

UPF Albania Celebrates the 18th Anniversary of the Founding of UPF *Peace Embassy, Tirana – September 12th 2023*

“THE UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION – A UNION OF VALUES” was entitled the event organized by UPF Albania on September 12th, 2023, at the Peace Embassy in Tirana.

September 12th is a historic date for thousands of Ambassadors for Peace around the world; it marks the founding day of the Universal Peace Federation in 2005 in New York. On this occasion, UPF Albania and Tirana Peace Council, under the leadership of Mr. Defrim Methasani, organized an impressive event, where over 150 dignitaries, Ambassadors for Peace, youth and friends of the Peace Federation filled and graced the conference hall of the Embassy of Peace. Among the dignitaries were three current Members of Albanian Parliament, the Ambassador of Kosovo in Albania, the Deputy Minister of Tourism, several former Government Ministers and MPs.



The chair of the Tirana Peace Council, Mr. Defrim Methasani, in his opening remarks thanked all the leaders of UPF Albania over the last 18 years for their contribution in the development of our organization all over the country. In particular, special gratitude was expressed to the founders of the Universal Peace Federation in Albania; Hon. Gaço Apostoli, Mr. Ali Laçej, Dr. Niko Veizaj, Dr. Astrit Memia, prof. Suzana Turku, Mr. Dionis Kotmilo, and the late Ambassadors for Peace who passed away, Mr. Lavdie Ruci, Prof. Dalip Çota and Mr. Halit Muharremi.



At the beginning, a video was shown about the important international projects and initiatives of UPF since its founding. Then, two congratulatory remarks were given by the current Chairwoman of UPF Albania, Dr. Eva Çipi, and its first Chairman Mr. Gaço Apostoli. It has become a tradition already that in activities of this level, high level artistic performances have to be part of the program. This time we had two well-known

artists, the famous tenor of international caliber, Mr. Josif Gjipali, who created a wonderful festive atmosphere with his excellent performance, and Mrs. Vera Laçi a well-known singer of folk music.



After a presentation on the journey of the Universal Peace Federation Albania through the past 18 years, given by the General Secretary of UPF Albania Mr. Gani Rroshi, 10 distinguished personalities with special contributions in their respective fields were honored with the title "Ambassador for Peace": Mrs. Flutura Aça – Member of Parliament and writer; Mr. Josif Gjipali – Tenor ; Mr. Kastriot Selita – Former Chair of Administrative Court; Mr. Irfan Zebi – Businessman; Mrs. Ejona Kocibelli – University Professor, USA; Mr. Agim Pipa- Journalist; Mr. Sokol Gjata – Architect living in USA; Mr. Erjola Balla Director of branch, Credins Bank; Mr. Arben Tafili – Journalist; and Mr. Elton Merolli – Expert on field of Economics.





From left to right - Mr. Arben Tafili, Mr. Irfan Zebi, Mr. Sokol Gjata, Mr. Erjola Balla, Mr. Kastriot Selita, Mrs. Mr. Josif Gjipali, Ejona Kocibelli, Hon. Flutura Aça, Mr. Agim Pipa, Mr. Elton Merolli

