



PeaceWomen Across the Globe
 FRIEDENSFRAUEN WELTWEIT
 نساء من أجل السلام عبر العالم
 Femmes de Paix Autour du Monde
 Женщины мира за мир на земле
 MUJERES DE PAZ EN EL MUNDO
 Mulheres pela Paz ao redor do Mundo
 DONNE DI PACE NEL MONDO
 ピースウーマン—国境を越え平和をつくる女たち
 全球和平妇女

Annual Report 2022

www.1000peacewomen.org



Tough test for feminist visions of peace

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Tough test for feminist visions of peace

As a feminist peace organisation, we strive for a world where security is understood comprehensively and as a counterpoint to the military definition, where peace is more than the absence of war. The year 2022 has confirmed to us that real security can only be achieved through demilitarisation. But the war in Ukraine is putting to the test feminist visions of peace.

The debates triggered by the Russian attack predominantly revolve around the supply of war material. Militarisation, however, means more than “just” spending on armaments: this spending is the consequence of a security policy geared towards war and military defence. The consequences of military investments extend deep into society as a whole. They occur at the expense of education, health and social services, which are as much the responsibility of the state as security – and are essential for comprehensive security. We also joined in the protests against the war because we are committed to our feminist vision of peaceful societies.

Before the escalation of the war, which had already started in 2014, participants in our Women’s Peace Tables in Eastern Ukraine had recognised that peace means more than ending the war. “Peace is within us, as a community, as individuals living together,” said one woman. In 2022, the women continued discussions about the importance of genuine security.

Whether we are standing in solidarity with women in Iran, facilitating the exchange of knowledge between women peace activists from Colombia and the Philippines, or a workshop in Kosovo on issues of violence and reconciliation, at the core is our conviction that peace and security can never be achieved through rearmament and only through justice, non-violence, respect for human rights and with the inclusion of everyone – including women.

Highlights 2022



Klaus Jensen Foundation 2022 Reconciliation Award
 In September, our President Ruth-Gaby Vermot accepted the 2022 Reconciliation Award of the German Klaus Jensen Foundation for civil conflict transformation in Trier. The award honours our commitment to women affected by wars and armed conflicts. (From left to right: Klaus Jensen, Ruth-Gaby Vermot, Malu Dreyer, Prime Minister of Rhineland-Palatinate and member of the Foundation Board.)



Flashmob for peace
 On 8 March, we launched an action on the Bundesplatz in Bern together with like-minded organisations. In an appeal for peace and demilitarisation, we made demands with reference to the war against Ukraine and took the Swiss government and arms industry to task. Also present: the parliamentarians Tamara Funciello and Sibel Arslan (kneeling 1st and 2nd from left).



Meeting of the International Board
 The board met in April to discuss the strategic future of PeaceWomen Across the Globe with the team in Bern. From left to right: Mithra Akhbari, Andrea Filippi, Carla Weymann, Annemarie Sancar, Sandy Fong, Alejandra Miller Restrepo, President Ruth-Gaby Vermot, Cécile Mukarubuga, Vice-President Susanne Schneeberger, Christa Bader, Margret Kiener Nellen, Flurina Derungs, Christine Menz. Joined by video conferencing: Margo Okazawa-Rey, Kin Chi Lau, Sidonia Gabriel.



Demilitarisation seminar
 The third event in our series on feminist peace politics, disarmament and demilitarisation took place in June in Bern under the title “Feminist perspectives on peace cultures and genuine security”. Women experts and activists from Europe, Kosovo, Ukraine and Lebanon discussed the impact of militarism with participants from our team and board.



“Coming together for peace” Nepal
 In December, our partner Nagarik Aawaz organised a cross-cultural exchange in Pokhara, Nepal, to celebrate 20+ years of collective action for peace. Up to 300 local conflict-affected women and peace promoters spoke about the successes and challenges of their work for peace, focusing on their collective power.



“Mamans Giriteka” Burundi
 The “Mamans Giriteka” are contact persons for residents in the province of Bujumbura and liaisons with the Centre Giriteka. In the workshop “My Dignity Counts”, 30 of them were trained as part of a “Zero tolerance towards violence against women and girls” campaign. The aim of the “Mamans Giriteka”: to identify cases of gender-based violence, report them to the Centre and be available to affected women/persons. The training included how they can carry out awareness and prevention work in households and neighbourhoods.

Advocacy

Changing narratives. Strengthening voices.

In October 2022, the UN Experts Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) published 70 recommendations for Switzerland to implement the Convention. The recommendations for action are manifold. However, the demands from Swiss civil society regarding the implementation of the “Women, Peace and Security” agenda were not included. These demands concerned, in particular, the participation of women in political and peace processes and the protection of women and other vulnerable groups in armed conflicts, where there is much need for action. Particularly with regard to the war of aggression on Ukraine or the protest movements in Iran, Swiss politics, (civil) society and the economy must come to terms with their responsibility and their options for action.

In 2022, we formulated concrete measures in statements on these two conflicts, in which we emphasised the demands from our network. In the first edition of the “Feminists Connecting for Peace” magazine on the topic of demilitarisation, network partners from different contexts shed light on the forms of support that would be necessary to fulfil this responsibility. They are unanimous in their position that women affected by war must be strengthened and heard and that the narrative of armament and military violence must be broken.

Also in 2022, Switzerland and South Africa shared the chair of the “Women, Peace and Security” Focal Points Network. We participated in two network meetings, in Geneva and in Pretoria. The focus was on sharing knowledge and experiences between the Global North and the Global South in implementing global and national frameworks for the effective participation of women in peace processes. There, too, the aim was to make underrepresented voices heard and to shatter unquestioned narratives.

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The need
for political action
remains.
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Feminists Connecting for Peace

A rich exchange of knowledge

In 2022, we realised how important face-to-face meetings were for networking. As much as we appreciated meeting our network members in virtual spaces, we became aware once again how fruitful physical meetings can be, allowing conversations away from the plenary room and opening up further opportunities for interaction and networking.

Our workshop series on demilitarisation, disarmament and feminist peace politics continued in 2022 with a meeting in Bern. Under the title “Demilitarisation and disarmament: feminist perspectives on cultures of peace and genuine security”, women experts and activists from Switzerland, Germany, Kosovo, Ukraine and Lebanon participated in a panel discussion. The focus was on the interconnectedness of war, the economy and climate, as well as the effects of militarism on the human psyche. It was the third event in this series, and the first physical one. The series will continue in 2023.

In Kosovo, we participated in joint meetings of women parliamentarians and gender equality and integration officers from two large municipalities, organised by our partner organisation Partners Kosova. The topics discussed included dealing with the past, reconciliation, gender-based violence, inclusion and diversity. Kosovo was also the focus of an article in the first issue of the “Feminists Connecting for Peace” magazine, which was published in spring.

New Network magazine

The magazine was produced in collaboration with activists from our network, with the intention of making the knowledge in the network accessible and visible. The eight articles cover a wide range of experiences in feminist peace and human rights work.

Peacebuilding

Knowledge, inspiration and hope along the path to peace

In our work, we and our partners constantly ask ourselves how women’s participation in peace processes can be strengthened. What can we do to ensure that their voices, experiences and insights are included in peacebuilding and in the transition from the formal end of armed conflict to a just and secure society? These questions continued to preoccupy us in 2022. Time and again we found the answers in the powerful exchanges within our network and with our project partners.

At the beginning of the year, we continued the exchange that had begun in 2018 and culminated in the publication “From transition to transformation. Strengthening women’s effective participation in peacebuilding and transitional justice processes”. At the virtual launch of the publication in March the authors shared with participants their experiences and insights from peace processes and transitional justice in Colombia, Nepal and the Philippines and engaged in discussions with experts from Kenya and the Philippines.

Using critical windows of opportunity

One important insight was that women’s and peace organisations, and other civil society actors, can use so-called “windows of opportunity” for peace work to bring about the transition to a permanently peaceful social order. Such a critical window of opportunity opened in 2022 with the election of Gustavo Petro as Colombia’s first leftist president. He has promised to implement the recommendations of the Truth Commission’s final report (to which we also contributed), published in June. Civil society is taking him at his word. These are the anchors of hope that peace work urgently needs.

The fact that peace work requires “staying power” was reiterated again and again in the 2022 exchange forums. Glimmers of hope in Colombia also give our partners in other contexts hope for the future, for example in the Philippines, where the son of the former dictator Ferdinand Marcos was elected president in 2022.

Exchange on transitional justice

We organised an exchange visit to the Philippines in December. Two members of the Gender Working Group of the former Colombian Truth Commission exchanged lessons learned in transitional justice with Filipino women peace activists. The exchange of knowledge and experiences generates new ideas but also encourages people to persevere, especially when there are more setbacks than progress in peace work. At a Women’s Peace Table in Davao, one participant described the tenacious work of transitional justice: “We must believe that a steady drip still fills a bottle.”

Room for hope in war

There is little reason to hope for peace in Ukraine. Our pilot project in eastern Ukraine, launched in 2021, was thwarted by the war (see text in this annual report). But it crushed neither our commitment to peace

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and genuine security, nor the commitment of the project participants and partners. The newly launched Women’s Platform for Peace builds on the experiences and activities of the pilot project. The first workshops took place at the end of 2022: women exchanged knowledge and discussed issues that are of central importance to them. Within the protected framework of the predominantly virtual meetings, they determine what they need to create security and peace. Even during war, these forums for exchange offer a space to hope for peaceful solutions.

Our sincere thanks

Above all, it is the cooperation with you, our long-standing funding partners and generous private donors, that makes our work for a more peaceful world possible – we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

We would like to thank the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (Peace and Human Rights Division and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation) and the Basel Commission for Development Cooperation for their substantial institutional contributions, as well as the following foundations and associations: Corymbo, Fokus Frauen, GeGe's Lebenswerk, Klaus Jensen, MAIORES (Vaduz), Maya Behn-Eschenburg, Scarlatti, Fondation VRM, and Wyss. We would like to thank the Evangelical Women of Switzerland World Day of Prayer Collection, the Roman Catholic Parish of Münsingen as well as the Reformed Churches of Nidwalden and Worb and the Sauerteig Fund for their valued contributions.

Statement of Operations

Income	2022	2021
Contributions from public institutions	200,400	138,509
Donations from foundations, organisations and institutions	821,283	848,040
Donations from churches	60,735	39,053
Private donations	129,856	169,768
Various income	2,517	11,322
Total income	1,214,790	1,206,692
Expenditure	2022	2021
Direct project expenditure	346,884	297,072
Peacebuilding	273,190	185,108
Network	67,456	93,348
Advocacy	6,238	18,615
Personnel costs	633,564	630,339
Salary costs (including social insurance benefits)	524,571	532,601
Social insurance contributions	93,843	86,844
Other personnel costs	15,150	10,893
Operating costs	148,654	119,431
Office and infrastructure	40,645	39,514
Third-party services	60,546	21,590
Running costs	7,571	5,581
Fundraising	1,548	8,726
Communications	13,913	8,513
Representational and networking costs	780	885
Board	15,667	25,797
Depreciation and amortisation	7,985	8,825
Total expenditure	1,129,103	1,046,841
Operating result	85,688	159,851
Financial income and exceptional revenue	600	-1,923
Annual result before change in fund capital	86,287	157,928
Change in fund capital	-80,667	154,175
Annual result	5,621	3,753

Balance Sheet

Assets	2022	2021
Liquid assets	1,003,667	890,449
Cash	1,002,614	886,048
Receivables from goods and services	858	990
Accrued income	195	3,411
Fixed assets	12,301	17,701
Tangible fixed assets	12,301	17,701
Total assets	1,015,968	908,150
Liabilities	2022	2021
Current liabilities	62,430	40,899
Payables from goods and services	41,033	26,859
Accrued liabilities	21,397	14,040
Fund capital	84,842	34,175
Earmarked multi-year project funds	84,842	34,175
Organisational capital	868,697	833,076
Free capital	438,697	433,076
Tied capital	430,000	400,000
Total liabilities and equity	1,015,968	908,150

Commentary

The limited audit of the annual financial statement has been carried out by the independent auditors BDO AG. It complies with Swiss law and with our bylaws. The annual financial statement has been prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER 21 accounting recommendations and the Swiss code of obligations. All figures are in Swiss francs.

At the end of 2022, PeaceWomen Across the Globe reported a profit of 5'621 Swiss francs. 76 % of our total expenditure directly benefits our projects – a great deal of work is also carried out on a voluntary basis. While the income from stable partnerships with donors remained the same, the post-pandemic relaxation allowed for the further development of projects and the network, which is associated with increased project expenditure. PeaceWomen Across the Globe has held the ZEWO quality seal since 2013 and is certified as a reputable organisation that uses its donations purposefully, effectively and in an impact-oriented manner, earning the trust of its donors.

The full audited financial statement is available on our website, under Publications and Multimedia – Annual Report.

Team and Board

The International Office consists of 9 people, with a combined total of 5.8 full-time positions: Flurina Derungs (Director), Andrea Filippi (Programmes and Advocacy), Annemarie Sancar (Network and Programmes), Christina Stucky (Communications), Franziska Vogel (Fundraising) and Carla Weymann (Network). In 2022, Mithra Akhbari (Programmes and Deputy Director) and Christa Bader (Administration) left and Naomi Chinasa Bögli (Programmes and Advocacy) and Karin Widmer (Programmes) joined the team.

The International Board consists of the President, Ruth-Gaby Vermot (Switzerland), as well as Sandy Fong (Fiji), Kin Chi Lau (Hong Kong), Alejandra Miller Restrepo (Colombia), Cécile Mukarubuga (Rwanda), Margo Okazawa-Rey (USA) and Sidonia Gabriel, Anna Hess, Margret Kiener Nellen, Christine Menz and Vice-President Susanne Schneeberger (all Switzerland). Marina Carobbio resigned in 2022. Sima Samar (Afghanistan) was newly appointed. An International Board meeting was held in April 2022. The Swiss Board met for six other Board meetings. The Board's work of about 3,000 hours was carried out on a voluntary basis. The regional coordinators and our project partners volunteered about 11,000 hours.

Our warm thanks to all of them for their commitment!

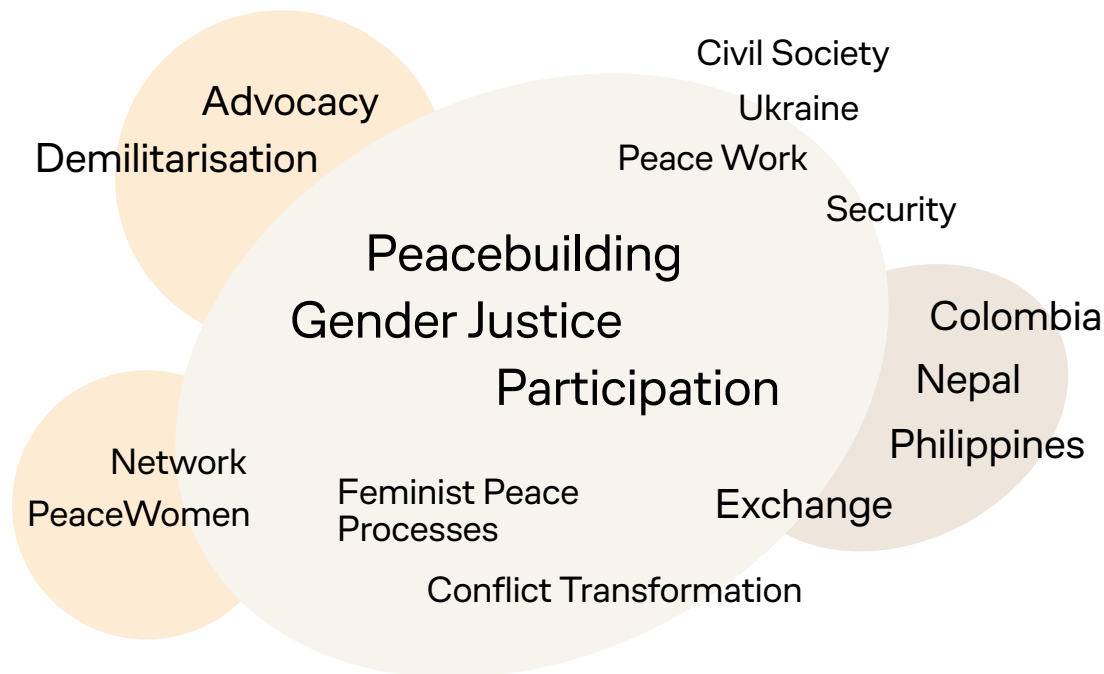
Our engagement in and for Ukraine

In 2021, we decided to launch our Ukraine pilot programme there, where war has been raging since 2014: in eastern Ukraine, we organised Women's Peace Tables (WPT) for women affected by the war with our partner Kharkiv Regional Foundation Public Alternative. Then, on 24 February 2022, the war escalated. We were very concerned for the women and knew we had to act.

Public Alternative identified what the WPT participants and their families needed most. We started an emergency fund which, thanks to donations from our supporters, made it possible to buy everyday goods. A network of volunteers bought and distributed water, food and SIM cards, among other things, organised transport for the sick and for women who could not flee and ensured that they did not lose contact with the outside world.

We also took a stand on the events: in 2021 and in January 2022 we published appeals for a de-escalation of the conflict, followed in March by an appeal with like-minded organisations for peace and demilitarisation. In May, we organised a meeting in Bern with our cooperation partner KOFF for women from Women's Initiatives for Peace in Donbas(s), who continue to work for peace in Ukraine, even as refugees.

We too continue to work for peace. With financial contributions from the Feminist Peace Initiatives, WPT participants implemented their own projects in 2022. At the end of the year, we launched the follow-up project Women's Platform for Peace: in workshops, dozens of women exchanged ideas with experts on documenting women's experiences, investigating war crimes, dealing with the past, and reconciliation. We will continue this work in 2023.



Since the end of 2022, our website not only shines in a new, fresh design, it also offers improved user guidance, clear navigation and more possibilities to attractively present our core themes and our work with our partners. Dive into 1000peacewomen.org!

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Get involved: support our work for peace and gender justice!

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