

WFWP Zurich, Switzerland's Launch of Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN)

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An enthusiastic audience of women and men filled the impressive hall of St. Anton's Church in Zürich for this inaugural event to launch the Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN) in Switzerland.

Many faiths were represented including the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Organische Christus Generation, Hindu Temple, Buddhist Vihara community, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and Evangelical Vineyard church, and other social groups such as Afghanistan Hilfe, Schweizerische Stiftung Band Jugendhilfe, Esperanza Centro Social de Mayores, La Leche League, Internationales Komitee für die Indigenen Amerikas (Incomindios) and Reseau Interculturelle des Femmes. Also, Mrs Katharina Stöckli, who is the daughter of Mr. Hans Stöckli, member of the Nationalrat, attended.

Members of Women's Federation for World Peace, Switzerland supported the event with beautiful decorations of the tables and stage area, preparation of food, welcoming guests and many other duties behind the scenes!

Mrs. Goya Ordonez-Cheytanov, President of WPWP Switzerland, cordially welcomed all guests, followed by Mrs. Carolyn Handschin, President of WFWP Europe, who gave a presentation of the aims of GWPN. An introductory video of WFWP activities worldwide was shown, portraying its countless efforts in creating one world living in harmony and peace.

A music performance by Mrs. Wullschleger brought a beautiful peaceful atmosphere in the hall, and then the speakers of the three sessions each introduced their topic.

1. Mrs. Meera Szegvary – The divine dignity of women
2. Mrs. Anni Sasek of the OCG – The family as the school of love and a foundation for a healthy society
3. Mr. Heiner Handschin of UPF – education of children - what are the rights of the State and the family and how do they work together?



Everyone divided into three groups, and a lively discussion was followed by valuable feedback from each group. It was an opportune occasion to make new friendships with women from different scopes of society.

Eight people were recognized for their valuable contribution to world peace and were nominated as "Ambassadors for Peace."

Before closing the event, the public was invited to sign a resolution. Finally, an inspiring call to support each other and work in cooperation was given by WFPW Switzerland President Mrs. Ordonez-Cheytanov, and small gifts and flowers were offered to all women as a sign of gratitude and friendship.

Reported by Jeanne Metz
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