Religions for Peace
UNITED KINGDOM

Q1 Newsletter

Looking Back, Moving Forward:

Taking Empowerment into Action

Twofold focus going forward

To our esteemed friends and supporters, peacemakers, trailblazers, and colleagues: 2023 had been an extraordinarily busy year. We wish to take stock, learn our lessons and make improvements when we make our new plans.

As we enter 2024, our strategic plan ahead will of course address the Religions for Peace global priorities, moreover, we do have specific aims. We are planning to reach out to strengthen ties with the UK interfaith communities, actively seeking to collaborate and pool our resources with organisations that share our concerns and aims. RfPUK also recognises and believes that partnering with academic institutions will allow us to establish links with universities and colleges to work with more young changemakers. By sharing knowledge and skills with the younger generation and promoting intergenerational discussions, we can effectively create positive change in our society.

Such is our plan, we now need to put that into action.

A Year of Milestones and Achievements

RfPUK has accomplished significant results in some of our priority areas. We want to showcase our main projects and initiatives, share the experience we gain and lessons we have learnt. Looking back is a good way to add value to future planning. we want to improve methods to bring more impact in the future.



Access Report

Be The Change Workbook

The UKIYN Interfaith Youth Network launched the UKIYN EcoPeace Cafe in July 2023, an online educational platform of 10 themed webinars and 6 facilitator training sessions. This programme reached phase 1 completion in December.

We've compiled the expertise, suggestions and action templates from our guest speakers and participants during the sessions. As well as extending the reach of the work we have done to those who were not able to participate, we hope this Workbook can help to lay a foundation upon which we can develop dialogue into action.

Access workbook



2024 Q1 Events



5 February
Interfaith collaboration bringing gender equity issue

Religions for Peace UK Women of Faith Network, alongside the Interfaith Chaplaincy at the University of Glasgow, hosted an event observing International World Interfaith Harmony Week. We delved deep into the "Dignity of Women" exhibition, igniting discussions on the pivotal question: "Can interfaith dialogue promote gender equity?"



6 March
Inspirational Women: Collaboration with the University of Glasgow continues as we celebrate International Women's Day

This special event will showcase well respected leaders who have significantly impacted society by working towards equality, peace, and harmonious communities. They will share inspiring stories of overcoming barriers as changemakers, highlighting how faith and cultural traditions empower them to advocate for gender equality and achieve their goals in various communities.

Moderator:
Dr Maureen Sier – Director, Interfaith Scotland

Meet our inspirational panelists:
Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton – Moderator, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland
Isadora Quay – CEO, the Gender in Emergencies Group
Dr Nighet Nasim Riaz - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Advisor, University of Glasgow

Join us IN PERSON:
🗓 **6 March 2024**, 5.00 pm - 7.00 pm
📍 University of Glasgow Memorial Chapel, West Quadrangle, Main Building, University Avenue, Glasgow, G12 8QQ

Join us ONLINE:
🗓 **6 March 2024**, 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm
📍 Zoom

For more information:
office@rfpuk.org

Register now

Get Involved



Youth Leadership through Service

In 2023, the Religions for Peace Interfaith Youth Network (UKIYN) showcased a number of organisations that involve young people from various faith and belief communities. We highlighted the efforts of youth volunteers, the confidence they gain, and their sense of accomplishment that comes from helping those in need.

If your community also has young people working towards common good, contact us. We would be thrilled to share your stories at both the local and national levels, so that more people can recognise the contributions of faithful youth. Reach us at **youth.coordinator@rfpuk.org**

Refugee Integration Project is growing

UKIYN is supporting Hillsong Church UK in their effort to help refugees integrate into their new life, especially during the long application process when many struggle to find purpose and relief from worry and anxiety. The project takes a number of refugee guests to further cultural locations or places of worship to widen their contact with the UK society.

If you wish to get involved please contact **youth.coordinator@rfpuk.org**





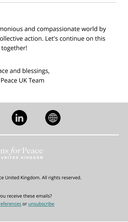
The Peacemakers Network

In recent years, RfPUK has reached, invited and collaborated with interfaith, intrafaith, faith and belief individuals and communities. It occurred to us that we should build a resource so it is easier for us to reach each other when we wish to build cooperation. RfPUK is suggesting a Peacemakers Network.

We will need your input and suggestions in order to maximise the usefulness of the resource. If you know someone who would like to participate in listing themselves or their organisations, whether posting a faith story, offering a talent, seeking collaboration, joining the design process, or simply making friends, please contact us **office@rfpuk.org**.

Re-wilding Scotland – RfPUK Trees for Peace

RfPUK will recognise the importance of tree planting in the scheme to repair some of the damage we inadvertently caused in the past. When the Global Religious for Peace Movement reached its 50th anniversary, RfPUK celebrated by starting the RfPUK Grove, a re-wilding project in Scotland.
Since then we have from time to time invited speakers *(see some examples here)* from the science and planning fields, hoping to keep the effort of planting trees not far from our attention.
In the coming year we'll be celebrating many UN environmental days.
Whether it is a birthday, anniversary, graduation or retirement, it is always a good time to donate to make a positive impact on the world.



Learn more

Together, we can create a more harmonious and compassionate world by harnessing the power of unity and collective action. Let's continue on this journey together!

Wishing you peace and blessings,
Religions for Peace UK Team

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