UPF UK: The Role of the Media in contributing to Peace on the Korean Peninsula

Robin Marsh April 26, 2021



The Role of the Media in contributing to Peace on the Korean Peninsula Convened by UPF's International Media Association for Peace Zoom Webinar: Friday, 30 April, 2021, 8.30 AM (BST) <u>Register: Here</u>

Speakers:

Mr. Thomas McDevitt, Chairman, The Washington Times Mr. Masahiro Kuroki, President, The Sekkai Nippo Times Prof. Toshio Miyatsuka, TV commentator; President, Miyatsuka Korea Institute Mr. Lutfi Dervishi, Journalist and Political Analyst, Albania Mr. Humphrey Hawksley, Author, Commentator, and Broadcaster; Former longstanding BBC Foreign Correspondent

Moderator: Mrs. Rita Payne, Former Asia Editor, BBC World News (TV), President Emeritus, Commonwealth Journalists Association

IMAP Session Backgrounder:

At the beginning of the 21st century, few threats are as ominous as the looming danger of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula. Yet the major political players seem to have no clear solutions that would lead to sustainable peace in North-East Asia.

Active in over 140 countries, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) has a well-documented record of successful peace negotiations and reconciliation processes among warring ethnicities. UPF has recently focused its full attention on helping to ease the current tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Against a backdrop of declining trust in the media – not least due to phenomena such as "fake news" and the undermining of traditional media ethics – this IMAP panel will throw the spotlight on the role of the media, equally vital in times of war and peace.

The panel will consist of renowned journalists and experts from Europe, the USA and Japan. The theme of the panel is "The Role of the Media in contributing to Peace on the Korean Peninsula."

The discussion will draw on the Western experience of peaceful German unification, while also examining the Balkan region and the former Soviet countries, areas where the absence of war may not have fully translated into real peace. We also feature a perspective from Japan, from a Korean expert with 30 years experience.

The media has been a crucial part of the network of democratic institutions which have helped maintain peace in Europe. These include the emphasis on human rights and the rule of law, but also international alliances and organizations such as the EU, the Council of Europe (COE) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation of Europe (OSCE).

IMAP, the International Media Association for Peace, stands for a free and responsible media. The association was inaugurated at the World Summit 2020, which was sponsored by the UPF and convened in Seoul, South Korea, on February 2 -7, 2020 with the theme, "Peace, Security and Human Development: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values."