

Peace Starts Small

I was six years old when I first encountered the word “peace”. As someone privileged enough to have had a carefree childhood, my definition of the word 'peace' was shaped by my everyday experiences. One of the most defining influences on this perspective has been my experience at an international school. Having attended an international school, I grew up in an environment where race and language were not barriers but bridges, something that stands in stark contrast to the world beyond the classroom. Today, the word peace is often dismissed as an unrealistic, utopian ideal, but this does not have to be the reality we choose to live in. Peace, in the most literal sense of the word, means “freedom from disturbance” and the absence of war, concepts that are entirely achievable if we are willing to fight for justice and unity. It is now more than ever that we must band together to fight against injustice and reclaim the true significance of the word peace. To quote former US President Barack Obama, “the terms of peace may be negotiated by political leaders, but the fate of peace is up to each of us”.

Maila ramirez Martiarena