

# Doing Justice Being Peace

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Biweekly Newsletter



February 17 marks **Global Tourism Resilience Day**, emphasizing ecotourism's vital role in connecting people with nature and encouraging responsible interactions with ecosystems worldwide.

**World Day of Social Justice** on February 20 focuses on eliminating barriers like gender, ethnicity, and disability to effectively address poverty, exclusion, and inequality within and among nations.



Imagine not being able to access information or education in your mother tongue. On February 21, **International Mother Language Day** showcases the importance of multilingual education, especially for children in early schooling.

March 1 is **Zero Discrimination Day**, a time to recognize the right of everyone to live a full and productive life with dignity. Compassion, inclusion, and solidarity are key to ending all forms of discrimination for people living with HIV.





March 1 is World Seagrass Day. Seagrasses look like prairie grasslands or alpine meadows, except they're underwater. Found in shallow, sheltered coastal areas, they provide important marine habit, nursery grounds, and feeding areas for an array of marine life from lobsters and clams to urchins, sea stars, fish, and turtles.

These marine meadows are climate champions. Not only do they produce oxygen and improve water quality, but they store 18% of the world's oceanic carbon in their sediment. They shield vulnerable ecosystems like coral reefs from acidification and are the first line of defense along coasts by reducing wave energy, protecting communities from storm surges and floods.

The vitality of seagrasses is under threat from coastal development, pollution, agricultural run-off, climate change, dredging and unregulated fishing and boating activities. The United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration is championing their restoration. To learn more read the UN report "[Out of the Blue](#)".



*In the stillness of prayer, I found  
my soul as tranquil as a calm sea,  
reflecting the beauty of heaven.*

*- St. Lydwine of Schiedam*

Consider moments of tranquility  
you've experienced in nature.  
How has this serenity influenced your  
connection to the natural world?

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