

## SGI Peace News

Newsletter introducing Soka Gakkai International (SGI)'s activities to promote a culture of peace

December, 2014 (Vol. 4)

### [Faiths United Against Nuclear Weapons](#)

Vienna, Austria, Dec 6, 2014

SGI, together with ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) and the World Council of Churches, in cooperation with Religions for Peace, organized an interfaith panel discussion titled "Faiths United Against Nuclear Weapons" as part of the ICAN Civil Society Forum held prior to the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons. Panelists included individuals from Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism who exchanged their respective views on the theme. A joint statement calling for a nuclear-weapons-free world was issued as an outcome statement representing moral and ethical voices from the faith communities which was later officially announced at the intergovernmental conference...[more](#)



\*Joint statement can be accessed from here:

[http://www.bmeia.gv.at/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Zentrale/Aussenpolitik/Abruestung/HINW14/Statements/HINW14\\_Statement\\_Faith\\_Communities.pdf](http://www.bmeia.gv.at/fileadmin/user_upload/Zentrale/Aussenpolitik/Abruestung/HINW14/Statements/HINW14_Statement_Faith_Communities.pdf)

\*See also "Faiths United Against Nuclear Weapons" by IPS:

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2014/12/faiths-united-against-nuclear-weapons/>

### [Promoting ESD at UNESCO World Conference](#)

Nagoya, Japan, Nov 10-12, 2014

SGI organized a showing of the exhibition "Seeds of Hope: Visions of sustainability, steps toward change" at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) at the Nagoya Congress Center.

SGI also supported a workshop "Looking back to forge the future: Lessons learned from values-based ESD experiences" sponsored by Earth Charter International (ECI) as a side event. ...[more](#)



### [Forum on Global Citizenship](#)

New York, US, Nov 18, 2014

SGI, together with the UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the UN supported a Forum on Global Citizenship organized by Inter Press Service (IPS). Held in New York, the forum focused on two themes--global citizenship as a pathway to the culture of peace and the integration of global citizenship in international relations...[more](#)



SGI also participated in the conference "Toward a World Citizens Movement: Learning from the Grassroots" in Johannesburg which highlighted the need for new ways of learning and thinking on global citizenship...[more](#)

## [On Eliminating Gender-based Violence](#)

Madrid, Spain, Nov 14, 2014

SGI-Spain held a lecture titled "Theory and Practice: The daily struggle against gender-based violence" in commemoration of the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (November 25). Professor Concha Roldán of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) spoke on gender-based violence from a historical perspective and highlighted that factors influencing violence against women have become more complex today. The roots of modern-day gender-based violence can, she said, be found in the historical subjugation and exclusion of women from civil and political arenas...[more](#)



## [NGO Forum on Women's Rights and Gender Equality](#)

Geneva, Switzerland, Nov 3-5, 2014

In preparation for the upcoming 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+20) in 2015, regional reviews were held globally, preceded by NGO gatherings. At the Geneva NGO Forum for Beijing+20, SGI and Soroptimist International co-organized an interactive roundtable on the education and training of women. The roundtable was conducted in 3 groups with different topics: literacy and access to education, the training and continuation of education, and non-discrimination in education and training. Recommendations from the discussions were incorporated into the Geneva NGO Forum's Report to Member States...[more](#)



***This bimonthly SGI Peace News provides recent updates on SGI's public educational activities to raise people's awareness on issues such as nuclear disarmament, human rights, sustainable development, interfaith cooperation and humanitarian assistance.***

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