



Interfaith Forum on Women, Peace and Security

Monday, October 28, 2024

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

BYU International Center for Law and Religion Studies
Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy
Uniharmony Partners Manila
Religions for Peace Philippines

Rationale:

The Interfaith Forum on Women, Peace, and Security brings together women and faith leaders to share best practices and explore how women of faith are addressing the critical issues of women, peace, and security. This forum aligns with the International Conference on Women, Peace, and Security on October 28-30, preceding the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325).

The forum aims to contribute to global efforts by identifying pathways and developing collaborative strategies to overcome barriers to women's full and meaningful participation in peacemaking. It also seeks to mainstream gender in the promotion of peace and security, recognizing that women's involvement in these processes not only increases the chances of success but also leads to more enduring and comprehensive peace agreements. Despite the clear evidence of these benefits, women remain significantly underrepresented in these critical roles.

This forum will address key questions: How can women's participation in peace processes be effectively increased? What strategies can the interfaith community and relevant stakeholders implement to ensure women are actively involved in promoting and sustaining security?

Additionally, the forum will explore the intersection of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda with climate change. Climate change exacerbates the risk of violent conflicts and disproportionately affects women and girls, influencing their roles in both peace and security. Discussions will examine how environmental changes impact women's roles in conflict and peacebuilding, as well as highlight the experiences of women actively engaged in environmental peacebuilding efforts.

PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES:

MORNING SESSION

- 8:00 Registration and AM Snacks
- 9:00 Opening Prayer
National Anthem
Welcome Remarks
- Rationale
- 9:15 **Keynote Address**
- Hon. Suharto M. Ambolodto,**
Member of Parliament, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
- Haidi Fajardo**
Area Communication Director, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Prof. Elizabeth Clark**
Associate Director, BYU International Center for Law and Religion Studies
- Q&A
- 9:45 **Special Message**
- Dr. Mitra Modaressi**
Director of Research and Policy Development
King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID)
- 10:00 **TALK 1:**
- Breaking Barriers: Strategies for Enhancing Women's Participation in Peacebuilding and Education**
- Atty. Concepcion "Girlie" Noche**
President, Alliance for the Family
Lawyer, Author, Law Professor at Ateneo de Manila School of Law
Former Dean of the UA&P Institute of Law.
- Ms. Sapai Khaing**
Program Development Consultant and Former Project Coordinator
Religions for Peace Myanmar
Member, The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers' Asia Working Group
- Ms. Bhawana Bhatta**
Vice-President, NGO Federation of Nepal Central Committee
Chair, Women Service Institute (WSI) Nepal
- Q&A
- 11:10 5-Minute Break
- 11:15 **TALK 2:**
- Women's Leadership in Environmental Peacebuilding Amid Climate Change**
- Dr. Lilian Sison, PhD**
President, Religions for Peace Philippines
Professor of Environmental Chemistry, University of Sto. Tomas

Ven. Zhi Yi

Superintendent for Education, Fo Guang Shan Mabuhay Temple
Director, Fo Guang Shan Philippines Buddhist College

Q&A

12:00

LUNCH & NETWORKING

1:30

Panel Discussion on Women, Peace, and Security

Rev. Fr. Carlos Reyes

Ministry of Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs, Archdiocese of Manila

Rev. Erahvilla Maga-Cabillas

Chair for the Diocesan Program, Diocese of Greater Manila Area
Iglesia Filipina Independiente

Pastor Al Senturias

Administrative Pastor, UCCP Paradahan

Imam Ebra Moxsir

President, Imam Council of the Philippines

Pastor Aldrin Penamora

Executive Director, Justice, Peace and Reconciliation Commission
Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches

Ms. Asela Arago

Focolare Movement

3:00

Awarding of Certificates

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Responses and Commitment (Interfaith Leaders)

Concluding Remarks

Atty. Salma Pir Rasul

Program Director, Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy

4:00

End of Program

Emcee

Dr. Pablito “Bong” Baybado

Lecturer, Institute of Religion, University of Santo Tomas
Program Lead, Theology Cluster Graduate School, University of Santo Tomas
Researcher, Center for Theology Religious Studies and Ethics, UST
Executive Secretary, FABC Office of Education and Faith Formation
Associate Secretary General, Religions for Peace Asia (ACRP)
Coordinator, UniHarmony Partners Manila