

WFWP Finland - Cooperation Between Different Religions

Paivi Yoshizumi
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We had a nice meeting at the Peace Centre in Helsinki, Finland. The event was opened by Päivi Yoshizumi from WFWP. She expressed how important it is to ponder on the topic of trying to understand people from different nationalities and who are from different faiths in Finland. We have a new government, and there have been a lot of concerns about the government's policies towards immigrants, how they might create fears among immigrants not being accepted as citizens and members of society.

We were happy to have a guest speaker from a Syrian background. Group activities' coordinator Nosaiba Ahmad from the Finnish-Syrian Friendship Association gave a presentation on the topic of Inter-Religious Communication and how it builds stronger bonds in women.



She shared her own experience of being invited by her Finnish neighbour to join a Christmas party, and vice versa inviting this Finnish lady to celebrate Ramadan at her home, and how that made her feel more at home in Finland and more importantly how she found a friend.

She captured so nicely what harmony and co-operation in women can achieve: "So women can unite to address common challenges, support for social justice, and create a fairer society. When women from different religious backgrounds work together, they become a powerful force for positive change. For example, a group of women from different religious backgrounds come together to support a women's empowerment campaign."

Reported by Päivi Yoshizumi
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