

WFWP & UPF Rome, Italy's conference: Freedom of Faith, Belief and Conscience

Elisabetta Nistri
December 10, 2024



The conference, held at the European Parliament Office in Rome on December 10, 2024, focused on "Freedom of faith, belief, and conscience: challenges and achievements for a culture of peace." This was organized by UPF Italy, WFWP Italy, LIREC, and the European Parliament Office in Italy, and the event celebrated World Human Rights Day.



Key speakers highlighted the importance of protecting rights and freedoms for peace. Carlo Zonato, UPF Italy president, emphasized the spiritual dimension of peace. Carlo Corazza, Head of the European Parliament Office in Italy, stressed the EU's commitment to justice and human dignity. Raffaella Di

Marzio, director of the LIREC Study Center, explained that her association is "committed to promoting respect for all forms of diversity, whether spiritual, religious or not," she then emphasized the importance of placing the values of equality above differences. Elisabetta Nistri advocated for respect for all forms of diversity and the active role of women in peacebuilding.



Elisabetta Nistri, president of WFWP Italy, expressed the conviction that "women are the expression of the feminine dimension of God and are called to rediscover their divine nature. Thanks to their sensitivity, attention to the needs of others and the natural inclination to forgiveness typical of the maternal heart, they can actively contribute to the construction of peace and the improvement of collective well-being." She ended her speech with a call to all women and men to listen to their original divine nature, and nurture it so that with God's help we can build the world of peace that is everybody's dream.

Franco Ravaglioli, UPF Italy vice president, discussed the universal elements of all religions and the value of living for others. Davide Romano, Director of the Conscience and Freedom Magazine, called for state neutrality in religious matters, ensuring all faiths can express their principles. Antonio Stango, FIDU president, Marco Respinti, representative of the media's world, journalist and Editor-in-Chief of Bitter Winter, warned against state oppression and the media's role in protecting religious freedom.

Nader Akkad, Imam of the Great Mosque of Rome, appealed for legal recognition of communities without state agreements. Luis Miguel Perea Castrillon, Bishop of the Anglican Church of Europe, underscored the right to freely manifest one's faith. Rabbi Roberto Della Rocca, director of the UCEI Department of Culture and Education, emphasized the equal dignity of all religions and the value of diversity. Stefano Ceccanti, professor of Comparative Public Law at La Sapienza University, noted that the issue of religious freedom is closely connected to the presence of institutions that guarantee its pluralism.

The event concluded with a call for continued dialogue and reflection.

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Reported by Elisabetta Nistri
WFWP Italy President