



**AJECL** ashI

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*"Mens Sana in Corpore Sano"*

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE 2023 : ACTION IN FAVOR OF PEACE : OUR AMBITIONS FOR THE #GLOBAL GOALS.**

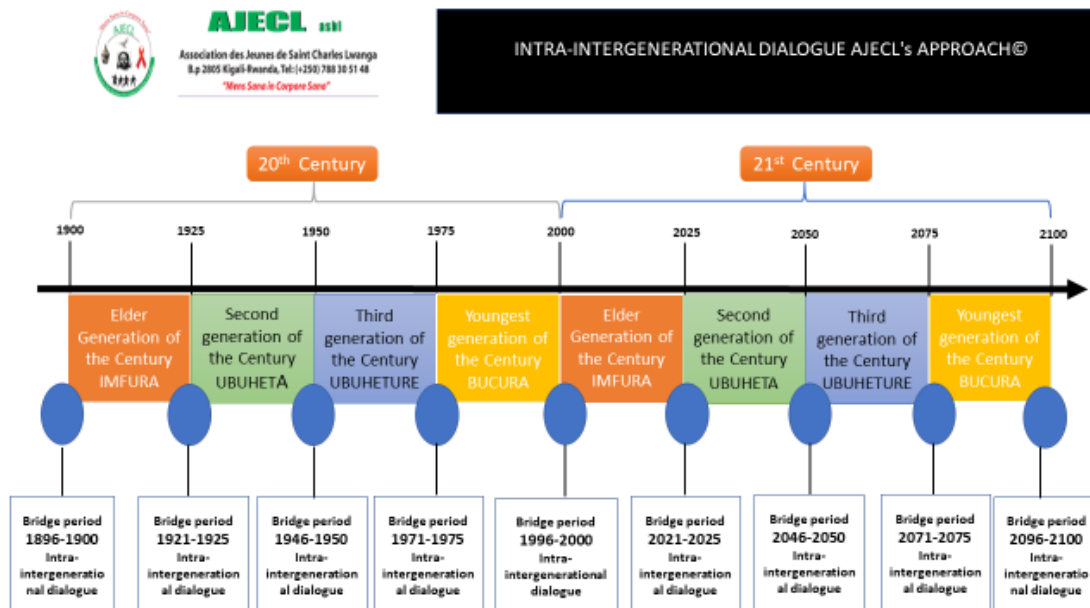
Every year, the International Day of Peace is celebrated around the world on September 21. The United Nations General Assembly has declared the day dedicated to strengthening the ideals of peace, observing 24 hours of non-violence and ceasefire. Never has our world needed peace so much.

Since 2017, AJECL has been celebrating this Day to unite with the whole world who wants at least 24 hours of Non-Violence per year. AJECL, for its part, wishes that this 21st century, the first century of the third millennium, be a century of Non-Violence.

To give its contribution, AJECL has initiated a long-term peace education program for the youth of the 21st century: GWIZAMAHORO PROGRAM 2100, INTRA – INTER GENERATIONNAL DIALOGUE.

This year, on the occasion of the celebration of this day, AJECL would like to publish a booklet containing the description of its own approach, as a contribution to the realization of a peaceful world.

The approach presents a century as a family with 4 children: 4 generations which take the names of 4 successive children in a Rwandan family: Imfura, Ubuheteta, Ubuheture and Bucura.



Each generation is invited to show concern for its period of responsibility.

Thus each generation thinks in time about the inheritance to be given to the next generation and this one shows itself mature enough to choose what it inherits and what it does not inherit for the good of its generation and of the following generations. This is decided in the bridge period, (2021 – 2025 ; 2046 -2050 ; 2071 – 2075 ; 2096 – 2100) This legacy to accept or reject must be evaluated from a holistic point of view, not partial or partisan. It must therefore encompass all areas of political, economic, religious, socio-cultural, technological, legal and environmental life, the primary aim being to guarantee a sustainable quality of life for all successive generations.

To experiment with its approach, AJECL initiated the formation of GWIZAMAHORO CLUBS in secondary and higher schools and a sports competition: Football for the culture of brotherhood and peace.

The training of gwizamahoro clubs members lasts between 40 and 60 hours and the laureates make the vow of Non-Violence, before receiving their certificates. This year 2023, in 15 secondary schools in the District of Bugesera (Eastern Province and Nyarugenge, Kigali City), more than 500 young people made their vow of Non-Violence and received their certificates of recognition as peacebuilders in their respective communities.



Gwizamahoro club GS Gihinga

Boys' and girls' football for the culture of brotherhood and peace. This annual competition organized in the Catholic parish of Ruhuha covers, this year, 5 sectors of Bugesera district namely Ruhuha, Ngeruka, Nyarugenge, Shyara and Mareba.

Each sector had a girls' team and a boys' team. The central theme of the competition is: We, the elders of the 21st century, we do not want to grow in hostility but in conviviality.

The players and spectators took the time to deepen the meaning of the key terms for mobilizing young people within the AJECL: the benevolent elder and the malevolent elder,

the friend and the traitor of the 21st century. The benevolent elder is the one who grows in conviviality and universal fraternity. The malevolent elder is the one who grows up with a logic of hatred and violence. The 21st century bosom friend is the 20th century cadet who puts 21st century elders on the right path to building a better, more peaceful future. The traitor of the 21st century is the one who drags the elders of the 21st century into a logic of hatred and violence.

At each match, a message promoting brotherhood and peace was delivered to materialize this central theme. The Twimpala girls' team and their brothers won the final and won both trophies.



This initiative responds to the theme of this year 2023: Action in favor of peace: our ambitions for the #Global Goals.

AJECL has responded to this call to action which recognizes our individual and collective responsibility in promoting peace. The promotion of peace contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will create a culture of peace for all.

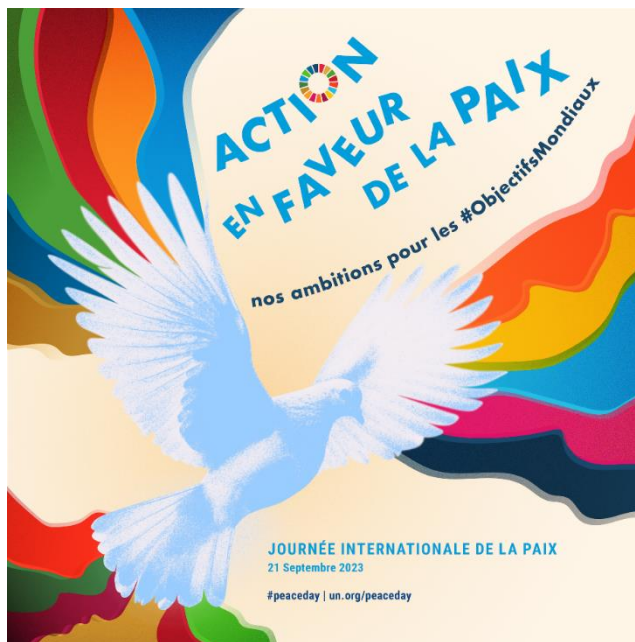
On the occasion of the celebration of the International Day of Peace, September 21, 2023, AJECL has planned the following activities:

1. Publication of the AJECL approach description booklet: GWIZAMAHORO PROGRAM 2100: Intra-Intergenerational Dialogue
2. The two conferences on the role of the first two generations in the sad events that followed one another in the last two generations of the 20th century in Rwanda and Burundi ; and the role of these last two generations of this century in what happened in these generations as well as the lesson for the first two generations of the 21st century.
3. The Vow of Non-Violence for the 30 students of Lycée Notre Dame de Cîteaux and GS Kigali and their certification

These activities respond to the invitation of the United Nations expressed in these words:

“The SDGs aim to bring us closer to more peaceful, just and inclusive societies, free from fear and violence. But without the buy-in and contribution of a wide range of actors, including the 1.2 billion living young people, the goals will not be achieved. We invite you to join the call of the United Nations to act for peace: to fight against inequalities, to take action against climate change, to promote and protect human rights.

The year 2023 also marks the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The International Day of Peace 2023 encourages all young people to be ambitious in their engagement as positive and constructive social agents, to join the movement to achieve the SDGs and to contribute to building lasting peace. Together, we can help lead our world towards a greener, fairer, fairer and safer future for all”.



We say thank you to anyone who would like to support AJECL in carrying out these activities for the International Day of Peace 2023.

**Father IYAKAREMYE Theogene**  
**The Founder of AJECL**