

Seminar: Women and Youth Building Peace

Sept 4th 2017, 8.30-12.15
Helsinki City Hall: Empiresali

The World needs radical actions and brave initiatives in maintaining and building sustainable and just peace. In tables, where peace treaties are negotiated, less than 5 % of the participants are women. From this perspective, giving a voice to women and youth is quite radical.

Peace Education Institute and Felm have the honour of bringing together 10 robust professionals in peace building to share their experiences, insights and expertise on peace processes in different political and social contexts around the world. All speakers in this seminar are women.

In 2000, the UN Security council adopted the Resolution 1325 on Women and Peace and Security to reaffirm and promote women's role in maintenance and promotion of peace and security. 15 years later it adopted the Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, recognizing the contribution young people can make to preventing conflict and sustaining peace.

What do these resolutions mean in practice and how are women and youth participating in peace processes in Africa, Middle East, South America and in Europe?

The seminar also closes Pedal for Peace, a peace seminar on bikes that gathered 50 women peace builders and activists around the world to share their experiences and expertise in demilitarized islands of Ahvenanmaa.

Programme:

Coffee 8.30-9.00

Opening words 9.00-9.10

Riikka Jalonen, Executive Director, RKI: Women, Youth and Peace. What are UNSCR 1325 and 2250 and why do they matter?

Perspectives from Different Parts of the World: Women and Youth as Peace Builders in Africa, Middle East and South America 9.10-10.15

Johanna Poutanen, Senior Manager, CMI: What does women's participation in peace building mean in practice? Examples from the field in different continents.

Sara Cristina Lara Gonzalez, Human right advisor, IELCO, Felm's partner in Colombia: The role of women and youth in Colombian peace process.

Minna Saarnivaara, Project Manager, Syria Initiative, Felm: Women working towards sustainable and just peace in the Middle East.

BREAK 10.15-10.30

Inclusive Peace Building in Europe: The Practice Outcomes from Pedal for Peace, biking peace seminar in Ahvenanmaa 10.30-11.30

Samia Hathroubi, France, Director of Coexister Youth Organisation

Detta Regan, UK, founder of the Follow the Women -network

Kety Zhvania-Tyson, Georgia, Youth worker in Sunny House

The situation in Finland: How the City of Helsinki is promoting peace in practice? 11.30-12.15

Nasima Razmyar, Deputy Mayor of Culture and Leisure, City of Helsinki

Anneli Portman, project coordinator of Minun silmin, Sinun silmin, City Executive Office / Safety and Preparedness Unit, City of Helsinki

12.15 Closing words