

INTERACTION

URI's e-newsletter

February 2011

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URI in Action

Voices from Egypt

Photo by Maryam Ishani



“It was Incredible when Muslims prayed all together for the youth who gave their souls for a better future while Christians and those who don't pray are protecting.

It was Incredible when the Christians were reading psalms of Peace and singing calling Jesus to come to Egypt and bring safety and harmony while Muslims – including Muslim Brothers and Veiled Sisters with Religious leaders from Al Azhar – are listening

and even singing.

It was Incredible when after the singing a woman with Nikab said loudly: Where is the Egyptian Media? Come and See Egyptians Together.” -Yasser, Planet-E CC, Cairo

Perspectives on the situation in Egypt from URI members on the ground. [Read more](#)

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URI-Great Lakes Leads Non-violent Elections Campaign in Uganda

On January 4th, in a hotel conference room in Kampala, Uganda, youth political leaders and leaders of Uganda's security forces came face to face for a highly unusual meeting: a national consultation called by URI's Great Lakes region to prevent violence in the upcoming elections on February 18.



In previous years, elections have been marred by deadly clashes between youth and security forces... [Read more](#)

No More Nukes: a *Call to Conscience*

Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons CC, founded by URI President William E. Swing and a group of high-profile civil society and interfaith leaders, issued a public Call to Conscience for a ban on nuclear weapons worldwide. [Read more](#)

Perspective



A Vision of Peace in a Time of Turmoil

By Charles Gibbs

Adapted from an [article](#) that was published in the Huffington Post on February 6, 2011.

Last week URI helped celebrate the first ever United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week, an initiative by Jordan's King Abdullah II to promote peace among people of different faith traditions. Coming against the backdrop of a spike in violence against Christians in Iraq and Egypt late last year; the killing of a progressive Pakistani governor in January over the nation's blasphemy laws; and rising Islamophobia across Europe and the United States, why should we expect such a week—or even the interfaith movement—to make much difference?

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New Members Spotlight

URI in Bulgaria

Bulgarian activist Petar Gramatikov first learned about URI at a World Council of Churches conference in Geneva, where he met URI Youth Director Sarah Talcott. After attending URI-Europe's regional assembly in Istanbul in October 2010, he was determined to bring URI to Bulgaria, a mostly Orthodox Christian nation with a checkered history of tolerance for its minority religious and ethnic populations. He returned home to Plovdiv... [Read more](#)



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[URI Celebrates World Interfaith Harmony Week](#)

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