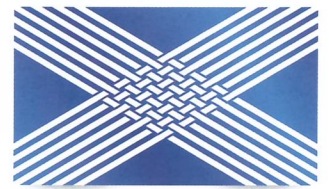


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Interfaith  
Scotland

To whom it may concern,

Interfaith Scotland strongly endorses the work that Interfaith Glasgow is doing to promote harmony across the city of Glasgow. During World Interfaith Harmony Week they will be holding events that clearly demonstrate the creativity of their work and their deep commitment to supporting those in our society who are struggling. The Scriptural reasoning event allows people from diverse traditions to explore together their common ground, to build friendships and to draw on the spiritual wisdom of their respective traditions; the community meal is the age old means of bringing people together in friendship and is an important building block of social cohesion and Interfaith Glasgow working in partnership with faith communities is the perfect organisation to co-host these important community events and finally in a world that daily is daunted by hearing of the plight of refugees and asylum seekers here in Glasgow it is Interfaith Glasgow that reaches out to support refugees and does so with tact, energy and commitment.

Maureen Sier

Director of Interfaith Scotland

**Making a Difference through Dialogue**

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22 February 2018

To Whom it May Concern

I would like to endorse the work that Interfaith Glasgow has done during World Interfaith Harmony Week. Their excellent WIHW exploration of key elements of interfaith harmony: friendship, religious dialogue, and cooperation reflects the three strands of work on which they focus throughout the year.

This work includes, for example, women's events, networking events, and their annual family fun day, which attracts between 150-200 people. And they facilitate focused discussions, where people of different religions and beliefs can talk with each other about their fundamental beliefs and religious practices. They also provide opportunities for people from different faith and belief backgrounds to move beyond discussion of common concerns to engage in joint action to address those shared concerns. For example the Interfaith Food Justice Network brings together local voluntary groups, who, from within diverse faith and belief communities work collaboratively and effectively together to alleviate food poverty. A recently organised event called 'One Big Picnic' in the main square in the city centre of Glasgow was attended by over 2,000 people. The event aimed to promote unity and involved an interfaith team from diverse groups serving free food for all, accompanied by live music.

Interfaith Glasgow is a dynamic organisation that has contributed to better cooperation between faith and belief communities, encouraging them to work on joint action projects in Glasgow. I hope you would consider the organisation favourably and award them a prize.

With peace and best wishes

*RK Nijjar*

**Ravinder Kaur Nijjar**

Chair of Religions for Peace UK Women of Faith Network (RfP UKWFN)  
International Coordinating Committee Member of  
Religions for Peace Global Women of Faith Network  
Member of the Scottish Religious Leaders Forum  
Former member of the European Council of Religious Leaders  
Former Co-Chair of RfP European Women of Faith Network  
Executive Committee Member of Council of Dharmic Faiths UK  
Former Executive of the Inter Faith Network of the UK  
Former Convenor of the Scottish Interfaith Council

<https://www.facebook.com/RfP-UK-Women-of-Faith-Network-983505361661060/>

<http://www.religionsforpeace.org.uk/about/uk-women-of-faith-network/>

*Religions for Peace United Kingdom Women of Faith Network brings together faith and interfaith- based women's organizations to work together for peace. The Network raises the profile of religious women as powerful agents of change and creates visibility of the leadership role of women of faith. It harnesses the power and showcases the unique models of women of different faiths (and their vast networks) in transforming conflict, advancing just and harmonious societies and protecting the earth.*

To Whom It May Concern

### **Interfaith Glasgow and World Interfaith Harmony Week**

For many years now, Scotland is has been a world leader in the field of inter-faith work with a broad range of activities. Hence I am not surprised to see WIHW being celebrated in Glasgow. Interfaith Glasgow's thoughtful engagement with the concept of interfaith harmony focuses on goals that are central to all its work as an organization: friendship-building, dialogue, and cooperation. In particular, I would like to emphasize their interfaith “Week-end Club” organizing monthly events for Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and new migrants from all over the world. This joins humanitarian values with the fruits of interfaith encounter. I am glad to see this initiative highlighted during the WIHW. And I am heartened to see the positive interfaith engagement their work is facilitating in Scotland. It is my hope that it will serve as an inspiration to others working towards the global ideals championed by WIHW.



Perry Schmidt-Leukel  
Professor of Religious Studies and Intercultural Theology