

Mitty Tohma  
November 5, 2025



WOMEN'S FEDERATION  
FOR WORLD PEACE EUROPE  
& MIDDLE EAST

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 251105

*Activities around Europe and Middle East this summer*

22nd Annual Women's Leadership Conference



Delegates gathered in Tirana for three days of conversations that emphasized reconciliation, ethical governance, and inclusive development. The event brought together government officials, academics, journalists, activists, and civil society leaders.

The opening banquet set the tone, featuring remarks from WFWP leadership including Albania's Katerina Minolari, along with regional and international figures who highlighted the central role of women in peacebuilding. Key sessions delved into how values-based leadership can bridge divides and heal wounds within communities. Session I explored responsible leadership through education for a peaceful future, with scholars and practitioners underscoring character, compassion, and moral clarity as essential ingredients for sustainable governance. In parallel, a session on technology and women's empowerment showcased female innovators and leaders in the digital age, illustrating how digital literacy and inclusive innovation can

accelerate development and close gender gaps.

**See all information: Sessions, Speakers and presentations, photos and videos**



**WFWP Ireland**

WFWP Europe President Mitty Tohma's 5 day visit to Dublin and Belfast.

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**WFWP Malta**

Meeting with professors from Psychiatric Clinic and Sociology in Tokyo Japan.

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**WFWP Finland**

How culture, tribal traditions can influence the opportunities of women in Africa

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**WFWP Italy**

With Ms. Caroline Saeed Jarjis, Sociology  
prof. / University of Rome

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## Albania Conference Content, Photos, Videos, Presentations, Bios

### Women's Federation for World Peace Europe and Middle East

## PATHWAYS TO PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH WOMEN'S INITIATIVES

22nd Annual Leadership Conference  
24 – 26 October 2025, Tirana, Albania

- [Top of Page](#) ○
- [Banquet](#) ●
- [Session Ia](#) ○
- [Session Ib](#) ○
- [Session II](#) ○
- [Session III a](#) ○
- [Session III b](#) ○
- [Session IV a](#) ○
- [Session IV b](#) ○
- [Session V](#) ○
- [Photo Gallery](#) ○

[Program](#)  
[Bios](#)

### Opening Banquet

[Presentation Summary](#)



#### Welcome Greetings

Moderator: Katerina Minolari, WFWP President, Albania  
Ms. Mitty Tohma, WFWP Europe and Middle East President, UK  
Ms. Senida Mesi, Former Deputy Prime Minister, Albania  
Ms. Moriko Hori, WFWP International President, Japan

#### Musical Performance



### Session I a

#### Fostering Responsible Leadership through Education for a Peaceful Future

Exploring values-based leadership rooted in character, compassion,  
and moral clarity to bridge divides and heal wounds.

[Presentation Summaries](#)



#### Morning Meditation

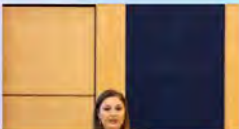
Ms. Rosaleen Bloomsfield, Transformational Coach and Trainer, UK



Moderator: Ms. Britta Houston, WFWP President, Sweden

#### Speakers:

Dr. Aicha Bacha, European Center for Development and Geostrategic  
Studies and Analysis President, Belgium  
Ms. Klajda Gjoshja, Senior Expert on Leadership, Good Governance and  
EU Accession Process, Albania  
Ms. Nada Harward, Honorary Consul, Bath Spa University, Associate  
Lecturer, Lebanon  
Ms. Olga Vakulinskaya, WFWP President, Russia







**Session I b**  
**Technology and Women's Empowerment**

Highlighting women's roles as innovators and leaders in the digital age, addressing challenges and achievements in tech fields.

Presentation Summaries



Moderator: Ms. Stella Harris, Technology & Governance Professional, UK  
Speakers:  
Ms. María Jesús Cañellas, Journalist, Spanish TV Producer and Director, Spain  
Mr. Gabor Vasmatyics, IT Professional, Software Developer, Albania  
Ms. Elsa Rrustaj, Software Developer, Graduate Program Associate at Vodafone, Albania  
Ms. Mandeep Kaur Sanghera OBE, Award winning Philanthropist, UK



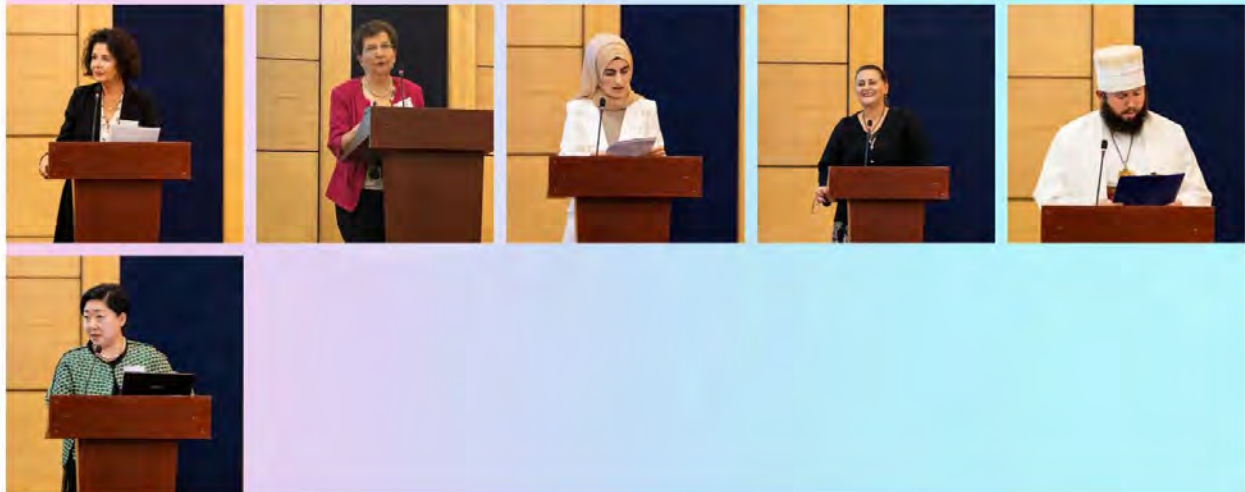
**Session II**  
**The Roots of Harmony through Interfaith Dialogue**

Sharing about religious harmony and lessons for peacebuilding through interfaith initiatives.

Presentation Summaries



Moderator: Ms. Marcia de Abreu, WFPW President, Spain  
Speakers:  
Ms. Tirzi Martin, Author, Senior Adviser WFPW, France  
Ms. Fatma Karaj, Head of Women's Office Muslim Community, Albania  
Ms. Eva Cipi, Professor of Computer Engineering at the University of Vlora  
Dervish Hasan Carkanji, speaking on behalf of Baba Mondo, Sufi Community  
Ms. Moriko Hori, WFPW International President, Japan



**Session III a**  
**Women Supporting Each Other – Inspiring Journeys and Projects**

Celebrating women's successes across various fields and the importance of support networks.

Presentation Summaries







Moderator: Ms. Kefilwe Lebepe, WFWPI Young Professionals, Germany  
 Speakers:  
 Ms. Anelli Jäättteenmäki, Former Prime Minister, Finland  
 Ms Rahela Sidiqui, Founder Rahela Trust and Omid International, Afghanistan  
 Ms. Anila Prethi, Journalist & Founder of EchoPodcasts, WFWP Repres., Albania



### Session III b

#### Bridge of Peace Ceremony

Participate in the signature WFWP initiative promoting reconciliation and healing through trust and understanding.

#### Presentation Summaries



Ceremony of Bridge of Peace  
 Moderator & Speaker: Ms. Brigitte Wada, WFWP President, France

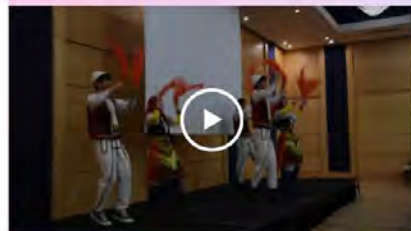
The Bridge of Peace is a symbolic and practical peace-building initiative created by the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP), founded by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

At its heart, the Bridge of Peace is both a ceremony and a process of reconciliation — where participants cross a symbolic bridge to meet someone from another background, culture, faith, or even former “enemy” nation. As they meet in the middle, they exchange words of forgiveness, embrace, and commit to building a relationship of mutual respect and peace.



### Cultural Evening

MC: Alfred and Nikki Gjeshgjokaj



### Session IV a

#### Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability

Promoting grassroots initiatives for sustainable living and environmental resilience.



Presentation Summaries



Morning Meditation: Ms. Monika Waldenmaier, Energy Healer and Coach, Germany



Moderator: Julia Wang, WFWPI Young Professionals, Austria  
Speakers:  
Ms. Barbora Mejzlikova, Climate and Human Rights Amb. Allatra IPM, Czechia  
Ms. Katerina Minolari, WFWP President, Albania  
Prof. Mihallaq Qirjo, Director of Resource Environmental Center, Albania  
Ms. Merly Barlaan, UN Office WFWP, Founder of Permaculture Project, USA



Session IV b  
Health and Well-being

Practical insights into holistic self-care for physical, mental, and emotional health

Presentation Summaries



Moderator: Ms. Amanda Toumangelov, WFWP President, Ireland  
Speakers:  
Dr. Tetiana Zinchenko, CoFounder and Director Intl. Alliance Climate Crisis & Mental Health, Latvia  
Ms. Isabel Costa, Naturopath, Portugal  
Dr. Dieter Schmidt, Doctor of Medicine, Germany



Session V  
Closing Session: Awards and Reflections  
Closing Remarks



Back: Organising Team.  
Front: Reflections:  
Jennifer Okeke - Ireland, spoke about how we met in Kosovo and her journey.  
Hala Abusaris - Isreal, expressed how grateful she was for the experience and how much it impacted on her.  
Hanna Mohammad Khalifa - Kuwait expressed how she was deeply moved and impressed by the conference.



Moderator: Ms. Manjola Vasmatics, WFWP Board Member, Albania  
  
Agenda:  
Global Women Peace Ambassador Award was given to Ms. Vicenta Fernandes from Cape Verde





VIDEO:

Closing Remarks by Ms. Mitty Tohma, WFWP  
Europe and Middle East President

## Photo Gallery

Photos will be added / random order

If you were at the conference and don't see your photo, please send to us, and we will add it.



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## WFPW Ireland \_ Event): Visit of WFPW Europe & EUME President to Ireland



From September 15–19, 2025, WFPW Europe President Mitty Tohma, together with Amanda Toumangelov and WFPW Ireland leaders, journeyed from Dublin to Belfast, visiting members and community partners along the way. The five-day trip created space for deep listening, shared learning, and reflection on peacebuilding, resilience, and collaboration—guided by openness and a shared purpose.

Day 1 – National Action Plan Launch (Dublin)  
A delegation of 5 WFPW representatives attended the launch of Ireland's Fourth National

Action Plan on Women, Peace & Security (2025–2030) at Iveagh House, HQ of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The event, attended by around 90 delegates, reaffirmed Ireland's strong commitment to women's full participation in peace processes, and to gender perspectives across peace and security work.

The Tánaiste, Simon Harris, emphasised that the Plan represents “a statement of values,” placing women and girls at the centre of conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and recovery—echoing WFPW's global vision of women as bridge-builders for peace.

Days 2–3 – Women's Leadership and Social Challenges

At the National Women's Council Conference in Dublin, discussions addressed how homelessness and domestic violence intersect with wider gender issues, highlighting the need for practical, compassionate policies.

The group also visited, some WFPW supporters, young couples, and the UPF Ireland leadership—strengthening community bonds and shared purpose across generations.

Day 4 – Peace Research and Reconciliation (Belfast)

In Belfast, meetings with women leaders, including Dr. Fatima Ali Haider, PhD researcher at Ulster University and co-founder of The Grief Directory. Dr. Haider shared insights on how academic research, trauma healing, and community-led initiatives contribute to sustainable peace. The exchange deepened mutual understanding of how women's empathy, education, and cross-community engagement can transform division into reconciliation.

Day 5 – Community Voices for Peace

Visits were made to Falls Women's Community Centre and Black Mountain Community Centre. Ordinary women co-created and run these centers, facilitating engaging project storytelling initiatives (such as iMovie spaces) to listen, document, and share authentic peace stories. The day underscored that peace grows in homes, schools, and local halls, and that female leadership drives genuine, durable peace. The gathering also served as a safe haven for Catholics and Protestants to pursue lasting harmony, helping to ease unresolved tensions.





Partnership \_Ireland

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### WFWP Malta - Meeting with two Japanese professors



On Saturday 20th September 2025, a friend of Mr. Anthony Custò, Dr. Tazin Akter Chowdhury (Lawyer) from Bangladesh, who works at the University of Malta, invited Anthony and Mrs. Myrabelle Corlett to meet with her two Japanese professors friends who came to Malta for a short visit.

Both Dr. Masako Sugihara who manages a Psychiatric Clinic and Sociology Prof. Miwako Hosoda Ph.D. work in Tokyo Japan.

After treating us to a picnic at Kennedy Grove, where we could get to know each other and introduce WFWP, Dr. Tazin invited us to go with her to the Island of Gozo to meet with her Maltese friend Prof. JosAnn Cutajar (lecturer in Gender and Sexualities at the University of Malta). A few years back she had attended a UPF conference in Korea.

We met with Prof. JosAnn Cutajar at a quaint little restaurant in Victoria Gozo where we could converse at leisure over some topics of mutual interest. We later drove to Ta' Pinu Sanctuary and ended the evening with a mouth-watering dinner under the stars at the lovely Xlendi Bay in Gozo.

A big hearty Thank You goes to Mr. Anthony Custò who was our guide and driver through the duration of the full 12-hour programme.

Myrabelle Corlett

\_Malta



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## WFWP Finland - Women Working Together, Wellbeing, Empowerment, a Journey for Sustainable Peace



Dr. Perpetual Crentsil from Helsinki University presented an overview based on her wide research how culture, tribal traditions can influence the opportunities of women in Africa. Chances of education are opportunities for women to move up from the patriarchal control and have influence beyond their own family structure. Our goal is to create program where women from different backgrounds could support each other and be empowered. Päivi Yoshizumi introduced some programs presented at recent WFWPI meeting from different parts of the world, from Ghana, Korea, Venezuela and Albania, and how program that fills the need of women and citizens of that nation can be very empowering to the participants and society at large. We would like to cooperate and offer empowering programs for women in Finland.



Education & Development \_Finland

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WFPW Italy - HerStory



The September HerStory session featured Ms. Caroline Saeed Jarjis, a distinguished Sociology professor with a Master's in Sociology from the Pontifical University of Rome and a Bachelor's in Technical Medicine from Baghdad. With experience teaching in Baghdad, Erbil, and Basra, Ms. Jarjis has dedicated her career to fostering peace,

empowering women, and advocating for intercultural understanding. She is fluent in Arabic, Aramaic, English, Italian, and French, which allows her to connect with diverse audiences.

During her keynote, Ms. Jarjis shared her personal journey and professional experiences, reflecting on the challenges and successes of working for peace and women's empowerment in the Middle East. She emphasized the importance of education, cultural dialogue, and grassroots initiatives in building sustainable peace. Participants were inspired by her story, her resilience, and her deep commitment to bridging divides between cultures and communities. <https://www.wfpw-europe.org/her-story>



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