



International Day of Families 2022

Saturday, May 14, 2022, Vienna

In 1993, a resolution was passed by the United Nations General Assembly to celebrate May 15 as World Family Day. The UN also uses the International Day of Families as a way to recognise that family structures have undergone many changes due to social, economical and demographic factors. The annual event provides a way to highlight the important role that families hold in communities and raises issues that may affect families.

Family Federation for World Peace, Women's Federation and UPF-Austria organized a breakfast meeting at which the topic of the International Day of Families 2022 was discussed.

The event took place on Saturday, May 14, 2022, 9:30-11:30 am 1070 Vienna, Seidengasse 28.



First, [Peter Haider](#) President of Universal Peace Federation (UPF) Austria, thanked everyone who came today at breakfast. He introduced the speakers and the invited them to come on stage.

The first speaker was Mrs. Elisabeth Cook, President of the Family Federation for World Peace Austria. She mentioned urbanianation as one of the megatrends in today's society, including technological change, migration, demographic and climate change, which all have impacts on family life. More than ever family-oriented policies are needed in order to harness the positive aspects of those trends and counteract their negative facets. Another point in her speech was that the parents' mature and loving character is the

prerequisite to a happy and successful family life. Family relationships, though considered as private, all display themselves in society by the family members being active participants in many areas of public life.

Prof. Ismail Yasin Muslim professor spoke about family in Islam. For Muslim believers family life is the foundation of human society providing a secure, healthy and nurturing environment for parents and growing children. The best place to pass on and develop human virtues such as love, kindness, mercy and compassion is in a family. Families are considered to be at the heart of every Muslim community. The traditional Muslim family is an extended family. It usually includes parents, children, grandparents and elderly relatives. Most Muslims believe that extended families mean greater stability, continuity, love and support for each other.

Dr. Melinda Fabian-Herzog, representing „Elternwerkstatt“, an institution which offers courses for parents to improve their parenting skills, explained how parents can learn to communicate more effectively with their children at different stages of their development. „Elternwerkstatt (Parents' workshop“) has gained recognition by the Austrian government as an educational institution and therefore is partly funded by the Federal Ministry for Family and Youth.

Dr. Jan Ledochowski, President of the „Platform Christian Democracy“, emphasized the importance of being clear about the existence of a creator and being able to convince people about it, as human beings derive their dignity from their creator, our Heavenly Father. A father of four children, he sees his main task in strengthening Christian values in politics and in supporting Christian politicians to be successful.

The official program ended with remarks and questions from the audience, moderated by Mr. Peter Haider, who then thanked everyone for coming to the event.



