



# GENEVA PEACE WEEK 2024 REPORT



14 - 18 OCTOBER 2024

# WHAT IS PEACE?

MAISON DE LA PAIX/ PALAIS DES NATIONS

## **FOREWORD**

The 11th edition of Geneva Peace Week (GPW24), held from October 14 to 18 at the Maison de la Paix and the Palais des Nations. brought together a vibrant community of peacebuilders to collectively reflect on the central question, "What is Peace?" This theme invited diverse perspectives and sparked deep discussions on how peace can be redefined, sustained, and realized in a rapidly evolving world. With 70 events organized by 117 partners, GPW24 saw an impressive 4,140 registered participants from 166 countries. Attendance throughout the week was equally strong with 6,700 total event session attendances, including 3,469 online.

This year's edition was a testament to the enduring importance of diplomatic engagement in fostering peace and stability. From high-level panels to interactive workshops, participants engaged with the intersections of policy, practice, and global governance, highlighting the unique role of Geneva as a nexus of international hubs and initiatives. GPW24 exemplified how interconnected efforts, spanning grassroots movements, civil society organizations, multilateral agencies, and academic institutions, can amplify strong peace messages and drive collective impact.

Storytelling played a pivotal role throughout the week, transforming narratives into powerful tools for inspiring action. By sharing lived experiences and lessons from diverse contexts, peacebuilders reinforced the critical importance of empathy, understanding, and shared humanity in building sustainable peace. Moreover,

GPW24 celebrated intergenerational collaboration, recognizing that the wisdom of leaders combined with the energy and innovation of youth can forge new pathways for peacebuilding.

Building on the momentum of GPW's 10year milestone, this edition focused on broadening inclusivity and engagement. Transitioning from four thematic tracks to 17 keywords allowed for more nuanced and expansive discussions, while a fully hybrid format ensured global accessibility. With interpretation in over 60 languages, a Frenchlanguage website, and spaces dedicated to artistic expression, GPW24 embraced the richness of cultural and creative diversity, enabling participants to explore peace through new and meaningful channels.

At its heart, GPW24 underscored the value of connection, not only between individuals but also across disciplines, sectors, and geographies. Whether through structured networking events or informal gatherings, the week facilitated the forging of lasting relationships and collaborations that will extend far beyond Geneva.

As we reflect on this transformative week. we are reminded that peace is a shared responsibility, an evolving aspiration that requires constant nurturing through collective action. Geneva Peace Week remains steadfast in its mission to convene and inspire those dedicated to advancing peace, serving as a powerful reminder that together, we can envision and build a more peaceful world.

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# POWERFUL MESSAGES FOR PEACE

Geneva Peace Week 2024 (GPW24) unfolded against a backdrop of intense global challenges such as ongoing wars in Gaza, Sudan, Ukraine, Syria, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, but also in a world affected by environmental and social crises exacerbating global instability. Despite these difficulties, the peacebuilding community,

including field offices, international organizations, and NGOs headquartered in Geneva and beyond, continued to work tirelessly, offering solutions and hope to those in need. This year's edition was defined by several powerful messages for peace, underscoring the resilience and innovation of peacebuilding efforts worldwide.





#### A WEEK DEDICATED TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Opening Ceremony organized by the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva and the United Nations Office at Geneva on Monday 14 October 2024, at the Palais des Nations, featured a poignant speech by Dr. Annyssa Bellal, Executive Director of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. She dedicated the week to children and young people who have lost their lives in recent armed conflicts.

«What is Peace? Is this even a legitimate question given the state of the world today?

It would be shameful indeed to talk about peace and be blind to the immense suffering caused by armed violence that impacts so many people. And we are not. In fact, there is even hope. We received hundreds of applications for this edition of Geneva Peace Week. Obviously, there is a will to progress towards the establishment of a more stable and peaceful environment, despite the challenges.

Yes, there are many pathways to peace. Of course, peace is about the prevention of human rights violations, respect for international law, development, and security. But peace is also

about trade, innovation, and new technologies that can be harnessed for the common good. And because it is profoundly human and has the power to transcend tragic realities, peace is also about art. Throughout this week, we wish you all to hold concrete discussions and build strong collaborations to implement these different dimensions of peace.

Finally, the team of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform would like to dedicate this 11th edition of Geneva Peace Week to the thousands of children and young people who lost their lives in recent armed conflicts. We think about their surviving parents and families and the horrors they have to go through.»

# A PEACE MESSAGE AT THE OPENING

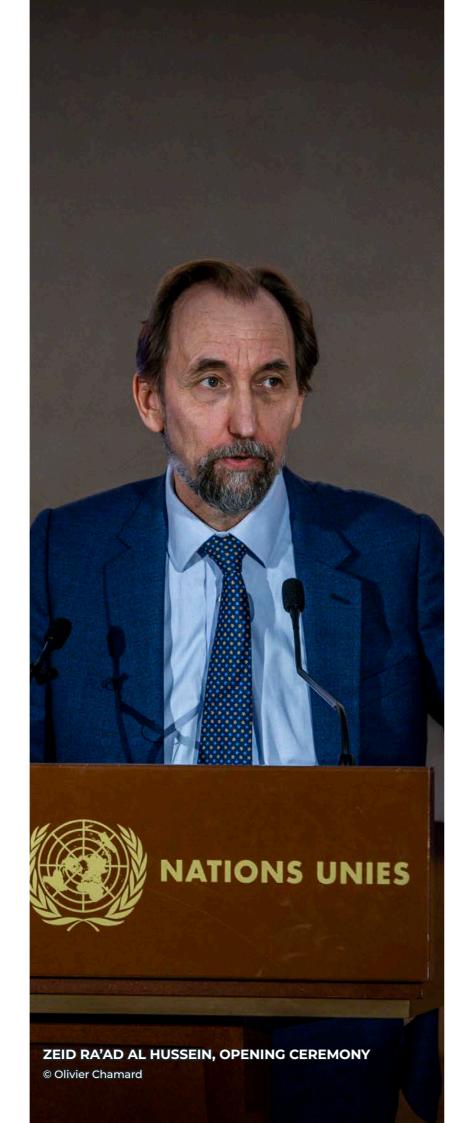
Prince Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein's peace message at the Geneva Peace Week 2024 Opening Ceremony was both profound and thought-provoking, delving into the repetitive tragedy of war and the urgent need for visionary leadership. Prince Zeid is President and CEO of the International Peace Institute and Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

"National amnesia, or the refusal to internalize history and power mistakes, is beyond tragic, it is a damnation for their people and for others."

He challenged the audience to question why global leaders often fail to overcome the cycles of conflict and lamented the «national amnesia» that perpetuates violence. Zeid highlighted the extraordinary efforts of individuals and groups, such as Israeli and Palestinian activists advocating for peace amidst hatred, as examples of what peace can be.

"Pose the question of peace to the architects of a land for all people, those who instill hope in us by their sheer cleverness, even amidst hatred so pure on both sides."

He underscored the importance of accountability, learning from history, and fostering visionary solutions to overcome humanity's repeated failings.



#### A JOINT STATEMENT BY GENEVA CENTERS

A joint statement was delivered at the Opening by Ambassador Thomas Greminger, President of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform Foundation, on behalf of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) GCSP, DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).

"The recent agreement on the Pact for the Future gives us a shared roadmap and vision. Together, we must rally behind its ambitions and intensify our efforts to reduce human suffering and advance peace and security globally."



Ambassador Greminger highlighted the growing challenges to global peace and the urgent need for innovative approaches to peacebuilding. The statement emphasized the detrimental impacts of the erosion of multilateralism, the rise of authoritarianism, and the disruptive potential of emerging

technologies, including cyber threats and misinformation. Advocating for a renewed commitment to international cooperation, the three centers called for more inclusive dialogue and the integration of diverse perspectives to address these pressing issues.

# "Let us go to work. If we all do a little bit of good where we are, those little bits of good will overwhelm the world."

Their joint message underscored the importance of adapting peacebuilding strategies to contemporary challenges

while reaffirming their collective dedication to fostering global stability and security.

# 2024 KOFI ANNAN GENEVA PEACE ADDRESS

On Tuesday 15 October 2024, the Maison de la Paix hosted the 2024 Kofi Annan Geneva Peace Address: Rising Peacebuilders organized by the Kofi Annan Foundation, the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, the Geneva Graduate Institute, Caux Initiatives of Change Foundation, the Canton et République de Genève and Ville de Genève . Delivered by Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Chair of The Elders, the peace address urged the international community to prioritize bold and courageous leadership in the face of mounting global challenges.

"You cannot have peace without leadership, and you cannot show leadership without courage."

#### "It's not that women are better than men. The truth is that the world needs the balance of differing perspectives of leadership and power."

She emphasized the critical need for greater inclusion of women and younger generations in decision-making, arguing that diverse perspectives are essential for effective governance. Robinson

highlighted the erosion of international law and the failures of global leadership, calling for systemic reform to uphold justice and accountability.



"Leaders must uphold international law consistently. In 2024, this should be a truism that scarcely needs repeating, but instead, it is a shockingly urgent appeal."

She proposed actionable solutions, including increased support for womenled organizations and intergenerational collaboration, while championing "long-view leadership" that focuses on empathy, solidarity, and sustainable solutions for a more peaceful future.

Through these powerful messages and inspiring contributions, GPW24 reaffirmed the collective commitment to fostering a world built on peace, justice, and cooperation.



#### **ICONIC VENUES**

From the historic United Nations Office in Geneva to the modern Maison de la Paix, these iconic spaces symbolized the convergence of tradition and innovation in fostering dialogue and collaboration for peace.

For the first time in many years, the Opening Ceremony returned to the United Nations Office in Geneva, hosted in the renowned Human Rights and Alliance of Civilizations Room. Formerly known as Room XX, this iconic venue is among the largest conference halls at the Palais des Nations. Its striking ceiling sculpture by Miquel Barceló, a centerpiece of a Spanish donation to the United Nations, symbolizes the global nature of human rights advocacy. Inaugurated in 2008 by the UN Secretary-

General alongside the King and Queen of Spain, the space frequently hosts sessions of the Human Rights Council.

The rest of the week unfolded at the Maison de la Paix, an architectural landmark in Geneva dedicated to peace and security. Inaugurated in 2014, this "knowledge center" is home to key institutions such as the Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID), the Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP), the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), and DCAF- the Geneva Center for Security Sector Governance . The Maison de la Paix reflects Switzerland's and Geneva's enduring commitment to advancing global peace through collaboration, education, and innovation.

# SHAPING THE FUTURE OF PEACEBUILDING

Geneva Peace Week 2024 provided a dynamic platform to connect and amplify the work of peacebuilders from diverse disciplines, sectors, and contexts. By breaking down professional silos, the event fostered innovative and creative responses

to pressing global challenges, including violence, exclusion, and insecurity. Through dialogue and collaboration, Geneva Peace Week reinforced its role as a catalyst for actionable ideas and transformative partnerships in peacebuilding.



#### PIONEERING CONVERSATIONS FOR PEACE

Geneva Peace Week serves as a platform for cutting-edge discussions on emerging issues and innovative solutions for peacebuilding. The 2024 edition showcased a series of forward-thinking conversations addressing critical topics shaping the future of peace efforts:

"Al holds immense potential to be a sentinel of peace, yet without regulation, it risks deepening inequalities and threatening human dignity."

Fadi Daou, Executive Director, Globethics

#### THE AI POLITICAL POTENTIAL

This session led by Globethics, delved into the intersection of artificial intelligence, human rights, and global peace. Panelists explored Al's dual nature: as a force for advancing peace and human dignity and as a potential tool for exacerbating inequalities and undermining democracy. Discussions emphasized the role of Al in governance, conflict prediction, and inclusivity, while highlighting risks such as data privacy concerns, disinformation, and the weaponization of Al, particularly affecting vulnerable communities in the Global South. The panel underscored the urgent need for international frameworks. governance, and participation to responsibly harness Al's potential.



#### **INCLUSIVE VISIONS OF PEACE**

The session led by the International Peace Institute and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland focused on advancing feminist peace as a transformative framework that seeks to dismantle structural inequalities, address the root causes of violence, and foster inclusivity in peace processes. Speakers highlighted the role of feminist principles in redefining peace not merely as the absence of conflict but as a condition rooted in social justice, equality, and human dignity. Key topics included the integration of women's voices into peace negotiations, the intersection of gender with other identity factors, and the need to challenge militarized and patriarchal norms. The discussion emphasized the importance of alliances across sectors, addressing psychological and structural barriers, and leveraging legal frameworks and political economy tools for transformative change.

#### **SPORT FOR PEACE**

This session co-organised by the Permanent Mission of Oatar in Geneva. Education Above All Foundation, the International Centre for Sport Security and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, highlighted sports' transformative power as a universal language for fostering peace, tolerance, and social cohesion. Speakers shared examples of sports bridging divides across ethnic and political boundaries, empowering marginalized communities, and serving as a platform for peace diplomacy. The discussions stressed the importance of leadership, policy integration, and ethical considerations in maximizing sports' potential in peacebuilding.

"Every act of inclusion and every voice amplified in the peace process brings us closer to a transformative vision of peace."

**Victoria Sandino,** former Colombian Senator and FARC negotiator

"Sport offers an ideal platform for encouraging a culture of peace through values like respect, fairness, and solidarity."

Juhara Al-Suwaidi, Deputy Permanent
Representative of the State of Qatar in Geneva

#### **DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT**

Geneva Peace Week 2024 witnessed a significant increase in political and diplomatic engagement, evidenced by the active involvement of permanent missions, state departments, and other governmental bodies. Diplomats participated as organizers, speakers, and attendees, contributing to the forum's global and multilateral perspective.

# PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTAL AND DIPLOMATIC ENTITIES

- Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Embassy of Afghanistan in Greece
- Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland
- Federal Republic of Somalia
- German Federal Foreign Office
- Indonesia National Commission for UNESCO
- Kenya National Commission for UNESCO
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of Slovenia
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva
- Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN Organizations in Rome

- Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva
- Permanent Mission of the State of
  Qatar to the UN and other International
  Organizations in Geneva
- Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva
- Republic of Kenya
- State of Palestine
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Uganda's People Defence Force, Republic of Uganda
- U.K. Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
- U.S. Department of State



# HIGH-PROFILE GOVERNMENTAL AND HIGH PROFILE OFFICIAL SPEAKERS

The presence of key diplomats and officials enriched GPW24 discussions and highlighted its role in shaping global peacebuilding dialogues. Below is a list of notable speakers (in alphabetical order):

- Prof. Mustafa Abdullahi Hassan,
   Director General, Somali Ministry
   of Interior, Local Governance, and
   Reconciliation
- H.E. Pascale Baeriswyl, Permanent Representative of Switzerland, UN Security Council
- H.E. Lurdes Bessa, Permanent Representative, Timor-Leste
- Mr. Christian Frutiger, Vice-Director General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- H.E. Muhammadou Kah, Permanent Representative, Gambia
- Mr. Issa Kassis, Mayor of Ramallah, State of Palestine
- Ms. Elisabeth Lothe, Senior Advisor,
   Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Mark lozzi, Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS), Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, U.S. Department of State
- Mr. David Müller, Legal Officer, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland
- Mr. Peter Reuss, Head, Division S07/ Centre for Humanitarian Action, German Federal Foreign Office
- Mr. Matthias Siegfried, Senior Mediation Adviser, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland
- H.E. Juhara Al-Suwaidi, Deputy
   Permanent Representative, Qatar
- H.E. Yusuf Ali, Somali Minister of Interior

#### **KEY HIGH-LEVEL DISCUSSIONS**

A key highlight of Geneva Peace Week 2024 was the high-level panel Peace, Trade, Development, and Innovation: Insights from International Leaders, held on Tuesday 15 October at the Palais des Nations. The discussion explored how trade, innovation, and development intersect to foster sustainable peace.

Distinguished speakers included:

- Ms. Pamela Coke-Hamilton, ITC Executive Director
- Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, UNCTAD Secretary-General
- Ms. Tatiana Molcean, UNECE Executive Secretary
- Prof. Francisco Rojas Aravena, Rector, University for Peace
- Amb. Xiangchen Zhang, WTO Deputy Director-General

The panel emphasized adapting trade systems to enhance resilience in fragile states and incorporating peacebuilding into economic frameworks. Multilateral mechanisms, such as those led by WTO and UNCTAD, were highlighted as vital for promoting equitable global trade and long-term stability. The session showcased how innovation and inclusive development can advance peacebuilding on a global scale.

# BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS PEACEBUILDING HUBS AND INITIATIVES

GPW24 established itself as a platform for fostering connections among peacebuilding hubs and initiatives worldwide. A highlight of this effort was the Geneva-New York Peace Dialogue, held on Wednesday, 16 October 2024. This pivotal event explored the intersection of science, diplomacy, and multilateral collaboration to address pressing global challenges, including climate change, peace, and security.

The dialogue between Ambassador Pascale Baeriswyl intervening from New York and Professor Celeste Saulo in Geneva was moderated by Adam Day from UNU and emphasized the need to bridge Geneva's wealth of expertise and humanitarian focus with New York's policymaking and diplomatic frameworks, fostering synergies to transform insights into actionable policies. As Professor Celeste Saulo, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, aptly described:

"Geneva is the lab and New York is the restaurant. The challenge is translating Geneva's knowledge into policies that deliver tangible results on the ground."



Central themes of the discussion included rebuilding trust among nations, integrating climate data into peace and security efforts, and enhancing prevention and preparedness for systemic risks. Participants underscored the critical importance of translating global agreements, such as the Pact for the Future, into tangible local actions. The dialogue also spotlighted initiatives like Early Warnings for All, which aim to mitigate climate-related risks by leveraging scientific advancements and local knowledge.

The event served as a reminder of the power of science as a neutral foundation for international cooperation. It called for stronger connections between Geneva's operational expertise and New York's strategic decision-making to address the challenges of an increasingly complex and fragmented world. Ambassador Pascale Baeriswyl, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the UN, highlighted this urgency, stating:

#### "The big failure is the huge division between nations. Rebuilding trust is not just a necessity but an urgent global imperative to safeguard our future."

A high-level roundtable, held on Wednesday16October, at Interpeace HQin Geneva, brought together representatives from international NGOs and civil society organizations to discuss programmatic and policy recommendations for the upcoming COP29 Peace, Relief, and Recovery Day. Chaired by Ambassador Elshad Isgandarov, Special Envoy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, the event focused on strengthening the climate-peace nexus, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected regions.

Discussions centered on:

- Developing peace-positive climate adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Addressing the deficit in climate finance for the most vulnerable communities.
- Preparing for the launch of the Centre of Excellence on Climate Action for Peace (Baku Hub).

The roundtable provided an informal platform to exchange insights under Chatham House Rule, aiming to foster collaborations between civil society, member states, climate funds, and private actors in preparation for COP29 initiatives.



#### STORYTELLING THAT INSPIRES ACTION

At the heart of Geneva Peace Week 2024 was a focus on the human dimension of peacebuilding, with storytelling taking center stage to inspire action and solidarity.

Held on Wednesday, 16 October 2024, the PeaceTalks; Geneva Peace Week Edition brought together compelling voices from conflict zones and peacebuilding initiatives. This edition of the PeaceTalks was organized by Interpeace and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform.

MehraRimerunderscoredtheimportance of supporting Israeli and Palestinian changemakers, urging empathy and a "pro-solution" approach to peace advocacy. Shahd Hammou highlighted resilience amidst conflict in Sudan and the need for global investments aligned with peacebuilding. Agnieszka Fal-Dutra Santos emphasized the role of care and humanity in Ukraine's post-conflict recovery.

Palestinian activist Ali Abu Awwad and Hiba Qasas, Founding Executive Director of the Principles for Peace Foundation advocated for coexistence, dignity, and the two-state solution as pathways to peace in the Middle East. Fawzia Koofi delivered a powerful call for gender equity and international accountability to combat gender apartheid in Afghanistan, stating:

"The message from the women of Afghanistan, the people of Afghanistan is clear: help them lead their own narrative for a change in their country."

Together, these voices highlighted the courage and shared responsibility essential for enduring peace.



Wifi: IHEID EVENT Password: TFCK-PSWA The week concluded with a powerful Closing Ceremony on Friday 18 October 2024, featuring a conversation between former FARC combatant and peace negotiator Victoria INTERPRETATION Sandino and ex-Colombian military officer Juanita Millán Hernández. Facilitated by Rachel Gasser of the Berghof Foundation, this dialogue showcased the transformative potential PeaceTalks of reconciliation and collaboration between former adversaries. Reflecting on their shared journey, Millán Hernández remarked:



VICTORIA SANDINO, RACHEL GESSER AND JUANITA MILLÁN HERNÁNDEZ, CLOSING CEREMONY

"In the beginning, we were enemies. But over time, we found common ground in our shared struggle for a better Colombia."

This conversation underscored the essence of peacebuilding: finding common purpose to overcome conflict and build a peaceful future together.

#### PRACTICAL INSIGHTS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

GPW24 demonstrated its commitment to fostering meaningful dialogue and skill-building through carefully curated workshops and panels. Following an open call for applications in Spring 2024, GPW24 received 122 submissions, from which around 40 sessions were selected. These events were designed to facilitate impactful knowledge exchange, bringing together peacebuilding practitioners, students, diplomats and experts to explore critical issues and develop practical solutions.

#### **PEACE PANELS**

These engaging discussions focused on critical peace-related topics, convening experts and stakeholders. With audiences ranging from 90 to 140 participants on-site and additional remote access via Zoom, the 90-minute panels encouraged active participation through Q&A segments, creating opportunities for audience engagement and dialogue.

#### **PEACE WORKSHOPS**

These interactive sessions were designed to develop practical skills and strategies for peacebuilding. With a capacity of up to 40 participants in person and additional remote participants via Zoom, the workshops prioritized interactivity and collaboration. Practitioner-led, these sessions fostered group work and dynamic exchanges.

The diverse and interactive nature of these sessions fostered a rich exchange of knowledge, practical insights, and collaborative strategies, equipping participants with tools to address complex peacebuilding challenges.

# and Beyond: Understanding and reversing current POC trends PEACE PANEL: "PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AT 25 AND BEYOND: UNDERSTANDING AND REVERSING CURRENT POC TRENDS" LED BY THE CENTER FOR CIVILIANS IN CONFLICT, THE ICRC AND THE FDFA OF SWITZERLAND. © Olivier Chamard

**Protection of Civilians at 25** 

#### SUBSTANTIVE REPORT

Detailed session notes provided by the event organizers are available on the Geneva Peace Week website under "Previous Editions/GPW24" section. These notes include concise summaries of most of the panels and workshops and highlight key takeaways. For a comprehensive overview of all events held during GPW24, please refer to the Programme section of this report.



#### **TOP 3 PEACE PANELS**

- Peace in the Fourth Revolution: Unleashing the AI Political Potential 240 participants
- 2. Beyond Survival: Unpacking The Nexus Between Conflict, Gender and Natural Disasters 220 participants
- **3.** A Feminist Peace Built by All: Pathways to Inclusive Visions of Peace
  216 participants

#### **TOP 3 PEACE WORKSHOPS**

- What is Resilience? Bringing coherence to concepts of resilience in conflict prevention and peacebuilding 109 participants
- 2. Trade and SME-led growth in fragile and conflict affected settings: Key principles for inter-agency collaboration
  81 participants
- 3. Peace mediation under stress:
  Adaptation, innovation and challenges
  70 participants



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# FOSTERING INTERGENERATIONAL COLLABORATION

As a cornerstone of Geneva Peace Week 2024, the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform placed significant emphasis on intergenerational collaboration, recognizing youth as key actors in addressing global peacebuilding challenges. Throughout the week, young peacebuilders participated actively in major events, contributing fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to the dialogue.

#### **ELDERS AND YOUTH PEACEBUILDERS DIALOGUE**

One of the most impactful moments of GPW24 was the Elders and Youth Peacebuilders Dialogue, which brought together esteemed leaders such as Mary Robinson, Chair of the Elders, and Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, former UN High Commissioner

for Human Rights, with three young peacebuilders: Nashiba Nakabira, Maruee Pahuja, and Arizza Ann Nocum. This exchange illuminated the power of intergenerational collaboration in fostering sustainable peace.





The young peacebuilders offered dynamic contributions:

Nashiba Nakabira, in her capacity as African Youth Ambassador for Peace for East Africa, advocated for leveraging religious and cultural diversity as tools for reconciliation. She stressed the importance of interreligious councils and integrating cultural frameworks into peace agreements.

"We need to tap into religion and culture not as sources of division but as tools to counter violent extremism and foster reconciliation."

Maruee Pahuja, from the Creative Leadership Youth team with the Caux Initiatives of Change Foundation, highlighted the transformative role of expressive arts in healing divided communities. She underscored the potential of arts-based interventions to foster storytelling and trauma healing. "The opposite of depression is joy, but it begins with expression. The arts hold space for individuals to transform hate and hurt into healing."

Arizza Ann Nocum, an Extremely Together Young Leader at the Kofi Annan Foundation, addressed the pressing challenge of disinformation in the digital age. She emphasized digital literacy, accountability for tech companies, and fostering empathy to counter polarization.

"In the war against disinformation, empathy is our strongest weapon. It helps us see beyond labels to our shared dreams and humanity."

This dialogue showcased how the wisdom of experience and the energy of youth can come together to address complex global challenges.



They emphasized peace as a proactive endeavor grounded in justice, equity, and dignity:

Ruslan Pavlyshyn:

"Peace is not something we inherit, it is something we must work for, generation after generation." Milzat Salime:

"Our mission
is to create
bridges between
generations,
ensuring that youth
are not just included
but leading the
charge in shaping a
peaceful world."

Shruti Satish:

"Sustainable peace cannot come to fruition without justice to the wronged. Justice must be a pillar of peacebuilding if we are ever to find our way to true global peace."

Their statement was a call to action, urging stakeholders to listen to youth and embrace their innovative solutions for a more just and peaceful future.

#### YOUTH STATEMENT AT THE OPENING

The Geneva Peace Week 2024 Opening Ceremony featured an inspiring youth statement delivered by Shruti Satish, Milzat Salime, and Ruslan Pavlyshyn. Representing both the Student Peacebuilding Initiative and the Peace and Security Program at the Geneva Graduate Institute, the speakers highlighted the critical role of youth in shaping the future of peace.

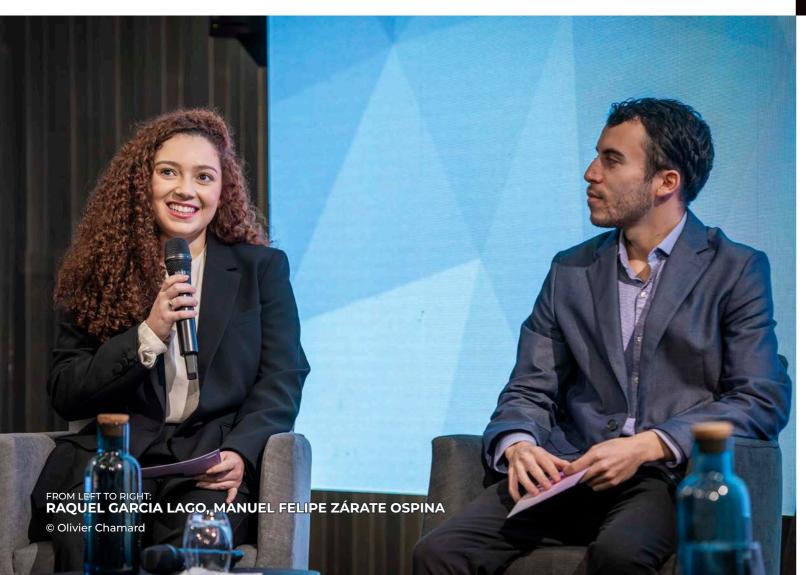


#### YOUTH-LED CONTRIBUTIONS AT THE CLOSING

The Geneva Peace Week 2024 Closing Ceremony highlighted the reflections of Raquel Garcia Lago and Manuel Felipe Zárate Ospina, both members of the Student Peacebuilding Initiative. Their contributions underscored the passion and determination of youth to drive peacebuilding efforts.

Raquel Garcia Lago shared her experience navigating power dynamics as a young Latin American woman in peacebuilding. She emphasized the value of amplifying young women's voices and credited the Student Peacebuilding Initiative for fostering her confidence to engage in global discussions.

"Standing today, I ask that we continue to listen to young women in peace processes, but more importantly, that we amplify their voices. Their perspectives and experiences are vital, offering fresh insights that come from their journeys."





Manuel Felipe Zárate Ospina reflected on the impact of Colombia's 2016 peace agreement on his personal journey. He called for continuous dialogue and innovative approaches to address the complexities of peacebuilding.

"A negotiated solution is the way out from conflict, but peace requires innovative approaches and enduring commitment. It is not just an agreement—it is a process we must walk together."

Together, Raquel and Manuel demonstrated how young leaders are transforming challenges into opportunities and fostering inclusive approaches to peacebuilding.

# **EXPLORING NEW AVENUES** TO PEACE

The 11th edition of Geneva Peace Week 2024 broke new ground by incorporating artistic and cultural activities into its program, offering innovative platforms to explore peacebuilding.

#### **ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE**

For the first time, GPW hosted an artistin-residence, Fernando Cometto, whose creative contributions added a rich visual dimension to the week's events.

#### **COMETTO'S WORK AND VISION**

Fernando Cometto is celebrated for his art's narrative depth and textural complexity. He uses color and form to celebrate cultural diversity, with his canvases alive with playful figures and vivid hues, inviting viewers into a cosmos where imagination reigns.

#### "Art should not only reflect, but also serve as an infinite canvas for the construction of peace."

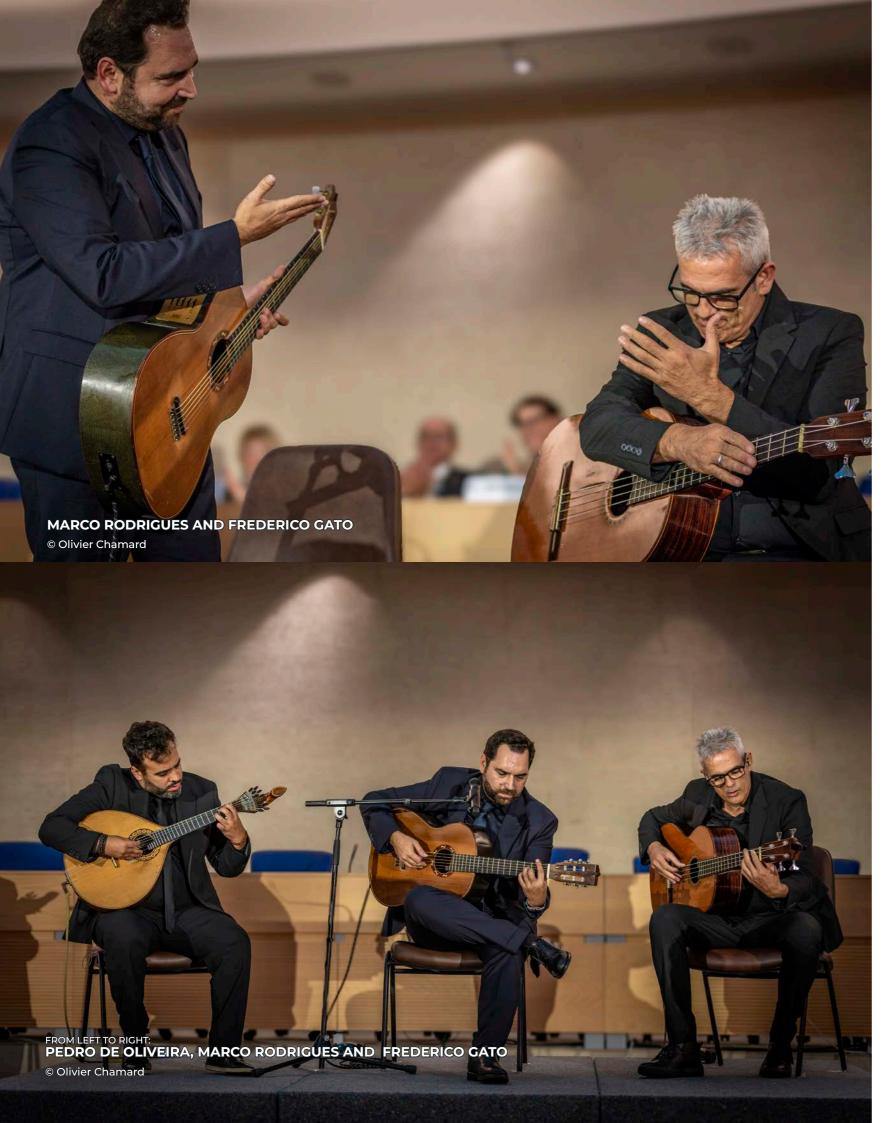
His works have been exhibited at prestigious venues like the Instituto Cervantes, Galerie Evelyne Héno, and Musée de la Création Franche. He has also participated in renowned events such as the Salon de Mai in Paris and Semaine de l'Amérique Latine in Bordeaux. His art has been showcased in museums including the Musée d'Art Spontané in Brussels.



#### **ART IN ACTION AT GPW**

During GPW, attendees witnessed Cometto's creative process in realtime, culminating in a painting displayed at the Arts and Peace Encounters event on October 18. The artwork encapsulated the concept of «building peace» in everyday life, using symbols such as open houses and chairs (representing dialogue), childlike figures (symbolizing innocence and the absence of power hierarchies), and boats (highlighting migrant struggles). Cometto also infused elements from his Argentinian heritage, like carnival dances as expressions of joy and gratitude.

Cometto emphasized that art fosters universal connections and serves as a transformative force for peacebuilding. In a generous gesture, he donated his painting to the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform to be auctioned, with proceeds supporting organizations focused on social cohesion and peace.



#### **ARTS AND PEACE**

#### **OPENING CEREMONY**

The opening ceremony featured Marco Rodrigues, a distinguished Portuguese Fado singer, accompanied by musicians Pedro De Oliveira and Frederico Gato.

Fado, a traditional Portuguese genre recognized by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage, expresses themes of longing, fate, and melancholy, embodying the Portuguese concept of saudade (nostalgic yearning). Rodrigues performed three songs, including the iconic «Lisboa, Menina e Moça», a romantic ode to Lisbon's beauty and spirit.

#### 2024 KOFI ANNAN GENEVA PEACE ADDRESS

During the Peace Address, Junseo, a student from La Grande Boissière Campus, performed a Bach Prelude on the cello. Junseo is a member of the

Ecolint Orchestra that brings together motivated students and adults around music.





#### ARTS AND PEACE ENCOUNTERS

The Arts and Peace Encounters event that took place as part of the closing matinee on Friday 18 October 2024 featured among others:

Tuning into Empathy with Music for Peace: South Korean violinist Hyung Joon Won shared his experiences using music as a tool for empathy and dialogue.

Liberation through the Arts: South African choreographer Diwele Molale Lubi and singer Delphine Digonnet presented a dynamic exploration of the arts' role in South Africa's liberation from apartheid.

The encounters underscored the transformative potential of art in fostering empathy, hope, and societal action.

#### **PEACETALKS**

The PeaceTalks session showcased Valeria, a 12-year-old Moldovan singer, performing «Imagine» by John Lennon and «Résister» by Slimane. Her rendition of «Résister», an anthem of resilience and courage, resonated deeply, emphasizing perseverance against injustice and oppression.

#### SCREENING FOR PEACE

A screening of the documentary Colette & Justin shed light on the enduring impacts of colonialism and its challenges for individuals and communities striving for peace. The film illustrated how colonial legacies continue to shape migration, identity, and societal conflicts.





#### **ART EXHIBITIONS**

#### **JERUSALEMS**

This collaborative project, led by Licra Geneva and the Institut des Cultures Arabes et Méditerranéennes, celebrated interfaith and intercultural dialogue. Featuring an 8-meter fresco by Swiss artist François Burland, the exhibit invited reflection on the pluralistic essence of Jerusalem. Accompanying the fresco were verses from a writing workshop led by Swiss author Sandra Modiano.

#### **NATURE FOOT PRINT**

This global collection of artworks highlighted community stories on climate, conflict, and peace. Showcased throughout the week, it invited policymakers to consider creative expressions' role in shaping effective, just, and inclusive climate strategies.

Through vivid imagery, storytelling, and performances, Geneva Peace Week 2024 demonstrated how art transcends barriers, inspiring hope, dialogue, and resilience in the collective pursuit of peace.



# ENHANCING THE GPW EXPERIENCE

#### **NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS**



Geneva Peace Week 2024 prioritized creating meaningful opportunities for participants to connect and collaborate. Social gatherings such as networking breakfasts and coffee breaks between sessions allowed attendees and speakers to exchange ideas informally, fostering a sense of community and collaboration.

Opening and closing cocktails celebrated the start and conclusion of GPW24. Additionally, a VIP cocktail was hosted to honor GPW core partners, recognizing their ongoing contributions and support over the years.



# COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL ACTORS

The opening cocktail took place at the Ecole hôtelière de Genève, a venue renowned for its commitment to excellence, professionalism, innovation, respect, and sustainability. This partnership underscored GPW's dedication to cultivating a collaborative and sustainable environment that reflects its core values.

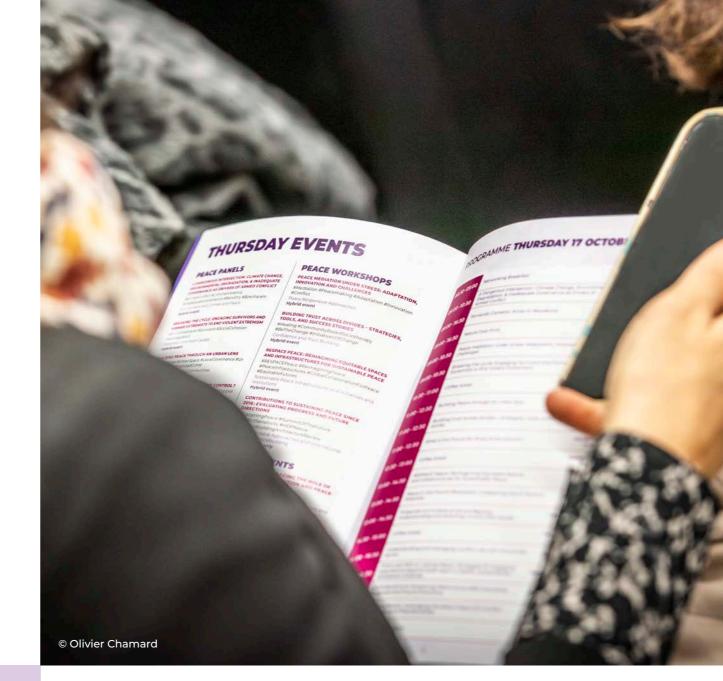
Refreshments and catering during breakfasts and coffee breaks were provided in collaboration with the Fondation Aïgues-Vertes, an organization that supports adults with intellectual disabilities by fostering their autonomy and integration into social and professional life. Their catering services added a socially responsible dimension to the GPW experience.

Printed materials, including the programme editing, were prepared in partnership with les EPIS (Etablissements publics pour l'intégration), which supports the social and professional integration of individuals with disabilities or those facing challenges in employment and social settings.



GPW24 marked a pivotal moment by adopting an innovative approach to the programme's design. Moving away from traditional thematic tracks, this edition introduced 17 keywords to encourage a broader and more nuanced range of discussions. This forward-thinking strategy allowed partner organizations to contribute by designing panels and workshops around the following topics:

- Armed Conflict and Humanitarian Action
- Children and Youth
- Confidence and Trust Building
- Environment, Climate, and Peace
- Food Security
- Gender, Minorities, and Identities
- Human Rights, Social Justice, and Inclusion
- Human Security and Disarmament
- International Geneva and Peacebuilding
- Local Actors and Local Communities
- Mental Health
- Peace and Tech
- Peace and Trade
- Peace Finance
- Peace Responsive Approaches
- Prevention and Root Causes
- Sustainable Peace Infrastructures, Initiatives, and Institutions



#### **HYBRID FORMATS FOR INCLUSIVITY**

GPW24 embraced a fully hybrid format, enabling global participation. For the first time, Al-powered interpretation was provided in 60 languages through Wordly software, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for a diverse audience. A total of 1646 persons used interpretation over the course of the week.

#### **DIVERSIFIED PROGRAMMING**

GPW24 offered a rich and varied programme, including opening and closing ceremonies, panels, workshops, special events, and cultural and artistic activities. A dedicated networking space enabled practitioners, policymakers, and civil society actors to foster collaboration and partnerships.

Significant enhancements to hospitality and operations ensured

a seamless experience, supported by additional temporary staff who facilitated logistics and created a welcoming atmosphere. Communication efforts also advanced significantly, with the introduction of a redesigned, userfriendly website and an upgraded organizer platform to streamline event planning and engagement.

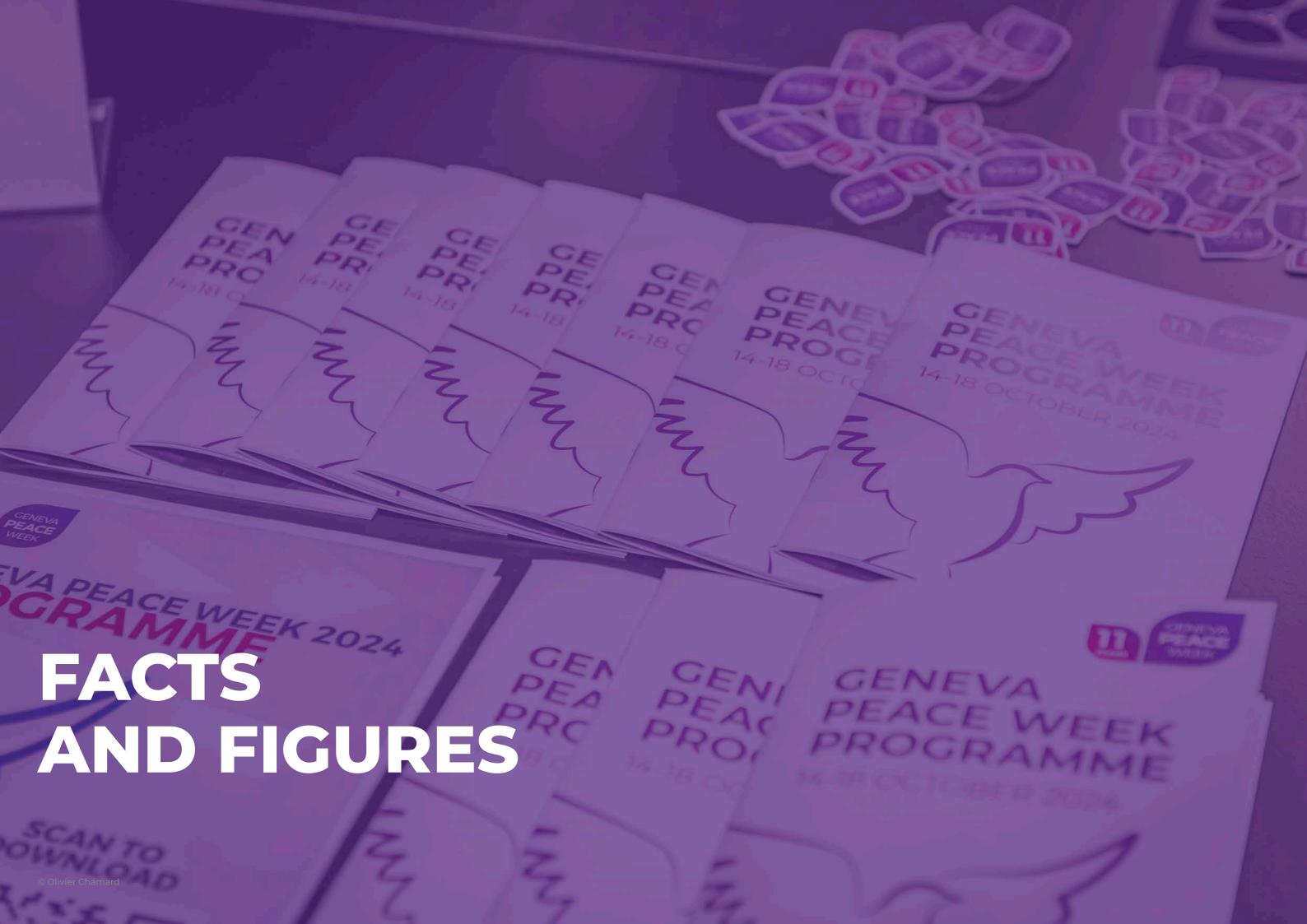
Geneva Peace Week, launched in 2014 by the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, UNOG, the Swiss Mission to the UN, and international partners, has evolved into a premier international peacebuilding forum. Starting with 10 events and 200 participants, GPW has grown exponentially, engaging thousands globally. Milestones include the introduction of cultural performances and thematic tracks like «Cyberpeace» and «Urban Peace,» alongside innovative hybrid and digital formats during the COVID-19

pandemic. GPW23 celebrated its 10th anniversary with record-breaking attendance of 5,500 participants and diverse sessions addressing pressing global challenges. GPW24 continued this momentum, introducing thematic keywords, real-time interpretation, and a broadened scope of discussions, supported by enhanced funding and operational improvements. The steady growth of Geneva Peace Week was evident in its participation numbers, reaching a total session attendance of 6,700 in 2024.



YEAR	TOTAL EVENTS	TOTAL EVENT ORGANIZERS	TOTAL ATTENDANCE
2014	10	9	200
2015	41	50	700
2016	45	62	600
2017	50	100	1,250
2018	65	121	1,300
2019	67	109	1,700
2020	70	280	4,200
2021	30	115	3,000
2022	53	125	2,860
2023	61	149	5,500
2024	70	117	6,700

Geneva Peace Week continues to evolve as a premier platform for global peacebuilding, fostering innovative discussions and meaningful connections while enhancing inclusivity and accessibility for a global audience.



# **PROGRAMME**

Geneva Peace Week 2024 was held from October 14 to 18 at two iconic venues in Geneva: the Maison de la Paix and the Palais des Nations. This year's program featured 70 diverse events,

including high-level panels, workshops, cultural performances, and interactive sessions, reflecting the forum's emphasis on inclusivity, innovation, and crossdisciplinary dialogue.

#### **MONDAY, 14 OCTOBER**

16:30 - 18:00 **OPENING CEREMONY: WHAT IS PEACE?** 

**SPECIAL EVENT** 

Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and other international organisations in Geneva, The

United Nations Office at Geneva

**NETWORKING** 

#### 19:00 - 20:00 **OPENING CEREMONY COCKTAIL**

Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and other international organisations in Geneva, Canton

et République de Genève, Ville de Genève



#### **TUESDAY, 15 OCTOBER**

13:00 - 14:30

FROM THE FIELD

08:30 - 09:00	NETWORKING BREAKFAST Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
TUESDAY THURSDAY	FERNANDO COMETTO: ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	ART EXHIBITION
TUESDAY THURSDAY	NATURE FOOTPRINT Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Peace Nexus	ART EXHIBITION
09:00 - 10:30	REBUILDING TRUST, SECURITY AND RECONCILIATION: FROM CONFLICT TO COHESION Principles for Peace Foundation, DCAF	PEACE PANEL
09:00 - 10:30	DIALOGUE, TRUTH, AND RECONCILIATION AS MEANS TO SUSTAINING PEACE: G7+ EXPERIENCES  G7+ Secretariat, The Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva	PEACE PANEL
09:00 - 10:30	THE ROLE OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES IN SUSTAINING PEACE AND PREVENTING CONFLICT THROUGH HUMAN RIGHTS  Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Quaker United Nations Office Geneva (QUNO)	PEACE PANEL
10:30 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
11:00 - 12:30	LOCAL ACTORS AS PEACE INFLUENCERS: SSG/R'S ROLE IN PEACEBUILDING IN THE MENA REGION  DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance, Qatar Strategic Studies Centre	PEACE PANEL
11:00 - 12:30	WHAT IS RESILIENCE? BRINGING COHERENCE TO CONCEPTS OF RESILIENCE IN CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACEBUILDING Interpeace, The Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development, SeeD	PEACE WORKSHOP
11:00 - 12:30	PATHWAYS TO PEACE: EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN AS AGENTS OF CHANGE  Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP); Women in International Security Italy (WIIS- Italy) and Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWMN)	PEACE PANEL
12:30 - 13:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
13:00 - 14:30	IMPLEMENTING THE PACT: ADVANCING NEW OPTIONS AND MODELS FOR FUTURE PEACE MISSIONS Geneva Centre for Security Policy	PEACE PANEL
17:00 17:70	MACTERING NECOTIATION IN CONFLICT, DOLE DI AV AND INCICLITS	DEAGE

MASTERING NEGOTIATION IN CONFLICT: ROLE-PLAY AND INSIGHTS

Clingendael Institute of International Affairs, Nonviolent Peaceforce

PEACE

**WORKSHOP** 



13:00 - 14:30	VIRTUAL REALITY FOR PEACE University of Birmingham, Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Government (CAIG), Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, Technical University Munich (TUM) Think Tank	PEACE PANEL
14:30 - 16:00	AKORD AI PRESENTATION Conflict Dynamics International	SPECIAL EVENT
14:30 - 15:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
15:00 - 16:00	PEACE, TRADE, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATIONS: INSIGHTS FROM INTERNATIONAL LEADERS University for Peace, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform	SPECIAL EVENT
15:00 - 16:30	ADDRESSING DISCRIMINATION AND XENOPHOBIA IN SCHOOLS THROUGH ETHICS EDUCATION  Arigatou International Geneva, Kenya National Commission for UNESCO, Indonesia National Commission for UNESCO, Global Humanity for Peace Institute, University of Wales Trinity St. David, Guerrand-Hermes Foundation for Peace, Higher Committee of Human Fraternity	PEACE WORKSHOP
15:00 - 16:30	THE PREVENTION AND PEACEBUILDING ARCHITECTURES: BUILDING SUPPORT FOR LOCALLY-LED PREVENTION EFFORTS IN AT-RISK COUNTRIES U.S. Department of State	PEACE PANEL
16:45 - 17:45	A FEMINIST PEACE BUILT BY ALL: PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE VISIONS OF PEACE International Peace Institute, Federal Department of Foreign	PEACE PANEL

#### **WEDNESDAY, 16 OCTOBER**

08:30 - 09:45	BREAKFAST CONVERSATION: HUMANITARIAN DEMINING IN UKRAINE: A CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining	SPECIAL EVENT
08:30 - 09:00	NETWORKING BREAKFAST Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
09:00 - 10:30	SPARING WATER FROM ARMED CONFLICTS - BUILDING A COALITION OF ACTION  Geneva Call, Geneva Water Hub, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of Slovenia	PEACE PANEL
09:00 - 10:30	TRUSTBUILDING FROM THE TABLE TO THE STREETS: INCLUSIVE STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE Search for Common Ground, Berghof Foundation, Interpeacenance	PEACE PANEL
10:30 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nes- presso	NETWORKING
11:00 - 12:30	INSPIRING NEW THINKING: ENVIRONMENTAL AND FOOD SECURITY SOLUTIONS  Kofi Annan Foundation, Ban Ki-moon Centre (BKMC) and Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)	PEACE WORKSHOP
11:00 - 12:30	BEYOND SURVIVAL — UNPACKING THE NEXUS BETWEEN CONFLICT, GENDER AND NATURAL DISASTERS Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, The Syria Campaign (TSC) International Bridges to Justice (IBJ)	PEACE PANEL
12:30 - 13:15	COMMITTING TO GENDER EQUALITY: THE WPS-HA COMPACT United Directors of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance, The Geneva	PEACE PANEL



16:45 - 17:45

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Development

Kofi Annan Foundation, The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, The Geneva Graduate Institute, Caux Initiatives of Change Foundation, The Canton et République de Genève, Ville de Genève

Affairs, Switzerland, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), International Gender Champions, the Centre for Humanitarian

BRIDGING GENERATIONS: CO-CREATING SOLUTIONS FOR PEACE AND

Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Centre for International

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD),

Dialogue (HD), and the Berghof Foundation

**SPECIAL EVENT** 

**PEACE** 

**WORKSHOP** 

1	3:00 - 14:00	GENEVA-NEW YORK PEACE DIALOGUE  Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and other international organisations in Geneva, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform	POLICY BRIEFING
1	3:00 - 14:30	UNDERSTANDING THE INTERSECTION OF CONFLICT, HUNGER, AND PEACE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES  UN World Food Programme, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN Organizations in Rome, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), The Global Network Against Food Crises, Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) Movement	PEACE PANEL
1	3:00 - 14:30	MITIGATING THE HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS OF ARMS TRANSFERS: A BLUEPRINT FOR PEACE Quaker United Nations Office, Global Rights Compliance (GRC) and Control Arms	PEACE WORKSHOP
1	3:00 - 14:30	SAFEGUARDING THE PRESENT AND FUTURE: ENSURING THAT CHILD- REN ARE PROTECTED IN WAR Watchlist	PEACE PANEL
1	4:30 - 15:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
1	15:00 - 16:30	INTEGRATING MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS) INTO NEW CONTEXTS OF DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION (DDR): THE CASE OF ONGOING CONFLICT AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM  International Organization for Migration, Interpeace, United Nations - Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions - Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Section (OROLSI-DDR)	PEACE PANEL
1	15:00 - 16:30	TRADE AND SME-LED GROWTH IN FRAGILE AND CONFLICT AFFECTED SETTINGS: KEY PRINCIPLES FOR INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION International Trade Centre, International Organization for Migration (IOM), World Trade Organization (WTO), International Labour Organization (ILO), Mercy Corps	PEACE WORKSHOP
1	15:00 - 16:30	SOCIAL CONTRACT AND TRUST BUILDING: CAN ANOTHER UN SUPER- VISED CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS BRING PEACE TO AFGHANISTAN? Center for Dialogue and Progress – Geneva, Action for Develop- ment (AfD), Association of Judges of Afghanistan (AJA), Centro per Dialogo e Solidarietà – Roma (CDS-R),	PEACE PANEL
•	l6:45 - 1 <b>7</b> :45	<b>PEACE CAFÉ</b> Student Peacebuilding Initiative, the FAB Geneva Graduate Institute	PEACE PANEL
•	6:45 - 18:00	HOW CAN PEACE PROSPER? THE ROLE OF NATIONAL PEACE INFRASTRUCTURES IN SUSTAINING PEACE United Nations Development Programme, Republic of Kenya, Ministry of Interior and National Administration, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Joint UNDP-United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention	PEACE PANEL
١,	8:00 - 19:00	PEACETALKS: GENEVA PEACE WEEK EDITION Interpeace, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform	SPECIAL EVENT

### **THURSDAY, 17 OCTOBER**

08:30 - 9:00	NETWORKING BREAKFAST Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
09:00 - 10:30	BREAKING THE CYCLE: ENGAGING SURVIVORS AND FORMER EXTREMISTS TO END VIOLENT EXTREMISM  Global Action Platform (GAP) – GCERF in collaboration with the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund - GCERF, Think Peace, ONG Garkua, RECOPA, Union Fraternelle des Croyants de Dori	PEACE PANEL
09:00 - 10:30	PEACE MEDIATION UNDER STRESS: ADAPTATION, INNOVATION AND CHALLENGES Conciliation Resources	PEACE WORKSHOP
09:00 - 10:30	A DANGEROUS INTERSECTION: CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION, AND INADEQUATE GOVERNANCE AS DRIVERS OF ARMED CONFLICT AND LARGE-SCALE CRIMINAL VIOLENCE Managing Exits from Armed Conflict (MEAC) Project, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, adelphi, Foundation for Conservation and Sustainable Development (FCDS), Berghof Foundation	PEACE PANEL
10:30 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
11:00 - 12:30	WHAT FUTURE FOR SMALL ARMS CONTROL Small Arms Survey, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) at the Geneva Graduate Institute, and UNODA – United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs	PEACE PANEL
11:00 - 12:30	BUILDING TRUST ACROSS DIVIDES – STRATEGIES, TOOLS, AND SUCCESS STORIES Initiatives of Change International, Institute for Community-Based Sociotherapy (ICBS)	PEACE WORKSHOP



11:00 - 12:30	BUILDING PEACE THROUGH AN URBAN LENS Global Cities Hub, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC), Peace in Our Cities (PiOC)	PEACE PANEL
12:30 - 13:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
13:00 - 14:30	PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AT 25 AND BEYOND: UNDERSTANDING AND REVERSING CURRENT POC TRENDS  Center for Civilians in Conflict, International Committee of the Red Cross, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Switzerland	PEACE PANEL
13:00 - 14:30	RESPACE PEACE: REIMAGINING EQUITABLE SPACES AND INFRASTRUCTURES FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE Conducive Space for Peace, Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR), Reos Partners (Reos)	PEACE WORKSHOP
13:00 - 14:30	PEACE IN THE FOURTH REVOLUTION: UNLEASHING THE AI POLITICAL POTENTIAL Globethics, The Institute for Ethics in Artificial Intelligence (IEAI) at Technical University of Munich (TUM)	PEACE PANEL
14:30 - 15:00	COFFEE BREAK Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Fondation Aïgues Vertes, Nespresso	NETWORKING
15:00 - 16:30	FROM LAST MILE TO LASTING PEACE: STRATEGIES FOR ENGAGING POPULATIONS BEYOND STATE REACH IN HEALTH, HUMANITARIAN, AND PEACE INITIATIVES  Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue	PEACE PANEL
15:00 - 16:30	CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUSTAINING PEACE SINCE 2016: EVALUATING PROGRESS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations International Children and Education Fund (UNICEF), UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Food Programme (WFP)	PEACE WORKSHOP
15:00 - 16:30	UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING CONFLICT-RISK WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR Sustainable Finance Geneva, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Interpeace / Finance 4 Peace, PeaceNexus	PEACE PANEL
16:00 - 17:30	SPORT FOR PEACE: LEVERAGING THE ROLE OF SPORT FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEACEBUILDING The International Centre for Sport Security, Permanent mission of the State of Qatar to the UN on Geneva, Education Above All Foundation, The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform	SPECIAL EVENT
18:00 - 19:30	SCREENING FOR PEACE: COLETTE & JUSTIN Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights	SPECIAL EVENT



### FRIDAY, 18 OCTOBER

09:00 - 10:30	ARTS AND PEACE ENCOUNTERS Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Caux Initiatives of Change Foundation, Kofi Annan Foundation	SPECIAL EVENT
11:00 - 12:30	CLOSING CEREMONY Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Berghof Foundation	SPECIAL EVENT
12:30 - 14:00	COCKTAIL RECEPTION  Geneva Peacebuildina Platform	NETWORKING

<mark>4</mark>

# PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS, SPEAKERS, AND MODERATORS

#### **PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS**

GPW24 brought together a remarkable 117 organizations, ranging from international NGOs and government agencies to research institutes and grassroots movements. These partners represented a spectrum of expertise, ensuring diverse

and enriching perspectives across all events. This collaborative network underscored GPW's unique ability to convene global stakeholders in peacebuilding.

- 1. Adelphi
- 2. Arigatou International Geneva
- 3. Association of Judges of Afghanistan
- 4. Ban Ki-moon Centre
- 5. Berghof Foundation
- 6. Canton et République de Genève
- 7. Center for Civilians in Conflict
- 8. Center for Dialogue and Progress Geneva, Action for Development
- Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Government
- Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding at the Geneva Graduate Institute
- 11. Centro per Dialogo e Solidarietà Roma
- 12. Clingendael Institute of International Affairs
- 13. Conciliation Resources
- 14. Conducive Space for Peace
- 15. Conflict Dynamics International
- 16. Control Arms
- 17. DCAF- Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance
- 18. Education Above All Foundation
- Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Switzerland
- 20. Finance 4 Peace
- 21. Foundation for Conservation and Sustainable

- Development
- 22. G7+ Secretariat
- 23. GCERF
- 24. Geneva Call
- 25. Geneva Centre for Security Policy
- **26.** Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
- **27.** Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
- 28. Geneva Peacebuilding Platform
- 29. Geneva Water Hub
- 30. Global Action Platform
- 31. Global Cities Hub
- 32. Global Humanity for Peace Institute
- **33.** Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime
- 34. Global Rights Compliance
- 35. Globethics
- **36.** Guerrand-Hermes Foundation for Peace
- 37. Higher Committee of Human Fraternity
- **38.** Indonesia National Commission for UNESCO
- 39. Initiatives of Change Caux Foundation
- 40. Initiatives of Change International
- 41. Institute for Community-Based Sociotherapy
- 42. International Committee of the Red Cross
- **43.** International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights

- 44. International Gender Champions
- 45. International Labour Organization
- 46. International Organization for Migration
- 47. International Peace Institute
- **48.** International Trade Centre
- 49. Interpeace
- 50. Joint UNDP-United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention
- 51. Kenya National Commission for UNESCO
- 52. Kofi Annan Foundation
- 53. Managing Exits from Armed Conflict Project
- 54. Mediterranean Women Mediators Network
- 55. Mercy Corps
- **56.** Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of Slovenia
- **57.** Ministry of Interior and National Administration
- 58. Network for Empowered Aid Response
- 59. Nonviolent Peaceforce
- 60. ONG Garkua
- **61.** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **62.** Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
- 63. Peace Nexus
- 64. Peace in Our Cities
- **65.** Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN Organizations in Rome
- **66.** Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and other international organisations in Geneva
- **67.** Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
- **68.** Permanent mission of the State of Qatar to the UN in Geneva
- 69. Principles for Peace Foundation
- 70. Qatar Strategic Studies Centre
- 71. Quaker United Nations Office Geneva
- 72. RECOPA
- 73. Reos Partners
- 74. Republic of Kenya
- 75. Scaling up Nutrition Movement
- 76. Search for Common Ground
- **77.** SeeD

- 78. Small Arms Survey
- 79. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
- 80. Student Peacebuilding Initiative
- 81. Sustainable Finance Geneva
- **82.** Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- 83. Technical University Munich Think Tank
- 84. The Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
- **85.** The Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development
- 86. The FAB Geneva Graduate Institute
- **87.** The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- **88.** The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund
- 89. The Global Network Against Food Crises
- **90.** The Institute for Ethics in Artificial Intelligence at Technical University of Munich
- 91. The International Centre for Sport Security
- **92.** The Permanent Mission of Timor-Leste to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva
- **93.** The Syria Campaign International Bridges to Justice
- 94. The United Nations Office at Geneva
- 95. Think Peace
- 96. U.S. Department of State
- 97. UN Food and Agriculture Organization
- 98. UN World Food Programme
- **99.** UNODA United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
- 100. Union Fraternelle des Croyants de Dori
- 101. United Nations Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions - Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Section
- 102. United Nations Development Programme
- **103.** United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
- **104.** United Nations International Children and Education Fund
- **105.** United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
- **106.** United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia
- **107.** University for Peace
- 108. University of Birmingham

- 109. University of Wales Trinity St. David
- 110. Ville de Genève
- 111. Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Centre for International Development
- 112. Watchlist
- 113. Women in International Security Italy
- 114. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- 115. World Food Programme
- 116. World Health Organization
- 117. World Trade Organization

#### **SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS**

An impressive 248 speakers and moderators (143 female, 105 male) shared their insights and expertise during GPW24. This diverse cohort included policymakers, academics, activists, and practitioners from around the world, reflecting the forum's commitment to amplifying local and global voices. Their contributions fostered engaging and thoughtprovoking discussions across all sessions.

#### 1. ABAWE ZULFIA

RESEARCHER

South Wales University

#### 2. ABDOULAYE ALOU

COORDINATOR OF THE PROJET DE RENFORCEMENT DE LA COMPRÉHENSION ET DE LA PRÉVENTION DE L'EXTRÉMISME VIOLENT (PREPEV) AND CO-CHAIR OF THE GLOBAL ACTION PLATFORM WORKING GROUP ON SOCIAL COHESION RÉSEAU DE COMMUNICATION SUR LE PASTORALISME (RECOPA)

#### 3. ABDULLA AMIR

FORMER DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR World Food Programme and Kofi Annan Commission on Food Security Commissionere

#### 4. AEBY ANDREA

**COUNSELOR** 

Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN

5. AFAKO BARNEY **SENIOR MEDIATION ADVISER** Independent



#### 6. AHIMIDI MAHAMAR

**EX-COMBATANT INVOLVED IN THE "FROM** ARMED REPENTANT YOUTH TO ACTOR FOR POSITIVE CHANGE" (JRA-JAC)' PROJECT Think Peace (Mali) Think Peace

#### 7. AHMAN HALIMA SADIYA **FOUNDER**

Nurtured Agro-resources Limited & Youth AgriChampion, Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

#### **8.** AL HENZAB MOHAMMED

**PRESIDENT** 

International Centre for Safety in Sport

#### 9. AL HUSSEIN ZEID RA'AD PRESIDENT AND CEO

International Peace Institute (IPI)

#### **10. AL NAIMI RASHID HAMAD**

MAJOR GENERAL, COMMANDER Qatar Strategic Studies Centre

#### 11. AL SULAITI FAHAD

CEO

Education Above All Foundation

#### 12. AL-SUWAIDI JUHARA

**DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF** THE STATE OF OATAR IN GENEVA

Permanent Mission of Qatar to the UNOG

#### 13. ALI YUSUF

FEDERAL AFFAIRS AND RECONCILIATION Somali Minister of Interior

#### 14. ALKANAWATI LUBNA

SYRIAN FEMINIST AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST, SERVING AS CO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Syrian feminist and women's rights activist, serving as CO executive Director

#### 15. ALLOUSH HANADI PROGRAM MANAGER

Damma Hug

#### 16. ALWISHEWA HIRUNI

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER University of Geneva

#### 17. ALYOUSFI HAYMA

FEMINIST RESEARCHER, GENERAL PROGRAM **MANAGER** 

Syrian Female Journalists Network (SFJN)

#### 18. AMADOU MAMOUDOU

**EX-COMBATANT INVOLVED IN THE "SUPPORT** PROJECT FOR THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF REPENTEES THROUGH PUBLIC INTEREST SERVICES" (PAISRSIP) GARKUA (Niger)

#### 19. ARMSTRONG ELIZABETH

Ithaca Impact

#### 20. ASTIER SYLVAIN

SWISS SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE HORN OF **AFRICA** 

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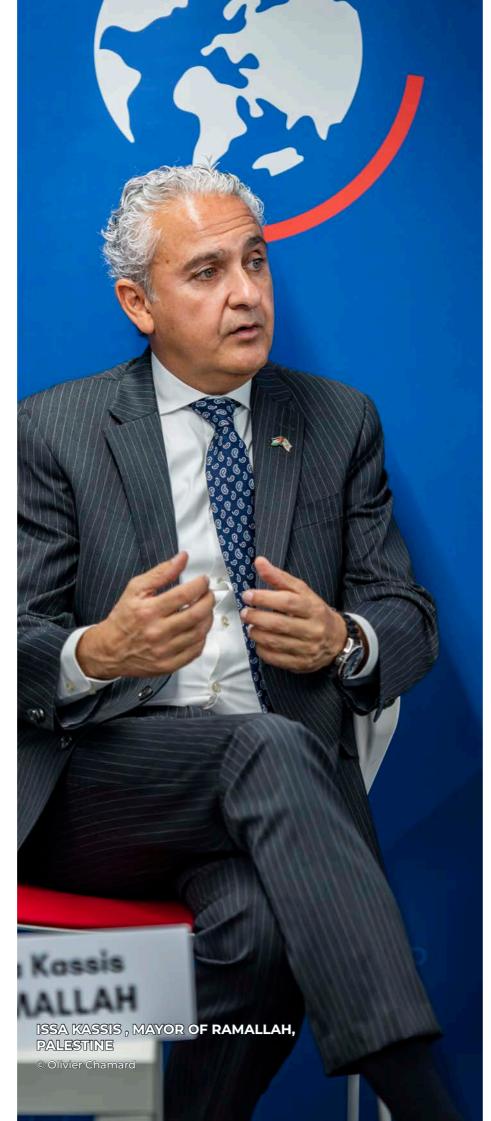
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**UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL AND ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR** 

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

#### **245. YEREMCHUK ANTON**

PROJECT COORDINATOR AND CO-FOUNDER Base UA

#### 246. ZEITH ABBY

**LEGAL ADVISER** *ICRC* 

#### **247. ZHANG XIANGCHEN**

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL** World Trade Organization (WTO)

#### **248. ABDON DOMINIQUE KOKO**

**WEST AFRICA SPECIALIST** 

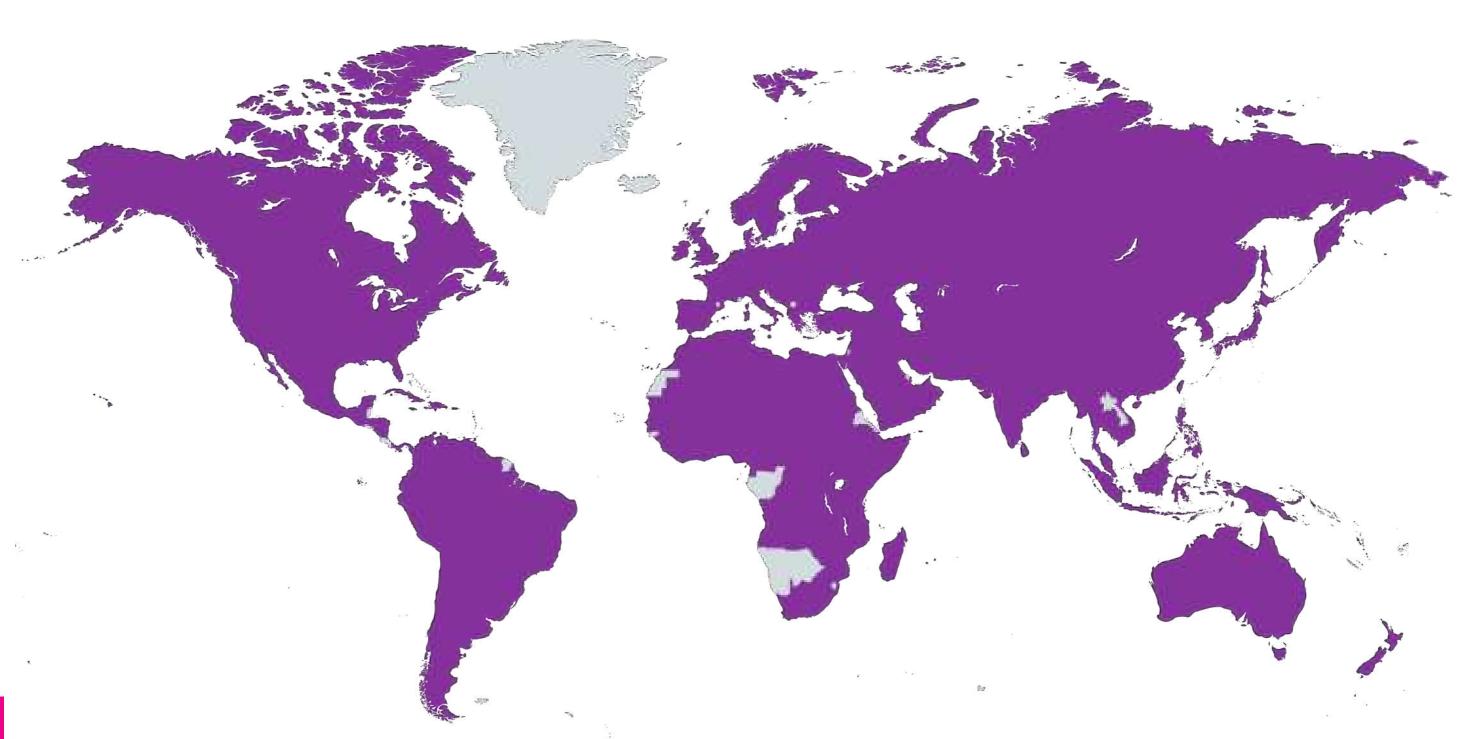
The Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development, SeeD

#### **PARTICIPANT STATISTICS**

GPW24 recorded 4,140 registered participants, with 1,349 attending on-site, 1,952 joining online, and 839 engaging in both formats. This hybrid approach ensured broad accessibility and participation from across the globe. Participants represented 166 countries, with the top five being Switzerland (495), France (302), the United States (266), Italy (204), and the United Kingdom (194).

#### **TOP 5 COUNTRIES**

- 1. Switzerland 495
- **2.** France 302
- 3. United States of America 266
- **4.** Italy 204
- 5. United Kingdom 194



**GENDER** 

Attendance across all sessions totaled 6,700, with standout events like the 2024 Kofi Annan Geneva Peace Address attracting 660 participants, the Opening Ceremony engaging 573 attendees, and the PeaceTalks session hosting 261 participants.

**FEMALE 62%** 

**MALE 37%** 



18-24 15%

25-34 31%

35-44 25%

**AGE** 





**OTHER 1%** 

#### **COMMUNICATION METRICS**

GPW24 leveraged its online presence to maximize visibility and engagement. Social media platforms gained over 2,898 new followers during the event, with notable growth on LinkedIn (+2,313 followers). The

GPW website saw 288,000 page views, with 20,000 users accessing resources, including 600 persons using a newly launched French version of the website



GPW24 was mentioned in 12 media outlets, including Tribune de Genève, Le Temps, Léman Bleu, Radio Cité, Geneva Solutions, in Radio TV Swiss Italian (RSI) but also abroad in The Gulf Times and The Christian Science Monitor Daily.







# **GPW24 STAFF**

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform coordinated and implemented all aspects of GPW24 with support from key partners, including the Geneva Graduate Institute and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. The team was complemented by hospitality staff, volunteers, and room managers, who ensured the seamless execution of the week's activities.

This collective effort highlighted the importance of teamwork in delivering a globally impactful event.



#### **GENEVA PEACEBUILDING PLATFORM TEAM**

- Annyssa Bellal
- Dany Diogo
- Tatiana Avanthay
- Gabriela Buser
- Cyprien Fluzin
- Claire Inderkummen

#### **GCSP FOCAL POINT**

• Carla Laudien

#### **ROOM MANAGERS**

- Romain Allamand
- Cory Lavorel

#### **PHOTOGRAPHER**

Olivier Chamard

#### **GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE EVENTS TEAM**

- Sabrina Imhof
- Alain Vogel
- Albertino Guedes Monteiro
- Pascal Weltin
- **Arnaud Charles**
- Alexis Bijasson
- Lyanna Tan
- Myriam Mazoul

#### **HOSPITALITY STAFF**

- Emma Guillot
- Eve-Marie Teixeira
- Laure Carera
- Badis Khayat
- Aurore Giaquinto
- Jorge Buser

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

- Tanvi Anand
- Marie Forquenot de La Fortelle
- Jan Minksztym
- Dilnaz Naukenova
- Ragi Rajeev
- Diya Rajput
- Angela Daniela Martínez Villafuerte
- Jessica Abowitz
- Maïa Bendavid Athias
- Leticia Heinzmann
- Hanna Kalichava
- Hans Bagemann
- Nuraiym Zhenishbek
- Jan Minksztym
- Tany Iyer
- Maïa Bendavid Athias
- Luiza Stradiotto
- Tanya Goel
- Michelle Hamman
- Olivia Bornyi
- Lauren Brook
- Mengistu Amen
- Sylvia Ayesu





# **MISSION**

Geneva Peace Week, created in 2014, is a leading annual forum in the international peacebuilding calendar through which organizations in Geneva and their international partners come together to share knowledge and practice on a diverse range of topics related to peace across contexts and disciplines.

Geneva Peace Week offers an opportunity to connect and highlight the work of peacebuilders and to expand the space for each and every person, actor and institution that has a role to play in building peace and resolving conflict. GPW recognizes that peacebuilding occurs in many different contexts and cuts across disciplines and sectors. In this sense, Geneva Peace Week breaks down professional silos in order to enable creative responses to violence, exclusion and insecurity. By synchronizing meetings and events on different topics related to the promotion of peace during one week, GPW maximizes synergies between organizations in Geneva and their international partners, focusing on the cross-cutting nature of peace.

GPW is a flagship initiative of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform.



# **CONSORTIUM**

Driven by suggestions from the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform team, the Consortium governs the strategic decision-making process regarding Geneva Peace Week that includes, among others, the thematic direction of each edition, criteria for applications, event

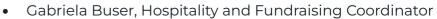
formats and participation modalities. Members of the Consortium (listed below) work collaboratively to bring diverse perspectives, innovative ideas and different skills to the table to achieve a common goal: making each edition of Geneva Peace Week a unique experience.

#### Annyssa I



GENEVA PEACEBUILDING PLATFORM





- Tatiana Avanthay, Communications Coordinator
- Cyprien Fluzin, Policy and Research Fellow
- Claire Inderkummen, Geneva Peace Week Assistant



# GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE'S CENTRE ON CONFLICT, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACEBUILDING

- Eliza Urwin, Head of Research
- Maëlys Glück, Outreach Coordinator and Knowledge Manager



#### QUAKER UNITED NATIONS OFFICE, GENEVA

 Chatrina Schumacher, Peace and Disarmament Programme Assistant



#### GENEVA CENTRE FOR SECURITY POLICY

- Annika Hilding Norberg, Head of Peace Operations and Peacebuilding
- Carla Laudien, Junior Professional Officer Global Support Group



#### **INTERPEACE**

• Luvini Ranasinghe, Head of Communications



#### THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

• Elena Zhelokhovtseva, Associate Expert - Office of the Director-General



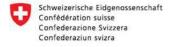
#### DCAF- GENEVA CENTRE FOR SECURITY SECTOR GOVERNANCE

- Hans Born, Assistant Director and Head of the Policy and Research Department
- Dawn Lui, Project Officer, Policy & Research Division



#### **GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE**

- Léna Menge, Manager of Strategic Partnerships and Public Relations
- Sabrina Imhof, Head of Events
- Alain Vogel, Events and Conference Coordinator



Swiss Confederation

# PERMANENT MISSION OF SWITZERLAND TO THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA

• Andrea Aeby, Counselor, Peace & Security



#### PRINCIPLES FOR PEACE FOUNDATION

• Peter Batchelor, Director Partnerships and Advocacy



#### INITIATIVES OF CHANGE CAUX FOUNDATION

 Sarah Noble, Head of Global Engagement in International Geneva



#### THE KOFI ANNAN FOUNDATION

- Maud Roure, Deputy Director for Programmes
- Karen Zamberia, Programme Officer Elections and Democracy
- Sofia Anton, Programme Manager Youth and Peace



# **THANK YOU**

As we bring the 11th edition of Geneva Peace Week to a close, we pause to express our deepest gratitude to the many individuals and organizations who made this week possible.

This year's GPW was a testament to the power of collaboration and shared commitment to peacebuilding. Over five days, we hosted 70 diverse events across ceremonies, panels, workshops, art exhibitions, and celebrations, with over 4,000 registered participants contributing to more than 6,700 session attendances. These gatherings—held at the Maison de la Paix and Palais des Nations—buzzed with energy and dialogue, enhanced by innovative tools like Al-powered interpretation, which pushed the boundaries of inclusivity and accessibility.

Geneva Peace Week is more than a series of events; it is a space for connection, innovation, and reinvigorating our collective commitment to peace.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the many who made this week an extraordinary success:

To the Founding Members of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform (GPP), which celebrated its transition to a foundation in July: the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, DCAF – the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance, the Geneva Graduate Institute, and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. Your leadership continues to be the backbone of GPW.

To our Consortium Members, including the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Quaker United Nations Office, Interpeace, the Centre on Conflict, Development, and Peacebuilding, the Principles for Peace Foundation, the Initiatives of Change Caux Foundation, and the Kofi Annan Foundation, whose collaboration has shaped this year's rich program.

To the 117 organizations that organized panels, workshops, and special events, bringing expertise and innovation to every corner of the program.

To our speakers, whose insights and stories have inspired and informed critical conversations that will echo far beyond this week.

To our sponsors, donors, and external partners, thank you for your steadfast support. Your belief in GPW ensures its continued impact year after year.

To the artists—painters, musicians, and performers, your contributions elevated the discussions and reminded us of art's unique ability to foster empathy and understanding.

To our dedicated volunteers, technical assistants, and hospitality staff, thank you for ensuring that every detail was attended to.

To the students of the Geneva Graduate Institute, your energy and behind-the-scenes efforts ensured that everything ran seamlessly. To the event teams, especially those from the Geneva Graduate Institute and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, who provided spaces for dialogue and collaboration, thank you for your support.

Finally, to all attendees who participated, whether in person or online: thank you for your engagement, insights, and commitment to peace. Your presence is what makes GPW so impactful and unique.

Thank you for being part of this journey, for your dedication to peace, and for making the 11th edition of Geneva Peace Week a resounding success. Together, we hold onto hope that by next year's GPW, we will celebrate more peaceful resolutions and the easing of suffering for those impacted by conflict.

We look forward to welcoming you again in 2025.

With gratitude,

#### **GENEVA PEACE WEEK**

A FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE OF THE GENEVA PEACEBUILDING PLATFORM

gpw@gpplatform.ch