

**The World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates started from the tribute to the victims in Paris**

Sessions of the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates today started with a tribute to Paris and a minute of silence to honor the victims of the tragedy. Nobel Peace Laureates Shirin Ebadi, Tawakkol Karman, Mairead Corrigan Maguire, Jody Williams and Betty Williams spoke on the attacks before discussing the role of women in democracy.

In a speech, Nobel Peace Laureate Tawakkol Karman emphasized her deepest condolences regarding the attacks that happened yesterday in the French capital.

“I’m totally shocked and so sad about what happened in Paris,” Karman said. “Nothing can describe my sadness and the one of other people all around the world. In the state of other people, in the state of humanity, we’re against what happened in Paris. It is an awful crime. And it represents the people who are behind it, it represents the people who finance it, who manage it.“

“I call you all to research who benefits from this crime and to link between the crime and the dictators. The victims of that crime are our countries, people from the whole world, people who dream and represent the movement of peace, justice and equality. Who want to make this world a better place to live and make our future better. Let’s stand for France.”

In case you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact the Communication Team of the 15th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates:

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**Background**

**The World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates is internationally recognized as the most important annual event in the field of peacemaking**, attracting Nobel Peace Laureates, high-profile leaders, organisations, students, and professors from around the globe since 1999. Over the last fourteen years, the World Summits of Nobel Peace Laureates have been honoured with participation from numerous Nobel Peace Laureate individuals and organisations, including: President Mikhail Gorbachev, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, President Shimon Peres, President Óscar Arias Sánchez, President Lech Walesa, President Jimmy Carter, President José Ramos-Horta, Dr. Shirin Ebadi, Lord David Trimble, Professor John Hume, President Kim Dae Yung, and other globally recognised leaders. The Summit is held annually in different locations across the globe in cooperation with the participant cities and with the support of a number of Nobel Peace Laureate foundations and organisations. The Permanent Secretariat of the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation with its Executive Board based in Rome and Moscow.