

UN World Interfaith Harmony Week 2017 Report from Oostende, Kingdom of Belgium

A special presentation file was presented to the Mayor of the City of Oostende (70,000 inhabitants), Minister of State Johann Vande Lanotte and members of the Town Council, as well as religious leaders, inviting them to celebrate World Interfaith Harmony Week in Oostende. A meeting took place on December 22, 2016, arranged by Town Councillor Bart Plasschart who will consider the feasibility of a major celebration in 2018, given time constraints this year. The social media were extensively used & invitations were sent out to announce an interfaith meditation meeting held on Sunday February 5, 2017 in Oostende during which verses from the Holy Writings of mankind's major religions were recited on the theme "Grijp uw kans !" (Take Your Chance !) – see attachment. The webinars organized by the Parliament of the World Religions during the 2017 World Interfaith Harmony Week were announced in invitations and through social media. We also publicized the Harmony Week activities organized in Belgium's and Europe's capital- Brussels. We made good use of materials and announcements on the Harmony Week webpage, including the recommendation letter by King Albert II of the Belgians.

Submitted respectfully

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