



## **WILPF Aotearoa annual report 2023**

### **Section governance:**

- New constitution has been drafted and will be circulated to members during 2024 for feedback and acceptance at 2025 Section AGM.

### **WILPF International:**

- Celine Kearney continues as alternative Asia-Pacific member on WILPF's International Board
- Del Abcede continues as the Section representative on the WILPF Asia Pacific regional group
- Megan Hutching continues as the Section representative on the WILPF Advisory Group

Produced annual report for WILPF International

Paid Section dues to WILPF International

We are still finding it difficult to persuade WILPF International to schedule international meetings, webinars and global calls at times that mean Aotearoa Section members can attend.

### **Asia-Pacific region:**

Celine Kearney and Del Abcede have attended online meetings of the WILPF Asia Pacific group held every two months, on behalf of the Section.

Key themes for the region are:

1. Responses to militarization /nuclearization and consequences/ Women Peace and Security;
2. Decolonisation /support for Indigenous People's initiatives;
3. Responses to Climate Change

*See also Celine Kearney's report.*

### **Correspondence and submissions:**

Letters sent:

- Minister of Foreign Affairs requesting that New Zealand acknowledge Palestine's statehood

- To Government Ministers, Opposition leaders and spokespeople on Gaza – asking for support for a permanent ceasefire, for support for South Africa’s case at the International Court of Justice
- Minister of Corrections regarding the length of time prisoners spend in solitary confinement
- Minister of Defence regarding the quality of the survey feeding into the Defence Policy Review
- Minister of Immigration regarding changes to immigration policy proposed in the Immigration (Mass Arrivals) Amendment Bill
- Japanese Ambassador regarding release of waters from Fukushima power plant into the Pacific Ocean

We also issued an open letter on the situation in Gaza and a media release on the release of waters from Fukushima power plant into the Pacific Ocean.

**Networking and membership:**

- Two issues of the newsletter were produced.
- We are in the process of making another donation of WILPF Aotearoa records to the Alexander Turnbull Library
- Membership numbers are fairly static – in the mid-60s

Suzanne Loughlin *for WILPF Aotearoa Section executive committee*