



WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

*LOVE OF GOD & LOVE OF THE NEIGHBOUR, OR  
LOVE OF THE GOOD & LOVE OF THE NEIGHBOUR.*

Annual UN Observance Week: Feb. 1-7

## AUSTRIA 2017

This was our 6th WIHW in Lienz /Austria. We really like this impuls for more interreligious dialog projects worldwide.

The URI Team Lienz had 2016 a very busy year of work and so we showed the outcome to a lot of people during the WIHW 2017. It was the film about

**Building a tower for a Bell for peace and friendship** on top of a mountain.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gq74Oictc00>

The bell shows signs from 12 religions and the words „I ring for peace and friendship“

The tower is made with stones from all over the world and from holy places of different religions: Israel, Mekka, Ganges, Lhasa, .....

People are welcome to ring it and light a candle for peace and write some ideas and prayers in a book. It is not possible to visit the tower during the winter time (only with skis), but we organize meetings in summer and autumn and thousands of people are walking over there during the rest of the year.

**and the blessing ceremony of the bell**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHP1JMYB61k&t=3s>

At this ceremony, 12 people from 5 religions spoke the words „May peace and friendship be in the world“ in their mother language.



## HEAVEN ON EARTH WIKI

During the WIHW 2016 we started the Heaven on Earth Wiki to collect „Heaven makers“ all over the world. So that people get hope for the future of planet earth, because there are such a lot of good people around, we usually don't know about.

The collection is still going on and during WIHW 2017 we wrote a lot of mails to institutions about it. And the work hopefully never will be finished, because every year more good people start working for a better world.

We used also a special Facebookpage **World Interfaith Harmony Week Austria 2017** to promote the initiative.

A special **Facebook Page** was launched „Let's make Heaven on Earth again“ to connect good minded people all over the world.



During WIHW 2017 we also promoted the new website [www.little-owl.net](http://www.little-owl.net) with the story „**The little owl**“ and the new translations. There are 45 now for 172 countries in the world.

The story is very useful for interreligious dialog with children and adults. It helps to talk about „who created everything“. On the website 3 languages can be seen as film (German, English and Arabic)

**There were discussion about interreligious topics in a nearby educational centre, where we told about the WIHW too.**



Another big project was launched last week. The idea to plant

**„Gardens of peace and friendship“** in Syria after the war is over or in refugee camps in the surrounding.

We will get the seeds from SEKEM in Egypt, who are used to the warm climate in Syria.

At the moment, we start talking to garden companies and ordinary people to pay 1:1.

One plant for themselves, one for a garden in Syria.

**I hope to be able to tell about the results with the report for WIHW 2018.**

**With warm greetings from Austria**

**Elisabeth Ziegler-Duregger**

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