

# UN World Interfaith Harmony Week Report 2018 by A Common Word Among the Youth (ACWAY)

Presented by ACWAY  
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# ACWAY Background

A Common Word Among the Youth (ACWAY) is a movement of young peace ambassadors around the world who believe that dialogue and interfaith and intercultural activities have the capacity to build strong, resilient and peaceful communities.



*Islam*



*Hindu*



*Traditional beliefs*



*Buddhism*



*Agnostics*



*Jewish*



*Jainism*



*Christian*

*Catholics*

*Sikh*

*Shinto*

## Our Fellows - UN WIHW theme

- 100 ACWAY fellows from over 75 countries volunteer their time for the promotion of interfaith and intercultural dialogue in their respective communities based on the specific needs of the region.
- Activities delivered: *dialogues, discussion, seminar, workshop, exhibition, cultural performance, Social gatherings, friendly lunch, online campaigns, photo contest and many more.* The topics that are being brought up by ACWAY fellows vary such as interreligious gap, women empowerment, education for youth, sports, refugee crisis, media, and etc.
- “We Are One” campaign was led by ACWAY members- young people voluntarily leading the projects on interfaith harmony, dialogue and peace promotion.

## ACWAY World Interfaith Harmony Week in Numbers

**2018**

**1** Theme

**12** Activities

**10** Countries

**850** Participants

**2017**

**1** Theme

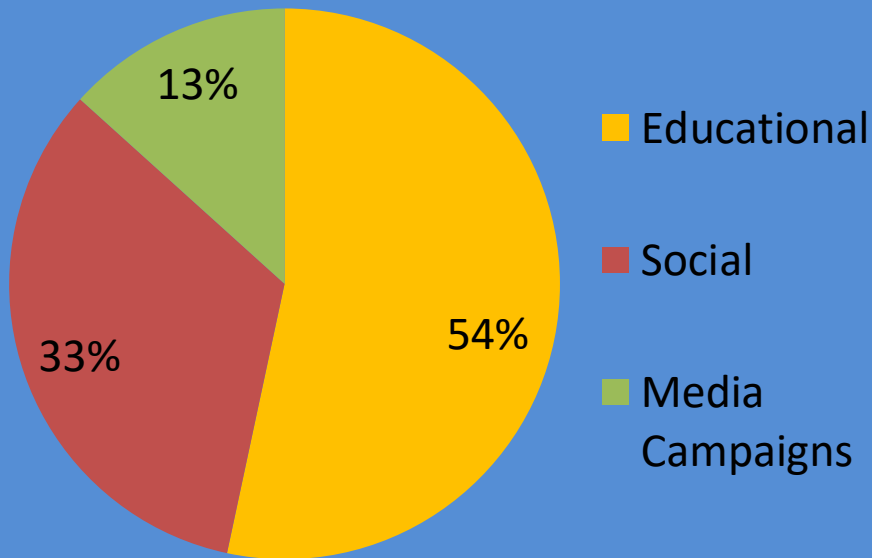
**15** Activities

**10** Countries

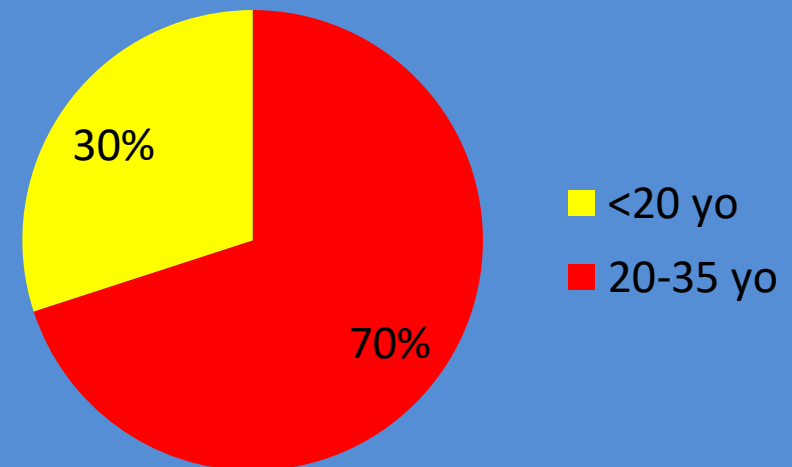
**1300** Participants

## ACWAY Activities in Numbers

Types of Activities

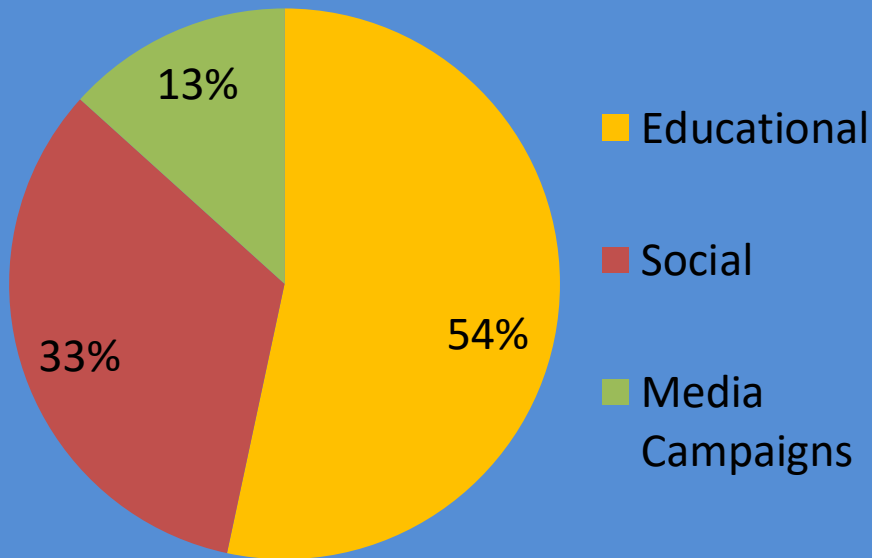


Target group (Age)

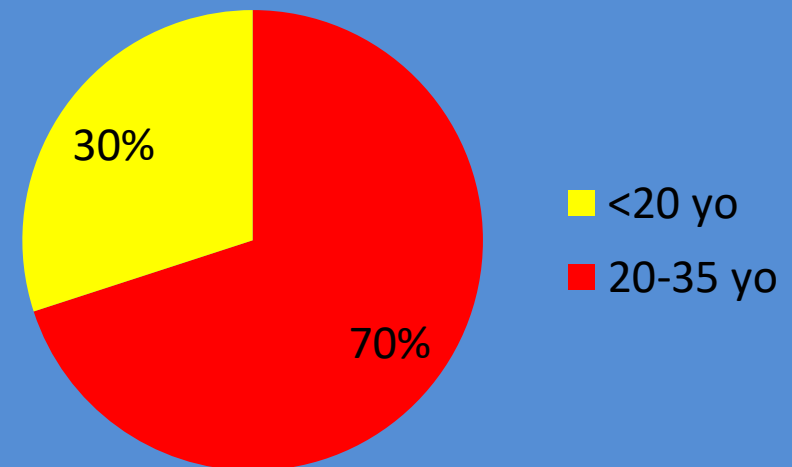


## ACWAY Activities in Numbers

Types of Activities



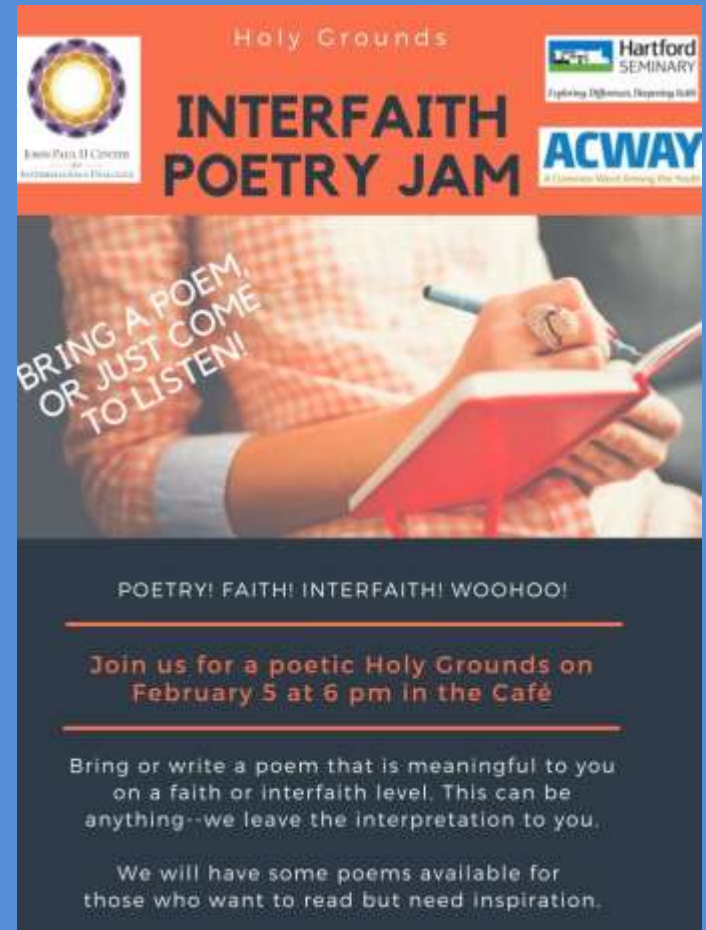
Target group (Age)



# Interfaith Poetry Jam

February 5, 2018 (USA)

Participants brought interfaith or faith-based poems, or chose from our selection in various books/printouts, and read them to the assembled group in the lobby of our main seminary building. (So even others walking by could stop at the event, or witness it as they entered the school.) **The goal** was to help students of different faiths at my seminary connect over a shared appreciation for poetry.



The poster features a red and white checkered shirt sleeve holding a red notebook and a pen. The text "BRING A POEM, OR JUST COME TO LISTEN!" is written diagonally across the image. The top section is orange with the text "Holy Grounds" and "INTERFAITH POETRY JAM". Logos for "Hartford SEMINARY" and "ACWAY" are also present. The bottom section is dark blue with white text providing event details.

Holy Grounds

Hartford SEMINARY  
Exploring Differences, Deepening Faith

ACWAY  
A Common Word Among the Youth

BRING A POEM,  
OR JUST COME  
TO LISTEN!

POETRY! FAITH! INTERFAITH! WOOHOO!

Join us for a poetic Holy Grounds on  
February 5 at 6 pm in the Café

Bring or write a poem that is meaningful to you  
on a faith or interfaith level. This can be  
anything--we leave the interpretation to you.

We will have some poems available for  
those who want to read but need inspiration.

The activity brought together up to 70 young people who are between the ages of 18 to 35. “We are one in Paris” by ACWAY and Socializus is a project with a clear purpose: to help people find and meet their community in Paris. This time we co-organized this event for people interested in different religions.

We proposed regularly encourage them to declare themselves for peace and harmony and providing a ready-made vehicle for them to do so.

# Let's share and exchange

February 21, 2018 (France)





# Cricket Match for Interfaith Harmony

February 25, 2018 (Pakistan)

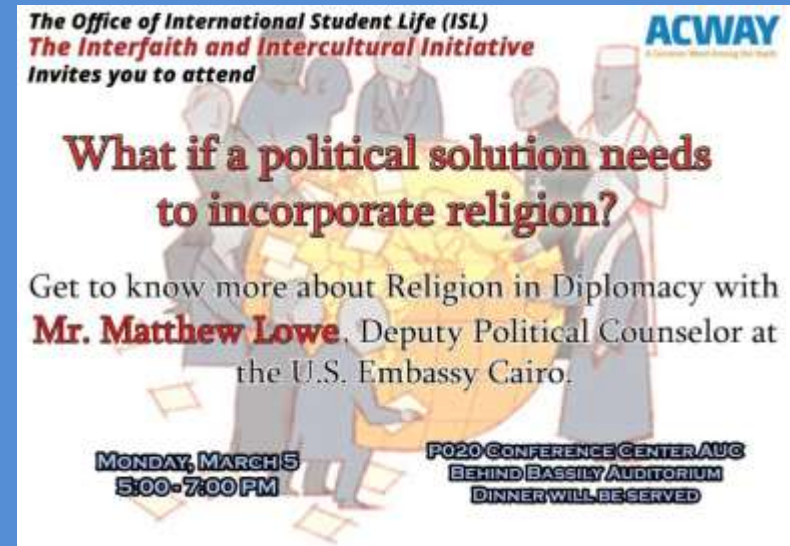


A day-long cricket match was organized and used sports to connect students from various faiths to promote interfaith harmony on account of World Interfaith Harmony Week. These were a great chance to network with people from other faiths and as a result, interact with them to promote interfaith harmony.

# Round Table “Religion in Diplomacy”

March 5, 2018 (Egypt)

The initiative aims to increase diversity on campus, create a safe space for dialog and discuss taboo issues related to religion, culture and coexistence. The discussion was very heated and both the speakers and attendees exchanged very enriching and interesting perspectives around such a topic.



# International Dialogue Day #WeAreOne

February 11, 2018 (Russia)

The program was organized for students from low-income families or from single-parent families who may not be able to travel and never seen foreigners. The goal of the project is to popularize the idea of peaceful coexistence of representatives of different cultures, religions and nationalities by demonstrating, on the example of other countries (Botswana, Algeria, Pakistan) the importance of diversity and multiculturalism.



# Workshop on Interfaith Harmony and Diversity

February 15, 2018 (Pakistan)

A celebration workshop devoted to the Interfaith Harmony Week was conducted and sessions about various religions around the world and their importance were carried out and delivered to middle school students. The team focused upon the importance of living in communities with peace while at the same time, identifying and understanding the differences.





# Showing love and compassion to children with special education needs #weareone

February 7, 2018 (Zambia)

This project was conducted to achieve a zero stigmatization community, ensure children with special educational needs complete their education and have a community that loves these children.

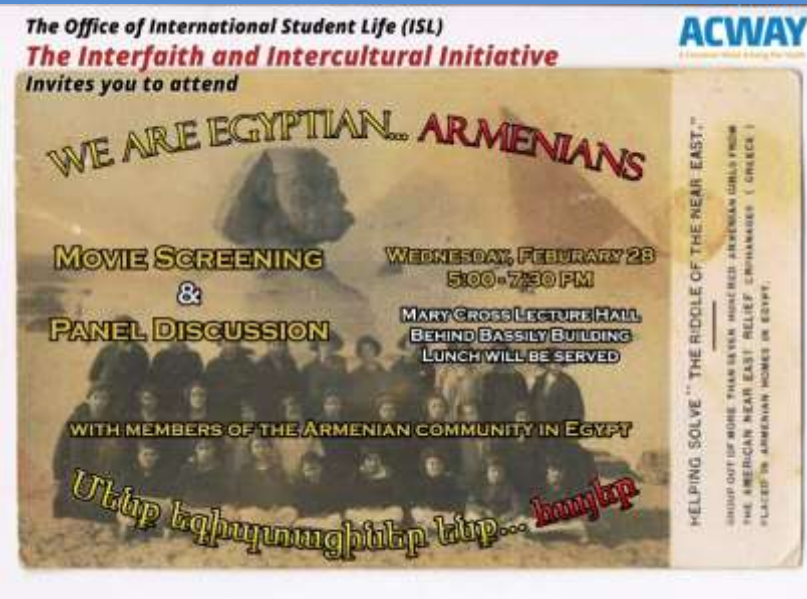
The meeting started with awareness talks from religious leaders of different religious backgrounds (mainly Christian and Muslim) and teachers sharing the importance of parental involvement and love.



# Movie screening and panel discussion with the Armenian Community in Egypt February 28, 2018 (Egypt)

The documentary "We Are Armenian Egyptians" is a message of tolerance and acceptance of the other. It traces Egypt during the time when it welcomed people from all over the world to live, work and share their culture and experience with the society they live in.

To create an inclusive campus where every student/ staff feels safe about his/her identity, culture, and faith. Furthermore, this initiative wants to foster the inter cultural dialog culture within campus and provide a positive atmosphere for discussion, debates and exchange.



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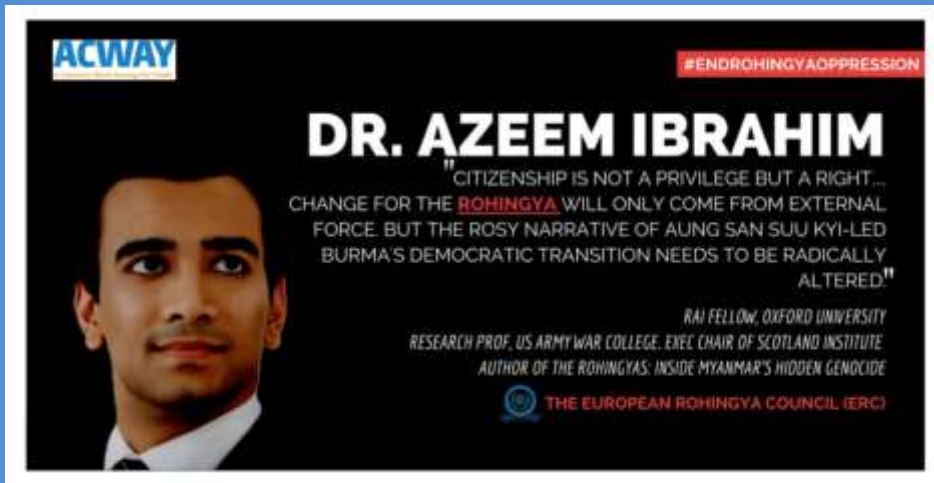
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# #WeAreOne: Rohingya Crisis: A Conversation with Dr. Azeem Ibrahim February 1, 2018 (USA)

A discussion on the Rohingya crisis featuring Dr. Azeem Ibrahim was a platform to discuss how religious and racial minorities often face persecution on a global scale, and practical techniques to work to advocate for marginalized identities.

The goal of this event was to raise awareness about the Rohingya crisis and create a platform for dialogue around the social issues facing this persecuted group around the world.





# Social media importance for the development of country democracy

February 15, 2018 (Ethiopia)



The project is about social media importance for the country democracy development.

Participants were around 70 youth from different sub-cities of Addis Ababa and from various religious and cultural background. The background of the event is due to the current case of Ethiopia as there are a social unrest and political instability due to ethnic and religion difference.

# Interreligious Dialogue Program Among the Youth

March 4, 2018 (Myanmar)



The challenges of inter religious dialogue program and the solution, need and possibilities in challenging of IRD is the main topic of dialogue. We will continue the workshop for the project planning and extending the youth in the peace process. Especially we discussed it the biggest challenge of Myanmar and to sustain of peace among us.

Participants are from Buddhists, Muslim, Catholics, Hindu.

## Where to find us

- Website: [www.acway.org](http://www.acway.org)
- Facebook Page:  
[www.facebook.com/ACWAYProject](https://www.facebook.com/ACWAYProject)

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES:

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