

ASSOCIATION DES ANCIENS FONCTIONNAIRES INTERNATIONAUX - Genève ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS - Geneva

Geneva, 24 March 2025

Dear Members,

AAFI-AFICS is pleased to send you information about the next conference to be held at the Palais des Nations, Room XVII, for the International Day of Conscience.

Nous espérons vous voir nombreux et vous remercions par avance pour votre participation. Please be aware that we are not involved in the registration.

AAFI-AFICS thanks you for your trust and wishes you a wonderful spring. Do not hesitate to enjoy all the cultural activities the city has to offer.

All the best,

Odette Foudral, for l'AAFI-AFICS

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Please find the link relating to this event whose <u>registration</u> is open (Registration is required for those who do not have a United Nations access badge) for possible dissemination to AAFI/AFICS members and remains at your disposal for any clarification.

Unspecified detail: Reception of the singer Billy Idol who will perform his song "Eyes without a face"

https://www.iofc.ch/idc-2025-register-now

The Initiatives of Change association, the International Alliance for the Sustainable Development Goals (AI-ODD), the Be the Love association, the Love Force Leaders and a collective of NGOs are pleased to invite you to participate on April 4, 2025, in the celebration of the International Day of Conscience established in November 2019 by a resolution of the UN General Assembly which calls on all human beings to forge "a culture of peace with love and conscience" (A/RES/73/329). The event will be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Room XVII).

The Resolution stresses the urgent need for a paradigm shift based on taking care of others and of living things to address the major global challenges facing the human family. It underlines, for the first time in the life of nations, the importance of love, whose alliance with conscience can release everywhere in the world a powerful personal and collective force of transformation in the service of social justice and respect for living things, and provide a plinth for peace by leading human evolution towards greater fraternity and solidarity.

The general theme of this 2025 Day is "Leave no one behind," the overarching concept of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted in New York in September 2015 by the 193 UN Member States and unanimously readopted by all States at the Summit of the Future in September 2024. This theme takes on a particular resonance at this moment in our history when the rights and dignity of every human being are being called into question, when ecological balances are being threatened, and when the violence of power relations is unleashed, with dramatic consequences particularly for the most vulnerable populations.

The first articles of the two founding texts of the United Nations Organization - its Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - set out the fundamental values that all peoples of the world are called to share: the equal dignity of all human beings and the right to justice, peace and social progress for all. It is by drawing on this universal ethical awareness that every man, every woman and every society can reverse the world's disruptions and suffering, and thus bring about an inclusive and peaceful humanity, driven by solidarity and care in all its forms.

The speakers on the day's program have in common that they are driven by this ethical conscience, itself based on the strength of the Love that inhabits them. Through their example and their testimonies, they will show that the escalation of violence and the

withdrawal into every man for himself is not inevitable. These testimonies and the discussions that will follow will cover essential issues for the good of humankind and the planet: putting the economy at the service of peace and social justice, revitalizing multilateralism through conscience and Love, respecting women and promoting their Rights, and highlighting the synergies between personal and social transformation.

The meeting will benefit from an exceptional intervention by Dr. Mukwege, 2018 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Billy Idol, a singer committed to peace and human rights, the participation of the Director General of the United Nations in Geneva, the Mayor of Geneva, several ambassadors from diplomatic missions to the UN and UNESCO, thinkers, social entrepreneurs, as well as 5 young Ambassadors (1 per continent), winners of the Young Leaders Love Force Awards (YLLFA) which were awarded to them in December 2024. A large place will also be given to young people from various schools and universities who will thus have the opportunity to express themselves on their concerns, their hopes and their commitments.

In this way, we intend to contribute to a necessary awakening of hearts and consciences, inspired by the values of kindness and altruism which are the foundation of all change towards the common good.

Taking place in Geneva, the world's capital of peace, and in the emblematic building of the United Nations, the nerve center and strategic center of the multilateral consultation system, this International Day of Conscience 2025 thus offers a precious opportunity to come together to discuss the transformations which, from the personal to the global scale, must and can combine to bring about a single human family, united by conscience and Love. Together, we will resist the ill winds that are rising, to found a humanism of our time and to keep hope alive.

All details and the programme schedule can be found at:

https://www.iofc.ch/idc-2025-register-now

Registration is required for those who do not have a United Nations access badge. In order to reach the meeting room in time, it is recommended to be at the entrance of the UN compound at 9:00 a.m.