



This poem was read out at the closing of WILPF's Centennial Congress

A Hundred Years for Peace and Freedom

By Carmen Magallon Portoles: President, WILPF Spain

A Hundred years, my friends
A hundred years

You and I, all of us
In a world of war and conflict
Here and there, far and near,
Cradling this dream,
A hundred years.

With non-violent action and commitment,
With words, alliances, with campaigns,
Horizons to achieve justice,
Freedom and peace, co-existence,
You and I,
A hundred years

A hundred years
Demanding justice,
Thinking disarmament strategies,
Raising our voices,
In the international arena,
To eradicate war and militarism from our lives
For our communities and people,
For ourselves and our sisters,
For all mankind,
A hundred years

A hundred years
Against violence
Whispering to people,

And shouting to the wind
That selfishness kills
That life is very short and only love gives meaning,
That there is still time to bring joy and affection,
Care and life as they centre and guide ,
No honour or money
No borders or irrational fear of the different.

A hundred years
And you are still with me
Being part of this League, dear and centenary,
Symbol of commitment, unity and strength,
Feeding daily this desire for peace between equals,
Human rights, respect,
For all kinds of beliefs.

A hundred years
Working by your side,
Women of many faces, ages and countries
There will be hope if we are together.

A hundred years,
Companion side by side
A hundred years already

And despite everything, we do not give up
There is time, there is a future
We still have a long life ahead
Our life and that of many others:
Generations of women,
To keep building this dream.