# Interreligious and International Peace Council

## The Middle East PEACE INITIATIVE



"Addressing the Root Causes of Conflict and Forging a Path to Lasting Peace"

Sponsor:



Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace

## **MEPI International Advisory Board**

**Dr. Akbar Ahmed** Chair of Islamic Studies, American University, USA

**Rabbi David Ben Ami** American Forum for Jewish Christian Cooperation, USA

Imam Dr. M.A. Zaki Badawi Principal, The Muslim College, United Kingdom

Rabbi Itzhak Bar-Dea Chief Rabbi, Ramat Gan, Israel

**Dr.T.L. Barrett** Superintendent, Church of God in Christ, USA

**Mr. Arnaud de Borchgrave** Editor-at-Large, United Press International, USA

Rabbi David Brodman Chief Rabbi, Saviyon, Israel

**Dr. Noel J. Brown** President, Friends of the United Nations, USA

**Dr. Haitham Bundakji** Chairman, Islamic Center of Orange Country, USA

**Congressman Danny K. Davis** U.S. House of Representatives

**Imam Muhammad Elahi** Islamic House of Wisdom, USA

**Dr. Walter Fauntroy** New Bethel Baptist Church USA

**Dr. Eliezer Glaubach-Gal** Chair, Seminars on Peace Education, the I. Forder Institute for Liberal Studies, Tel Itzhak, Israel

**Senator Mike Gravel** U.S. Senate (former) **Rt. Hon. Hamilton Green** Prime Minister of Guyana (1985-1992)

**Rev. David Alan Hart** International Secretary, World Congress of Faiths, England

**H.E. Abd-Elaziz Hegazy** Prime Minister of Egypt (1974-1975)

**H.E. Steingrimur Hermannsson** Prime Minister of Iceland (1988-1991)

**Bishop C. Phillip Johnson** ACLC Chairman of Washington D.C., USA

Imam Mohammed Khan Islamic Center of New York, USA

**Dr. Nicholas N. Kittrie** Chairman, Eleanor Roosevelt Institute for Justice and Peace, USA

**Dr. Eva Latham** President, Human Rights Teaching International, The Netherlands

**Sir James Mancham** Founding President The Seychelles

**Dr. Lonnie McLeod,** Assistant Professor of Ministry, Unification Theological Seminary, Barrytown USA

**Prof. Oleg Mironov** Human Rights Commissioner of the Russian Federation

Imam Abu Namous Islamic Center of New York USA **Dr. Don Olsen** Lutheran Center for Dialogue, USA

**Bishop Aristarchos Peristeris** Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem, Israel

Imam Muhammad Qatanani Islamic Center of Passaic, USA

Imam Qazwini Islamic Center of America, USA

**Prof. Nahum Rakover,** Founder, Moreshet Institute for Jewish Law, Israel

**H.E. Stanislaw Shushkevich** President of Belarus (1991-1994)

Imam Ameer Pasha Slahud'din Islamic Center of Patterson, USA

Archbishop George A. Stallings, Founder, Imani Temple, USA

**Dr. Paul Swanson** Professor Lutheran School of Theology, USA

**Rev. Junsei Terasawa** Peace Activist, Nipponzan Myohoji, Japan

**Hon. Dan Tichon** Former Speaker of the Knesset, Israel

**H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid** President of Indonesia (1999-2001)

**Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker** Canaan Baptist Church, USA

**Ambassador Sam Zakhem** Former U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain

## Introduction

#### FOUNDERS

Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon

#### **CHAIRMAN**

**Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak** Chairman, IIFWP and IIPC

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Rev. Sun Jo Hwang** Chairman, FFWPU International

**Mr. Douglas D.M. Joo** President, The Washington Times Foundation

**Dr. Chang Shik Yang** Chairman, IIFWP-North America

#### **COMMITTEE CO-DIRECTORS**

**Rev. Michael W. Jenkins** Co-Convener, American Clergy Leadership Conference

Dr. Thomas G. Walsh Secretary General, IIFWP

#### **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

Dr. Masatoshi Abe Dr. Shuki Ben Ami Mr. Michael Balcomb Sheik Ali Naim Birani Mrs. Tomiko Duggan Mr. David Eaton Mr. James P. Flynn Prof. Eliezer Glaubach-Gal Mr. Taj Hamad Mr. Gary Jarmin **Rev. Hee Sun Ji** Mrs. Miri Kamar **Dr. Frank Kaufmann** Mr. Samer Kawas **Dr. Robert Kittel** Mr. Frank LaGrotteria Mr. Michael Marshall **Sheik Samih Natur** Hon. Walid Sadic **Rev. Phillip Schanker Dr. Baruch Shalev Rev. Yong Cheol Song** Mrs. Karen Judd-Smith **Dr. Andrew Wilson** Mr. Shunichiro Yoshida Mr. Hod Ben Zvi

n October 3, 2003, the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) sponsored the Inaugural Assembly for the Interreligious and International Peace Council (IIPC). Approximately 1500 delegates were present at the main plenary session, representing more than 160 nations from a wide range of fields, including religion, politics, the media, academia, civil society and the arts. The IIPC was launched as an organization with the mission to bring about a durable and lasting peace.

The IIFWP has consistently sponsored programs that address current crises in today's world, programs which advocate models of governance that build on the foundation of interreligious cooperation.

No institution dealing with world affairs will be effective in the long term if it does not affirm and manifest principles that recognize human nature primarily as spiritual and moral, not just as material and political. For this reason the IIFWP emphasizes practices of living for the sake of others and working sacrificially to overcome barriers dividing people. These core teachings, rooted in the vision of IIFWP's Founder, Reverend Dr. Sun Myung Moon, form the basis for the programs of IIFWP and the activities of our Ambassadors for Peace worldwide.

On the foundation of the work of the IIFWP and other affiliated organizations that have dedicated themselves to promoting peace in the Middle East, the IIPC will further the effort to address the root causes of conflict and forge the path to a lasting peace in the Middle East, utilizing a wide range of programs and interventions that include peace conferences, symposia, high-level interreligious and international summits, grass roots people-to-people interaction, cooperation with a wide range of NGOs, peace rallies, interreligious pilgrimages, and service projects.

We are at a turning point in history, a time that calls for vision, courage and leadership. Let us work together for peace.





T this critical time in history, there is need for serious examination of the existing institutions and practices of global governance. In particular, there is an urgent need for innovative models of good governance that illustrate the real potential and effectiveness of interreligious and international cooperation in addressing critical problems that face every society and nation in the world.



From its inception in 1999, the IIFWP has been advocating the establishment of an Interreligious Council as an organ of the United Nations. In this way the IIFWP works to support the United Nations, further strengthening it in its effort to solve critical global problems and, as the UN Charter explains, to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war." With this spirit, IIFWP is fully participating in two initiatives that are running parallel to each other, but on separate tracks.

With IIFWP's full support, a resolution has been prepared by the Republic of the Philippines and presented to the 58th Session of the General Assembly. This resolution proposes the establishment of a mechanism within the United Nations that allows formal representation of men and women of great spiritual wisdom, insight, experience and knowledge. This is a challenging, exciting—and necessary—endeavor.

At the same time, IIFWP is moving forward with its plan, developed at the September 2002 Convocation in New York on the International Day of Peace, to establish an Interreligious and International Peace Council (IIPC). This council is being established to demonstrate that people of diverse racial, religious and cultural backgrounds can work together and contribute in significant ways to the solution of some of our world's most serious problems.

The IIPC seeks to be a model of good governance grounded in principles of courage, unselfishness, and active volunteerism for peace. Therefore, the term "Peace UN" was coined to express this ideal. The IIPC affirms the highest spiritual and moral principles and applies them in the broadest possible way for the sake of peace and the overall well-being of humanity. Members of this Council uphold the following core principles, which are basic to the founding vision of the IIFWP:

- There is an ultimate reality, God, who is our common parent as well as the primary source of love and goodness.
- Human beings, as well as the entire cosmos, have both physical and spiritual dimensions
- Peace is rooted in the principle and practice of living for the sake of others which calls us to overcome barriers of race, religion and nationality.
- Both interreligious and international respect, harmony, and cooperation are necessary for peace to be achieved and maintained.

## Building a global culture of heart and a world of lasting peace



## **Mission Statement**

The IIPC is a global movement pursuing lasting peace as the realization of harmony, cooperation and co-prosperity among all the members of the human family, through the application of universal moral and spiritual principles.

## **Objectives**

Because a durable peace will only be realized as current thinking and practices are transformed by grounding our most fundamental perspectives in universal values, the IIPC first needs to develop a broad range of programs that underscore the need for:

- 1) Interreligious cooperation among all faith traditions as a pre-requisite for world peace,
- 2) Good governance grounded in spiritual and moral principles that underscore unselfish service, global vision, and cooperation between religious and governmental leaders, and
- 3) Human development that includes spiritual development and extends from the individual, to the family, community, society, nation and world.

### Key Action Principles

- The primary principle and cardinal virtue for peace is unselfishness, namely, the capacity and strength to live for the sake of others.
- The family is the school of true love and ethics, and is the foundation of the good society.
- Peace begins with personal transformation in relationship to God or the ultimate reality, and extends to the family, the society, the nation and the world.
- When we seek to understand our world from God's point of view, aware of our eternal spiritual life, there are no enemies, only brothers and sisters.
- Interreligious harmony and cooperation are prerequisites for peace.
- Harmony and cooperation between political and religious leaders is necessary for lasting peace.
- Through the practice of true love, divisions can be bridged, barriers overcome, and conflicting parties reconciled.
- The world is at a critical turning point; courageous, bold and unselfish leadership is needed if peace is to be achieved.
- Coercive force yields only an interruption in conflict, and violence offers no lasting solution; peace is built on the foundation of true love and service.

#### Sponsorship and Governance

The IIPC is sponsored by the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace. Its principles and programs are guided by a Council of distinguished members representing each continent and all major regions, and religions of the world. The IIPC Councilors are themselves Ambassadors for Peace on the global level who adhere to and exemplify the core principles of IIPC. IIPC has its headquarters in New York, USA, and has regional headquarters, and well as national branches around the world.

## Peace in the Middle East

## The Middle East PEACE INITIATIVE

IFWP formally launched its Middle East Peace Initiative (MEPI) with an international consultation held on February 27-March 2, 2003, in Washington, DC, called, Beyond Coexistence Toward a New Culture of Peace: Focus on the Middle East. That and subsequent consultations have been designed to offer a broad approach to the challenges facing the Middle East with a focus on bringing religious leaders to the table along with political, academic and activist experts. The issues range from deeply detailed reflections on Israel and Palestine to broader, theoretical reflections on the clash of, or dialogue among, civilizations.

We seek to create a balance between realistic and idealistic approaches, neither naive nor afraid to dream. Peace is envisioned not as a fragile absence of war, but as a harmonious human family, with respect and loving relationships among all its members. Furthermore, we recognize that the current brutal realities that exist can be resolved through serious, methodical application of key universal principles of human reconciliation and restoration grounded in a profound understanding of the root causes of conflict and violence.

IIPC's parent organization, the IIFWP, has already made significant strides. Its conferences have brought together leading Israeli and Palestinian religious and political leaders for dialogues, culminating with warm, if cautious, embraces and joyous expressions of their earnest hopes for peace. In 2003 it sponsored rallies and peace marches in Jerusalem, including two unprecedented peace walks by upwards of 400 Jews, Christians and Muslims who prayed together at the city's holy sites—from the Western Wall sacred to Jews to the Al Aqsa' Mosque on the Temple Mount that is sacred to Muslims.

#### LONDON, UK, AUGUST 3-5, 2002





The IIPC's affiliated organization, the American Clergy Leadership Conference, the largest interfaith clergy organization in America, spearheaded these early efforts, bringing large groups of Christian, Jewish and Muslim clergy to the Middle East despite the personal challenges and dangerous environment they faced. They expressed love and support for both Jews and Muslims and a commitment to the cause of peace. They walked the streets of Jerusalem and Gaza. Many of these clergy are veterans of the American civil rights movement and carry with them the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Their dedication, activism and perspectives on peacemaking have been instructive to both sides.

IIPC features an extensive presence in the Muslim world, including the support of former Indonesian president Abdurrahman Wahid and encourages developing the movement for lasting peace among the Palestinian people. The ACLC's donation of computers to a school in Gaza led to expressions of support from Chairman Arafat.

On this foundation, the IIPC is using all its resources for a major peace effort in the Middle East, which will include nationwide rallies for peace in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Gaza. It is hoped that these events will be the catalyst for a major new endeavor to bring peace to the troubled region. These efforts can further encourage other civil society initiatives such as the Geneva Accord and the new US "National Interreligious Leadership Initiative for Peace in the Middle East" that is encouraging the White House to make "more active and determined" efforts for peace in the Middle East.



As an non-profit organization with limited resources, IIFWP has nonetheless committed itself totally to seek peace in the Middle East. Just in 2003 alone, 16 projects were conducted with a focus on peace and reconciliation within the family of Abraham. 3 0 February 4-7, 2003, World Summit on Leadership and Governance, Seoul, Korea 0 February 27-March 2, 2003, Middle East Peace Initiative Consultations, Washington, DC 2 May 8, 2003, Briefing on DC MEPI Consultations to UN Missions, UNHQ, New York Ζ May 15-19, 2003, Interreligious & International Peace Pilgrimage I, Jerusalem & Gaza, Israel S June 19, 2003, Briefing on MEPI Outcomes in Jerusalem to UN Missions, UNHQ, NY Σ 4 ٣



**MEPI** Programs in 2003

July-August 2003, The World at a Turning Point: one-day seminar in 154 countries, with representation from 194 nations.

July 10-14, 2003, Assembly 2003: Governance at a Turning Point, Asan, Korea

August 11-16, 2003, Summit of World Leaders: The World at a Turning Point: Focus on Religion and Governance, Seoul, Korea

<u>September 16-24, 2003</u>, Interreligious & International Peace Pilgrimage II, Jerusalem & Gaza

September 30, 2003, UN Briefing on Interreligious & International Peace Pilgrimage II, New York, USA



<u>October 1-3, 2003</u>, *IIPC Inauguration and Peace Under One God (Peace March and Rally)*, Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, New York

October 18-24, 2003, Interreligious & International Peace Pilgrimage III, Jerusalem & Gaza

<u>October 23, 2003</u>, Gift of computers to Beit Shemesh and to the Palestinian National Youth Organization (renamed Sun Moon Cultural Center)

December 1-23, 2003, International Task Force Mobilization, Egypt, Israel, Jordon and Palestine

<u>December 19-23, 2003</u>, Considering the Root Causes of Conflict and the Path to Lasting Peace Symposium, Jerusalem, Israel

### Peace in the Middle East

Uniquely, the Interreligious and International Peace Council includes in its peace initiatives, projects and programs with a religious and reconciliatory dimension along with economic, political and social considerations. Additionally, these interventions assume that successful conflict resolution and prevention ultimately depends upon the actions of each and every person. While the scope of influence of an individual will vary according to their particular sphere of influence, durable peace will require sound education for the ways and means of peace for all people.

IIPC's approach to this global crisis is innovative. Perhaps what speaks loudest about this approach is that in September of this year the Al Aqsa' Mosque hosted the first international







and interreligious gathering since the second intifiada of October 2001. Supporting this breakthrough, IIPC initiatives have repeatedly gathered together people from the three Abrahamic faiths. Jews, Christians and Muslims have reconciled their past histories of enmity and recommitted to one another with a new vision of peace for the Middle East.

Peace-building has not been approached from this angle in any substantial way before. IIPC initiated a unique process that starts from the most "internal" points of convergence—from the most profound and critical convictions that Jehovah/God/Allah is the one Origin and Source of all, and whose Will is for peace and prosperity, not for violence, poverty or hatred. This becomes the core and starting point for the peace process.

## **Guiding Principles**

We believe that:

- True and long-lasting solutions must integrate the spiritual and physical dimensions of human life.
- An Original Cause created this physical, relational, ordered, harmonious world, which is imbued with value and meaning and is rooted in and expressed, above all, through love.
- Love means living for the sake of others. The family is the school of love, where spouses, parents, children, and siblings learn all forms of ideal love, which can be extended throughout society and forms the basis for our public and private lives.
- Evil is not eternal or inevitable but, rather, is a tragic condition that can be overturned and transformed through human effort.
- Solutions to problems must involve all parts of life, including morality, the family, society, politics, culture, the workplace, the economy, and religious and spiritual life.

Further, IIPC recognizes that without a significant change of heart on behalf of people on both sides, the actions of building peace will, in time, amount to little more than another failed endeavor. In fact, IIPC maintains that an indispensable element of this peace effort must begin with the transformation of the human heart. This internal revolution, fueled by the commonness of God, builds family bonds among the sons of Abraham, thereby bringing significant changes in attitudes, allowing each to expand the capacity of his or her own heart to respond and work towards the innate universal desire for peace. The depth of heart of these encounters brings tears to the eyes of the members of Abraham's family as they rediscover their common heritage.



Gaza, October 18 - 24, 2003

#### *"True and long-lasting solutions must integrate the spiritual and physical dimensions of human life."*

Pursuing such solutions is not simple. However, terror and violence will remain if the historical-religious divisions are not resolved at such deeply human levels. Politics alone

cannot effect such change. These efforts will require a special kind of leadership—by those with the courage and vision to lead people relentlessly toward peace, undeterred by the violence and depravity that calls for revenge.

The IIPC efforts are beginning to see a degree of success and change in communities in the region and beyond. This intervention calls upon and draws out "contributions" from people in both Israel and Palestine and from shores far a-field. By forging partnerships for peace on a person-to-person, family-to-family, religious leader-to-religious leader level, the core of a community beyond boarders and barriers is formed. The contributions being made cannot be measured in terms of dollars or documents...but their effect is being felt. These fragile beginnings are taking root and are in great need of being nourished and supported.

#### **Restoring the Family of Abraham**

Grounded in the above fundamentals, IIPC's efforts at this time could best be described as "The Restoration of the Family of Abraham" and has three components:

Component I: includes consultations, conferences, roundtables, grassroots programs,

#### Seoul Declaration, August 11-16, 2003



peace walks and seminars, giving all people the opportunity to come together on "common ground"—recalling our common origins, convergent aspirations and unique contributions as individuals and members of various religions and nationalities. By establishing our common origins, ancestry and desired destination (a world of peace), and by recounting that we are all acting within a set of universal principles at play in our lives, we can then start another critical part of the process.

**Component II:** seeks to establish recognition of accountability to a "higher" source—one to whom all are equally accountable. By recognizing past grievous actions on all sides, what becomes most critical is that each person commits to constructive, selfgiving preventive actions rather than resentment and revenge. To accomplish this phase quite literally requires each person to





genuinely turn and face their God. Then to seek and adopt that point of view as their own, as a sign of submission to, or faith in, or obedience to Him.

**Component III:** builds solidarity to strengthen the tenuous "new beginning" of the first two phases. Actions will take the form of interreligious and international cooperation guided by the needs of



the "larger good." In other words, we will start to see the emergence of one "family of Abraham" seeking the greatest opportunities for peace and prosperity for all in the region.

### Heart-to-Heart Rally for Peace

Historically enlightened religious leadership has been crucial to the advancement of justice and morality, from the movements to abolish slavery and end colonial oppression to the movement for civil rights. Why do we march and rally for peace? In biblical times, Joshua led the Israelites on a march around the city of Jericho, bringing down the walls. In modern times, Gandhi's march to the sea grew from hundreds to thousands, overcoming skepticism and derision, and sparked a movement that touched the conscience of the world, leading to Indian independence. In 1963 when an American president refused to consider civil rights legislation, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. marched on Washington, DC with hundreds of thousands of freedom-loving Americans of many races who shared a dream, and changed the course of American history.

We, too, share a dream, and if we march together as never before in history we, too, can "bring down the walls" of resentment, prejudice and hatred, heal the wounds of war, and change the course of history. Whether Jewish, Moslem, Christian or Druze, the leaders of the world, and all who love and long for peace, will demonstrate that the power to create peace lies in the hands of those of us who truly love God and love our fellow human beings, those who will to join us to proclaim with one voice, "Peace! Shalom! Salaam Alaikum!"

#### The IIPC's Philosophy of Peacemaking

The IIPC sees peace as the establishment of a permanent condition of prosperity, joy, equality of opportunity, and respect for every person and every family. It is predicated upon the removal of enmity and historical resentment. Peace is characterized by giving more than receiving, a common respect for the origin of life, and by a life lived for the greater social good and support for all.

#### *"An essential precondition for peace is reconciliation among religious leaders of Judaism, Christianity and Islam."*

The key to peace lies with God, who is the Parent of humankind and the Revealer of each of the monotheistic religions. Therefore, an essential precondition for peace is reconciliation among religious leaders of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, along with their commitment to work in

solidarity for peace and understanding among their peoples. Violence and conflict form the saddest chapters of human history. The IIPC encourages parties to express their legitimate grievances in non-violent ways as part of a social dialogue aimed at helping the sides to understand each other and to have compassion for each other's suffering.

Religious leaders and believers are those whom history would expect to respond first and having opened the way, would then encourage others to follow. The accomplishment of peace is in large part a spiritual undertaking. Good will and trust must be generated in order to change the political atmosphere and to give governments the political will to make the sacrifices that meaningful peace entails. This calls for leadership from religious leaders to generate a spiritual atmosphere of reconciliation and good will. Political and social leaders, educators and the media, should collaborate with enlightened religious leaders to promote and extend that spirit throughout the society.

## **Partnerships for Peace**

New hope needs to be installed in the hearts and minds of the religious leaders no less so than in the hearts and minds of all people, including political leaders. This is where the support from international religious leaders is so important; they can catalyze the process.

Much of the preliminary work of the MEPI has been to create the necessary international support system and foundation for the overall IIPC strategy. Without this tremendous level of support from outside, those in the region will not be able to take the necessary, life-threatening steps to peace. The support that comes from "outside" must be a total



September 16-24, 2003

investment, i.e. "at the cost of their lives." Otherwise, it will not be taken seriously. Persistence, commitment, sacrifices are needed. Financial sacrifices are needed to enable this process and mobilization to move forward, just not from governments, but from the people and families all over the world.

Under the banner of the IIPC, a series of gatherings and peace walks "re-establishing the Family of Abraham" will take place, binding together hearts, families, nationalities—and faiths—in partnerships for peace.



## *Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace*

HE mission of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) is to work cooperatively with individuals and global institutions to create world peace. As a global peace movement, IIFWP sees the family as the foundation of, model for, and one of the most basic instruments for creating world peace. Rooted in the universal moral values of unselfish service, its programs engender a transformation of heart for individuals, families, societies, and nations by advancing the global ethic of "living for the sake of others." Volunteers, activists, and leaders from diverse religious, national, ethical and professional backgrounds have joined together to build what has been the hope of all ages—a worldwide culture of peace and prosperity.

#### Co-sponsors

#### American Clergy Leadership Conference

HE American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) is a broad-based coalition of 14,000 Christian, Muslim, and Jewish clergy dedicated to three fundamental principles: rebuild the family, restore the community, and renew the nation and the world. Working to protect marriage and end divorce, the ACLC completed the Interreligious and International Marriage Blessing of 144,000 clergy couples in 2002, expanding to millions throughout the world.

#### The Washington Times Foundation



HE Washington Times Foundation, established in 1984, is a not-for-profit organization devoted to encouraging the highest ideals in cultural standards and public-mindedness. The Foundation has developed programs, particularly in the areas of media and journalism, to promote the principles of family, freedom, and faith. To achieve its mission, the Foundation sponsors programs in support of four major goals: world peace, religious and racial harmony, restoration of the stable two-parent family, and community interaction.

#### United Press International Foundation



HE United Press International Foundation (UPI Foundation) was created out of a sense of public responsibility to contribute to the betterment of society. Recognizing a media company's natural affinity with education, the UPI Foundation sponsors public service activities for educational and charitable purposes. The purpose is the broad public dissemination of educational information that serves the moral development of youth, that strengthens marriages and that builds bridges between races and cultures.

## **Coalition of Affiliated Organizations**



Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. This federation is a network of families, from every race, religion, and culture, united in the belief that, centered on God's love, happy marriages and successful families are the

cornerstone to solving the most fundamental problems of society. At a grassroots level, FFWPU chapters have initiated a worldwide marriage and rededication movement that has reached hundreds of millions of couples. www.familyfed.org



**Federation of Island Nations for World Peace**. Island nations play an important role in fostering peace and prosperity by promoting good tourism, creating technologies that foster sustainable oceanic and seafood

enterprises, and combating global warming—which threatens the very existence of many island states. The FINWP collaborates with governmental organizations and NGOs to build strong bridges of sisterhood and cooperation between island and oceanic nations.



**Federation for World Peace**. The Federation for World Peace was formally founded in parallel with the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace (see below) in August 1991 and provides education that enhances respect for human rights

and universal values while creating forums in common pursuit to problems facing the world today.



International Educational Foundation. In all nations and cultures, young people are encouraged to attain maturity of character, establish warm and positive relationships and make a valuable contribution to their community. The IEF works collaboratively with educators and community leaders

throughout the world to promote education of the heart, head and hands. It advocates a multi-dimensional approach that includes character education, marriage and family education, service learning, and characterbased prevention programs. www.internationalcharacter.org



**International Coalition for Religious Freedom**. ICRF is non-profit, non-sectarian, educational organization dedicated to realizing the vision of religious freedom found in Article 18 of the UN's Universal Declaration of Human

Rights which reads: Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, alone or in community with others, and, in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance. www.religiousfreedom.com



**International Relief and Friendship Foundation**. Since its founding in 1975, IRFF has provided humanitarian aid in the form of food, medical supplies, school supplies, and clothing to people hit by catastrophe around the world. In addition, IRFF has focused on long-term development projects in the

areas of health care and nutrition, literacy, as well as vocational and agricultural education. The strength of this foundation has been the ability to empower people with a means to create an ethos of living for the sake of others. www.iifwp.org/About/IRFEshtml



**Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace**. Along with the International Religious Foundation, the IRFWP has invested in seeking solutions to world peace through interreligious dialogue and harmony for over two decades.

With the active support from its seven Presidents, who are recognized leaders from major world religions, IRFWP has directed its resources for both conflict prevention and healing, including emergency intervention to stem the outbreak of violence and creating environments for harmonious dialogue and understanding this includes leading interfaith pilgrimages, organizing and conducting community service projects worldwide, and offering relief to the world's needy. www.irfwp.org



**Professors World Peace Academy**. An interdisciplinary and intercultural network of scholars with chapters in over one-hundred countries, the PWPA supports the academic community in the quest for peace, social stability, and

prosperity. PWPA has organized thousands of conferences and publishes *The International Journal of World Peace*. www.pwpa.org



**Religious Youth Service**. Initiated in 1985, RYS promotes the twin ideals of interreligious harmony and public service. Youth leaders of various faiths and nationalities come together for social service projects to serve a needy

community. As they offer their time, labor, sweat, and tears to help others, they develop deep friendships that transcend their religious and cultural differences. Serving others is the key to interreligious peace. www.iifwp.org/About/RYS.shtml



**Summit Council for World Peace**. Founded in 1981, the Summit Council is an organization whose core membership comprises former heads of state and heads of government. The Council seeks to avail itself of the extraordinary wealth

of knowledge, intelligence, and goodwill of these leaders as it seeks solutions to the problems from grassroots to global concerns. These efforts has spawned initiatives to promote peace, and develop new equitable economic paradigms for the 21st century. www.members.aol.com/scwpeace



**Women's Federation for World Peace**. Since 1992 the WFWP is empowering women to create peace at home

as well as in our communities, cultures, and world. WFWP seeks to focus the unique nurturing skills of women to provide leadership, promote peace, and serve, thereby, conceiving social change through the logic of love. Granted NGO general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in 1997, WFWP facilitates partnerships among women. www.wfwp.org



**World Media Association**. An international forum for media professionals and opinion leaders dedicated to advancing the highest standards of journalistic ethics.

it promotes freedom of the press in places where it does not exist, and encourages the responsible use of that freedom where it does. Fact-finding tours and World Media Conferences since 1978 have examined the media's role in the larger context of social values. www.wmassociation.com/index.html





**Youth Federation for World Peace**. Delegates from 164 nations inaugurated the YFWP in July 1994. This organization addresses the crisis in values among today's youth by affirming altruistic service that transcends human

boundaries and is rooted in recognition of our common spiritual origin. Programs include: scholarships, international exchanges, leadership programs, service projects, and character education curricula. www.yfwp.or.kr



#### Interreligious and International Peace Council



#### Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace

155 White Plains Road, Suite 204 Tarrytown, NY 10591, U.S.A. Phone (914) 631-1331 Fax: (914) 631-1308 iifwp@iifwp.org

www.IIFWP.org





ND INTERNATIONAL RALLT FOR

