

GUIDE FOR THE PARLIAMENT OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS 2023: **AN ORIENTATION TOOL FOR URI MEMBERS**



ABOUT THE GUIDE

Welcome to the "Guide for the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023: An Orientation Tool for URI Members." This comprehensive guide is specially curated to provide essential information, insights, and tips for URI members embarking on their journey to the much-anticipated Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago. As you prepare to participate in this global interfaith gathering, this guide aims to ensure you make the most of your experience, offering valuable details on event schedules, logistical considerations, and URI's significant presence at the PoWR.

Whether you are a seasoned interfaith advocate or attending for the first time, this guidebook will serve as your trusted companion, helping you navigate the inspiring and transformative world of the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023.

This guide was collaboratively created by URI Cooperation Circle (CC) members and staff who have attended past Parliaments or similar events, drawing from their rich experiences to provide valuable insights and recommendations.



A CALL TO CONSCIENCE: Defending Freedom & Human Rights

AUGUST 14-18, 2023 | McCORMICK PLACE



ABOUT THE EVENT

The Parliament of the World's Religions 2023, global interfaith gathering where diverse religious and spiritual communities come together to promote dialogue, understanding, and cooperation. Held in the vibrant city of Chicago, this historic event promises to be a platform for fostering peace, justice, and environmental sustainability through shared values and collaborative action.

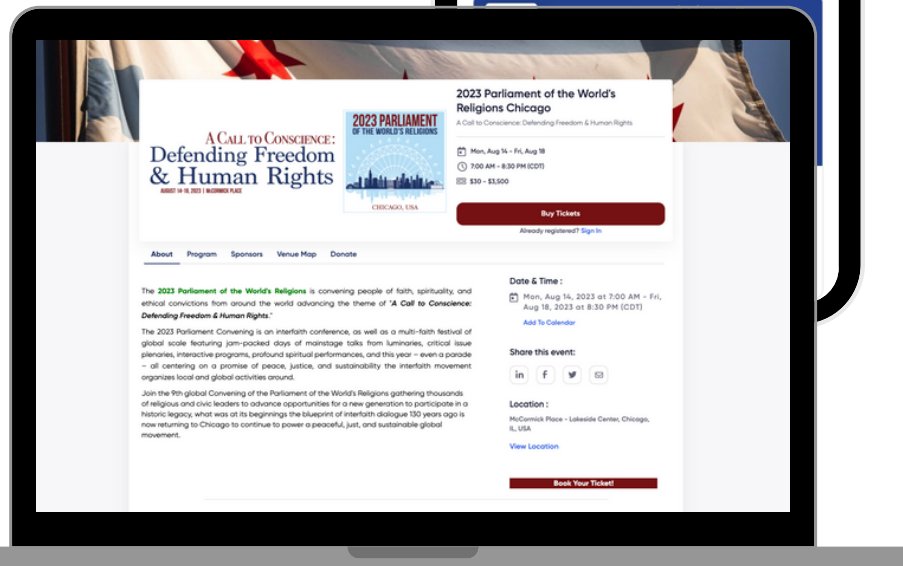
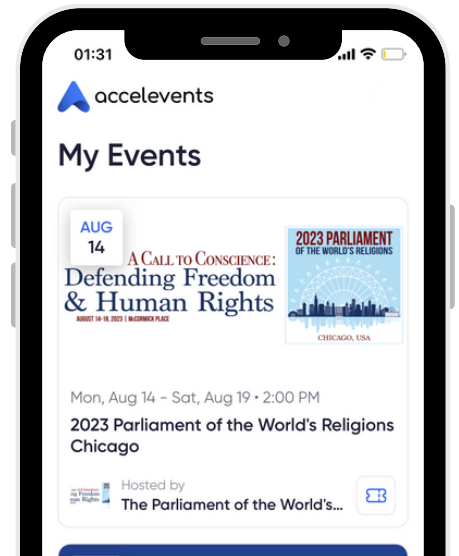
Over the years, the Parliament of the World's Religions has witnessed remarkable participation from various interfaith organizations, with the United Religions Initiative (URI) leading the way.

URI has been actively involved in previous Parliaments, demonstrating its commitment to building bridges of understanding among different faith traditions and advancing initiatives for social harmony and ecological stewardship. In 2023, URI will once again have a strong presence at the Parliament, bringing together representatives from diverse backgrounds to engage in thought-provoking discussions, forge new partnerships, and reaffirm their dedication to creating a more inclusive and harmonious world. The Parliament of the World's Religions 2023 promises to be an extraordinary occasion of shared wisdom, compassionate exchange, and collective action for a better future.

ACCELEVENTS

To make the most of the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023, all participants must register on the Accelevents platform and download its app from their respective app stores. This user-friendly platform serves as the central hub for all event-related activities, giving easy access to schedules, workshops, discussions, and key sessions. By registering on Accelevents, attendees can personalize their itineraries, ensuring they don't miss any part of the diverse program. Additionally, the platform facilitates meaningful connections with fellow participants from around the world, encouraging interfaith dialogue, collaboration, and networking.

Fill in essential details in the registration form, and after completing the process, you'll receive a confirmation email with further instructions, including how to download the app. If you are already registered for the PoWR in Chicago, make sure to use the same email address that was used to purchase your PoWR ticket.



**Click and Create Your
PoWR Account**

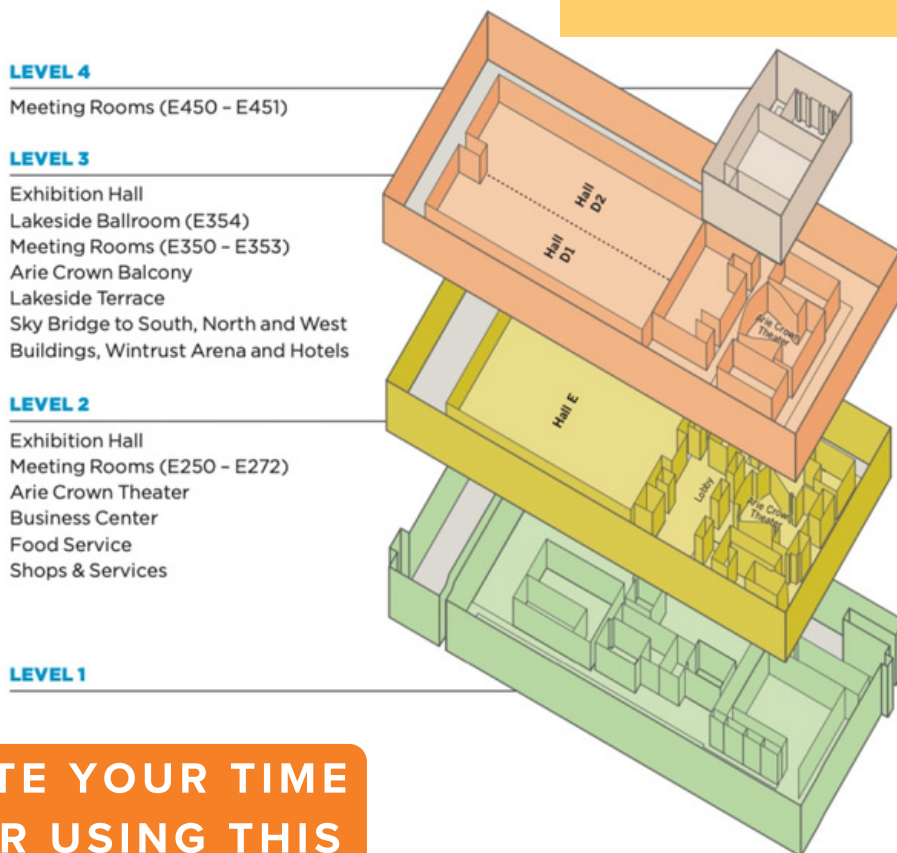
Embracing this technology-driven tool enhances the overall experience, connecting participants and contributing to global peace and understanding.

PRE-PARLIAMENT MEET UP

We are excited to invite all URI members attending the Parliament of the World's Religions to a delightful pizza party on Sunday evening, August 13, from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm in downtown Chicago. Hosted by Preeta Bansal, Global Council Chair, and Jerry White, Executive Director, this gathering presents a wonderful opportunity for CC members to meet one another in person before the Parliament proceedings begin. We eagerly look forward to your presence at this event, and we assure you that there will be no cost to attend. To ensure we have enough delicious pizza for everyone, we kindly request your RSVP.

Please let us know whether you will be joining us by Monday, August 7th, by sending an email to diana@uri.org. We can't wait to see you there and make wonderful memories together!

VENUE MAP



click here →

**NAVIGATE YOUR TIME
AT POWR USING THIS
INTERACTIVE MAP**

HOSPITALITY SUITE

We are thrilled to announce that URI will have a dedicated Hospitality Suite at the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023! This physical space will serve as a warm and welcoming gathering point for our entire URI community.

Located on Level 3 of the McCormick Place, you can find us in the Exhibit Hall at Booth 535, Booth 537, Booth 634, and Booth 636. In the Hospitality Suite, you'll have the opportunity to meet with other CC members, engage in meaningful conversations with URI staff and Global Council Trustees, and debrief your day with fellow URI members. It's the perfect place to connect, share experiences, and strengthen our global network of interfaith partners. Additionally, **you'll find a schedule of sessions given each day, by members of URI.** This space is where our vibrant community comes alive, and we can't wait to see you there! To help you navigate the Exhibit Hall you can access a map through this link: <https://2023powr.expofp.com/?uri>.

The Hospitality Suite at the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023 offers an exciting lineup of events and activities to enhance your experience throughout the week. From **August 14th to 17th, join us for daily debriefing sessions from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, where you can connect with fellow URI members, share insights, and reflect on the day's happenings. On Wednesday at 7:00 pm, don't miss the opportunity to be part of the URI Group Photo**, a cherished moment to capture the spirit of our vibrant community. Throughout the week, we have organized meet and greet sessions with various URI representatives, giving you the chance to learn more about the network and the incredible work we do.

Important things to know is that Cooperation Circles (CCs) are welcome and encouraged to display their promotional materials at the Hospitality Suite of URI.

Stay tuned for the schedule, and make sure to stop by the Hospitality Suite to be a part of these engaging activities! **You are also welcome to drop in anytime during the week to say hello.**

URI AT THE CLIMATE VILLAGE

URI will have a strong presence with not only its Hospitality Suite but also an information booth dedicated to Climate Action. Located in the Climate Village area of the resource room, the CV-11 booth will be staffed by Lauren Van Ham, passionate CC members, and dedicated volunteers. Attendees can explore and learn more about URI's Climate Action efforts through a tri-fold brochure available at the booth, showcasing the organization's commitment to environmental stewardship and interfaith collaboration in tackling climate challenges.

BOOTHS AND HOSPITALITY SUITES BY COOPERATION CIRCLES

We are delighted to inform URI participants at the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023 about Cooperation Circles (CCs) that will have booths at the event. Each CC's booth represents a unique facet of interfaith collaboration and offers visitors a chance to engage with meaningful initiatives. We encourage all participants to visit these booths to witness the spirit of collaboration and foster interfaith understanding.

Pato Banton's Spiritual Family's CC leaders, Pato Banton and Antoinette Rootsdawtah, will be at the Earth Yurt during the Parliament of the World's Religions. On August 14th and 15th, from 12 pm to 4 pm, they will be at Level 2 Hall E, bringing their infectious energy and uplifting spirit to this interfaith gathering.

On the 2nd floor, the Charter for Compassion invites you to explore compassion's transformative power, network with members and learn more about the organization. In addition to following the activities at the hospitality suite of Charter for Compassion, make sure to check out their track and all the amazing sessions they are bringing to the PoWR.

On the 3rd floor, the Contemplative Life CC welcomes you with enriching experiences. The InterSpirituality Yurts (#1 to #4) offer spaces for open-mindedness, pro-social spirituality, beauty, sacred art, poetry, healing Mother Earth, and sacred silence for meditation and contemplation.

Don't miss the Kids of PoWR booth hosted by Spiritual Playdate on the 3rd floor, with a remarkable program created for children and those who work with children. Their mission is to uplift children aged 6-13 through fun and interactive activities that foster unity and hope.

Voices for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons booth will be set up on the 3rd floor in the Exhibit Hall. Come and say hello to Bishop William Swing and other Voices members. At our booth, you can learn about the proactive steps that you can take to help reduce and eliminate the urgent risk of nuclear destruction.

Women's Village on the 2nd floor will offer activities throughout the event. Women's Village is sponsored by S.A.R.A.H. CC. Enter the Village to be activated and inspired to protect and to deepen our commitment to preserve human rights and dignity for all. To learn more about activities at the Women's Village visit the link:

<https://www.sarah4hope.org/copy-of-sponsor-the-women-s-village>

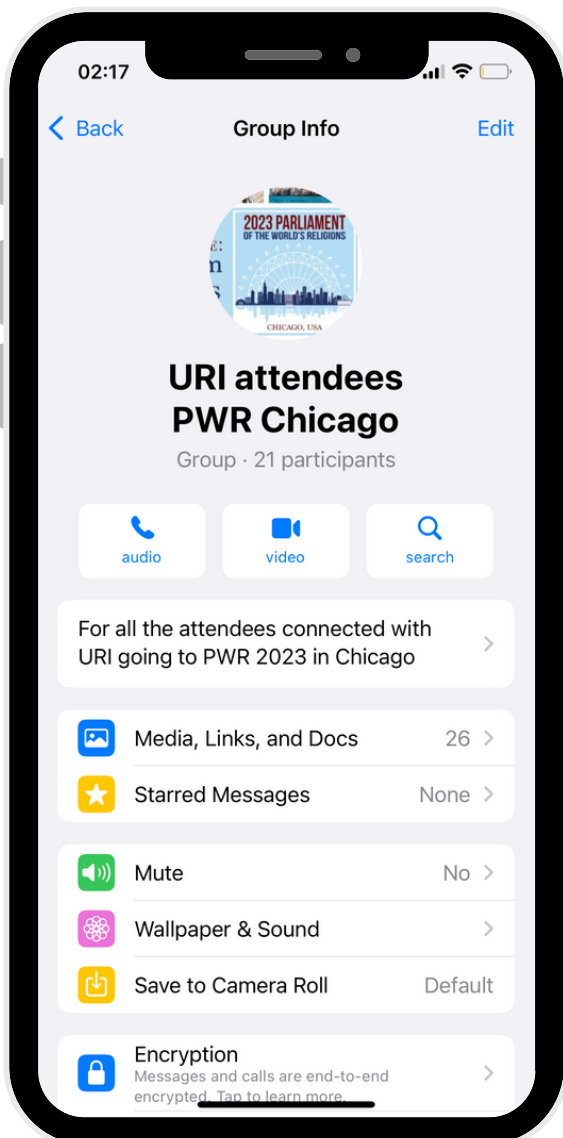
WHATSAPP GROUP

Members of URI have come together to create a WhatsApp group, fostering seamless communication and sharing of information. This group serves as a virtual gathering space, connecting URI members from around the globe, enabling us to stay in touch and coordinate effortlessly before and during the event. Whether it's updates on schedule changes, exciting events, or simply an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, this WhatsApp group has become an invaluable resource. We invite all URI members attending the PoWR to join the group and be part of this vibrant community. Let's make the most of this platform!

Click Here

Click on the button below to:

Join the WhatsApp Group



SOCIAL MEDIA

As the Parliament unfolds, URI encourages participants to share their meaningful experiences and insights on social media platforms. By using the official hashtag #PoWR attendees can join the larger conversation and amplify their contributions to this global interfaith gathering. Additionally, URI invites everyone to include the hashtags #URIPoWR and #URI in their posts. Your active engagement on social media will not only inspire others but also contribute to spreading the message of peace, understanding, and sustainable action far and wide.

#PoWR

#URIPoWR

#URI

COOPERATION CIRCLES' SESSIONS

We are thrilled to present the schedule of sessions prepared or participated in by URI members at the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023. You can access the list of sessions by clicking on the button below:

click here

[URI CCs - PoWR Sessions](#)

This table outlines the timing and locations of these enriching and insightful sessions, showcasing the diverse contributions of our URI community. To delve deeper into each session, we invite you to visit the link below and search for the session titles to read more about them. As we come together for this global interfaith gathering, we encourage all URI members to show their support and solidarity by attending these sessions and engaging in meaningful dialogue with fellow members.

click here

For more information on each session, click on the button below:

[Full PoWR Program](#)

MAXIMIZING YOUR POWR EXPERIENCE

As a URI member attending the Parliament of the World's Religions 2023, you are about to embark on an incredible journey of interfaith engagement, learning, and networking. PoWR is a large event with a vast array of activities and opportunities, and making the most of your experience requires thoughtful planning and a strategic approach. In this guide, we offer recommendations to help you navigate the event, prioritize your individual and organizational goals, foster meaningful connections, and create a lasting impact within the URI community.

Embrace the Immensity of PoWR:

Understand that PoWR is a substantial event with numerous sessions, workshops, and activities taking place simultaneously. As a URI member, it's essential to approach the event with a focus on your individual and organizational purposes. Take time to identify your key areas of interest, and prioritize sessions and events that align with your goals.

Craft Your Personal Agenda:

Creating a personalized agenda is crucial to optimizing your PoWR experience. Select sessions and workshops that not only contribute to your personal and professional growth but also align with your CC's mission and initiatives. Be strategic in your choices, ensuring that your time is well-spent and aligned with your goals.

Plan for Post-PoWR Follow-up:

Consider how you will transfer the knowledge, insights, and connections gained at PoWR to other members of your CC and the wider URI network. Before attending the event, have a plan in place for disseminating your experience to empower and enrich the work of your CC. This follow-up will help strengthen the collective impact of the URI community.

Engage in Meaningful Networking:

PoWR presents a unique opportunity to connect with individuals from diverse backgrounds and perspectives. As a URI member, be proactive in networking and engage in meaningful conversations with attendees, speakers, and fellow members. Building connections can lead to future collaborations and partnerships in advancing interfaith initiatives.

Share Your Organization's Story:

As a representative of your Cooperation Circle, be sure to bring promotional materials and resources that showcase your organization's work and impact. Having these materials readily available will enable you to share valuable information about your projects and initiatives with others, raising awareness about the incredible work of your CC. CCs are welcome to display their promotional materials at the Hospitality Suite of URI.

Support Fellow URI Members:

As a way of showing solidarity and fostering collaboration within the URI network, attend sessions organized by other members of URI. This not only demonstrates your interest in their work but also provides an opportunity to learn more about their initiatives, challenges, and achievements. Supporting fellow URI members strengthens the sense of community and mutual support within our global interfaith network.

We have a unique opportunity to engage with the global interfaith community, gain valuable insights, and forge meaningful connections. By carefully crafting your agenda, prioritizing your goals, and actively participating in networking opportunities, we can maximize our PoWR experience and create a lasting impact within the URI community.

The purpose of the United Religions Initiative is to promote enduring, daily interfaith cooperation, to end religiously motivated violence and to create cultures of peace, justice, and healing for the Earth and all living beings.
