

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Ligue Internationale de Femmes pour la Paix et la Liberté

Liga Internacional de Mujeres por la Paz y la Libertad

Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC, UNCTAD and UNESCO; Special Consultative Relations with FAO, ILO, and UNICEF.



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The **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom** is proud and honoured that the Anti-War Museum and the Gandhi Information Center in Berlin presents the exhibition "Bread and Roses. Voices against War. Commemorating the Centenary of the *Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*" from November until February next year to pay tribute to the more than a century old existence of our organisation.

Our **founding mothers** analysed clearly root causes of war and violence. They used their new voting rights to fiercely and courageously raise their voices in local and national parliaments and against mainstream politics for disarmament initiatives, for equality and justice, for peace education and social rights. Through their congress in the Hague they tried to stop the first world war in 1915 and despite international tensions remained in solidarity to each other.

They met again in **1919 in Zurich** to influence the Versailles Treaty without getting even access to the negotiations. They drafted conditions for a League of Nations where women had a say and to have an international institution against rise of nationalism and hatred. Today, Wilpf is a part of a global feminist movement with great transformative potential.

Even though women are still victims of the consequences of continuous patriarchal structures worldwide and remain largely underrepresented in peace negotiations, we can say that there are a lot of **success stories**: courageous women contributed substantially to the Resolution 1325 by the United Nations Security Council which acknowledged the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls and calls for the adoption of a gender perspective to consider the special needs of women and girls during conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration, and post-conflict reconstruction as well as the development of a Women Peace and Security Agenda.

WILPF is working in **46 sections on all continents** with a growing number in Africa. The Secretariats in Geneva and New York influence UN politics. 4 Projects – "**Reaching critical will**" for initiatives regarding disarmament, "**Peacewomen**" for the implementation of the WPS–Agenda, "**Human Rights**" for interventions on HR and international conventions and "**Crisis Response**" supporting women in conflict situations, such as Bosnia, Syria, Ukraine.

WILPF as part of a **feminist peace movement** brings important conflict analysis from local experts to global institutions and back. WILPFers are **connected** and work in solidarity with many **networks** of the Civil Society. The fact that sustainable peace is only possible with women is proven by various research in 2019. This is more than just count women but count on women.

We wish the exhibition a great attendance and a number of new friends and partners for our organisation.

Heidi Meinzolt, Member of the international board

Julia Trippo, Vice-president WILPF Germany

