UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION
A Global Network of Peacebuilders

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UPF EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST NEWSLETTER

WORLD NEWS

INTERRELIGIOUS ASSOCIATION FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT LAUNCHED IN EUROPE

By Jacques Marion
Regional Vice President, UPF Europe

On April 28 and 29, 2018, in Vienna's historic Parkhotel Schönbrunn, a two-day International Leadership Conference with the theme "Toward Interdependence and Mutual Prosperity: The Role of Religious Leaders and Parliamentarians" organized by the Universal Peace Federation brought together 250 participants from 45 nations. The participants mostly came from Europe and the Middle East, with representatives from Asia, Oceania, Africa, and North America.

The conference focused on two major projects launched by UPF since 2016: the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) and the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD). The highlight of the event was the inauguration of the IAPD in Europe and the Middle East, held on the morning of April 29.

Major world religions were represented in their diversity. The presence of many Christian denominations recalled both the powerful Christian spirit that has moved throughout Europe in the last 2,000 years and the religious struggles that have plagued European history. It also demonstrated the need to stand on common ground to face the challenges of modern times.

The conference began with recorded video greetings by Dr. Jan Figel, the European Union special envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU (see page 3). It continued with two panel sessions on the themes "Religious Leaders and Parliamentarians as Peacemakers" and "The Role and Relevance of Religion in Building Inclusive, Peaceful and Prosperous Societies."

The second day began with four concurrent panel discussions, addressing current issues of concern in Europe and the Middle East: Values Education and Healthy Families, Middle East Peace Initiatives and the Role of Religion, New Dialogue between Europe and Eurasia, and Peace Initiatives in the Balkans. Panelists including scholars, theologians, parliamentarians and civil society leaders represented a broad range of political and religious views. Sessions ended with lively question-and-answer discussions.

The main event of the morning was a plenary assembly dedicated to the inauguration of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD).

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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, President, UPF Europe & Middle East

Dear Readers!

We are pleased to introduce the first edition of the UPF Europe & Middle East Newsletter, featuring some of the programs held by UPF chapters in this large region of 72 nations—from Dublin in the west to Vladivostok in the east, from Reykjavik in the north to Sana'a in the south.

Because several nations are holding many programs on the city level, we have room to highlight only a few of the activities held by Ambassadors for Peace and volunteers throughout the region.

An important focus of UPF in 2018 has been the launch in every region of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD), a UPF project initiated in Seoul in November 2017 in the presence of 400 religious leaders from around the world. The European inauguration of IAPD, held in April 2018 in Vienna, Austria, was attended by prominent political leaders and representatives of faith-based organizations and civil society, searching in collaboration for lasting solutions to the critical problems of our time.

In 2018 UPF initiated a series of large Summits for Peace, Security and Human Development throughout the world, beginning in Senegal in January, when 1,200 leaders from across Africa gathered for a UPF summit co-hosted by President Macky Sall and the Senegalese Parliament. Upcoming summits will be held in Latin America, Asia and South Africa, and will be reported on in the next edition of this newsletter.

We hope that this newsletter will fully convey the dedicated spirit of UPF Ambassadors for Peace, volunteers and partnering organizations, and the vision that inspires them to build a peaceful world.

It began with a report on the recent political breakthrough between North and South Korea by His Excellency Shin Dong-ik, the ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Austria. The keynote address was given by Dr. Felix Unger, the president and co-founder of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts (EASA).

Then four prominent religious leaders took the stage, representing Christianity and Islam in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Each of them recommended interdenominational cooperation, an engagement with leaders in all fields of society, and the mobilization of women in every peace process.

The Peace Ceremony began with an opening prayer by a Catholic priest, former ecumenical delegate of the diocese of Madrid, and by the rector of a major mosque in France. 12 conference participants, each representing a different religion or denomination, lined up on stage. Receiving light and water symbolizing spiritual and physical life from 12 young people, they simultaneously lit displayed candles and mixed the waters, as a string quartet softly played sacred music. Dr. Elmar Kuhn, the dean of the EASA Class of World Religions, concluded the ceremony by reading the IAPD Declaration and announcing the establishment in Europe and the Middle East of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development.

In the afternoon, the conference participants were taken to the "Peace Starts with Me" festival at the Vienna Stadthalle, a large indoor arena filled by ten thousand people from all over Europe, the Middle East, Russia and beyond. After an outstanding entertainment including a three-hundred-voice Gospel Choir, they listened to UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who gave a message of hope for our modern era, centering on families and youth living for the sake of the world.

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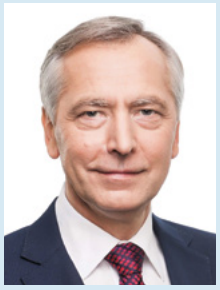
1 Peace ceremony with Holy Candles and Holy Water
2 Dr. Felix Unger, Co-founder and President of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts
3 Mr. Dong-ik Shin, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Austria

FREEDOM OF FAITH A 'LITMUS TEST' FOR ALL HUMAN RIGHTS

Dr. Jan Figel, European Union special envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU

The following is an excerpt of the address delivered by video to the UPF International Leadership Conference held in Vienna, Austria, on April 28, 2018.



Honorable President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

[...] Your conference is focusing on peace and development. We have to remember that peace is the fruit of justice. And development is another, new name for peace. Therefore sustainable development presupposes justice and fairness in the family and in society, good governance, and pursuit of the common good. In today's world there are many leaders who claim, "my nation first," "my country first," "my religion first." This easily leads to an attitude of superiority, divisions, and even conflicts.

Therefore we need more leadership and commitment oriented toward the common good. And the common good always delivers positive fruits, such as peace, justice, development, and respect for the dignity of everyone everywhere.

True human development starts with freedom, dignity and equal rights. Freedom of religion or belief is an essential human right and an expression of the deepest personal freedom—freedom of conscience. It is a litmus test for all human rights.

Three-quarters of the world's population live in countries with high or very high restrictions on freedom of religion or belief. And the tendency is negative.

Therefore, I welcome each political, legislative, religious or social initiative supporting those who face discrimination or persecution for their faith or conviction. We need more courage and engagement to stop the century of genocides and widespread crimes against humanity.

We need more education and courage to oppose ignorance, indifference and fear. Freedom and responsibility are interdependent. These are two sides of the same coin. Freedom without responsibility will die out and cease to exist.

When I speak with religious or political leaders on the topic of freedom, I always remind them of their responsibility. Without the effective contribution and engagement of religious communities and faith-based organizations, the UN and the inter-national community will not be in a position to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals in their entirety by 2030.

Thousands of people suffer from brutal persecution, governmental harassment and social hostilities in many countries of the world, especially in East and Southeast Asia, the Middle East and several regions of Africa. I want to invite you to spread awareness about the importance of freedom of religion or belief for all and to promote it globally. As we know, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

Justice and peace in every society presuppose respect for and support of the human dignity of every person. This is the cornerstone of fundamental human rights for all. And let us remember that we best answer the growing interdependence when we think and act toward each other "in the spirit of brotherhood." This is the best recipe for a righteous society and for true prosperity.

I wish your conference and encounters in the great city of Vienna a lot of spiritual and political inspiration and fruitful networking for a more humane world in the 21st century, for a world truly respecting the human dignity of everyone everywhere. Thank you, and all the best to you!

The Universal Peace Federation is an Official Supporting Partner of the

القمة العالمية للتسامح
World Tolerance Summit

Under the Patronage of ***H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum****, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai*

UPCOMING EVENTS

"PROSPERING FROM PLURALISM: EMBRACING DIVERSITY THROUGH INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION"

15–16 November 2018, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

This 2-day interactive summit will engage international thought leaders, decision-makers and influencers in thought-provoking discussions on how tolerance brings about real positive change in people's lives. WTS 2018 will take place in Dubai, a melting pot of many expatriates from around the world, and is held in line with the International Day for Tolerance in November as declared by the United Nations and in conjunction with the National Festival of Tolerance.

www.worldtolerancesummit.com

WORLD NEWS

AFRICA SUMMIT

NEW AFRICA: INTERDEPENDENCE, MUTUAL PROSPERITY & UNIVERSAL VALUES

From a report by Dr. William Selig, UPF International

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Dakar, Senegal—The historic World Africa Summit 2018 was convened from January 18 to 19, 2018, in Dakar, Senegal, on the theme "New Africa: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values," with about 1,200 participants representing more than 60 nations. The summit featured the High Plenary Session of His Excellency Macky Sall, president of Senegal, and the Keynote Address by UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. The international conference also brought together parliamentarians, religious and spiritual leaders, business/industry leaders, traditional African rulers and other VIPs.

Held at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Center (CICAD), about 40 minutes outside Dakar, the two-day summit was organized and sponsored by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), in cooperation with the government of Senegal under the presidency of H.E. Macky Sall and the National Assembly of Senegal.

With Africa's unique cultural heritage and rich human and natural resources, the summit's goal was to discuss the crucial issues of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values, and to search for solutions to common issues facing the continent's 1.7 billion inhabitants and 54 nations.

In fulfilment of the summit's objectives toward promoting a "New Africa," the following issues and initiatives were introduced:

The sharing of knowledge and technology through presentations on the New Village Movement (Saemaeul), which played a significant role in the development of rural areas in Korea after the Korean War; and coffee production utilizing research and technology from the Hawaiian Queen Coffee Farm, which was established by the founders of UPF. A memorandum of understanding was presented to the participants to support the International Highway Project, also known as the "Peace Road" project. Promoting the adoption of universally shared values, a UPF character education program including textbooks and teacher manuals was introduced.

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The summit launched three important initiatives contributing to peace and human development at the national and continental levels: The International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP); the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD); and the International Association of Chiefs for Peace and Prosperity (IACPP). The nearly 100 speakers, representing all African nations, addressed many of the challenges facing the continent which, according to the UN, will host four out of 10 people on Earth by the year 2100, and which is gradually taking a greater role as a bridge between Eastern and Western civilizations.

In her keynote address the UPF co-founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, expressed her insights and hopes for Africa "to become the light of the world", and announced after the event that Senegal will be the continental headquarters for UPF and its various projects.

VISIT TO GORÉE ISLAND

On January 19, Dr. Moon visited Gorée Island, a small island off the coast of Dakar known for its role in the Atlantic slave trade of the 15th to the 19th centuries. She joined with African spiritual leaders to conduct an interfaith prayer for peace and reconciliation. She also generously donated a boat to the island's inhabitants to be used for emergency medical evacuations.

1 Presentation of the UPF Leadership and Good Governance Award to His Excellency Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal
2 Cheikh Mansour Diouf, President, Africa Summit 2018 Steering Committee speaking at the Opening Plenary
3 Opening Plenary Audience
4 Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon joins with African spiritual leaders to offer a healing prayer for the souls of the slaves.
5 The Little Angels, a Korean Children's Folk Ballet, performed on Gorée Island in the presence of the Mayor of Gorée, Augustin Senghor.
6 Plaque unveiled by the Mayor of Gorée at the Memorial Wall in honour of Dr. Moon's visit
7 The Victoria, boat donated by Dr.. Moon for emergency medical evacuation

▲ *The island of Gorée lies off the coast of Senegal, opposite Dakar. According to UNESCO, from the 15th to the 19th century, it was the largest slave-trading centre on the African coast. Ruled in succession by the Portuguese, Dutch, English and French, its architecture is characterized by the contrast between the grim slave-quarters and the elegant houses of the slave traders. Today it continues to serve as a reminder of human exploitation and as a sanctuary for reconciliation. (www.unesco.org)*

H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, president of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly

WORLD NEWS

AFRICA DAY 2018 CELEBRATED WITH AFRICAN UNION

From a report by Genie Kagawa, Director, Executive Office, UPF-International

New York, United States—The Universal Peace Federation partnered with the African Union in celebrating the 55th Africa Day. The approximately 600 guests at the May 25, 2018 event at the Manhattan Center included ambassadors, UN officials, CEOs, dignitaries and celebrities. Africa Day is the annual commemoration of the 1963 founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), presently recognized as the African Union.

The theme of Africa Day 2018 was "Winning the Fight Against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa's Transformation." Over the past 20 years, Africa has seen progress on women's representation, poverty reduction, equal pay for equal work, and access to education and basic services.

Prominent representatives from African delegations gave remarks on the significance of Africa Day 2018 and the progress of Africa toward a dynamic, progressive and developing continent. H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, the president of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly, pointed out that African mediators are usually the first to the table when tensions are high on the continent. Although conflict prevention has been made a priority at the UN, the African Union has turned this priority into action more quickly, he said.

In addition to the speakers, the celebration displayed the diversity of the African continent's cultures and cuisines. There was also a special recognition of the 100th birthday of Nelson Mandela.

WORLD NEWS

GLOBAL DAY OF PARENTS

H.E. Archbishop Bernadito Auza (center) with Lynn Walsh and Dr. Tageldin Hamad of UPF

New York, United States—UPF co-sponsored an event at United Nations headquarters commemorating Global Day of Parents 2018.

The June 1 event, organized jointly by the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the UN and the Universal Peace Federation, was titled "The Impact of Good Parents on Children and Society: The Many Benefits of Nurturing Children's Integrity in the Home."

After opening remarks by H.E. Archbishop Bernardito Auza, the permanent observer of the Holy See to the UN, each of the five speakers contributed significant insights into the essential roles and responsibilities of mothers and fathers in shaping the conscience and character of their children. The discussion stressed that a thriving and peaceful society, in fact, can be built only with parents' engagement with and dedication to their children.

The expert speakers were Dr. Pat Fagan, the founder and director of the Marriage and Religion Research Institute; Dr. Thomas Lickona, the director of the Center for the 4th and 5th Rs (Respect and Responsibility); Dr. Rima Salah, the chair of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium of UNICEF; Dr. Melissa Moschella, an assistant professor of medical ethics at Columbia University; and Shelly Locke, the CEO of the organization The Power of Mothers.

FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

THE RIVER DOES NOT REJECT THE WATERS THAT FLOW INTO IT

Sun Myung Moon, As a Peace-loving Global Citizen, Page 245

"*It is easy to talk about peace. But to bring peace is not easy. This is because people push aside the most elemental truth needed to bring about a world of peace. They pretend not to know this truth is there. Before we talk about peace among individuals or among nations, we must talk about peace between ourselves and God.*

Each religion today thinks of itself as the highest, rejecting and looking down on other religions. It is not right to build fences against other religions and denominations.

A religion is like a wide river flowing toward an ideal, peaceful world. The river flows for long distances before it comes to the wide expanse of peace. On its way, many streams flow into it. The streams cease to be streams from the point they meet the river. From that point, they, too, become part of the river. In this way, they become one.

The river does not reject any of the streams that flow into it. It accepts them all. It embraces all the streams and forms a single flow as it continues toward the ocean. People in the world today do not understand this simple truth. The streams that seek out the river and flow into it are the numerous religions and denominations of today. Each stream traces its origin to a different spring, but they are all going to the same destination. They are seeking the ideal world overflowing with peace.

Peace will never come to this earth unless we first tear down the walls between religions. For thousands of years, religions have grown in alliance with particular ethnic groups, and so they are surrounded by high cultural walls. Tearing these down is an extremely difficult task. For thousands of years, each religion has surrounded itself with such high walls, insisting that it is the only correct religion. In some cases, religions have expanded their influence and entered into conflicts and fights with other religions, using God's name in places that had nothing to do with His will.

The will of God lies in peace. A world fragmented by differences in nationality, race, and religion, where people attack and fight one another and shed one another's blood, is not what God wants. When we shed blood and fight each other in His name, we only cause Him pain. A world torn to shreds has been created out of the desires of people to promote their own wealth and glory. It does not represent the will of God."

REGIONAL NEWS

IAPP LAUNCHED IN PORTUGAL

From a report by Sérgio Vieira, President, UPF-Portugal

The First Panel of Speakers with, third from left, Hon. Teresa Caeiro, the vice president of the Assembly of the Republic

Lisbon, Portugal—The International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) was inaugurated in Portugal at a conference held in the national parliament. Approximately 100 participants, including parliamentarians and other dignitaries, attended the conference on "Perspectives for Sustainable Peace in Europe and the World: The Responsibility of Parliamentarians."

Held on April 13, 2018, in the Assembly of the Republic, the event was jointly organized by the Portuguese chapters of UPF and Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP), an affiliated organization.

Also supporting the event were the Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies, the Platform for the Lusophone Diaspora, the CPLP Business Confederation, Radio Horizonte and TV Kuriakos.

Hon. Teresa Caeiro, the vice president of the Assembly of the Republic, offered welcoming remarks. Speakers included parliamentarians, researchers, a former minister of Guinea-Bissau and the vice rector of the Lusophone University. UPF had also invited a member of Parliament from the Portuguese-speaking nation of São Tomé and Príncipe as a guest speaker from Africa. The event was covered by television, radio, and other reporters.

REGIONAL NEWS

IAPP LAUNCHED IN LEBANON

Beirut, Lebanon—The Lebanese chapter of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) was launched on December 14, 2017 at the Parliament of Lebanon. With support from Hon. Nabih Berri, the speaker of the Parliament, and upon his recommendation, UPF collaborated with the Arab Parliamentary Union (AIPU) and its secretary general, Mr. Fayez Al Shawabkeh.

The inauguration of IAPP Lebanon was the first part of a two-day UPF conference on "The Role of Lebanon in Promoting Democracy, Peace and Prosperity in the Middle Eastern Context," attended by 100 Lebanese and international participants. Other sessions, held at the nearby Monroe and Phoenicia hotels, discussed "Lebanon as an International Centre for Dialogue", "Civil Society Engagement for Peace" and "Religious Diplomacy and Peace."

Hon. Ali Bazzi, a Lebanese deputy, gave the welcoming remarks on behalf of the Parliament. He said: "Your objective is peace. It is important in this region. Your meeting is a representation of your closeness to this country, a country of diversity." Other speakers included members of parliament from Lebanon, Morocco, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Jordan and Syria.

This conference demonstrated on many levels the value and potential of partnership, and how well-placed Lebanon is to be a centre for dialogue. The session on religious diplomacy featured Catholic, Druze, Sunni, Shia and Protestant speakers. Other international organisations based in Jordan and Malta expressed a keen interest in cooperating with UPF. On this occasion, a memorandum of understanding was signed between Dr. Thomas Walsh, the UPF Chairman, and Hon. Ahmed Al Jarwan, the President of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace.

REGIONAL NEWS

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK EVENTS

This age of globalization needs enlightened people in each faith who can examine their sacred writings and traditions and identify the aspects that can benefit all humanity as well as those that preserve each religion's identity.

In 2010, the UN designated the first week of February every year as World Interfaith Harmony Week. From the outset, UPF has actively supported this initiative, both at the United Nations and with UPF chapters around the world.

Below are a few representative programs organized by UPF Europe to celebrate World Interfaith Harmony Week 2018.

For more info visit:
www.worldinterfaithharmonyweek.com

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1 *Vienna, Austria*
2 *Paris, France*
3 *Moscow, Russia*
4 *Bergamo, Italy*
5 *Bratislava, Slovakia*
6 *London, United Kingdom*
7 *Prague, Czech Republic*
8 *Oslo, Norway*
9 *Gramastetten, Upper Austria*
10 *St. Petersburg, Russia*

REGIONAL NEWS

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

The International Day of Families is celebrated at the United Nations headquarters and around the world on May 15. The Universal Peace Federation joins in commemorating this day because it considers the family as a microcosm of the global community and because sustainable peace is grounded in the family as the most intimate social unit, the school of love and peace.

The 2018 observance of the International Day of Families focused on Sustainable Development Goal 16 relating to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development. Below are a few representative events held by UPF in Europe:

Copenhagen, Denmark

Oslo, Norway

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Stuttgart, Germany

1 Participants of the Ecological Project
2 Natalia Chigrina, the UPF leader in Saint-Petersburg, Russia
3 Participants removed garbage from the shore of the lake

REGIONAL NEWS

UPF SPONSORS ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

St. Petersburg, Russia—On June 15–17, the Universal Peace Federation chapter of St. Petersburg held its sixth eco-tourism festival, Eco-Losevo, in the nearby Losevo nature area. Sixty participants took part in a series of activities, beginning with the quest for team unity and including extreme rafting of increasing difficulty and tree planting. Each participant worked hard for the sake of nature and future generations, removing lots of garbage dumps from a lakeshore. The evenings were filled with smiles and joy, encouraged by musicians and a sense of harmony that came from performing songs together.

The festival's partners were the Vuoksa Park Recreation Center, which provided free campsites; the administration of the Chamonix settlement, and three federal-level Russian ecological NGOs. Participants expressed their desire to gather again next year for a week, instead of just three days, and showed interest in other UPF projects.

REGIONAL NEWS

PEACE COUNCILS ESTABLISHED IN ALBANIA

In 2018, UPF Albania launched a process of establishing Peace Councils in the country's major cities, with the support of local governments. On February 16, a local Peace Council was established in Pogradec with the mayor's enthusiastic support, in the main hall of the municipality. On February 17, ten local dignitaries became Ambassadors for Peace in a program organized to set up a local Peace Council in Bilisht. In Albania's Dibër region, in Peshkopi, a local UPF Peace Council was established on March 26, attended by 35 prominent figures. On March 28 in Librazhd, important participants also attended the launch of the local UPF Peace Council.

Peace Council established in Librazhd on March 28, 2018

1 Launch of the Korean Chapter of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development
2 Hajji Baba Edmond Brahimaj, World Leader, Bektashi Order (Islamic Sufi), Albania
3 Hon. Angela Guerra, Assemblywoman, Portugal, speaking at the Korean National Assembly

WORLD NEWS

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN KOREA

By Jacques Marion, Regional Vice President, UPF Europe

On February 18 to 21, 2018, UPF held its annual International Leadership Conference in Seoul, Korea, marking the beginning of the Chinese New Year and commemorating the UPF Founders' Birthdays. The event, under the title "Building a World of Lasting Peace: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values", gathered 300 guests from around the world.

Participants from Europe and the Middle East included religious leaders from protestant denominations, the Greek Catholic Church of Ukraine, the Catholic Melkite Church of Lebanon, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church of Jerusalem, as well as Buddhist, Jewish and Muslim leaders. Portuguese and Russian scholars of religion, together with parliament members from Albania, Italy, Morocco, Portugal and Syria, also attended the event.

On February 19, parliamentarians were invited to the National Assembly of Korea for a Conference on Korean Unification co-sponsored by the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. After the event, Peace Road volunteers and parliamentarians jointly launched the worldwide "Peace Road 2018" in front of the Parliament building.

Religious leaders and scholars at the Lotte Hotel attended a series of panel discussions and took part in the inauguration of the Korean chapter of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD), established in partnership with the Korea Religions Association and the American Clergy Leadership Conference.

The conference featured a review of projects that UPF and its partner organizations hold to promote interdependence and mutual prosperity based on universal values. These include a character education curriculum, family values and marriage rededication campaigns, development programs in Africa, the Peace Road project, etc. UPF Chair Dr. Thomas Walsh then called for nominations to be submitted for the third Sunhak Peace Prize – which will be awarded in February 2019.

On the last day of the conference, participants were invited to the Peace World Center, a 15,000-seat indoor arena located one hour away from Seoul. There, they attended the UPF Founders' Birthday celebration that included an interreligious ceremony and a series of high level cultural performances.

UPF Europe & Middle East Newsletter

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UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2018

Creation of the Geneva/Swiss IAPD Chapter
Sept. 21, World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland

***Dealing with the Challenges of Our Time: the Role of Faith-based Organizations – IAPD France**, Sept. 29, Paris, France*

***Peace Road Balkans 2018**, Oct. 1–10*
Tirana – Podgorica – Pristina - Skopje – Belgrade – Sarajevo

***World Tolerance Summit** (see pg. 3)*
Nov. 15–16, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2nd African Summit on Peace, Security and Development
Nov. 22–24, Cape Town, South Africa

Europe and the Future of Human Rights
Dec. 13, EU Parliament, Strasbourg, France

www.europe.upf.org/agenda/upcoming-events