UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION
A Global Network of Peacebuilders

No. 5 | June 2019
Visit www.europe.upf.org/nl5
for the complete reports.

UPF EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES CELEBRATED AT THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN GENEVA

By Heiner Handschin, Director UPF Office for UN Relations

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of International Day of Families, the Universal Peace Federation, in joint sponsorship with the World Council of Churches (WCC), the UPF-affiliated organization Women's Federation for World Peace International (WFWPI), the Geneva Interfaith Intercultural Alliance (GIIA), and the Fribourg Peace Forum (FPF), convened a special one-day program of debate and discussion on the topic "Interreligious Cooperation for Peace and Human Development—Creating an Environment for Thriving Families."

The first speaker, Rev. Dr. Peniel Rajkumar, executive director of the Interfaith Program of the World Council of Churches extended the warmest greetings of the general secretary of the WCC, Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit. Dr. Rajkumar highlighted the key role of families in educating children, with a particular focus on faith formation.

Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, regional president of UPF for Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East, emphasized that the family currently faces unprecedented challenges on a global scale. H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkowich, the head of the mission of the Holy See to the United Nations in Geneva, pointed out the crucial importance of the family as the school of humanity and its essential function in society.

Professor Dr. Adrian Holderegger, president of FPF and professor emeritus of moral theology at the University of Fribourg, offered an academic perspective on the role and function of the family and the current challenges with changing norms and values.

The session of the 13th Model-UN Youth Interfaith Council, was opened by Rabbi Kevin De-Carli of the Jewish community of Baden (AG). The other members of the council were Ms. Atefeh Sadeghi, holder of a master's degree in Peace and Conflict transformation, representing Islam, Mr. Olivier Gravrand representing Unificationism, Mr. Radnajit Zama,

1–3 | WCC GENEVA

4 | AFRICA SUMMIT

6 | DAY OF FAMILIES

9 | BALKAN CONFERENCE

2

LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

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

Dear Readers,

The 2019 World Summit, held in February in Seoul, South Korea, has been the foundation for a flurry of UPF events around the world.

In Albania, former heads of state and government from the Balkan nations gathered to launch preparations for the Southeast Europe Peace Summit to be held in Tirana in October. The ongoing challenge of peace on the Korean Peninsula has stimulated a series of supporting events in Europe, notably in Moscow.

But the central feature of the spring season has been the celebration of the family. Our cover story is the event jointly organized by UPF and the World Council of Churches at WCC Headquarters in Geneva. Other events have been held and co-sponsored by UPF around the world: From mega-church gatherings in Los Angeles and Johannesburg, to city-level seminars in Europe and the Middle East, the family as the school of love and peace needs to be protected and strengthened in our world of conflict.

I wish to thank our UPF Ambassadors for Peace and UPF volunteers for their contributions to these remarkable accomplishments.

a banker representing Hinduism, Ms. Jamie Morgan, a Methodist serving as an assistant to the Interfaith executive office of the WCC, representing the protestant faith, and Ms. Kamaljit Kaur, representing Sikhism.

The first speaker in the session on "War and Crisis Zones: Maintaining Familial Resilience" was Professor Dr. Isabel Apawo Phiri, the deputy general secretary of the World Council of Churches, who laid out briefly what the WCC stands for, which is unity among all churches. People want to celebrate families today, but one also must meet the wounds, she said, which are in quite a few trouble spots all over the world.

Fr. Pavel Samotovka, Priest, Orthodox community of Prague, Czech Republic, spoke on the Christian concept of the family and the destructive effect of war. Ms. Heather Komenda of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) mentioned that her organization's approach, to work with families rather than individuals, is quite new. IOM most recently has become very aware that working with families is crucial in dealing with vulnerable individuals, she said, especially victims of human trafficking.

The final session on Thriving Families and Social Wellbeing included Mr. Hafid Ouardiri, President, Fondation de l'Entreconnaissance, Geneva; Deepa Grover, Senior Adviser, Early Childhood Development, UNICEF EU/Central Asia; Rev. Dr. Peniel Rajkumar, Programme director of the WCC on Interreligious activities; Ms. Giovanna Campello, Officer-in-charge, UNODC, Prevention, Treatment, Rehabilitation; and Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Europe & Middle East.

3

4

5

1 The speakers and participants at the close of the conference

2 Professor Dr. Isabel Apawo Phiri, the deputy general secretary of the World Council of Churches

3 Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, Rev. Dr. Peniel Rajkumar, Mr. Heiner Handschin and H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkowich

4 Mr. Olivier Gravrand speaking on the 13th Model-UN Youth Interfaith Council

5 Dr. Michael Balcomb, President FFWPU Europe & Middle East

EXCERPTS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES CONFERENCE AT THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Visit www.europe.upf.org/nl5 for the videos with the complete speeches.

H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkowich

Head of the Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations in Geneva

In recent years, the family has also been subjected to numerous forces that seek in some way to deform it, following a secular view of reality which entails a faulty notion of freedom, considered as an autonomous power of self-affirmation for or against others for one's own selfish well-being. In light of these challenges, as you probably all know, the Synod of the Family, which is a meeting in the Catholic Church on singular topics from time to time, that was convened in 2014 and 2015, sent a clear message on the centrality of the institution of the family.

The family, in fact, is truly the school of humanity which is much needed today. In the family, a person learns endurance, the joy of work, fraternal love, generosity and forgiving others, and above all the offering of one's life in the service of others. In spite of the various signs of the crisis of the family in the global village, the working document of the Synod states that the desire to marry and form a family still remains vibrant and serves as the basis of the church's need to proclaim untiringly and with profound conviction the gospel of the family.

Professor Dr. Isabel Apawo Phiri

Deputy General Secretary of the World Council of Churches

Unity between churches is what the World Council of Churches stands for, and the fellowship of all 350 churches representing over 500 million Christians in 120 countries. The churches call each other to visible unity in witness and service to the world for a just and peaceful world. The WCC brings together the Orthodox, Lutheran, Anglican, Methodist, Reformed, Peace, African indigenous and many other churches. It has a working relationship with the Roman Catholic Church and the Pentecostal and Evangelical world bodies, and such cooperation focuses on issues in which we can agree to work together.

The WCC member churches have different definitions of the family in general; there are some among the members of the WCC that hold to Christian traditional values of family, and then we have others that hold what is called progressive family values. However, what gives us hope in the WCC is that we hold onto prophetic theology and the WCC creates a platform for the members to discuss controversial moral issues. This is possible when working within the framework of the pilgrimage of justice and peace, which the WCC fellowship has embarked on together with its ecumenical partners and people of goodwill.

WORLD NEWS

AFRICA SUMMIT INAUGURATES NEW REGIONAL PEACE ORGANIZATION

Based on a report by Dr. Paterne Zinsou, Secretary General, UPF Africa, and Dr. William Selig, UPF International

Johannesburg, South Africa—The Africa Summit and Leadership Conference 2019 (ASLC) convened June 7 and 8, 2019, at the Hilton Sandton hotel under the theme "Building a Peaceful and Prosperous Africa Centered on Universal Values."

More than 450 participants representing 60 nations, including many former heads of state and government, parliamentarians, traditional rulers, religious leaders from all faith traditions, members of the international media and women and civil society leaders, attended the event, which included the regional inauguration of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP).

Former Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan was appointed as Chairman of the African Chapter of the ISCP. On the afternoon of June 8, the participants attended the Interfaith Peace and Family Blessing Festival at the Orlando Stadium in celebration of the UN-designated Global Day of Parents 2019. That program was co-hosted by Universal Peace Federation, its affiliated organization Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, and the South Africa Interfaith Associations.

1 UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon addresses the Africa Summit and Leadership Conference.

2 Dr. Prophet Radebe, founder of the Inkululeko Yesizwe Association and organiser of the event

3 The stadium was filled to capacity for the family blessing festival.

4 H.E. Goodluck Jonathan being honored as chairman of the African chapter of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP)

1 The panel at the first session of the IAPD/IAPP convocation.

2 City of Refuge pastor Bishop Noel Jones introduced Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon

3 Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon speaking at the City of Refuge Church

WORLD NEWS

NATIONAL CONVOCATION OF IAPD & IAPP IN LOS ANGELES

By Staffan Berg, Executive Director, UPF Arizona

The National Convocation of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) and the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) took place at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel, Los Angeles, USA, from April 5 to 6, where 25 panellists expounded on "The Role of Religious and Civic Leaders in Realizing Peace in the Family, Nation and World" through 4 sessions to over 200 participants from nine countries.

The first session addressed "The Vision, Universal Values and Work of UPF, IAPD, IAPP, the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) and Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP)."

After the conclusion of the Convocation, all participants were bussed to the City of Refuge Church for the Peace Starts With Me: Blessing America rally hosted by City of Refuge pastor Bishop Noel Jones. The 60 couples who participated in the convocation were seated in front to take part in the Marriage Rededication ceremony along with thousands of other couples.

WORLD NEWS

GLOBAL DAY OF PARENTS OBSERVED AT UN

Based on a report by Lynn Walsh, Director, UPF Office of Marriage and Family

To commemorate the UN Global Day of Parents 2019, UPF organized a conference on June 11, 2019 at at the United Nations in New York with the theme "Good Parenting Builds Society: The Importance of Motherhood and Fatherhood." The event was sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Djibouti to the UN and cosponsored by those of Belarus and the Holy See.

The speakers included Erica Komisar, a parenting coach, psychoanalyst and author, who spoke on the "Critical First Years of Parent-Child Relationships"; Grace Melton, the Heritage Foundation's associate for social issues at the United Nations, who addressed the topic of "United Mothers and Fathers Benefit Children and Social Development"; and Jonathan Schweppe, director of policy and government at the American Principles Project, who stressed the importance of "Promoting the Rights and Responsibilities of Both Parents."

1 The conference was organized at the United Nations in New York.

2 Msgr. Tomasz Grysa, Deputy Permanent Observer, Mission of the Holy See to the UN, with Dr. Tageldin Hamad, Director of UPF's Office of UN Relations

3 Grace Melton of the Heritage Foundation

1 The United Nations ECOSOC chamber is the site for the 25th anniversary commemoration of the International Day of Families.

2 Lynn Walsh, director of the UPF Office of the Family, speaking at the event.

WORLD NEWS

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES OBSERVED AT UN

Based on a report by Lynn Walsh, Director UPF Office of Marriage and Family

The 25th anniversary of the International Day of Families was celebrated at the UN headquarters in New York, USA, on May 15, 2019 in an event co-sponsored by the UN Group of Friends of the Family and at least 18 UN NGOs, including UPF.

The first panel included representatives from various countries, a senior policy advisor from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the deputy permanent observer of the Holy See, who each spoke about the centrality and important role of the family in society.

The second panel consisted of speakers from civil society, including the two organizing NGOs, the Center for Family and Human Rights and Family Watch International. The UPF statement, given by Lynn Walsh, emphasized research affirming that married biological mothers and fathers provide their children with the greatest benefits on every level of well-being.

REGIONAL NEWS

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

The annual observance of the International Day of Families reflects the importance the international community attaches to families and their role in development. The 2019 observance focuses on families, family policies and major SDG13 targets:

***SDG 13 target 13.3**: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning*
***SDG 13 target 13.2:** Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning*

***Vienna, Austria**—Fifty guests attended a conference titled "Family as the Basis of a Sustainable Future," held to commemorate the International Day of Families on May 17, 2019.*

A diverse group of speakers shared their insights into the theme of the family, including a Conservative Party member of parliament heading the Family Committee, the president of the Vienna Family Network, diplomats from the UN, a medical doctor and prominent representatives from the fields of art and culture.

***Prague, Czech Republic**—UPF held a conference examining "Family and the Media" and "Why We Need the Family." on May 30, 2019, together with the Civic Institute in the CEVRO Institute, a private university.*

Speakers included the vice president of the Alliance for the Family, the editor in chief of Conservative Newspapers and Psychology Today, the director of the Civic Institute and a former member of parliament and chair of the Central European Inspiration.

***Oslo, Norway**—The UN International Day of Families was celebrated under the title "The Family as the Fundamental Unit of Society—What Does It Entail?" About 30 people attended the event, which was held at Diakonhjemmet University College on May 22, 2019.*

Among the speakers were a representative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a researcher from the Norwegian Police University College and a former leader of the Nordic Network for Marriage.

***Moscow, Russia**—The Moscow chapter of UPF organized a flash mob related to the International Day of Families.*

The action, which took place on May 15, 2019, was aimed at informing citizens about this date and also taking a survey to find out how much Muscovites know about the UN-designated commemoration.

***Tirana, Albania**—About 120 persons attended a UPF celebration of International Day of Families held in the National History Museum. The event, held on May 15, 2019, included the appointment of new Ambassadors for Peace and a World Peace Blessing.*

***Almè, Italy**—"Family - Education - Wellness" was the theme of the International Day of Families commemoration held on May 16, 2019 in the Civic Hall of a small town outside the city of Bergamo with the town's sponsorship.*

Some of the themes discussed were "The Strategic Value of the Family for Peace and Social Cohesion," "The Power of Women," and "Good Relations for Emotional Solidity in the Couple."

FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

THE FAMILY IS THE TEXTBOOK OF LOVE

The following is an excerpt from "True Families: Gateway to Heaven" by Reverend Sun Myung Moon (2009).

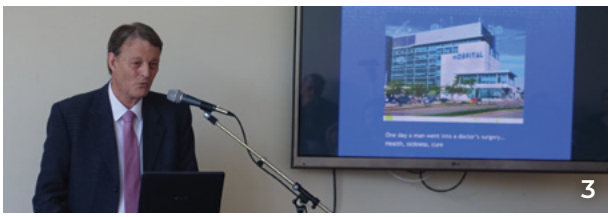
The family is the smallest unit in the kingdom of heaven. It serves as a training center and a study guide. It has all levels of people: grandparents, parents, husband and wife, and siblings. Each of these levels can be expanded to include people in the world at large who are of similar age. This expansion encompasses all humanity. Only a family that loves all humanity as much as it does its own members, in whom the parents live for the sake of the world as much as they do for their own sons and daughters, can inherit the kingdom of heaven. This is an amazing fact. The special right to inherit all the power and authority of heaven and earth created by God is derived from this.

The family is the textbook of love that lets us obtain the right to be registered in the palace of peace in the kingdom of heaven after we die. So, the family is a training ground of love. The extension of this family is the world. This is a world that resembles the grandfather of the family, a world that resembles the grandmother, a world that resembles the father and mother, and a world that resembles the son and daughter. Expand the family, and you have the world.

So, if you can love the people of the whole world as much as you love your family, as much as you love God with your family at the center, then this will become a straight road leading to the kingdom of heaven. This is why the first commandment is, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

The second is, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If you love God and love humanity, everything will be realized. If you cannot do this, any spiritual training you may have will be of no use. No matter how great a religious person's spiritual discipline may be, that person will be unsuccessful if he or she does not know how to love God, humankind and the universe.

The family is meant to provide the formula course that trains us to experience love that encapsulates the whole universe, so we can go out and express that love to the whole world. The training ground you were meant to inherit, where you experience this kind of love, is the family where your mother and father raised you.



REGIONAL NEWS

SEASIDE SEMINAR FOR AMBASSADORS FOR PEACE

By Jacques Marion, Regional Vice President, UPF-Europe

1 Participants and staff gather on the steps of Glory House.
2 Dr. David Hanna, UPF chair for Northern Europe, gives a presentation on the Ultimate Cause of the universe.
3 David Fraser Harris, UPF secretary general for the Middle East, gives a presentation.

Bergen aan Zee, Netherlands—Thirty participants gathered at a beautiful North Sea resort town for a seminar on the "UPF Vision and Peace Principles."

Held at the Glory House estate from May 10 to 12, 2019, the seminar attracted UPF Ambassadors for Peace, religious leaders and other guests from Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Russia and Serbia as well as from the Netherlands.

Beginning with an introduction of the UPF founders' life and vision, the program included presentations on the UPF Principles of Peace alternating with discussions and time to enjoy the beautiful natural surroundings.

Presentations on the UPF founders' philosophy of peace included themes such as: the nature of the Ultimate Cause of the universe; the principles of interaction; human freedom and responsibility; the three stages of life; the causes and resolution of conflict; the principles of restoration through religion; faith and reason in modern European history; and the ideals of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values.

Concluding with a presentation on the UPF peace initiatives, the seminar was an opportunity for participants to explore the fundamental vision guiding the multiple activities of the organization and to gain new insights into the achievements of the founders as peacemakers.

1 The delegates consisted of students from the hosting university as well as UPF supporters from other nations.
2 The participants each represented one of the G20 nations as indicated by their flags.

REGIONAL NEWS

UKRAINIAN YOUTH TRY MODEL G20 SUMMIT

By UPF-Ukraine

Kyiv, Ukraine—Students were given the chance to be diplomats as they participated in the first G20 Summit Youth Model in Ukraine.

On April 6 and 7, 2019, the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, in partnership with the Universal Peace Federation and the Cinario Public Organization, held a Model G20 Summit in which the well-known format of negotiations of the G20 was adapted to Ukrainian youth.

The model consisted of seven workshops guided by leading Ukrainian specialists in the fields of energy, economics, journalism and politics, as well as a practical part in which participants gathered as delegations representing one of the G20 countries.

REGIONAL NEWS

LEADERS GATHER AT BALKAN CONFERENCE

From reports by UPF Europe and UPF Albania

1

2

UPF-Albania organized a Balkan Leadership Conference on the theme "Good Governance and Sustainable Peace in the Balkans: The Necessity of Cooperation—The Challenge of Integration."

The conference, held on March 30, 2019, at the Tirana International Hotel, brought together 120 participants, including former heads of state and government from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Kosovo, and more than 30 parliamentarians from Albania, Kosovo and North Macedonia.

After the welcoming remarks by UPF Europe & Middle East Chairman Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, the panel of former heads of state and government reviewed some of the challenges faced by their countries and the Balkan region, beginning with Albanian President Alfred Moisiu (2002–2007), who pointed to nationalistic trends and the need to find common solutions.

Croatian President Stjepan Mesic (2000–2010) emphasized the need for Balkan nations to gain a new European identity through joining the European Union, while Albanian President Rexhep Meidani (1997–2002) assessed the status of each nation in the region applying to join the E.U. and NATO.

President Fatmir Sejdiu of Kosovo (2002–2007) described his country's challenges to resist outside interference and to improve education and internal security, and former Bosnian President Zivko Budimir (2011–2015) analyzed the problems caused in his country by the political configuration inherited from the Dayton Agreement.

Finally, former Kosovan Prime Minister Bajram Kosumi (2004–2005) shared his vision of a federation including Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and North Macedonia that would empower these countries in their relation to Europe.

After the concluding remarks by FFWPU Europe & Middle East Chairman Dr. Michael Balcomb, Hon. Gaqo Apostoli, Chairman of UPF Albania, read the resolution to hold the Europe and Middle East Summit in Tirana in October, which then was signed by all participants.

3

1 Speakers and participants of the second session

2 Former Heads of State and Government of Balkan nations speaking on the first panel

3 President Moisiu signing the resolution

The second session, on the theme "Parliamentarian Diplomacy and the Role of Parliamentarians for Peace," was moderated by Hon. Shezai Rrokaj, coordinator of the Albanian chapter of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP).

Seven members of parliament representing three Balkan nations, including Professor Dr. Vasilika Hysi, deputy chair of the Albanian Parliament, offered their perspective for sustainable development in their country and the Balkan region.

IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

A detailed report on the UPF conference with the theme "The Necessity of Cooperation, the Challenge and the Need for Integration" held on June 7, 2019, in the Assembly Hall of the Kosovo Parliament Building in Pristina, Kosovo

1 The conference was held at United Nations Headquarters in Vienna.
2 Dr. Werner Fasslabend, a former Austrian defense minister
3 The speakers of the first session

REGIONAL NEWS

CONFERENCE AT UN VIENNA FOCUSES ON HORN OF AFRICA

From reports by UPF Europe and UPF Austria

Vienna, Austria— On March 20, 2019, 200 guests attended a conference at the United Nations headquarters in Vienna titled "Perspectives for Sustainable Peace and Development in the Horn of Africa."

Organized by the Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations in Vienna, the event was co-sponsored by UPF-Austria, along with the Horn of Africa Peace Initiative, Awethu Forum to Promote African Unity in Diversity, the UN Correspondents Association Vienna, the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES) and the Women's Federation for World Peace.

The conference was organized on the foundation of the dramatic change that took place in the Horn of Africa on July 9, 2018, when the leaders of Ethiopia and Eritrea signed a declaration ending the state of war between the two countries.

Among the speakers were Dr. Martin Nesirky, director of the UN Information Service (UNIS) in Vienna; Dr. Werner Fasslabend, AIES president and former Austrian defense minister; H.E. Mirghani Abbaker Altayeb Bakhet, ambassador of Sudan to Austria; H.E. Aden Mohamed Dileita, ambassador of Djibouti to Germany; H.E. Mahad Ahmed Haji, chargé d'affaires and minister-counselor of Somalia at UNIDO; Dr. Andreas Melan, Africa Department head at the Austrian Ministry for European and International Affairs; and H.E. Abdulkadir Bakri Hamdan, representative of Eritrea to the UN in Vienna and main organizer of the event.

REGIONAL NEWS

ROLE OF FAITH ORGANIZATIONS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE DISCUSSED

By Peter Haider, president, UPF-Austria

On May 20, 2019, at the Vienna International Centre in Austria, UPF organized a side-meeting to the 28th Session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice entitled "Ethics and Good Governance as Applied to Criminal Justice: The Significance of Faith-Based Organizations."

The speakers included experts and representatives of NGOs and the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID). The following day, after a conference co-organized by UNODC and KAICIID, UPF joined KAICIID in hosting a special concert for peace.

The UPF side-meeting to the 28th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice takes place in the Vienna International Centre.

VISIT TO PAKISTAN

***In March 2019**, Mr. Peter Haider, President of UPF Austria, accompanied a delegation to Pakistan consisting of Dr. Werner Fasslabend, former Austrian Minister of Defence, and Dr. Walter Feichtinger, Brigadier General of the Austrian Armed Forces, Director of the Institute for Peace Support and Conflict Management (IFK). They met with various government officials in Islamabad and Kashmir, as well as participating in a conference at the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (above photo).*

REGIONAL NEWS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY OBSERVED IN U.K. PARLIAMENT

By Anja Toresen, UPF UK

International Women's Day 2019 was marked by UPF with a program in the House of Lords on March 25 hosted by Baroness Meral Hussein-Ece. Speakers included Madi Sharma, an entrepreneur who heads the Madi Group; Dr. Dan Guinness, director of the Good Lad Initiative; Paola Diana, best-selling author of Saving the World; author and broadcaster Carole Stone, CBE; Wellness advocate Dr. Gill Barham; David Mahoney, whose organization is creating fairer environments; Maisha Sumah, a young mental health expert in the National Health Service; and Ms. Dongsoon Chen and Dr. Michael Balcomb, representing the affiliated organizations WFWP and FFWPU, respectively.

1

2

1 The event was held in the House of Lords.
2 The program was hosted by Baroness Meral Hussein-Ece (front row, 3rd from left).

REGIONAL NEWS

MOSCOW ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSES ASIA-PACIFIC FUTURE AND THE KOREAN PENINSULA

From a report by Marya Nazarova, Secretary General, UPF-Russia

On April 13, 2019, Russian experts on Korea and the Asia-Pacific region gathered at a roundtable on "Russia and Countries in the Asia-Pacific Region: Toward Peace, Security and Sustainable Development", to analyze the situation in the region considering the recent developments on the Korean Peninsula.

Leading experts from the Russian Academy of Sciences such as Dr. Alexander Zhebin, head of the Center for Korean Studies at the Institute of Far Eastern Studies and Dr. Alexander Vorontsov, head of the Department of Korea and Mongolia at the Institute of Oriental Studies, presented their analyses of the political stakes regarding the Korean Peninsula and described the different approaches to security by countries in the region.

Other experts shared their research and vision regarding the potential for Korean unification, including Dr. Vladimir Petrovsky, a chief researcher at the Institute of Far Eastern Studies; Dr. Vladimir Nogai, chair of the Moscow Association for the Promotion of Korean Unification and Mr. Ernest Kim, chair of the Council of Koreans of the Moscow Region.

Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, the regional chair of UPF for Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East, spoke about accompanying UPF founders, Dr. and Mrs. Moon, on their historic visit to Moscow in 1990. Dr. Evgeny Kim, a leading researcher at the Center for Korean Studies and member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, suggested that Rev. Moon's approach to Korea's reunification was a model to be followed.

1

2

1 The participants after the conference.
2 The participants watch a presentation about the UPF founders and their efforts in support of Korean reunification.

WORLD NEWS

KOREA EXPERTS FOCUS ON PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION

By Dr. William Selig, UPF International

Seoul, Korea—UPF's International Leadership Conference convened on the theme "Toward Peace and Security in Northeast Asia: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values."

The conference, which was held in the Lotte Hotel in Seoul from May 15 to 17, 2019, was attended by 80 senior experts in Northeast Asian and Korean affairs from Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom and Russia, and more than 200 distinguished local guests, including the mayor of Seoul, members of South Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Assembly, and Ambassador Joseph DeTrani, special U.S. envoy for the Six-Party Talks with North Korea (2003-2006).

The participants also attended a rally calling for the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula at the Korea International Exhibition Center (KINTEX) in the suburbs of Seoul. The keynote speaker was UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and included congratulatory remarks from Ambassador R. James Woolsey Jr., the former director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (1993-1995).

1 The International Leadership Conference was held at the Lotte Hotel, Seoul, Korea on May 15-17, 2019

2 Dr. Alexander Vorontsov, Head of the Department for Korean and Mongolian Studies, Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences

3 Mr. Humphrey Hawksley, World Affairs Correspondent, BBC of London; former BBC Beijing Bureau Chief, United Kingdom

4 Dr. Alexander Zhebin, Director, Center for Korean Studies, Institute of Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences

UPF Europe & Middle East Newsletter

Published by Universal Peace Federation Europe
43 Lancaster Gate, London, England, W2 3NA, UK

Printed by Flyeralarm GmbH, Alfred-Nobel-Str. 18
97080 Würzburg, Germany

contact@europe.upf.org · www.europe.upf.org

Copyright © 2019, Universal Peace Federation.
All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part prohibited except by written permission.

UPCOMING EVENTS

International Leadership Conference
15–18 August, Seoul, Korea.

***Africa Summit**, 6–7 September, São Tomé and Príncipe*

Seminar on UPF Vision and Peace Principles
6–8 September, Glory House, The Netherlands

Southeast Europe Peace Summit
25–27 October, Tirana, Albania

Inauguration of IAPD
7 November, Parliament, London, United Kingdom

***Inauguration of IAPD**, November, Rome, Italy*

See the calendar of events at
www.europe.upf.org/agenda/events