

GENEVA PEACE WEEK 2025



13 - 17 OCTOBER 2025
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

PEACE IN ACTION



UNCOVER

GENEVA PEACE WEEK.

Geneva Peace Week (GPW) stands as a leading annual forum within the international peacebuilding calendar, organized by the **Geneva Peacebuilding Platform (GPP)**.

PEACE: A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE FORGED IN ACTION.

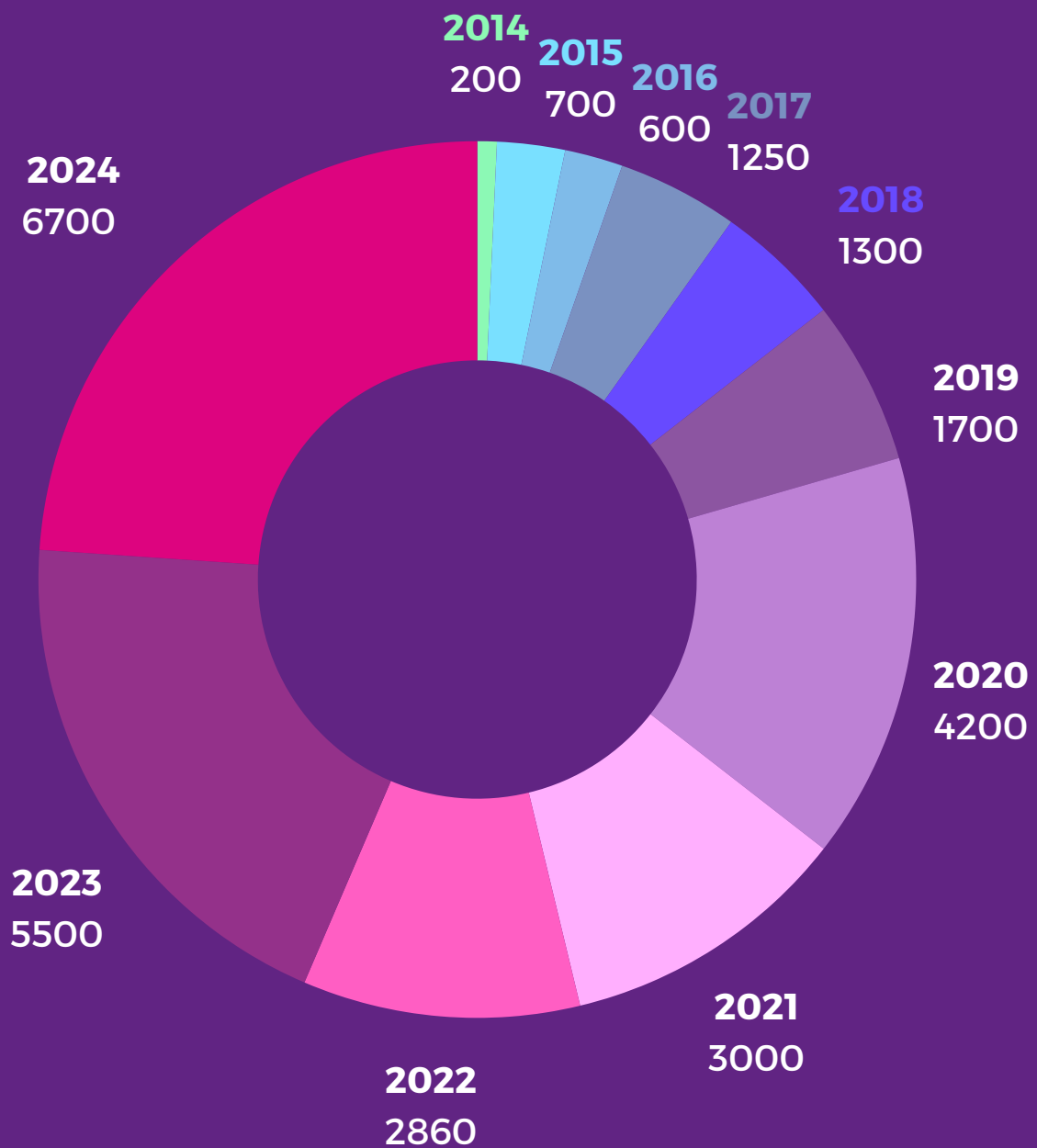
Our mission is to catalyze relationships and unite organizations, practitioners, and experts from Geneva and around the globe to share knowledge, facilitate dialogue, and explore innovative approaches to peace across various disciplines and contexts. As a flagship initiative of the GPP, Geneva Peace Week aims to break down silos between sectors, amplify diverse perspectives, and promote practical solutions to conflict, violence, and insecurity. Since the first edition 2014, GPW has evolved into a pivotal event that connects International Geneva with global peacebuilding efforts.

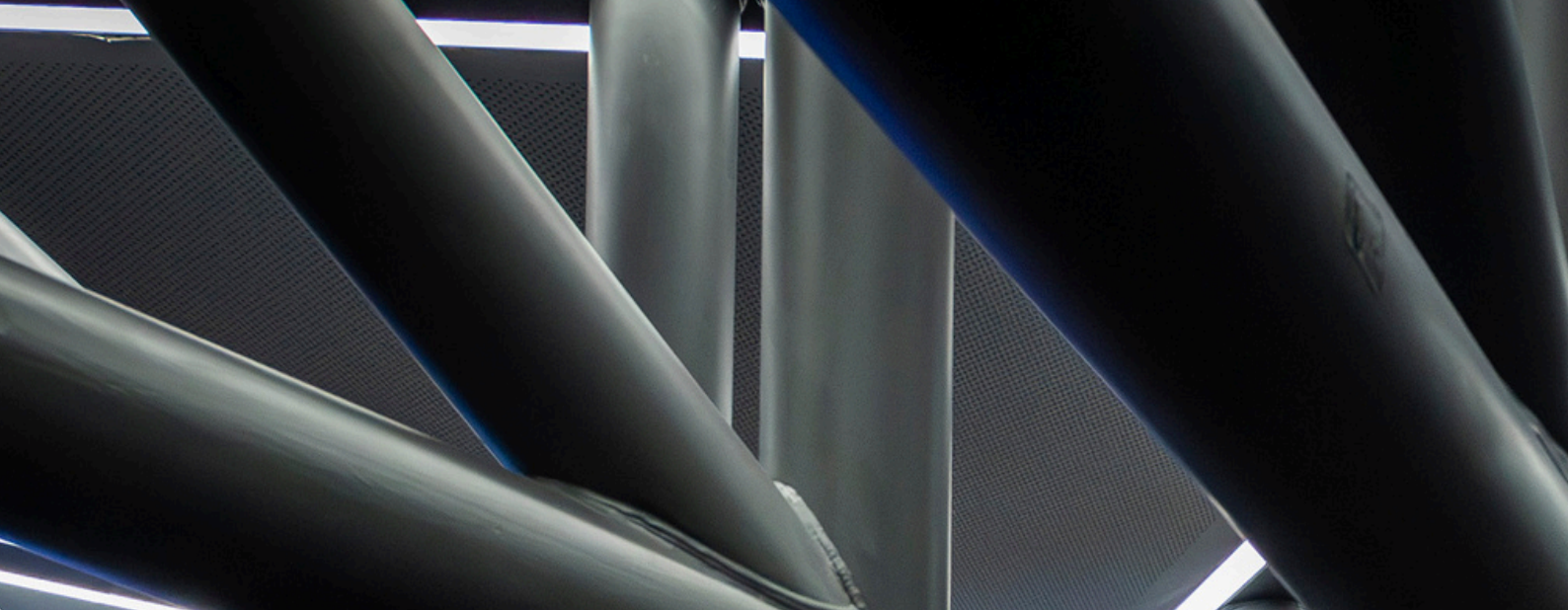


IN 2025, NO TIME TO DELAY PEACE

Over the years, the number of participants and registrations for the sessions has grown consistently, highlighting the ever-increasing pressure for world peace in a world affected by increasingly complex conflicts.

Number of attendees over the years





PEACE IN ACTION

The 12th edition of Geneva Peace Week is marked by our theme: “Peace in Action,” emphasizing not only innovative approaches, but above all concrete action to consolidate peace in a context where our interactions are increasingly rapid in the face of escalating global tensions. This year's focus encourages participants to relate ideas to tangible impact, fostering the development of effective solutions that are both global and local.

WHERE ?

At the Maison de la Paix campus (Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2E, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland), with hybrid options for online participation via Zoom. The venue is fully accessible.



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WHEN ?

13–17 October 2025

The full programme is available on the Geneva Peace Week website and most events are held in-person and online.



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100 ACTIVITIES

This year's programme features over 100 events, including:

- 23 workshops
- 33 panel discussions
- 20 artistic activities
- 15 networking events

PANELS

Each panel focuses on different thematic areas, including armed conflict, climate change, and human rights. Each panel promotes nuanced discussions covering a variety of sectors.

WORKSHOPS

In-person Peace Workshops focus on practical skills such as mediation, climate action, and digital inclusion.



HIGH-LEVEL OPENING CEREMONY

Monday, 13 October 2025, 17:00–18:30 at the Auditorium Ivan Pictet (pétale 2). “Peace in Action”: we pledge to transform global promises into concrete peacebuilding efforts.

KOFI ANNAN PEACE ADDRESS

Tuesday, 14 October 2025, 17:00–18:30 at the Auditorium Ivan Pictet (pétale 2). High-level lecture for peace, linked to the values of Kofi Annan.



PEACE TALKS

Wednesday, 15 October 2025, 17:00–18:30 at the Auditorium Ivan Pictet (pétale 2). Stories can inspire transformation by influencing our beliefs and motivating action. They illuminate the human experience, allowing each individual to chart their own path and share valuable insights.



SCREENING FOR PEACE

Thursday, 16 October 2025, 17:00–18:30 at the Auditorium Ivan Pictet (pétale 2). **We Forgive but We Don't Forget** shows the often unseen efforts of monks, survivors, artists, teachers, and community leaders in post-conflict Cambodia, presented by Daniela Wildi.



CLOSING CEREMONY ARTS & PEACE ENCOUNTERS

Friday, 17 October 2025, 11:00–12:30 at the Auditorium Ivan Pictet (pétale 2). Weekly residency for artists, peacemakers, and change agents, aiming to promote peace through art and dialogue, and to build bridges toward a sustainable future.



H.E. Ambassador Alexandre Fasel is the State Secretary of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland. He has dedicated his career to representing Switzerland on the international stage, navigating some of the most complex global issues of our time. From Geneva to New York, he has built a reputation as a skilled diplomat committed to dialogue, cooperation, and the strengthening of multilateral institutions. Today, as State Secretary of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, he works to ensure Switzerland's voice is heard in shaping a fairer, more cooperative international order. His leadership reflects a deep belief in diplomacy as a bridge between nations in an increasingly fragmented world.

H.E. Ms. Maryam Al-Misnad has emerged as one of Qatar's most dynamic voices in advancing international cooperation. With a strong background in public service and leadership, she has been instrumental in driving initiatives that connect Qatar's national priorities to global development and humanitarian agendas. As Minister of State for International Cooperation, she advocates for building resilience and fostering solidarity across borders. Her work reflects a forward-looking vision of diplomacy that is rooted in compassion, inclusivity, and a firm belief in shared responsibility.

📍 **High-Level Opening Ceremony: Peace in Action**
Monday 13 October, 17:00 – 18:30 CET
Auditorium Ivan Pictet - Hybrid

📍 **A Billion Reasons to Embrace Inclusive Sport**
Thursday 16 October, 15:00–16:30 CET
GCSP 5th floor – Hybrid



H.E. Mr. Danilo Türk's journey moves seamlessly between academia, diplomacy, and political leadership. **From serving as Slovenia's ambassador to the United Nations, to guiding global political affairs at the UN Secretariat, and later becoming President of Slovenia,** he has shaped debates around peace, security, and democracy at the highest levels. Even after leaving office, he continues to champion inclusive development and multilateral collaboration as a respected global statesman. His career reflects a lifelong dedication to the idea that peace is not just the absence of conflict, but the presence of justice and opportunity.

Dr. Shirin Ebadi an Iranian lawyer, judge, and human rights defender, was awarded **the Nobel Peace Prize** in 2003 for her pioneering efforts to promote democracy, human rights, and women's rights. As one of the first female judges in Iran, she has long advocated for vulnerable groups and civil society freedoms despite significant personal risks. Dr. Ebadi has founded and supported organizations dedicated to the protection of human rights. Her work continues to inspire movements for justice and equality around the world.

📍 **Peace Dialogue – Participation and Inclusivity in Peacebuilding: Linking Geneva and New York through Civil Society, Older Persons and Water Diplomacy**
Wednesday 15 October, 13:00–14:30 CET
GCSP 5th floor (pétale 4) – Hybrid

📍 **Fireside Chat with Shirin Ebadi: Nobel Peace Prize Laureate**
Tuesday 14 October, 15:00 – 16:30 CET
GCSP 5th floor (pétale 4) – Hybrid



Ms. Fawzia Koofi is a renowned **Afghan politician**, women's rights advocate, and former First Deputy Speaker of the Afghan Parliament. Over two decades in public life, she became one of the most prominent female voices in Afghan politics, working tirelessly to advance women's inclusion in governance, education, and peace processes. Despite facing threats and multiple assassination attempts, she has continued to speak out for justice, dignity, and the future of Afghan women. Her leadership extends beyond parliament to the international stage, where she calls for a peace that is inclusive, representative, and sustainable. Ms. Koofi's story is one of courage and resilience, embodying the determination of Afghan women to shape their country's future.

Dr. Helder da Costa is the General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat, serving 20 fragile and conflict-affected states. Dr. da Costa received his Ph.D. in Trade Policy from the University of Adelaide, South Australia in 2001. With 27 years of experience in development economics, agriculture, and aid effectiveness and management in Southeast Asia and Australia and New Zealand, Dr. da Costa has been entrusted to assume the responsibilities to coordinate the g7+ Secretariat to ensure its efficient day-to-day functioning. In addition, Dr. da Costa shall continue to provide advice to the g7+ Ministers of Finance on Aid Effectiveness and the New Deal Implementation at the country and at the global levels.

📌 **Convergence & Divergence in Regional & International Dynamics in Peacebuilding & Peace-Making: The Case Study of Afghanistan Since Doha Talks**

Thursday 16 October, 13:00 – 14:30 CET

GCSP 4th floor (pétale 4) – Hybrid

📌 **Between Rupture & Resolution: Is a Political Path Still Possible for Israel-Palestine & the Region?**

Tuesday 14 October, 09:00–10:30 CET

Conference Center C1 (pétale 5) – Hybrid



Mr. Miroslav Papa currently holds the post of the Special Representative of the **Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the United Nations**. Prior to this post he served as the Director of Political Affairs and External Relations and the Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe. Prior to joining the Council of Europe Secretariat in September 2019, Ambassador Papa held a number of positions in the diplomatic service of Croatia, including the Assistant Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Permanent Representative of Croatia to the Council of Europe and the Director General for UN, Global Issues and International Organisations. In 2018, he chaired the Committee of Ministers' Deputies of the Council of Europe. From 2015 to the end of 2018, he was the Vice-Chair of the Governing Board of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB).

Mr. Cheikh Tidiane Dieye, is the **Minister for Water and Sanitation for the Republic of Senegal** originally from Ziguinchor, holds a Master's degree in Development Sociology from Gaston Berger University in Saint-Louis and a PhD in Development Studies from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) in Geneva, Switzerland.

His career began at the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) in Geneva, before joining Enda Tiers-Monde in Dakar in 2002, where he coordinated programs on trade and international trade negotiations. In 2012, he founded the African Centre for Trade, Integration and Development (CACID), establishing himself as a recognized expert in trade and integration policies in Africa.

From Margin to Centre: Acknowledging & Strengthening Minority Women's Role in Peacebuilding
Wednesday 15 October, 11:00 – 12:30 CET
 Conference Center C1 (pétale 5) - Hybrid

Rebooting the international peacebuilding system: a call for hydrodiplomacy
Thursday 16 October, 11:00–12:30 CET
 Conference Center C1 (pétale 5) - Hybrid



Mr Peter Wagner is the **Head of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, European Commission**. He is a senior European Union official with over two decades of experience in EU external action, crisis coordination, and industrial policy. Since 2022, he has served as Director and Head of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) at the European Commission, overseeing the implementation of the EU's foreign policy tools worldwide.

Previously, he led the Support Group for Ukraine (2015–2020), coordinated the EU's COVID-19 and Ukraine-related responses within the Secretariat-General (2020–2022), and held several leadership roles in the Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry. Before joining the European Institutions in 1999, he worked as a researcher at the Center for Applied Policy Research (CAP) in Munich and as a journalist for regional newspapers in Germany.

📍 **Arms Control in the Middle East, Challenges and Opportunities for Peace after the Fall of the Assad Regime**

Wednesday 15 October, 15:00 – 16:30 CET

GCSP 4th floor (pétale 4) - Hybrid

ART EXHIBITIONS

For the 2025 edition, Geneva Peace Week will highlight art as a powerful medium of creativity that inspires dialogue when words fall short, fosters healing, and sparks awareness leading to social change. Throughout the week, the Maison de la Paix in Geneva will host free and accessible exhibitions and workshops that amplify diverse voices from around the world, showcasing how artistic expression strengthens resilience and unites us through a shared language of peace. All activities will be open to participants and the public.

Here is a selection on what to expect:

- As part of Geneva Peace Week 2025, Guila Clara Kessous, UNESCO Artist for Peace, actress, and theatre director, will lead an artistic residency exploring the transformative power of theatre in advancing human rights.
- Big Bang! is a theatre performance about the Swedish war time journalist Barbro "Bang" Alving (1909-1987). The play explores what it means to be a pacifist in a time of military escalation and to live an unconventional life in a conservative society, all while highlighting Bang's remarkable legacy as a journalist.
- Come meet artist Erika González and discover her exhibition *Asimetría* at Geneva Peace Week.
- Come meet artist Álvaro Sebastián Quiroz Bolaños and explore his exhibition *Echoes of Reality* at Geneva Peace Week.
- HE[R]EAL: Reclaiming DDR Through Women's Eyes
- Geopolitical intersectionality and peace walking tour





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