

# Luxembourg Celebrates the 14th Luxembourg Peace Prize

on 19 June 2026

LUXEMBOURG - On Friday, 19 June 2026, peace activists from around the world will gather for the 14th Annual Peace Prize ceremony in Luxembourg. The 2026 Peace Prize ceremony will take place in the historical Hemicycle, at the European Convention Center of Luxembourg. The distinguished peacemakers represent a diverse mix of activists, educators, leaders, and artists from all corners of the globe.

## OUTSTANDING PEACE ORGANISATION

*2026 Laureate : Initiatives of Change*



**Initiatives of Change** was founded in the early twentieth century and has operated under its current name since 2001. The organisation is rooted in the conviction that sustainable peace begins with personal responsibility and inner transformation, and must be translated into social, political, and institutional change. From this foundation, Initiatives of Change has developed a distinctive peacebuilding approach that links inner reflection with practical action.

Today, Initiatives of Change works through a global network active in more than 60 countries, engaging individuals, communities, and institutions affected by conflict, polarisation, and historical injustice. Its programmes address complex dimensions of peacebuilding, including rebuilding trust after violence, fostering dialogue across religious and cultural divides, strengthening ethical leadership, and supporting reconciliation in post-conflict societies.

Key initiatives such as Hope in the Cities, Trustbuilding Program and Creators of Peace along with national reconciliation programmes across Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Asia, have enabled sustained dialogue among divided communities and empowered women and youth as peacebuilders. The organisation also maintains engagement with international institutions, including representation at the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

Through its work, Initiatives of Change advances a model of peacebuilding grounded in listening, accountability, and moral courage.

*“Lasting peace is not only built through agreements between nations, but through transformation within people which is at the heart of Initiatives of Change’s work”.*

Talia Smith, Initiatives of Change International's Trustbuilding Program Manager



Photo credit: Mike Muikia

An Imam and a Pastor from Nigeria plant a tree as part of a Christian-Muslim Trustbuilding Program in Kenya.

### **About the Schengen Peace Foundation, World Peace Forum and Luxembourg Peace Prize**

For the fourteenth consecutive year, the Schengen Peace Foundation and the World Peace Forum will award the prestigious Luxembourg Peace Prize to outstanding peacemakers from around the world in Luxembourg.

The Schengen Peace Foundation was founded in 2005 and approved in 2007 by His Royal Highness Grand Duke Henri as a Peace Think Tank dedicated to supporting peacebuilding initiatives.

In the spirit of Schengen — a symbol of open dialogue, cooperation, and unity across borders — the Foundation initiated the World Peace Forum, a global platform for peace activists and peace initiatives. This annual multidisciplinary gathering brings together peacebuilders from around the world to meet, exchange ideas, and strengthen their collective impact.

The Luxembourg Peace Prize was established in 2012 to recognize exceptional contributions to peace across multiple fields of action. Initially, laureates received a bronze medal depicting Nelson Mandela. Since 2017, laureates have received a sculpture of a three-legged chair created by Colombian artist Duvan Lopez. The sculpture symbolizes that each laureate becomes the fourth leg of the chair at the table of peace, helping to support and strengthen the global peace movement. The original sculpture is housed in the library of the University of Luxembourg.

Laureates are recognized in 13 categories honoring outstanding achievements in advancing peace.

### **About the Schengen Peace Foundation**

The Schengen Peace Foundation is a Luxembourg-based peace think tank dedicated to promoting peacebuilding, dialogue, and global cooperation through initiatives including the Luxembourg Peace Prize and the World Peace Forum.

**Registration** is available online at [LuxembourgPeacePrize.org](https://LuxembourgPeacePrize.org)

**Media Information:** For additional information, press accreditation, interviews with laureates, or images from the Award Ceremony, please contact:

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