

UPF Berlin, Germany: Who Pacifies - Politics or Religion?

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Four speakers presented their thoughts on this - UPF Peace Ambassador Mr. Ali Alinc, who is in charge of ZWWA e.V. (Zivilisation - Weisheit - Wohltätigkeit - Aufschwung) in Berlin, Peace Ambassador Dr. Xhavit Sadrijaj, former defense attaché of the Kosovo embassy in Berlin, Ms. Lily Fichtner, who represented the Baha'i community in Berlin, and Ms. Gudrun Hassinen of UPF.

Guests listened with rapt attention as each speaker set unique accents, yet all concluded that peace ultimately depends on the inner attitude of individuals. After the speeches, religion was the clear "winner" of the initial question - emphasising living faith leading to loving actions - because religions, represented by individuals, can also lead to conflict and war.

While for three speakers, peace is, in principle, very possible - if only more people could start the personal process of character and heart development and thus show more respect for others and will to cooperate - Dr Sadrijaj looked back on 30 years of personal suffering Balkan crises that make true peace seem more like a dream.

After the presentations, everyone sat together for a long time with coffee and cake to talk and exchange about the topic.

Photos: Begoña Monzebe Garcia, Text: Bernd Flieger, Gudrun Hassinen