

**Sarah Weiss**

***Peace-Building Through Music: Thoughts on a Cross-cultural Communication Through Religious Literacy Project in Ambon, Maluku***

The Leimana Institute in Jakarta has a long-standing cross-cultural communication through religious literacy project in Indonesia. They have active projects in Aceh, in Sulawesi, and in Ambon. One of their most effective approaches is in training teachers of primary and secondary school children to be aware of the ways in which they can generate interest in tolerance and while creating openness and awareness not only in their students, but also the parents of their students and future communities. The Austrian Foreign ministry has an Intercultural and Interreligious taskforce focused on Wissenschaftliche Zusammenarbeit; Dialog der Kulturen und Religionen. Leimana and the Austrian Foreign ministry decided to run a pilot project in Ambon Indonesia. Reporting on ethnographic research with colleagues from the project and also activism work helping to prepare a musical presentation performed by Ambonese school teachers in Jakarta in November 2025. This presentation also explores the ethics and aesthetics of activist consultation and research in postcolonial contexts.