UPF Europe and Middle East Newsletter 11-12-2023

Jacques Marion December 11, 2023



Regional news

2023 Balkan Leadership Conference: Summary



Skopje, North Macedonia—The Western Balkan leaders focused on the issue of entering the European Union.

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Legal Experts in Rome Discuss Justice and Peace



A conference on the theme "Justice for Peace: An Indissoluble Pair for a Harmonious Future" was held on October 24, 2023, United Nations Day, in the Capitular Hall of the Senate, Rome.

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<u>Danish Experts Share Views on UN International Day of</u> Peace



Copenhagen, Denmark –UPF-Denmark celebrated the UN International Day of Peace at Christiansborg Palace, the seat of the Danish Parliament, on September 24, 2023.

Aid Reaches Earthquake Victims in Aleppo, Syria



Aleppo, Syria – A delivery of aid reached needy earthquake survivors in Aleppo, the city in government-held Syria that was most affected by February's earthquake.

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<u>Prospective Ambassadors for Peace Attend Seminar in Geneva</u>



Geneva, Switzerland – UPF-Switzerland organized a training program for Ambassadors for Peace on November 18, 2023.

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<u>UPF-Italy Promotes Maturity and Marital Cohesion for Strong Families</u>



Paladina, Italy – UPF-Italy organized an evening event with the support of the city of Paladina on the theme "Individual Maturity and Marital Cohesion."

Russian Children Mark Global Recycling Day with Ecogames



Voronezh, Russia – To mark Global Recycling Day on November 15, 2023, an eco-game program for students at the Center for Children and Youth Creativity was held in Voronezh.

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Young Artists Honor 19th Century Russian Playwright's Love of Humanity



Moscow, Russia – UPF-Russia and the Time of the Young XXI Artists' Association organized an exhibition to commemorate the bicentennial of the birth of Alexander Ostrovsky.

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Global South Perspectives on the Russia-Ukraine War and Geopolitical Tensions



London, UK – UPF-UK hosted a third forum in its series on "Global South Perspectives on the Russia - Ukraine War and Consequent Geopolitical Tensions" on October 31, 2023.

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Athens Conference Proposes Models for Peace



Athens, Greece – At the initiative of the Saranda Regional Peace Council in Albania, UPF-Albania organized a conference on the theme "Positive Models that Inspire Peace" on November 4, 2023.

Roundtable of Experts Seeks Lessons from Russia-Ukraine War



Kyiv, Ukraine – UPF-Ukraine and the Ukrainian Peace Council held a roundtable discussion on "Russia-Ukraine War: Lessons for Europe and the World" on November 3, 2023.

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<u>UPF-Albania Partners in Organizing International Scientific Conference</u>



Vlora, Albania – At the invitation of the Albanian Institute of Sociology, UPF-Albania was one of 17 organizers of the International Scientific Conference held in Vlora, Albania on November 10 and 11, 2023.

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Berliners debate prospects for peace via politics and religion



Berlin, Germany – "Which can Bring Peace: Politics or Religion?" was the theme of a UPF event in Berlin on October 28, 2023, to mark United Nations Day on October 24.

<u>Diverse Group in Oslo Advocates Interfaith Cooperation</u> for Peace



Oslo, Norway – A conference on Interreligious Cooperation for Peace and Human Rights was held in Oslo on October 31, 2023.

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Russian children learn that eco-friendly habits can be fun



Voronezh, Russia – An environmental education project, "Eco-game Library: Green Solutions," attracted around 3,000 participants in the Voronezh region of Russia from May 19 to September 30, 2023.

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Francophone Group Finds Gratitude in Scripture



Paris, France—"Cultivating Gratitude" was the theme of the 30th scriptural sharing.

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<u>UPF-Portugal Participates in Religious Harmony Week</u>



Odivelas, Portugal—UPF was invited to take part in various activities to promote interfaith understanding.

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Hungarian AfPs Given Deeper Understanding



Budapest, Hungary—Ambassadors for Peace were invited to a presentation of the principles guiding UPF.

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<u>UPF-Lebanon: September-October 2023</u>



Beirut, Lebanon—Several significant opportunities presented themselves to UPF and its affiliated organizations in the past two months.

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Italian Peace Forum Probes Economics of Happiness



Rome, Italy—The professor teaches the only happiness economics course in Italian universities.

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Russian Views Sport as a Force for Good



Moscow, Russia—A Russian who participated in a Peace Road event in Pyongyang in 2019 was interviewed by UPF.

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UPF-Hungary Holds Ambassadors Forum



Budapest, Hungary—"Living with Others, Living for Others" was organized by UPF and two affiliated organizations.

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Turkish Ambassadors for Peace Meet UPF Leader



Istanbul, Turkey—Mr. Marion presented the UPF vision and key areas of focus.

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IAPD-Italy Webinar Probes Spirituality and Growth



Rome, Italy—The webinar was part of a cycle of interfaith public initiatives scheduled for 2023 and 2024.

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UPF-UK Young Achievers Meet to Brainstorm



London, United Kingdom—Passion and enthusiasm filled the discussions of the young people.

Nordic Seminar Offers a Vision of Peace



Stockholm, Sweden—UPF's Principles of Peace were at the center of the third Nordic Peace Seminar.

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Albanian Ambassador for Peace Remembered on Peace Day



Peshkopi, Albania—One of the first Ambassadors for Peace was posthumously made an Honorary Citizen of the city.

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Russian Painter Gives Views on Art in UPF Interview



Moscow, Russia—Artist and Ambassador for Peace Olga Beketova was interviewed online by UPF-Russia.

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UPF-UK Considers Global South Perspectives



London, United Kingdom—The rules-based order that the Global West promoted after World War II—is it dead?

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German Peace Talk Focuses on UN Peace Day



Stuttgart, Germany—UPF organized an online Peace Talk on "The Contribution of the Family to Peace."

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Finns Follow Peace Road to Island Fortress



Helsinki, Finland—The Peace Road walk commemorated the 2023 International Day of Peace.

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Portugal's Ambassadors for Peace Meet



Lisbon, Portugal—The UPF co-chair for Europe and the Middle East was the special guest at the meeting.

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<u>UPF-Munich Observes International Day of Peace</u>



Munich, Germany—Representatives of five religious groups attended a UPF prayer breakfast.

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<u>UPF-Norway Observes International Day of Peace</u>



Oslo, Norway—The interfaith program examined the role of religions in contributing to peace.

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UPF-UK Visits Hindu Youth Summer Camp



Birmingham, United Kingdom—UPF spoke to around 120 Hindu youths about interfaith and peace activities.

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UPF-Düsseldorf Observes International Day of Peace



Düsseldorf, Germany—The message "Peace starts with me" was expressed by each speaker in a different way.

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UPF-UK Observes International Day of Peace



London, United Kingdom—Peace awards were presented to more than 20 remarkable people for their efforts as peacebuilders.

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