



# 2016 annual report

 **NOBEL  
WOMEN'S  
INITIATIVE** 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Advocating for peace, justice and equality*

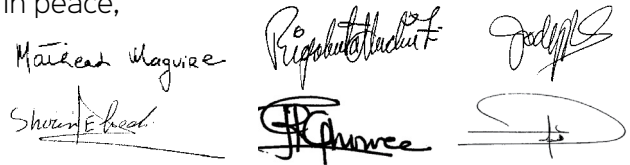
# Message from the Laureates

This year, we mark ten years of collaboration— a decade of amplifying the voices of grassroots women activists globally.

As we close out the year with a dramatic rise of far-right and misogynist sentiment and ongoing conflict fuelling a massive global refugee crisis, it is clear that the world needs our collective work of feminist peacebuilding as much as ever. We only need look to the bold women with whom we work to inspire and challenge us to do more. This year we accompanied the brave Mayan women of Sepur Zarco in Guatemala who won a precedent-setting verdict for a case involving sexual slavery. Determined Middle Eastern women joined together with us in Jordan to strategize and strengthen the women's movement for peace in the region. Colombian women were key to ensuring a peace agreement that brought to end decades of war. Women in Honduras, Iran, Syria, Burma and so many others, are organizing in courageous and creative ways— and we are reminded that women are doing extraordinary things every day to resist

policies, laws, traditions and structures that hold women back. This year we also paused to think of the women peacemakers—current and historic— whose work we are lucky to build upon. We shared 28 of these stories, written by women thinkers and doers, in our book—*When We Are Bold: Women Who Turn Our Upsidedown World Right*. There are many challenges ahead. But like the bold women who came before us, and those whose work today is inspired by them, we will persist.

In peace,



Mairead Maguire, Rigoberta Menchú Tum,  
Jody Williams, Shirin Ebadi, Leymah Gbowee,  
Tawakkol Karman

# Supporting our work for peace

The Nobel Women's Initiative would like to thank the following organizations and individuals whose generous support allow us to be a voice for women, peace and security around the world:

✿ Amanda Stuermer

✿ Carolyn Buck Luce

✿ Cynda Collins Arsenault

✿ Elizabeth Fisher

✿ Kaye Foster

✿ Lynne Dobson

✿ Marci Shimoff

✿ Marcia Wieder

✿ Margot Pritzker

✿ Melissa and Danny Giovale

✿ Nancy & Emily Word and family, including Mary Ann & Don Flournoy, Cecilia Boone, Aimee & Ed Cunningham, Hylie & Bruce Voss, and Eli & Jill Flournoy

✿ Sarah Cavanaugh

✿ NORAD, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

✿ Oak Foundation

✿ Embrey Family Foundation

✿ Russell Foundation

## All of the Nobel Peace Laureates of the Nobel Women's Initiative:

✿ Jody Williams

✿ Shirin Ebadi

✿ Leymah Gbowee

✿ Tawakkol Karman

✿ Rigoberta Menchú Tum

✿ Mairead Maguire

And many more generous individuals.



# Celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

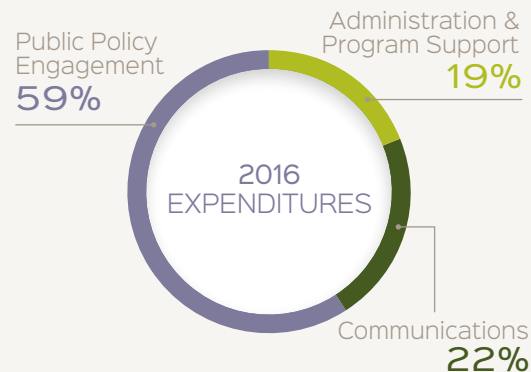
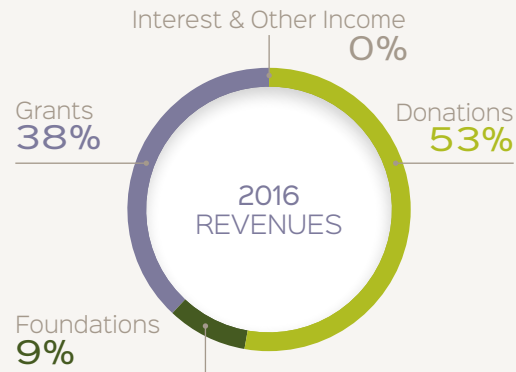
In September 2016 we commemorated 10 years of women-led action for peace.

We launched **When We Are Bold: Women Who Turn Our Upsidedown World Right** at the Ottawa International Writers Festival; Laureate Jody Williams, partners and supporters from the past decade joined us to raise a glass to our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and we shared one hundred photos from the past decade on social media!



# Financial summary

|  | 2016              | 2015              |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                          |                   |                   |
| CURRENT ASSETS                         |                   |                   |
| Cash                                   | \$ 717,357        | \$ 439,609        |
| Accounts Receivable                    | 185,742           | 135,914           |
| Prepaid Expenses & Deposits            | 3,088             | 1,148             |
|  | <u>\$ 906,187</u> | <u>\$ 576,671</u> |
| <b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>    |                   |                   |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES                    |                   |                   |
| Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities | \$ 25,061         | \$ 73,256         |
| DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS                 | 249,446           | -                 |
| UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS BEGINNING      | 503,415           | 311,506           |
| Net Revenue (Expenditures)             | 128,265           | 191,909           |
| UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS ENDING         | <u>631,680</u>    | <u>503,415</u>    |
|  | <u>\$ 906,187</u> | <u>\$ 576,671</u> |
| <b>STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS</b>         |                   |                   |
| REVENUE                                |                   |                   |
| Donations                              | \$ 618,149        | \$ 753,151        |
| Foundations                            | 110,000           | 125,000           |
| Grants                                 | 439,250           | 562,126           |
| In Kind Contributions                  | -                 | -                 |
| Interest & Other Income                | -                 | 50,628            |
|  | <u>1,167,399</u>  | <u>1,490,905</u>  |
| EXPENDITURES                           |                   |                   |
| Administration & Program Support       | 200,782           | 272,351           |
| Communications                         | 223,909           | 277,493           |
| Public Policy Engagement               | 614,443           | 749,152           |
|  | <u>1,039,134</u>  | <u>1,298,996</u>  |
| NET REVENUE (EXPENDITURES)             | <u>\$ 128,265</u> | <u>\$ 191,909</u> |



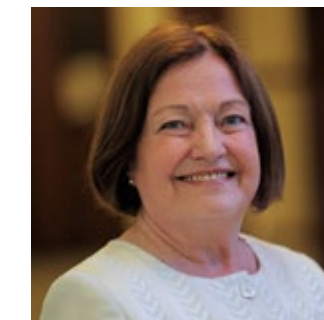
\*Registered in Canada as a not-for-profit corporation.

\*These excerpts are unaudited but are summarized from an independent 2016 audit report by the firm Welch LLP, dated April 11, 2016.



# The way to change the world is to change what is right under your feet.

Leymah Gbowee



MAIREAD MAGUIRE  
(Northern Ireland, 1976)

“Peace is a human right; it is the greatest of gifts. We must teach it, learn it, and practice it daily.”



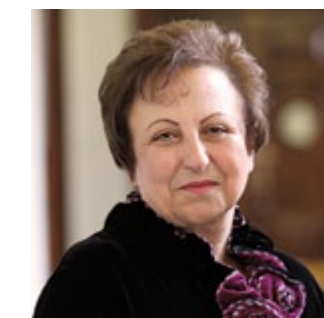
RIGOBERTA MENCHÚ TUM  
(Guatemala, 1992)

“We know governments have long-term strategies for war. We must have long-term strategies for peace.”



JODY WILLIAMS  
(USA, 1997)

“The response, resilience and resistance of movements against rising fascisms and oppressions gives me great hope.”



SHIRIN EBADI  
(Iran, 2003)

“Do not fear the difficulties and hardships of life. These hardships are what make us.”



LEYMAH GBOWEE  
(Liberia, 2011)

“Leaving women out of peace processes is like trying to see with one eye covered. It ignores the perspectives of half the population.”



TAWAKKOL KARMAN  
(Yemen, 2011)

“Behind every great revolution, every period of great change, there are bold and courageous women. We shall continue to be at the forefront or the world will fall in to despair.”



Advocating for peace, justice and equality



# 2016 Highlights at a Glance

## Women's Influence Over Public Policy

Nobel peace laureates Jody Williams and Rigoberta Menchú Tum stood in solidarity with the brave Mayan women going up against the Guatemalan military in the landmark Sepur Zarco trial — bearing witness to a trial of global importance for those working to end sexual violence in conflict.

Nobel Women's Initiative launched "Women Refugees At Risk in Europe", a report that highlights what we learned from women refugees in the 2015 *Opening Borders: #WomenRefugeesWelcome* delegation to the Balkans and Germany.

Laureate Leymah Gbowee spoke at the Commission on the Status of Women at an event to discuss putting the recommendations of the Global Study on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 into action.

Nobel laureate Jody Williams traveled to Colombia and met with leaders of the Colombian women's movement as the country reached a peace agreement.

Jody Williams and Rigoberta Menchú Tum visited the women of Sepur Zarco who won a precedent-setting verdict for a case involving sexual slavery.

## Women's Movement Building

Mairead Maguire joined the Women's Boat to Gaza, a humanitarian voyage of women activists protesting the Israeli blockade of Gaza.

Shirin Ebadi and Tawakkol Karman hosted a convening of women peacebuilders from across the Middle East in Jordan for three days of learning, sharing, strategizing and strengthening networks.

Nobel Women's Initiative brought women activists, including survivors of sexual violence and women peacemakers from the Middle East, to the Association of Women in Development (AWID) conference in Brazil for four days of learning and connection. Nobel Women's Initiative also organized the panel, "Turning stories of sexual violence into powerful tools for change".

## Women's Voices in the Media

Nobel Women's Initiative and Amnesty International welcomed four Mexican women human rights defenders to Ottawa for three days of government meetings and public events in the lead up to the "Three Amigos" Summit with the Canadian, American and Mexican government leaders.

**Nobel Women's Initiative launched "When We Are Bold: Women Who Turn Our Upside-down World Right" at the Ottawa Writers Festival**  
(Find it at [whenwearebold.com](http://whenwearebold.com)).

Nobel Women's Initiative staff delivered media trainings to two groups of Syrian women activists in Berlin, Germany and Beirut, Lebanon.

## Young Women's Power and Leadership

Alumni Sisters Su Su, Riya and Maha traveled with Nobel Women's Initiative to the Association of Women in Development (AWID) conference in Brazil, where they met with other young women activists from around the world.

Muzna Dureid, Diana Garcia Salamanca, Maryam Shafipour and HayMann Zaw traveled to Ottawa for the Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program, a six-week leadership program run by the Nobel Women's Initiative.

Nobel Women's Initiative welcomed six young women volunteer activists to help move our work forward in 2016.



**Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program** ● This year we were able to bring four bold young women activists to Ottawa for the 2016 Sister-to-Sister Mentorship Program. Hailing from Burma, Colombia, Iran and Syria, these young women use creative and innovative approaches to promote peace, justice and equality in their communities.

#### Muzna Dureid, Syria

● Muzna works as a Project Coordinator for the Badael Foundation, a non-governmental organization (NGO) committed to the development and strengthening of civil society groups in Syria. She is also the Founder and Co-ordinator of Women Refugees not Captives (Lajiaat la Sabaya).

#### Diana Garcia Salamanca, Colombia

● Diana is an Associate Researcher with CIASE (Corporación de Investigación y Acción Social y Económica). She has also provided advice on the incorporation of a gender lens in the construction of Colombia's National Museum of Memory.

#### Maryam Shafipour, Iran

● Maryam is a lifelong activist working at the Centre for Supporters of Human Rights in Iran. She played a key role in the One Million Signatures Campaign for Equality, a movement launched in 2006, which demanded an end to legalized sex discrimination in Iran.

#### HayMann Zaw, Burma

● HayMann works as a researcher for the Migrants Assistance Program (MAP) Foundation, supporting migrant communities from Burma living in Thailand. She is committed to advocating for living wages for migrant women.

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🌿 VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [nobelwomensinitiative.org](http://nobelwomensinitiative.org)

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