

## Austrian Leaders' meeting

Graz, Febr. 22-23, 2020

The Austrian leadership held its first meeting of the year 2020 in the newly opened centre in Graz, the capital of the Federal state of Styria. The centre has a spacious assembly room with enough room for all the participants of the conference. 40 persons were present, 1/3 of them members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation.

After recalling highlights of the Korean Summit 2020 by watching a video and a summary given by Elisabeth Cook, the Community Leaders as well as the leaders of the providential organisation introduced their plans for 2020 and beyond.

Our guideline was the **vision**, expressed in True Mother's words

"Cheon Il Guk can only come about under the sovereignty of True Parents"  
(Victory Celebration Febr. 8, 2020)

And our **mission**: "National Restoration", as the goal for all nations until 2027.

In order to come closer to this goal we discussed necessary **strategies** and steps, centred around five main topics:

1. Heavenly Tribal Messiahs activities and CheonBo Blessing & registration- FFWPU
2. Reaching out to society-UPF, WFWP, Media, PR
3. Promoting True Parents in public "100 years Rev. Moon"- combined effort of all organisations
4. Youth activities – IAYSP, HARP, CARP, young leadership
5. Strengthening the Unification families and developing a vision for their growth- BFD

**Heavenly Tribal Messiahship**: A national committee of three families has been formed in order to register all families in the Cheonbo Won. Our goal and challenge:

-- to support families who have not yet started with the HTM mission.  
--to raise the number of HTM victors.  
--to develop programs to follow-up those who have been blessed. So far various follow-up programs have been conducted and 3 newsletters have been produced for groups and individuals who received the blessing.

Manfred Mayr and Maria Pammer reported about the Cheonbo Blessing ceremony in Korea, and we are waiting for instructions of how to share this Blessing with all members.

**Reaching out to society**: UPF President Peter Haider reported about the 9 guests who participated in the Summit 2020 in Korea. They were highly impressed and they are ready for further cooperation. Some of Mr. Haiders's reflections about national restoration were that in order to cooperate with politicians we need to offer something that is relevant and useful for them. The upcoming UPF programs will be conducted in light of that criterion.

Renate Amesbauer, WFWP President of Austria, introduced the plans for WFWP, among them a Side event at a conference by UNODC's „Commission of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice“ in May 2020, and later in the year a European WFWP conference at the European Parliament in Brussels. Generally WFWP will expand their contacts to Embassies, women politicians and NGOs, closely cooperating with UPF.

Hans Brunnbauer, PR-and Media Coordinator of Austria, gave a clearly laid out report about his correspondence with newspapers and TV stations in Austria and Germany concerning articles about our movement. Unfortunately, the articles only gave negative reflections about our movement, specially the Blessing, notoriously using the word "sect" in every article. In five cases Mr. Brunnbauer could get the newspapers to correct their article and publish the correction. Future plans: to send more material about our activities to the editorial offices of the newspapers and keep them informed even better.

Tony Cook reported about the videos he produced for UPF and FFWPU which are publicly available on the Vimeo accounts of the Austrian Family Federation <https://vimeo.com/famfed> and UPF <https://vimeo.com/user72289245>.

Also, he reported about the acquisition of a server (32 TB) for our Headquarters to archive all documentary material in one place. A big amount of historical photographs and video material has already been uploaded. The community leaders have online access to all the material. Thus, new material can also be easily shared.

A new website for the Unification Church Austria has been launched with the help of our web designer, an Ambassador of Peace, and Siegfried W., General Affairs person for the Austrian Family Federation: [www.vereinigungskirche.at](http://www.vereinigungskirche.at)

An update of the website of the Family Federation is under way [www.famfed.org](http://www.famfed.org)

Peter Zöhrer, EUME Media and PR Director, reported about the founding of the IMAP (International Media Association for Peace) at the summit 2020 in Korea, where he could coordinate one session and also give a presentation about the lifting of the Schengen ban against True Parents in Europe.

### **Promoting True Parents in public: "100 Years Reverend Moon"**

A detailed plan for a public exhibition has already been made by the Upper Austrian community: a 3-day exhibition will be held in the Old Townhall in Linz, concluding with an event on the last day.

In Vienna the first posters will be exhibited at an Interreligious breakfast meeting on March 7, 2020. Plans are being made for exhibitions in Graz and in Innsbruck.

#### Further plans:

- To produce an approach book for the exhibitions. It will contain short descriptions of our main organisations.
- To produce a simple website with all the posters for the exhibition and an introduction of True Parents' lifelong work.

### **Youth activities – IAYSP, HARP, CARP, young leadership**

3 members of the Austrian 2<sup>nd</sup> generation participated in the Summit 2020 in Korea as representatives of YSP. At the same time two of them served as UPF staff, together with one more 2<sup>nd</sup> gen from Austria.

At the Leaders meeting they shared their experiences in Korea. Each of them was really happy to meet/see True Mother and to participate in the extraordinary events.

#### **Plans:**

- IAYSP (international Association of Youth and students for Peace) will be legally founded in Austria and expanded to Linz and Graz.
- cooperation with other NGOs by organising combined events
- develop educational material in German language
- start “peace designer” activities in Austria

The national HARP leaders gave a beautiful report about last year's HARP activities, one of the highlights being an Il Shim program over 5 Sundays in Vienna. They also introduced their plans for 2020.

CARP is presently busy finding a new centre in Vienna in order to continue its activities. In April 2020 two Korean missionaries will arrive in Vienna and do mission work for one year. The CARP and youth leaders will provide a program and support for them.

In Graz the leadership has been handed over to a couple of the second generation. At the leaders meeting we also announced that the Austrian Family Federation has a 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, namely Bogdan & Yoshiko P., who will support the young leaders in their mission.

### **Strengthening the Unification families and developing a vision for their growth- BFD**

National BFD Director Mrs. Heidi Mayr gave a report about the beautiful Blessing ceremony in Korea. 18 young people from Austria participated.

#### **Plans:**

- build up a network for supporting blessed families, by conducting seminars & webinars
- Blessing preparation workshops
- workshops for young couples preparing for family life
- workshops about Healthy lifestyle for Blessing candidates and parents

On the second day of the meeting there was Sunday service together with the members of the Styrian community with a sermon by Elisabeth “Celebrating the Victory of the last 7 Years” - reflections about True Mother’s incredible 7-years course.

Finally, in the afternoon, the goals for the near future were finalized and dates of events were decided. One important event for the EUME region is the 14-day DP workshop from July 5-18, 2020 in Gaflenz.

The purpose of the meeting was to summarize the activities of the last year and the Summit 2020 and to make a new start for “Vision 2027”. The reports we could hear and the plans for the future proposed by every department and community gave all of us hope and enthusiasm to make our vision come true.

Report written by Elisabeth Cook





