



WOMEN'S FEDERATION

FOR WORLD PEACE EUROPE
& MIDDLE EAST

Global Women's Peace Network
22nd Annual Women's Leadership Conference
"Pathways to Peace and Development through Women's Initiatives"

October 24-26, 2025, Venue: Mak Albania Hotel, Tirana, Albania

Speakers' Information

Friday, October 24th – Opening Banquet



Ms. Katerina Minolari, WFWP President, Albania

Born in Poland and based in Albania for over 25 years, Ms. Minolari leads WFWP Albania, initiating programs in youth capacity building, character education, gender equality, and environmental awareness. She holds a Master's in Art History from the University of Warsaw and teaches art and humanities, specializing in curriculum design and academic research.



Ms. Mitty Tohma, WFWP Europe and Middle East President, UK

Ms. Mitty Tohma serves on the WFWP International Executive Board and leads WFWP Europe and the Middle East, overseeing initiatives in 70 countries. Based in the UK, she has organized major conferences in the UK and EU Parliaments, advocating for women's rights, family values, and education that empowers women with integrity and humanitarian purpose.



H.E. Senida Mesi, Former Deputy Prime Minister, Albania

H.E. Senida Mesi is an economist and academic who served as Albania's Deputy Prime Minister (2017–2019). She has led reforms in public administration, digital transformation, and gender equality. A former Member of Parliament, she continues mentoring young professionals and advancing women's leadership and sustainable development across Albania and the wider region.



Ms. Moriko Hori, WFWP International President, Japan

Ms. Moriko Hori is the International President of WFWP and Director of International Service, overseeing over 100 cooperation projects. With degrees from Columbia and Waseda Universities, she specializes in Japan-Korea reconciliation studies and peace education. She also serves as Senior Researcher at the Institute for Peace Policies and Co-President of the Council for Korean Reunification.



Ms. Shqipe Zani, Soprano and Professor of Vocal Arts, Albania

Ms. Shqipe Zani is a celebrated Albanian soprano and professor at the University of Arts in Tirana. Former soloist at the National Theatre of Opera and Ballet, she has performed leading roles in Tosca, La Bohème, and Il Trovatore. With over four decades in music, she holds the honorary title “Mjeshtër i Madh” for her cultural contributions.

Saturday, October 25th – Session One A



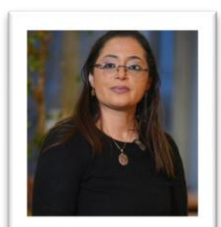
Ms. Rosaleen Bloomsfield, Transformational Coach & Trainer, UK

Founder of Real Radiant Life, Ms. Bloomsfield is a transformational leadership coach specializing in women’s authority and wellbeing. With experience in corporate IT and entrepreneurial education, she integrates yoga, meditation, and deep coaching to help women overcome inner barriers, build resilience, and lead with calm confidence and authentic power.



Ms. Britta Houston, WFWP President, Sweden

Ms. Britta Houston leads WFWP Sweden and co-directs the North East Europe region. For over 25 years, she has worked with women’s networks in Malmö and nationally, while serving as a district nurse for the elderly. She values her multicultural family roots spanning the US, Sweden, and Brazil and is devoted to fostering compassion in leadership.



Dr. Aicha Bacha, President, European Center for Development and Geostrategic Studies and Analysis, Belgium

Dr. Aicha Bacha is a journalist and scholar specializing in migration, women’s empowerment, and peacebuilding. She holds a Ph.D. in social and political sciences from the Université Libre de Bruxelles and has researched the role of mothers of jihadists. As President of the European Center for Development and Geostrategic Studies, she champions women’s social and economic leadership.



Ms. Klajda Gjoshaj, Senior Expert on Leadership, Good Governance and EU Accession Process, Albania

Ms. Klajda Gjoshaj, former Albanian Minister of European Integration, holds degrees in Politics, International Relations, and European Studies from the University of Reading, UK. She has served as Deputy Minister and Member of Parliament, advancing gender equality and European integration. Currently, she advises on good governance, partnerships, and sustainable institutional reform.

Saturday, October 25th – Continuation of Session One



Ms. Nada Harward, Honorary Consul, Bath Spa University, Associate Lecturer, Lebanon

Currently based in the UK, Ms. Harward is an Associate Lecturer in International Relations at Bath Spa University and the French Honorary Consul for Bristol, Bath & the Southwest. With experience at the United Nations, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi, and other global institutions, she brings extensive expertise in international law, diplomacy, gender, and human rights across four continents



Ms. Olga Vakulinskaya, WFWP President, Russia

A graduate of Moscow State Linguistic University, Ms. Vakulinskaya is a certified German and English teacher and has served as WFWP President of Russia since 2011. A specialist in moral education, she has conducted family and youth programs for over 25 years. Founder of the “Angels of Peace” ensemble, she promotes peace through art and literature, and is a proud mother and grandmother.

Session One B



Ms. Stella Harris, Technology & Governance Professional, UK

Ms. Stella Harris is a Technology and Data Governance professional in the banking and finance sector, and an advocate for women's and girls' education and empowerment. Overcoming an underprivileged background, she dedicates her life to advancing equal educational opportunities. As a Women's Global Peace Ambassador for WFWPI, she champions education and rights for girls in underserved communities worldwide.



Ms. María Jesús Cañellas, Journalist, Spanish TV Producer & Director, Spain

Ms. Cañellas is an award-winning journalist, producer, and director at Spanish Radio and Television (RTVE). Over her career, she has produced more than 200 documentaries on global conflicts and human stories. A graduate of the Complutense University of Madrid and the Sorbonne, she is deeply committed to peace, gender equality, and education and recently authored *Mil maneras de cogernos de la mano*.



Mr. Gabor Vasmatics, IT Professional, Software Developer, Albania

Born in Hungary, Mr. Vasmatics graduated from Széchenyi István University with a degree in Computer Engineering. Living in Albania since 2007, he co-created the country's first robot while teaching at Pavaresia University. Currently a software engineer at Produkte AI he balances his passion for technology, photography, and strategy games with being a dedicated husband and father of three.



Ms. Elsa Rustaj, Software Developer, Graduate Program Associate at Vodafone, Albania

Ms. Rustaj is a tech innovator passionate about problem-solving and women's empowerment. A graduate of Holberton School's Full Stack Web Development program, she now works at Vodafone Albania. Through her involvement in youth organizations and startup competitions, she promotes creativity, resilience, and collaboration, inspiring young women to pursue technology careers with confidence and purpose.



Ms. Mandeep Kaur Sanghera, OBE, Award-winning Philanthropist, UK

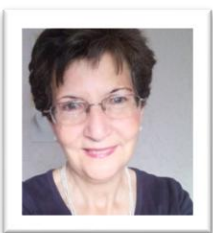
Ms. Sanghera is a globally recognized human rights activist and philanthropist advocating for social justice and gender equality. She has addressed the U.S. House of Representatives and contributed to UK government policies on modern slavery and forced marriage. Known for her humanitarian work supporting refugees, she is also a leading voice in ethical AI and inclusive technology practices.

Session Two



Ms. Marcia de Abreu, WFWP President, Spain

President of WFWP Spain for over 20 years, Ms. de Abreu has extensive experience organizing conferences, seminars, sisterhood ceremonies, and charity events focused on women's empowerment. Originally from Brazil, she holds a degree in Sociology from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and a Master's in Religious Education from the Unification Theological Seminary, New York. She currently serves as Secretary General for WFWP Europe & Middle East.



Ms. Tirzi Martin, Author, Senior Adviser WFWP, France

Born in Jerusalem and raised on a kibbutz, Ms. Martin's upbringing was rooted in service, community, and creativity. After military service as a nurse, she studied fine arts in Jerusalem and later comparative religion in the U.S. A certified Body Code practitioner since 2014, she helps individuals heal emotional trauma. Her 2024 book, *Communications with Heaven*, shares spiritual messages of guidance and hope.



Ms. Fatma Karaj, Head of Women's Office, Muslim Community of Albania

Ms. Karaj earned her degrees in Theology in Bursa, Turkey, and served as a theologian at the Madrasah of Tirana from 2010 to 2012. Since 2012, she has directed the Women's Office of the Muslim Community of Albania and sits on the Executive Board of the Interreligious Council of Albania. A dedicated mother of two, she advocates interfaith dialogue under the theme 'Interfaith Harmony in Albania and the Role of the Women's Office'.



Ms. Majlinda Lacaj, Director of Historical Museum, Shkodra, Albania

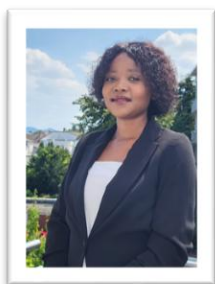
Ms. Lacaj is Director of the Historical Museum of Shkodër and a National Coordinator for EAS. With over two decades of experience in cultural heritage and UNESCO programs, she promotes sustainable tourism and women's innovation. Founder of AlbSmartFolk and Ambassador for Peace, she advances intercultural dialogue and will speak on religious harmony as a cornerstone for peace and community resilience.



Ms. Moriko Hori, WFPW International President, Japan

Ms. Hori is the International President of WFPW and Director of International Service, overseeing more than 100 global cooperation projects. A graduate of Columbia and Waseda Universities, she specializes in Japan-Korea reconciliation and peace education. She is also Senior Researcher at the Institute for Peace Policies and Co-President of the Council for Korean Reunification.

Session Three



Ms. Kefilwe Lebepe, WFWPI Young Professionals, Germany

Ms. Lebepe, originally from South Africa and now based in Bonn, joined WFPW in 2008. With a Bachelor of Commerce in Economics from the University of South Africa, she has worked in banking and foreign exchange and now serves as an analyst for a socio-economic development organization. Passionate about youth empowerment, she enjoys reading, beadwork, and community development projects.



Ms. Anelli Jätteenmäki, Former Prime Minister, Finland

Ms. Jätteenmäki is a Finnish lawyer and politician who became Finland's first female Prime Minister in 2003. A member of Parliament since 1987 and later an MEP (2004–2019), she focused on justice, environment, and international cooperation. She now chairs her city parliament and the Finnish-Swedish Cultural Fund. Outside politics, she enjoys Nordic walking, reading, and cross-country skiing.



Ms. Rahela Siddiqui, Founder, Rahela Trust and Omid International, Afghanistan

Ms. Siddiqui is a humanitarian and founder of Rahela Trust, Omid International, and other initiatives advancing Afghan women's education, leadership, and economic empowerment. A former Senior Advisor at the Civil Service Commission, she has collaborated with UN-Habitat, DFID, USAID, and OXFAM, championing gender equality, governance reform, and peacebuilding through education and capacity development.



Ms. Anila Prethi, Journalist & Founder of EchoPodcasts, WFP Representative, Albania

Anila Prethi is a journalist and activist dedicated to empowering women and advancing their role in society. She contributes to projects that promote gender equality and women's participation in decision-making. Founder and host of EchoPodcast, she highlights stories of family, gender challenges, and women's resilience. Her work reflects the belief that media and activism can serve as bridges for change, giving women greater voice and visibility in public life.

Bridge of Peace



Ms. Brigitte Wada, WFP President, France

Vice President of WFP Europe and President of WFP France since 2008, Ms. Wada has organized numerous meetings and conferences in France, including the European Conference on Dignity in Paris (2009). She developed the Women's Peace Academy and promotes healthy marriages and families through partnerships with NGOs.

Cultural Evening



Alfred GjeloShgjokaj, Albania

Alfred is a finance and bookkeeping professional, as well as an activities coordinator for the World CARP youth organization in Fier, Albania. He has experience in organizing and moderating various events and projects and holds a degree in Business Management and Administration from the University of Tirana. Alfred is currently a student at HJ International Graduate School of Peace and Public Leadership, located in New York, USA, with the goal of receiving an MA degree in Peace Studies.

Nikki Jerusalem GjeloShgjokaj

is a Filipino-born social media marketing specialist and business administration assistant. Before moving to Albania, she served as Secretary General of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace in

the Philippines. She is currently a student at HJ International Graduate School of Peace and Public Leadership, located in New York, USA, with the goal of receiving an MA degree in Peace Studies.

Sunday, October 26th



Ms. Monika Waldenmaier, Energy Healer and Coach, Germany

Monika Maria Waldenmaier, a Tyrolean healer since 1994, blends humor and spirituality to offer transformative experiences in energy therapy, holistic color consulting, and hospice care, inspiring others to find mysticism and joy in everyday life.

Session Four A



Julia Wang, WFWPI Young Professionals, Austria

Julia Wang (27) is a cardiology nurse in Vienna and a graduate of the Music and Arts Private University of Vienna (MUK) with a BA in Stage Performance. After volunteering with IAYSP, she pursued nursing through the University of Applied Sciences. She enjoys volleyball, hiking, and moderating international conferences



Ms. Barbora Mejzlikova, Climate and Human Rights Ambassador, Allatra IPM, Czechia

Mgr. Barbora Mejzlikova, a Japanology graduate and former university lecturer, specializes in Japanese culture and writing systems. Her engagement with the Creative Society Project deepened her understanding of climate crisis dynamics. She now advocates globally for climate awareness and societal resilience.



Ms. Katerina Minolari, WFWP President, Albania

Born in Poland and residing in Albania for 25 years, Ms. Minolari leads WFWP Albania, initiating projects in youth education, gender equality, and environmental awareness. She holds a Master's in Art History from the University of Warsaw and has extensive experience in teaching, curriculum design, and art history research.



Prof. Mihallaq Qirjo, Director of Resource Environmental Center, Albania

Prof. Qirjo holds a PhD in Applied Ecology and lectures in Ecology and Environmental Sciences at the University of Tirana. As Director of the Resource Environmental Center Albania, he contributes to policy development on waste management, climate change, and biodiversity, with over 30 years of experience in sustainable environmental leadership.



Ms. Merly Barlaan, UN Office WFP, Founder of Permaculture Project, USA

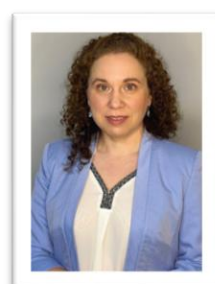
Ms. Barlaan is Vice President for Administration at WFWPI and Director for UN Relations (New York, Geneva, Vienna). With three decades in peacebuilding and environmental advocacy, she founded initiatives like the Mothers' Hearts Network and Permaculture Regenerative Food Systems Program. She is pursuing a Master's in Peace and Conflict Studies at HJ International Graduate School in New York.

Session Four B



Ms. Amanda Toumanguelov, WFPW President, Ireland

Ms. Toumanguelov is a qualified Montessori teacher with a background in design and ceramics. As President of WFPW Ireland, she promotes women's empowerment and community engagement, fostering personal growth and social contribution.



Dr. Tetiana Zinchenko, Co-Founder and Director, International Alliance Climate Crisis & Mental Health, Latvia

Dr. Zinchenko, a psychotherapist and researcher, specializes in behavioral addictions and climate psychology. Founder of the International Alliance Climate Crisis & Mental Health, she has over 20 years' experience in psychotherapy and neurorehabilitation. Her research addresses the mental health impacts of the climate crisis and fosters emotional resilience and cognitive flexibility.



Ms. Isabel Costa, Naturopath, Portugal

A naturopath, author, and emotional healing therapist, Ms. Costa specializes in healthy nutrition and happiness consulting. She co-created the Teachers for World Peace project for Portuguese-speaking countries and teaches at the Sustainable Global Leadership Academy (SGLA).



Dr. Dieter Schmidt, Doctor of Medicine, Germany

Dr. Schmidt earned his doctorate at the University of Bonn and a Master's in Oriental Medicine from Kyung Hee University, Korea. Practicing in Glücksburg, Germany, he integrates Chinese and Western medicine, specializing in acupuncture, phytotherapy, and emotional healing. A father of three, he lectures internationally and promotes holistic approaches to health and wellness.

Session Five



Ms. Manjola Vasmatics, WFWP Board Member, Albania

Ms. Vasmatics, a WFWP Albania Board Member, holds a degree in Mathematics and an MA in Religious Studies, and is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry at HJ International Graduate School. With nearly two decades in peace and interfaith work, she also served as Secretary General of the Universal Peace Federation for Tirana.