

Religions for Peace

Peace in Action

Newsletter | September 2025

LAUNCH EVENT, BOOK LAUNCH, AND NEW CONNECTIONS

Dear Friends,

September has been a month of dynamism, active engagement, and renewed inspiration. I am delighted to share some highlights from this month.

At the start of September, we launched the book *Interreligious and Peace Education in Times of Crisis. A History of Religions for Peace* authored by Dr. Johannes Lähnemann. Dr. Lähnemann's book explores the movement's rich history through the lens of education, dialogue, and cooperation amid global crises.



September also saw the United Nations General Assembly - a time when global dialogue and action take the centerstage. *Religions for Peace* was delighted to co-host two side-events: *The Role of Faith in Protecting Children from Harmful Practices* and *Keeping Faith in Dialogue: Reimagining Interreligious Cooperation for a New Agenda for Peace*. The events showcased R/P's strategic priorities and the strength of collaborative partnerships.

We also held a launch event for Shared Sacred Flourishing in Europe. Now a global initiative also active in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, the latest launch represents an important milestone in advancing our shared sacred worldview.

This issue brings to you our journey towards Peace in Action through messages, stories and activities—strides we are taking together.

I invite you to stay engaged as we move forward with a spirit of collective compassion, courage, and resolve.

In peace,

FOCUS

United Nations General Assembly Wrap-Up

UNGA Side Event 1 - The Role of Faith in Protecting Children from Harmful Practices

In partnership with UNICEF and Canada, *Religions for Peace* hosted “The Role of Faith in Protecting Children from Female Genital Mutilation and Child Marriage” side event for the 80th United Nations General Assembly. Faith leaders, government officials, and civil society actors convened on September 24th, providing space for dialogue and solutions surrounding issues of harmful practices affecting women and children worldwide.

[READ MORE](#)

UNGA Side Event 2 - Keeping Faith in Dialogue: Reimagining Interreligious Cooperation for a New Agenda for Peace

This event, organized in cooperation with KAICIID and other partners, convened a high-level dialogue on the role of interreligious and multistakeholder cooperation in advancing global stability and resilience. Bringing together faith leaders, governments, international organizations, civil society, and youth, the event examined how faith-based actors contribute to reconciliation and social cohesion.

[READ MORE](#)

FROM THE FIELD

Ubuntu in Action: In the spirit of unity, compassion, and Ubuntu, fifty people from diverse faith communities convened to walk in unity for peace from Umhlanga Whalebone Pier to Hawaan Forest. This event, hosted by *Religions for Peace* South Africa and the KwaZulu-Natal Interreligious Council, brought together diverse faiths in a collective demonstration of interfaith solidarity and support for Sudan.



“May the Creator of all things grant our peoples the courage to seek peace, the wisdom to pursue justice, and the strength to protect the sanctity of life and creation. May our shared sacred flourishing become a living reality in our generation and for generations to come.”

-Multi-faith blessing from Nairobi Declaration

At the event, this multi-faith blessing concluded the Nairobi Declaration and prompted a call for solidarity with Sudan as the conflict enters its third year. Coinciding with the International Day of Peace, the “Continental Day of Prayer and Fasting” took place on September 21st. The day was marked by prayer, fasting, masses, and peaceful demonstration to end war and suffering in Sudan.

[VIEW MORE PHOTOS](#)

Did you know? The Third Assembly of the World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP III) was held in September 1979 at the Princeton Theological Seminary.

VOICES OF PEACE

Anoushka Sinha

Anoushka Sinha is a youth advocate and founder of the [Anupam Foundation](#). She is recognized internationally for her work as a human rights activist, public speaker, and legal reformist.

Anoushka delivered a powerful speech at RfP's event "The Role of Faith in Protecting Children from Harmful Practices" representing the voices of women and youth around the world. In her opening remarks, she spoke out against child marriage and FGM.



"Faith has the power to both justify and dismantle harm at the same time. I don't think there is anything more powerful than that."

UNGA side event
in partnership with UNICEF
24 September, 2025

UPDATES

[Shared Sacred Flourishing Regional Launch in Europe \(September 25\):](#)

The Shared Sacred Flourishing initiative was announced at The Global Convergence Challenge – Summit for Interfaith Unity and Peace in Helsinki, Finland.

[VIII Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions](#)

Religions for Peace participated in the Congress, which convened in Astana, Kazakhstan on September 16-17 under the auspices of the International Center for Interfaith and Interreligious Dialogue. The theme for this eighth Congress was "Dialogue of Religions: Synergy for the Future." Dr. Kuria contributed to high-level discussions at the event regarding safeguarding religious sites, ethics in AI, and advancing sustainable development.

[Johannes Lähnemann Book Launch](#)

Interreligious and Peace Education in Times of Crisis. A History of Religions for Peace authored by Dr. Johannes Lähnemann published by EB-Verlag, Berlin was launched on 10 September. Drawing on archival material, personal reflections, and years of field experience, Prof. Dr. Lähnemann offered a unique educational and historical perspective on how interreligious education has served as a force for peacebuilding at both local and global levels.

IN THE MEDIA

[Malawi Presidential Hopefuls Sign Peace Pledge](#)

[Inter-Religious Council of Uganda Calls for Peaceful and Inclusive Elections](#)

[Religions for Peace Philippines Co-hosts Interfaith Family Forum](#)



Religions for Peace International | 777 United Nations Plaza 5th Floor | New York, NY 10017 US
+1 212 687 2163 | www.rfp.org | info@rfp.org

You are receiving this email because you are subscribed to the Religions for Peace International mailing list.

[Unsubscribe](#) | **[Update Profile](#)** | **[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)**

Religions for Peace International | 777 United Nations Plaza 9th Floor | New York, NY 10017 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)