



WOMEN'S SPACES

**Creating platforms to strengthen women's voices
in peacebuilding, civic and political life.**

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GET INVOLVED WITH US!

AGREEMENT BY AMANDA DUNSMORE

What we do

Here at Women's Spaces, we are creating platforms to strengthen women's voice in peacebuilding, civic and political life. We provide training and capacity building to help women make their voice heard, and work across Northern Ireland with women of all ages and backgrounds. We also create links to women peace-builders and women's networks beyond Northern Ireland to share learning and strengthen solidarity.

Contact us to get involved!

Developing our toolkit FOR WOMEN, PEACE & SECURITY

We have been working hard in the background to develop a toolkit on women, peace and security (WPS) in Northern Ireland. So far we have developed a framework covering a wide range of topics that will be useful to individuals with an interest in WPS, community workers and practitioners, community volunteers, women's groups and academics.

There will be five strands to the toolkit based off discussions with participants. It will be launched in 2025 via an online accessible format.

1. **Legacy** of gender inequality and the conflict
2. **Participation** of women in community, political & public life
3. **Prevention** of conflict and the role women in conflict transformation
4. **Protection** of women & girls from social insecurity and gender-based violence
5. **Promotion** of international tools for gender equality and reconciliation.

“

Listening to women's stories reminded me of the importance of using my voice.

”

This toolkit will be the first of its kind and it will showcase the good work of the women's movement and peace initiatives from across the community and voluntary sector via online video content, guest blogs and publications.

We will provide updates on the toolkit as it develops, holding feedback workshops regionally to ensure women's voices and experiences are part and parcel of the toolkit and that lived experience is reflected to make sure this is a practical toolkit for all.

Stitching Our Stories: Displacement, Healing, New Possibilities



We were kindly invited and offered the opportunity to bring urban and rural women to the University of Ulster in November to take part in a storytelling and creative arts project. The women met and learnt from our Columbian sisters the Women Weavers of Mampuján.

From war torn Montes De Maria in Colombia, this group of displaced women turned the art of tapestry into a means of healing and storytelling. We have a tendency to be myopic and inward looking about our own conflict and difficulties when there is so much to be gained from global sisterhood and solidarity. The art work that was produced on the day was presented to the Ambassador for Colombia at an evening event and will be on display in the future in a museum in Colombia.



“Being offered a chance to attend something like this is fantastic, without Women's Spaces I would not have been able to attend. I learned so much from all the facilitators and attendees. It was an honour and a privilege to stitch our stories together.

Thank you to the organisers for this wonderful opportunity.



Where are the women?

WITH BRONAGH MCATASNEY NI SCREEN: DIGITAL FILM ARCHIVE

We were delighted to work with NI Screen once again to deliver this 3-week digital film archive programme with the Village, Armagh during November 2023.

Archive footage was shown from the last 100 years on topics related to gender equality/inequality followed by discussions on the themes of comfortable and uncomfortable roles for women according to society.

If you would like to host this workshop, contact us, and we would be more than happy to schedule this free programme in for you.



“ Seeing the archive films shows we have moved on in many ways in relation to attitude to female stereotypes. Opened my eyes and mind!

“ Women should be heard more.

“ Women need to stick together. Re-energised me to use my voice. Speaking out in the group. I felt enabled to get involved with the conversations.

Get involved with us!

In addition to facilitating our own workshops, we support Women's Spaces participants to engage with other projects. We have participated in

- Launch of AGREEMENT by Amanda Dunsmore at Ulster University
- Celebrating the 25th GFA Anniversary with Women's Coalition at Ulster Museum
- Launch of Women's Manifesto for Local Councils 2023 and Hustings at UNISON
- Stitching our Stores at Ulster University. See pg 2.



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AGREEMENT by Amanda Dunsmore comes to Hilltown Co. Armagh with Women of Clonduff



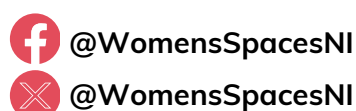
Women's Spaces is all about collaboration and connections for women and no more so that when the AGREEMENT by Amanda Dunsmore exhibition was hosted by the Women of Clonduff in Hilltown, in the heart of their own community. Our team made connections to this exhibition through Quarto and were thrilled to learn that the exhibition would be travelling to Hilltown.

To know that our team helped make that connection was wonderful and women's spaces will continue to link rural and urban women to other initiatives in the community and ensure women have a fair share of engaging with them but also to ensure that women within the local communities also have access to other programmes, training and initiatives.

Well done to all at the Women of Clonduff for embracing this project and bringing it into rural communities.



Women's Spaces at the Launch of AGREEMENT in April at Ulster University.



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Women's Spaces seeks to strengthen the voices of all women and girls in peacebuilding and decision making, delivered by a consortium involving Women's Platform, NIRWN, WRDA and WSN.