

# International Peace Symposium **DECLARATION**



The Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, gathered at the International Peace Symposium 'The Role of Science in Trauma Treatment and the Transformation of Societies', organised in Brussels on 4 November 2013 on the initiative of Mr Kris Peeters, Minister-President of the Government of Flanders,

Express their appreciation for initiatives to commemorate the centenary of the First World War, taken by the Government of Flanders and other Governments and Organisations throughout the world;

Call upon all stakeholders in this commemoration to seize the opportunity in order to foster a spirit of tolerance, solidarity and international understanding and reconciliation;

Underline the importance of science and scholarship in the world's efforts towards sustainable peace;

Recognise in particular that trauma treatment is a prerequisite to achieve reconciliation within societies impacted by war, conflict or natural disasters, and enhance their positive transformation. A science based approach is an essential part of trauma treatment;

Express their hope that initiatives concerning trauma treatment and the transformation of societies will remain on the international agenda of both policymakers and research institutions.

Brussels, 4 November 2013

Signed by

**Betty Williams**

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 1976

**Frederik Willem de Klerk**

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 1993

**Leymah Gbowee**

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2011

In the presence of

**Kris Peeters**

Minister-President of the Government of Flanders