

Jacques Marion
July 24, 2021



Upcoming events

All times are in CET.

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[International Leadership Conference \(ILC\) July 2021](#)



Webinar series organised by UPF Europe and Middle East on the theme "Toward the Peaceful Reunification of the Korean Peninsula: Best Practices in Track II Diplomacy".

[Click here for more details and registration.](#)

Tuesday, 27 July 2021 - Thursday, 29 July 2021

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 - Session I Track 1.5 Diplomacy Initiatives with North Korea](#)



Track 1.5 dialogues are conversations that include a mix of government officials—participating in an unofficial capacity—and non-governmental experts. Neither track 1.5 nor track 2 discussions carry the official weight of traditional diplomacy, yet they offer a private, open environment for individuals to build trust, hold conversations and discuss solutions in a way their official counterparts sometimes cannot. Trusted figures can often glean better insights and nuances and provide non-official communication channels that can prove useful in a crisis. The panelists will share their own experience of Track 1.5 Diplomacy with the DPRK, in the context of parliamentary as well as non-governmental initiatives.

[Click here to register.](#)

Tuesday, 27 July 2021 10:00 - 11:30

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 Session 2 - Resources and Tools of Faith Based Organizations in Support of Reuniting the Korean People](#)



Koreans have been divided through a harsh post war armistice for more than 70 years. Families have been separated, not knowing the whereabouts of their loved ones. This session aims to promote resources and tools of faith-based organizations (FBO) which could be instrumental in fostering peace, rapprochement and ultimately reunification of the divided Korean people.

As religion sees humanity as one large family under a benevolent God, FBOs have a natural mandate to remedy this troubled situation. There are tools and resources for conflict resolution, reconciliation, peacebuilding, and reconstruction that are unique to

a faith-based approach. The session will also make the case for a broader cooperation among faith-based organizations in the pursuit of de-escalation and a bright future for the divided Korean people.

[Click here to register.](#)

Tuesday, 27 July 2021 14:00 - 15:30

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 Session 3 - The Power of Humanitarian Initiatives in Overcoming the Division of the Korean Peninsula](#)



This session will consider how individual, institution or state-level humanitarian initiatives can contribute to peace on the Korean Peninsula by overcoming division and differences. Panelists will examine best practices, look at the consequences of UN-imposed sanctions and reflect on ways these could be lifted for targeted humanitarian initiatives.

Panelists will offer recommendations toward building mutual trust between North and South Korea and the international community.

[Click here to register.](#)

Tuesday, 27 July 2021 16:00 - 17:30

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 Session 4 - The Emerging Power of Women's Diplomacy toward Sustainable Peace](#)



The state of international affairs should reflect the society it represents. Therefore, women's inclusion in leadership is vital to serve the best interests of human development, peace, and prosperity. They often impact in innovative and effective ways by bringing a people-to-people diplomacy and local knowledge to the global agenda. Women leaders, including First Ladies, have been able to open doors for the sharing of cultures, building bridges between people and generations, and providing realistic solutions.

This session will celebrate women in diplomacy, highlight their successes and challenges as they serve their nations, and provide models for women's engagement

in advancing the peaceful settlement of the two Koreas.

[Click here to register.](#)

Wednesday, 28 July 2021 10:00 - 11:30

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 Session 5 - The Potential of Private Sector Initiatives to Boost the North Korean Economy](#)



Private sector initiatives play a key role in providing goods and services to citizens and institutions, developing new technologies, and fostering international cooperation. Several nations from the former communist bloc, such as China or Vietnam, have successfully integrated market economy principles into their socialist systems. In this regard, what is the potential for a private sector economy to develop in North Korea? Panelists will address the following questions: what kind of advantages would be achieved for the country? How to attract foreign investment? What government policies would be needed? What lessons can be learnt from other centrally planned economies? How to stimulate entrepreneurship and prepare the public administration

for such a development?

[Click here to register.](#)

Wednesday, 28 July 2021 14:00 - 15:30

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 Session 6 - Talking to the Heart: Culture as Peacemaker](#)



People often think that politics moves the world, but that is not the case. It is culture and art that move the world. It is affection, not reason, that touches people in their innermost being. It is not their common culture that has divided the two Koreas for 70 years. Our panelists will explore ways that culture could bridge the divide.

[Click here to register.](#)

Wednesday, 28 July 2021 16:00 - 17:30

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 Session 7 - Imagining a Unified World: The Youth's Contribution to Peace on the Korean Peninsula](#)



The Korean peninsula has been divided for over 70 years, despite efforts for rapprochement and reunification. A generation has passed. The future of Korea and the world now lies in the hands of the youth. Indeed, young people are the ones to take the initiative to bring about harmony between the two Koreas. However, as Korea was divided by external superpowers at the end of World War II, peace between North and South Korea does not only concern and depend on the Korean people. It also concerns Europe, the whole world, and its youth.

In this session, young panelists will share about projects and initiatives in the fields of sports, the arts, and the environment aimed at rapprochement and, ultimately, at the peaceful reunification of the Peninsula. They will lead participants to imagine peace and unification from the perspective of youth in both Koreas. They will help young people feel hope and act as peacemakers, in Korea and throughout the world.

[Click here to register.](#)

Thursday, 29 July 2021 10:00 - 11:30

[Read more](#)

[ILC July 2021 Session 8 - Beyond Borders: The Peace Road Initiative](#)



The Peace Road Initiative aims to tear down the walls that have historically divided humankind and bring it together as one family under God. The Initiative dates back from the 1981 announcement by the UPF Founders in Seoul, Korea, of the International Peace Highway Project. Beginning with a tunnel between Japan and a reunified Korea, the project links the world together through a global system of highways and railways, helping to create an interdependent, interconnected and harmonious world.

Promoting this ideal, Peace Road activities are being held around the world, connecting people beyond borders to overcome the legacy of conflicts inherited from past centuries. In this session, panelists will present the Peace Road vision and recent peace road activities around the globe.

[Click here to register.](#)

Thursday, 29 July 2021 15:00 - 16:30

[Read more](#)

 Regional news

Peace Road Event Visits Houses of Worship



Munich, Germany—"Peace-Shalom-Salam Aleykum" was the motto of a Peace Road event co-sponsored by UPF.

Webinar Explores 'People' Approach to North Korea



Oslo, Norway—Two representatives of humanitarian projects spoke about working to help North Koreans.

We are an international and interreligious network of individuals and organizations, including representatives from religion, government, civil society and the private sector dedicated to achieving world peace. UPF supports the work of the United Nations, particularly in the areas of interfaith peacebuilding, peace education, and the strengthening of marriage and family.

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