formally adopted in June as a sub-committee of our International Youth Committee. This is a global team of multi-religious digital gurus trained by *Deutsche Welle* in the lead up to the 10th World

⁹ Media Coverage included:

- [UNHCR and Religions for Peace form Multi-Religious Council of Leaders to tackle global displacement challenges from UNHCR](#)
- [UNHCR partners to create multireligious advisory council on refugees, displacement from Devex](#)
- [UNHCR and Religions for Peace to form Multi-Religious Council of Leaders to address causes of displacement from DevDiscourse](#)

Assembly. Each week, they create content highlighting the expertise and ingenuity of youth using [#RfPYouthInAction](#).

Capacity Building (Consultations & Convenings):

- Religions for Peace and the Center of Theological Inquiry (CTI) have partnered to pioneer an intensive dialogue between scholars and religious leaders on the nature of “leadership” in a pandemic world, particularly how this relates to gender. Leaders and scholars explored a gendered dimension of leadership, looking at examples of women of faith in formal and informal structures of leadership, and proposed concrete, collaborative actions to uproot the causes of structural and gendered inequalities through an ethical commitment to care for the common good. ([28 April](#) and [13 October](#)).
- Religions for Peace and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) formed a partnership resulting in three consultations, each focusing on a different commitment from the [#Faith4Rights Toolkit](#). (14 May “[Confronting COVID-19 from the Prism of Faith, Gender and Human Rights](#)”; 21 July “[Keeping the Faith in Times of Hate: The Practical Utility of Human Rights](#)”; 21 November “Religion, Human Rights, and SDGs”; 21 and 23 November 2020 “Religion, Human Rights, and SDGs”)
- Religions for Peace commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations with various partners (8 September “[Faith in the UN – Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations](#)” hosted by UN Multi-faith Advisory Council, to which Religions for Peace belongs; 19 September “UN75 & UN International Day of Peace: Pathways for Transformation at the UN”)
- Religions for Peace co-organised a virtual event where theologians and human rights advocates shared why it is vital for religious actors to promote and defend human rights. (10 December “[A Faith Imperative for Human Rights](#)” co-hosted by Act Church of Sweden, Side by Side, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Lutheran World Federation, Christian Aid, World Council of Churches, Anglican Communion and Act Alliance.)

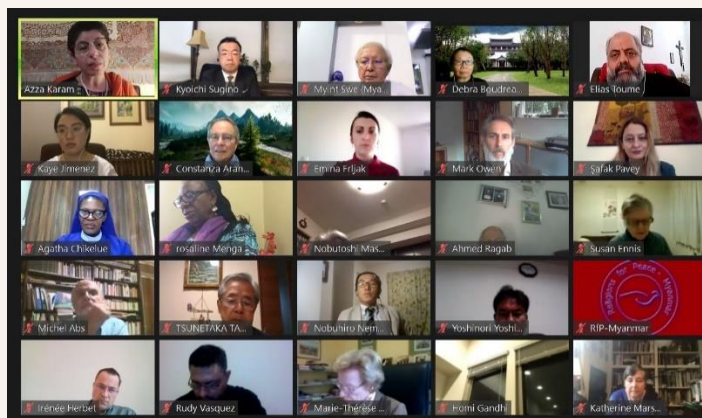
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF BRINGING THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS TOGETHER FOR PEACE

Equipping Interreligious Councils

For our 50th anniversary year, Religions for Peace launched a series of online consultations to equip our 90 national and 6 regional Interreligious Councils (IRCs) for multi-religious action. These meetings were the result of the strategy paper: "[Building and Equipping Interreligious Councils for Action: A Strategic Vision for Religions for Peace.](#)"

Topics included:

- Representative Governance (28 July)
- Communications and Media (9 September)
- Financial Accountability and Resource Mobilisation (30 September)
- Humanitarian Crisis Response (21 October)



The consultations provided a space for members of our IRCs to learn from the successes of other IRCs, assess their strengths and challenges, and share resources, best practices, and lesson learned. In our [evaluation](#) of the consultations, our six Strategic Priorities were clearly endorsed as valuable topics for conversation. Respondents also expressed interest in developing capacity, moving from “strategic plan” to “action plan.”

#50Years4Peace

For the month of October, the official anniversary month of our movement, we held a [#50Years4Peace](#) campaign across social media platforms to celebrate 5 decades of bringing the world's religions together to work for peace.

For 50 years, Religions for Peace, our donors, and our movement have stood on the frontlines of the world's problems and worked for something better. Regardless of religion, race, or native tongue, we are united in a shared belief that our faiths call us to serve where no one else can or will. Together we are poised to face the problems of the next 50 years with confidence and shared strength. Check out content from our web marathon celebration (16-21 October) on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

Redesign of Website and Branding

Religions for Peace launched a new [website](#) and reinvented brand on 16 October 2020, in celebration of 50 years of collaboration across the world's faith traditions for peace. The

new website and brand provide a digital experience that complements the spirit and potential of our movement.

To conclude our 50th anniversary campaign, we released a new organisational “trailer,” sharing our mission, vision, and impact with a broad, diverse



Finance & Human Resources

2020 was a year of transition for our Finance and Human Resources departments. After fifteen years of dedicated service, Luisa Hernandez, Director of Finance and Human Resources, decided to leave the organisation. Religions for Peace thanks her for her leadership and wishes her the very best in all future endeavors.

The Finance department is currently in the process of implementing new systems and procedures to streamline local and headquarter workflows that will facilitate donor reporting and serve as the foundation for our continued growth.

Similarly, the Human Resources department is undergoing change. The department is updating many policies to better articulate Religions for Peace's commitment to peaceful, just, and inclusive societies. We will be releasing a revised Code of Conduct in early 2021 after collaboration with our many global leaders.

ANNEX 1

Multi-religious Humanitarian Fund in the Press

- [Devox Opinion: The enduring value of multireligious action by Azza Karam and Amy Rauenhorst Goldman](#)
- [AP NEWS: Religions for Peace Funds Multi-religious Actions on COVID-19 in 20 Countries](#)
- [Yahoo! Finance: Religions for Peace Funds Multi-religious Actions on COVID-19 in 20 Countries](#)
- [World Economic Forum: This funding approach can help social entrepreneurs weather the COVID-19 storm](#)
- [IPS News: Religion & the Pandemic: A Call Beyond the Here and Now](#)
- [Religion News Service: Religions for Peace funds multi-religious actions on COVID-19 in 20 countries](#)
- [Devox: Ties between UN, faith-based groups poised to grow during pandemic](#)
- [GHR Foundation: GHR Partner Religions for Peace Supporting Multi-Religious Actions on COVID-19 in 20 countries](#)
- [Fund for NGOs: Religions for Peace launches Multi-Religious Humanitarian Fund in Response to COVID-19](#)
- [CISION PR News Wire: Religions for Peace Funds Multi-religious Actions on COVID-19 in 20 Countries](#)
- [SIGNIS: Religions for Peace Launches the Multi-religious Humanitarian Fund in Response to COVID-19](#)

ANNEX 2

1st Assembly on Women, Faith, and Diplomacy in the Press (Select)

English Language Media

- ["Religions For Peace Leader Azza Karam Shows The Role Of Women In Faith And Diplomacy" from Religion Unplugged](#)
- ["Without women, there can be no peace" from KAICIID](#)
- ["Working with religious actors makes sense" from Ring for Peace Magazine](#)
- ["Guterres stress on necessity of having women in peace-building" from Imphal Free Press India](#)
- ["Debating the future of women in religion and diplomacy" from DW](#)
- ["Why religion and democracy have more in common than you think" from deutschland.de](#)
- ["Faith and Equality Hand in Hand' - Online Conference by Religions for Peace" from Evangelische Zentralstelle Fur Weltanschauungsfragen](#)
- [Fifty years of peacebuilding and witness from Focolare](#)

German Language Media¹⁰

- ["We are all important and relevant" An Interview with Azza Karam from Süddeutsche Zeitung](#)
- ["Religions for Peace: The religious leaders" from Die Zeit](#)
- ["Opinion: religions against conflict and the cliché" from DW](#)

¹⁰ German articles totaled 209 as of 25 November 2020. This is a select list of articles that prominently featured the leaders, programmes, and priorities of Religions for Peace.

- ["Women are better at coping with crises" Azza Karam for Welt](#)
- ["Against ignorance and hate speech" featuring Rabbi David Rosen from Juedische Allgemeine](#)
- ["Women and Diplomacy - in Faith for the Future" from DW](#)
- ["Make better use of the diplomatic potential of women" from Christliches Medienmagazin pro](#)
- ["Merkel emphasizes the role of women" from Verlagsgruppe Bistumspress](#)
- ["Women are the ones who ensure religion survives" from Quantara.de](#)
- ["Lindau peace meeting: Religions for Peace on the net and at the lake" from BR24](#)
- ["'Religions for Peace' under Corona conditions" from domradio.de](#)
- ["Religions for Peace is coming to Lindau for the second time - this is what the program looks like" from Schwäbische](#)
- ["Religions-for-Peace-Conference in Lindau: A candle in the window as a peace symbol for the world" from Schwäbische](#)
- ["Religions for Peace - More leadership responsibility for women in religious communities" from CDU CSU](#)
- ["Interreligious meeting meets in the new format because of Corona" from RTL.de](#)
- ["Margot Käßmann : 'Religions are not innocent'" from Die Zeit](#)
- ["The peace conference opens up new territory for Lindau" from Schwäbische"](#)

French Language Media

- ["ICESCO calls for joint action to establish the values of peace, human rights and sustainable development" from Maroc Diplomatie](#)

Arabic Language Media

- ["The world will not enjoy peace without women: a meeting in Germany highlights the importance of women's participation in dialogue" from KAICIID](#)

Spanish Language Media

- ["Religion is underrated" from deutschland.de](#)
- ["Congress in Lindau: women, diplomacy and faith to advance the future" from DW](#)

Italian Language Media

- ["Paris attacks of November 13: we cannot give in to fear" from Vatican News](#)
- ["Islam and terrorism: this is why this connection is wrong" interview with Azza Karam from Osservatorio Diritti](#)
- ["Merkel at the Multireligious Assembly of Women" from ImolaOggi.it](#)
- ["'Women, faith and diplomacy': the assembly of Religions for Peace" from Roma Sette](#)
- ["Germany: the 1st Assembly on Women of Religions for Peace opens today in Lindau. 'Invisible' plays an 'essential and necessary' role especially in crises" from Agensir](#)
- ["First Assembly of women of faith of Religions for Peace in Lindau" from AskANews](#)

Bahasa Language Media

- ["Breaking the Silence, Providing Opportunities for Women to Build Peace" from DW](#)
- ["Hindered by a pandemic, a world interfaith conference on the theme of the role of women takes place virtually" from DW](#)
- ["Merkel Emphasizes the Importance of Involving Women in the Peace Process" from DW](#)

- ["German Chancellor: Women Have an Important Role in Creating Peace" from ANTV klik](#)

ANNEX 3

Complete List of Consultations & Convenings

April 2020

- Tuesday, 7 April 2020 at 11:00 am - 12:00 pm EDT "Private Event: Religion, Conflict, and COVID-19: Exploring Emerging Pitfalls and Potentials" Co-hosted by Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs at Georgetown University, World Faiths Development Dialogue at Georgetown University, United States Institute of Peace, and Religions for Peace.
- Sunday, 19 April 2020 at 10:00 - 11:30 pm EDT "By invitation only: East Asia and Pacific Launch of Global Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Response Initiative" Co-hosted by UNICEF, and Religions for Peace.
- Tuesday, 21 April 2020 at 9:00 - 10:30 am EDT "By invitation only: East and Southern Africa Launch of Global Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Response Initiative" Co-hosted by UNICEF, and Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 22 April 2020 at 9:30 - 11:30 am EDT "Planting Seeds for a New Normal: Global Online Earth Day 2020 Celebration" Co-hosted by Global Interfaith WASH Alliance, Parmarth Niketan, and Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 22 April 2020 at 10:00 - 11:30 am EDT "By invitation only: West Africa and Central Africa Launch of Global Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Response Initiative" Co-hosted by Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI), UNICEF, and Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 23 April 2020 at 9:00 - 10:00 am EDT "COVID-19 and Climate Change as Public Health Crises: How the values of religious and indigenous peoples can guide us in balancing our relationship with the Earth" Co-hosted by The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers and Religions for Peace.
- Tuesday, 28 April 2020 at 8:00 - 10:00 am EDT "Leading in the New Normal of a Pandemic World" Co-hosted by Center of Theological Inquiry and Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 29 April 2020 at 10:00 -11:45 pm EDT "COVID-19 Pandemic: Challenges for religious/faith actors and communities: Responses from the field and global partners" Co-hosted by PaRD and Religions for Peace.

May 2020

- Wednesday, 6 May 2020 at 11:00 am - 12:30 pm EDT "By invitation only: Latin America and the Caribbean SPANISH Regional Consultation Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Campaign" Co-hosted by Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI), UNICEF, and Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 6 May 2020 at 3:00 - 4:30 pm EDT "By invitation only: Latin America and the Caribbean ENGLISH Regional Consultation Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Campaign" Co-hosted by Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI), UNICEF, and Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 7 May 2020 at 1:00 - 2:30 am EDT "By invitation only: South Asia Regional Consultation Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Campaign" Co-hosted by Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI), UNICEF, and Religions for Peace.

- Tuesday, 12 May 2020 at 8:00 - 9:45 am EDT “By invitation only: Preventing Violent Extremism in the time of COVID19: Ground Realities & Global Responsibilities” Co-hosted by UNDP and Religions for Peace.
- Tuesday, 12 May 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “By invitation only: Religions for Peace Leaders Engage with Ambassador Brownback to Discuss Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion” Co-hosted by United States Department of State and Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 14 May 2020 at 8:30 - 10:30 am EDT “Confronting COVID-19 from the Prism of Faith, Gender and Human Rights” Co-hosted by Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and Religions for Peace.
- Monday, 18 May 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “World Council Town Hall” Co-hosted by Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 21 May 2020 at 8:00 - 9:30 am EDT “By invitation only: Middle East and North Africa Consultation Multi-religious Faith-in-Action COVID-19 Campaign” Co-hosted by UNICEF, Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities (JLI), and Religions for Peace.

June 2020

- Friday, 12 June 2020 at 11:00 - 12:30 pm EDT “Prof. Azza Karam joins panel for ‘It’s Up to Us’ film premiere” Co-hosted by Women’s Learning Partnership and Religions for Peace.
- Monday, 15 June 2020 at 6:00 - 8:00 am EDT “Religions for Peace in Mauritius Launches Booklet & Video ‘Thinking Above and Beyond COVID-19 Pandemic’” Co-hosted by Council of Religions and Religions for Peace.
- Tuesday, 16 June 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “By Invitation Only: Global Consultation on Interreligious Council (IRC) Development – A 50th Anniversary Commemorative Project” Hosted by Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 24 June 2020 at 9:00 - 10:15 am EDT “The Role of Religion or Belief Actors in Combating the COVID-19 Pandemic, Strengthening Human Security and Implications for the Future” Co-hosted by European Council of Religious Leaders – Religions for Peace, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 24 June 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “Religion, Debt, and COVID: The Role of Faith Institutions” Co-hosted by World Faiths Development Dialogue at Georgetown University and Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 25 June 2020 at 9:30 - 11:00 am EDT “Religious communities under COVID-19: the first pandemic of the post-secular age?” Co-hosted by London School of Economics and Political Science and Religions for Peace.

July 2020

- Thursday, 2 June 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “By Invitation Only: Middle East & North African (MENA) Region Interreligious Roundtable on COVID-19 and Humanitarian Response” Hosted by Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 16 July 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “Affirming an Interreligious Response to Supporting Peaceful, Inclusive and Just Societies: Building on a Historic Interfaith Statement on ISIL Accountability in Iraq” Co-hosted by UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, UN Investigative Team to Promote

Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD), and Religions for Peace.

- Tuesday, 21 July 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT "Keeping the Faith in Times of Hate: The Practical Utility of Human Rights" Co-hosted by Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and Religions for Peace.
- Tuesday, 28 July 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT "Global Interreligious Council (IRC) Development Consultation Series: Representative and Inclusive Governance" Hosted by Religions for Peace.

August 2020

- Thursday, 6 August 2020 and Sunday, 9 August 2020 "75th Commemorative Remembrance of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Introducing the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Accord" Co-hosted by United Religions Initiative (URI) Parliament of the World's Religions, Charter for Compassion, and Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 13 August 2020 at 10:00 - 11:00 am EDT "Multi-religious Action to Address the Legacy of Racial Injustice in the Americas" Hosted by Religions for Peace.

September 2020

- Tuesday, 8 September 2020 at 8:00 - 10:00 am EDT "Faith in the UN – Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations" Co-hosted by UN Multi-faith Advisory Council and Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 9 September 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT "3rd Global Consultation on Interreligious Council (IRC) Development: Strategic Communications and Media Engagement" Hosted by Religions for Peace.
- Monday, 14 September 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT "Roundtable with Religious Leaders" Co-hosted by UNHCR and Religions for Peace.
- Saturday, 19 September 2020 at 10:30 am - 12:00 pm EDT "UN75 & UN International Day of Peace: Pathways for Transformation at the UN" Co-hosted by UN2020 Coordinating Partners.
- Tuesday, 22 September 2020 at 4:00 - 5:30 pm EDT "Leveraging Faith Actors during Crises" Co-hosted by World Economic Forum and Religions for Peace.
- Thursday, 24 September 2020 at 12:30 - 2:00 pm EDT "Religious and Secular Global Dialogue: A Conversation with Azza Karam" Co-hosted by Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs at Georgetown University and Religions for Peace.

October 2020

- Friday, 2 October 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT "Religions, Ecology, & Our Environment: An Interreligious and intergenerational conversation on religion and ecology" Co-hosted by The Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology and Religions for Peace.
- Tuesday, 13 October 2020 at 8:00 - 10:00 am EDT "On Gender, Leadership, and COVID-19" Co-hosted by the Center of Theological Inquiry and Religions for Peace.
- Tuesday, 19 October 2020 at 9:30-11:00 am EDT "Responding to Climate and Ecological Crisis through Multi-religious Collaboration: Challenges and Opportunities with Practical Way Ahead" Co-hosted by FaithInvest, INCR, EcoSikh, and Religions for Peace.

- Monday, 26 October 2020 at 8:00-9:30 am EDT “Multi-religious Leadership to Combat Gender-Based Violence” Hosted by Religions for Peace.

November 2020

- Monday, 21 November 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “Religion, Human Rights, and SDGs” Co-hosted by UNOHCHR, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and Religions for Peace.
- Wednesday, 23 November 2020 at 9:00 - 11:00 am EDT “Religion, Human Rights, and SDGs” Co-hosted by UNOHCHR, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and Religions for Peace.

December 2020

- Thursday, 10 December “A Faith Imperative for Human Rights” Co-hosted by Act Church of Sweden, Side by Side, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Lutheran World Federation, Christian Aid, World Council of Churches, Anglican Communion and Act Alliance.

The background of the page is a teal-tinted image. On the left, a tall church tower with a clock face and a cross on top is visible. Below it, a street scene shows a large crowd of people, possibly at a public event or protest. The overall scene is somewhat hazy and atmospheric.

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This report was compiled by Mary Grace Donohoe, Yasmeen Ally, and Christopher Zefting.

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the International Secretariat team and do not necessarily reflect the institutional views of Religions for Peace World Council members.