

Human Rights and the Protection of the Unempowered and the Dispossessed

Robin Marsh
March 31, 2012



Universal Peace Federation and Women's Federation for World Peace

European Leadership Conference

'Human Rights and the Protection of the Unempowered and the Dispossessed'

June 15-16, London

We would like to extend a cordial invitation to you to attend a European Leadership Conference on June 15-16 to consider 'Human Rights and the Protection of the Unempowered and the Dispossessed.' A draft programme can be found below listing topics as well as confirmed and invited speakers. The European Leadership Conference (ELC) sponsored by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) is part of a series held in Parliaments and at UN Institutions around Europe. For reports of previous ELC in capitals around Europe please follow this [link](#).

Human rights issues are a major driving force behind current events. While there are too many issues to cover in a short conference we have invited human rights specialists and activists to highlight areas that concern the UPF and WFWP and their 'Ambassadors for Peace' network. The spirit of The U.N.'s Universal Declaration of Human Rights resonates very strongly with UPF's and WFWP's sense of the sacred value of humanity, irrespective of a particular individual's belief or non-belief, as 'one family under God'.

After arrivals on June 14th the conference programme will convene on June 15th in the House of Lords with speakers including Baroness Sandip Verma (UK government spokesperson for Business, Innovation and Skills), Willy Fautré (Human Rights Without Frontiers International), Keith Best (C.E.O. Freedom from Torture), Imam Dr Abduljalil Sajid, and hosted by UPF- UK Patron, Lord King of West Bromwich. The second day of the programme, June 16th will take place at the Royal National Hotel on Russell Square and will explore insights into education for human rights and dignity. To register and find information about the costs for this conference please use the [online link here](#). There will also be a Youth Training Day on the 17th June, entitled 'Real Rights: Let's Make Dignity a Reality' please see the schedule below for more details.

We look forward to hearing from you and hope you will be able to participate in this very meaningful occasion.

Sincerely yours,

Robin Marsh

Margaret Ali

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Draft Programme

Human Rights and the Protection of the Unempowered and the Dispossessed.

15-16 June 2012

Houses of Parliament and Royal National Hotel, Russell Square, London

Friday, 15th June December

09:00 Parliamentary security check and registration for day guests

09:30 SESSION I: Committee Room 14 House of Commons

Human Rights and Human Security

Chair: **Carolyn Handschin-Moser**, President WFWPI- Europe

Welcoming Remarks:

Tom Brake MP and **Lord King of West Bromwich**, Patron, UPF UK and UPF Int. Pres. Council

Speakers:

Mr. John Hilary, President, War on Want (TBC)

Dr. Krishna Ahojja-Patel, President of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Chair Displaced Women Committee, UN Geneva (TBC)

Prof. Siddharth Saxena, Chair of the Cambridge Central Asia Forum: Universal Human Rights

Baroness Sandip Verma, UK Government Spokesperson for Business, Innovation and Skills (TBC)

Dr. Yong Cheon Song, Chair UPF Europe

11:00 Break

11:30 SESSION II: Concurrent Session A - Committee Room 14 House of Commons

Religious Freedom: Religious Minorities, Majorities and the State

Chair: **Rev. Dr. Marcus Braybrooke**, President of World Congress of Faiths

Mr. Willy Fautre: Director, Human Rights Without Frontiers International

'**Open Doors**' Persecution Index (TBC)

Imam Dr. Abduljalil Sajid JP, Chairman Task-force European year of Inter-cultural Dialogue, President Religions for Peace UK

SESSION II: Concurrent Session B – Committee Room 4a House of Lords

Human Rights and Torture

Chair: **Lord Tarsem King of West Bromwich** and **Margaret Ali**, Director UPF – UK

Speakers:

Keith Best, CEO of Torture Care

Lord Nazir Ahmed of Rotherham

12:45 Lunch (Return Back By 14:15)

14:15 SESSION III: Concurrent Session A - Committee Room 14 House of Commons

Europe's Role in Global Human Rights Issues

Chair: TBC

Dr Aaron Rhodes, Executive Director, International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (1993 -2007) (TBC)

Ambassador (Retd) Dr. Walther Lichem, Former Head of Dept. for International Organisations, Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs: (TBC)

Professor Dr. Maurits S. Berger, Chair of Islam in the Contemporary West at the Institute for Religious Studies at Leiden University, Senior Research Associate with the Clingendael Institute for International Relations in The Hague

SESSION III: Concurrent Session B - Committee Room 4a House of Lords

Youth Unemployment a Threat to Dignity

Chair: **Haesul Fagcang**, UPF Youth Committee

Speakers:

Kanchan Jadeja, Chair National Council for Voluntary Youth Services UK

Maja Micic, Director Youth Initiative For Human Rights Serbia

'Young Member of Parliament' (TBC)

UPF/WFWP Youth Representative (TBC)

15:15 **Break**

15:45 SESSION IV: Committee Room 14 House of Commons – overflow into Comm. Room ...

Women's Empowerment and Human Rights

Chair: **Mitty Tohma**, President, Women's Federation for World Peace UK

Speakers:

Lady Fiona Hodgson (Invited TBC)

Aisha Abdul Latif, Consultant for Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC)

Madi Sharma, UK Representative, European Economic and Social Council: Domestic Violence

Emeritus Prof. Ursula King (TBC)

Carolyn Handschin, President, WFWPI- Europe

17:00 Group photo in Westminster Hall

Leave for Evening Venue (Chartered Bus from the Parliament to Lancaster Gate)

18:30 Dinner and Cultural Programme (Please Book on Registration Form)

At 43 Lancaster Gate, London, W2 3NA

21:00 Close (Chartered Buses to Royal National Hotel, Russell Square)

Saturday, 16th June 2012 - Royal National Hotel, Russell Square

08:30 SESSION V: Royal National Hotel

Concurrent Session A - Human Rights Education and Religious Freedom Issues

Chair: TBC

Mr. Peter Zoehrer: FOREF Austria

Speaker 2 TBC

Concurrent Session B - Human Rights Education and Gender Equality

Chair: TBC

Ms. Manuela Mesa Peinado, Director Center for Education and Research for Peace (CEIPAZ) within the Foundation for a Culture of Peace, President of the Spanish Association for the Research of Peace (AIPAZ)

Carolyn Handschin-Moser, President WFWPI- Europe

09:45 Break

10:00 **SESSION VI: Royal National Hotel**

Concurrent Session A - Human Rights in a Multicultural Society

Chair: TBC

Dr. Amiira Neff, Director Terre des Femmes, Switzerland, integration expert.

Speaker 2 TBC

Concurrent Session B - Human Rights and Global Citizenship

Chair: TBC

Sheikh Dr. Hojjat Ramzy,

Speaker 2 TBC

11:10 Coffee Break

11:30 **World Café Round-Table Discussions** (4 x 12 minute sessions)

A wonderful opportunity for participants to interact and discuss

12:30 Lunch: Royal National Hotel

14:15 SESSION VII: Royal National Hotel

Chair : TBC

Human Value and Dignity

Mr. Jack Corley, Chair UPF United Kingdom

Commentator TBC

As a Peace Loving Global Citizen - an insight into UPF's Origins

Mr. Timothy Miller, Vice-Chair UPF Europe

Commentator TBC

15:30 Break

16:00 SESSION VIII: Royal National Hotel

Vision, Projects and Recent Activities

Chair: **Mr. Robin Marsh,** Secretary General UPF United Kingdom

Mrs. Mitty Tohma, President WFWP United Kingdom

Mr. Mark Brann, Secretary General UPF Europe

Ambassador for Peace Awards and Participant Reflections

17:30 Closing

June 17th Youth Training Day 'Real Rights: Let's Make Dignity A Reality'

The Youth Training Day is an additional day to the ELC targeted at young conference participants (age 18-27) to develop their own ideas and their capacity to run initiatives. The Youth Training Day will feature trainings on human rights education, a project management workshop, leadership training, success stories and action for North Korea.

UPF Global Peace Council (Partial listing of European members)

H.E. Dr Alfred Moisiu President Albania 2002-07

Prof Dr Christian Brunner Professor Emeritus of Constitutional Law University of Graz, Austria

Robert Vandemeulebroucke Ambassador (retd.) Kingdom of Belgium

Prof Dr Anto Domazet Former Minister of Finance, Bosnia Herzegovina

Mr Rony Wolf Smolar Councillor, Former Vice-Pres. European Jewish Congress Finland

Prof. Zsuzanna Horvath Lestak Professor of Marketing & Communications, Budapest College of Finance & Economy Hungary

Dr Antonio Stango Secretary-General Helsinki Committee, Italy

The Hon Noel Farrugia Member of Parliament, Malta

Dr Willem Van Eekelen Former Minister of Defence, The Netherlands

Dr Andrzej Szewinski Senator, Poland

Dr. Gabriela Elena Rezk-Gavrila Vice Pres. National Agency for Social & Health Problems, Romania

Hon. Anton Rop Prime Minister of Slovenia (2002-2004)

Lord Tarsem King of West Bromwich House of Lords, United Kingdom

Imam Dr Abduljalil Sajid European Representative World Council of Muslims Inter-faith Relations

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