

## **World Summit 2022: Sessions IV, V, VI, VII and VIII**

Thomas G. Walsh  
February 11, 2022

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**SESSION IV: PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA: ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Written by Mélanie Komagata, UPF Europe and the Middle East  
 Friday, February 11, 2022



**Seoul, South Korea**—The fourth plenary session of the World Summit 2022 for Peace on the Korean Peninsula took place on February 11, 2022, at the Lotte Hotel World in Seoul, South Korea, under the title of “Peace on the Korean Peninsula: Analysis and Recommendations.” The speakers of this session, mainly journalists, parliamentarians, and government ministers from various nations, gave in-person as well as virtual speeches and brought complementary perspectives on the subject.

**Report**

Prior to the session, Dr. Thomas G. Walsh, the chairman of UPF International, explained that the two sessions on the afternoon of February 11 and three on the afternoon of February 12 comprised the Think Tank 2022 Forum Series in which experts from various fields would give their analysis, ideas, and recommendations for steps forward for peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The moderator of the fourth plenary session was Mr. Thomas McDevitt, Chairman of *The Washington Times*. He opened the session by explaining the role of the media in bringing peace to the Korean Peninsula.

Hon. Kim Hyon Hwan, First Vice Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism in the Republic of Korea, described the Korean Peninsula as being the interest of worldwide journalists for decades. Hon. Kim said that peace between the two Koreas not only will be beneficial to the Korean people and the Northeast Asian region but also will bring peace to the whole world. Furthermore, the presence at the Summit of journalists from the 157 countries that have diplomatic ties with North and South Korea is of great importance, he said. Indeed, the role of journalism is critical and pivotal, and this journey for peace should be one of hope rather than disappointment.

Mr. Charlie Hurt, opinion editor of *The Washington Times* in the United States, expressed gratitude for being back at the World Summit. Seeing the devotion of all the participants truly humbled him, he said, and will allow him to go home with “renewed admiration for these tremendous efforts.” As former U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and former Speaker Newt Gingrich mentioned, “Our world is a much better place when America is strong,” and it is then that peace has a greater opportunity to thrive, Mr. Hurt said. He spoke of the importance of fact-based newspapers that seek the truth and do not censor opinions, such as *The Washington Times*, which are vital for a free republic. Indeed, in the United States Constitution, the founders highlighted the importance of a “free, vibrant and open exchange of ideas and debate.” Hence, the free press is essential for a well-functioning democracy, he said.

Ms. Trish Regan, formerly with the Fox Business news channel and current host of the online *Trish Regan Show*, said that despite the many challenges the world is facing—notably with the pandemic but also with inflation, conflicts, breakdown of families, the refugee crisis and so forth—there is hope for peace. “A unified Korea could show the world that anything is possible,” she said. She highlighted the importance of family values, which she called essential for success and peace. In the case of the Korean Peninsula, having families from both sides of the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel reunited can be an economic powerhouse, she said. Moreover, the success story of the ROK’s economy is due to the prevalence of strong family values, she said, predicting that the peninsula’s unity will boost the economy further. She concluded by saying that diplomatic channels as well as the commitment of the global community are essential to reunify the Korean Peninsula, which will allow the economy to prosper on both sides and spread to all of Asia.

Rt. Hon. Ganesh Prasad Timilsina, Chairman of the National Assembly of Nepal, offered his vision of a new path toward world peace that will open through the reunification of Korea. This will “enhance the mutual prosperity of the human race, interdependency, and common universal values,” as well as economic, cultural, educational, and environmental development. Furthermore, he said, it is our human responsibility to heal the wounds of others and “remove the past distrusts and conflicts and help open the path for prosperity.” As for the Korean issue, the problems are common ones, he said, and to solve these, North and South Korea must work together closely in the sectors of economy, society, and culture. And for that, neighboring powers need to play a greater role in supporting and accompanying the peace process for the reunification of Korea, he said.

Ms. Kyra Phillips, formerly with CNN and currently an ABC correspondent, recalled her memories of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Korean War, as veterans gathered at war memorials and people paid tribute to those who lost their lives during the conflict. Some veterans told her that they recalled Seoul in wartime as being without electricity and with few buildings left standing, compared to today’s rebuilt South Korean capital. Ms. Phillips said we have to find the political system that can reunify the two Koreas and bring the same economic benefits to the DPRK. This may require an initial stage of a hybrid format, with different systems per provinces or with two systems,



two states. Ms. Phillips emphasized the importance of involving representatives of North and South Korea in negotiations, as well as the United States and China.

Hon. Yoshinori Ohno, Minister of Defense (2004-2005) of Japan, spoke of the importance of the topic of the Summit, and the extent to which it also concerns Japan. Indeed, the two Koreas are neighbors of Japan, but they have very different relations with Japan. Japan and the ROK share values and interests, whereas there are no diplomatic relations with the DPRK. There are great concerns due to North Korea's abduction of Japanese citizens in the past, as well as with the development and launching of nuclear missiles. Therefore, it is essential for Japan to promote peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula through interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values—three principles developed by Dr. Moon. He further spoke about the example that Dr. and Mrs. Moon set in 1991 by going to the DPRK to visit Chairman Kim. With this heroic measure, they indeed became models of mutual trust and human relations, which are essential to advancing peace.

Mr. Michael Breen, founder of Insight Communications based in Seoul, and a former journalist with *The Guardian*, *The Times* of London, and *The Washington Times*, stated that reunification requires a strategy that either will be quick as in the case of Germany, or slow like the European Union. What truly matters, however, is to "ask what type of state reunified Koreans want to live in." One clear point, he said, is that our vision for a reunified Korea has to be based on democratic views, which also could allow China to become democratic. However, we must address the DPRK's fears, which are notably absorption by the South, and we should focus on creating bonds and building trust. Mr. Breen said that the "first step is to move from being enemies to being neighbors," and this process requires, particularly, the use of culture and sports. Thus, he recommended that the ROK allow its artists to freely deal with the DPRK. Furthermore, he suggested that we let modern culture from the whole world influence the DPRK. Finally, Mr. Breen recommended that UPF hold its next World Summit in Pyongyang and make a declaration there regarding the end of the North Korean system, just as in 1985 Reverend Moon recommended to affirm the end of Soviet communism.

Mr. Steve Killelea from Australia, the founder and executive chairman of the Institute for Economics & Peace, spoke about "the connection between peace and economic prosperity," especially in reference to North and South Korea. "Many benefits to the economy come from peace, and stronger economies tend to generate more peace as well," he said. Mr. Killelea called on the 157 nations that have diplomatic relations with both North and South Korea to work together with the Koreans to help them to have a better integrated economy. "It doesn't have to be great leaps and bounds," he said. "Small starts are always good. Even small starts will come with an economic windfall for both nations."

Mr. Hexilon G. Alvarez from the Philippines, the president and CEO of Intercontinental Broadcasting Corp., said: "I have confidence that media has a vital role to play in our common vision of a peaceful, healthy and sustainable world. ... Education is the most effective weapon that can be used to change the world. Media is a creative global-values lifelong learning medium to teach as a mirror, to see our foibles and seize our strengths and armor against social ills."

Professor Paul Teng, *an expert in food security at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore*, gave a presentation titled "The Economic and Social Benefits from Investing in Food Security."

Ms. Cecilia Luchia-Puig from Argentina, a journalist, editor of *Mañana Profesional SA* and director of the Líderes TV media company, said, "We are going through difficult times, and we need to seek human values, be respectful of other cultures and different religions, have empathy with people in need, foster inclusion and seek equality."

Professor Sergio de Azevedo Redo from Brazil, a journalist and the head of the São Paulo Press Association, said, "I call upon my fellow journalists from all over the world to disseminate and even promote the good contents of this World Summit 2022 in Seoul."

Ms. Lilian Schiavo from Brazil, president of the Brazilian Organization of Women Entrepreneurs, referred to herself as a bridge-builder. To build a bridge implies breaking down barriers, she said, laying differences aside and learning from them. "It is to practice empathy, understanding that each person's behavior is unique, a different way of thinking and reacting. We must think less about 'me' and more about 'us.' That is, to understand that we can unite with sisterhood, supporting each other, promoting greater international communication."

Dr. Ángel Sánchez Dueñas, president of the Federation of Journalists of Peru and secretary general for Peru of UPF's International Media Association for Peace (IMAP), said: "There is no equality if there is no respect for differences. There is no unity without cooperation. There is no life without peace."

Mr. Segundo Valentin Valladares Melgar, *secretary general for Peru of UPF's International Association for Peace and Economic Development (IAED)*, said, "Peace in the two Koreas is more than a possibility—it is an extremely urgent fact, and it's a cry from all around the world: Peace, Korea wants peace."

Mr. Humphrey Hawksley from the United Kingdom, a former BBC foreign affairs correspondent and author, gave a realistic view of the difficulties of Korean reunification. "The North and the South might share a language, but it will take a long time to mesh the two current mindsets, as the South has found when resettling those who have escaped," he said. "My suggestion: I'm an author and a reporter. I would say: Give it time. Don't think that you can unify like Germany, in months or years. Look at a fifty-year plan. ... The South and the North must merge in the unification so that on both sides of the border, the day that it happens, everybody is going to wake up and go to work as if nothing much has changed," Mr. Hawksley said.

H.E. Anthony Carmona, President (2013-2018) of Trinidad and Tobago made the point that "Korean reunification and inter-Korean relations must not be perceived as being at the behest of foreign influence and intervention but rather emanating from the altruistic and pragmatic hopes of the Korean people themselves." H.E. Carmona recommended the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which prohibits nuclear weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, could be a roadmap for a world ban on nuclear weapons.

The fourth plenary session ended with a performance by "popera" singer Kim Jaebin.

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**SESSION V: PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA: PERSPECTIVES FROM EUROPE**

Written by Mélanie Komagata, UPF Europe and the Middle East  
 Friday, February 11, 2022



**Seoul, South Korea**—The fifth plenary session of the World Summit 2022 took place on February 11, 2022, at the Lotte Hotel World in Seoul, South Korea, under the title of “Peace on the Korean Peninsula: Perspectives from Europe.” The speakers of this session, mainly heads of state, parliamentarians and government ministers from Europe, gave in-person as well as virtual speeches and brought complementary perspectives on the topic of Europe’s role in Korean Peninsula unification and as related to China and the United States.

**Report**

Mr. Jacques Marion, regional co-chair of UPF Europe and the Middle East, moderated the fifth plenary session. He specified that due to time constraints, only excerpts of speeches would be shown. However, the full speeches can be found online.

Hon. Dr. Claude Béglié, Member of the Swiss Parliament (2015-2019), said that we often may compare the DPRK’s economic situation to that of the Soviet Union before its collapse. However, he did not find that to be the case when he traveled to the DPRK. Indeed, despite the sanctions, the population was doing its best to produce what was needed, and investment in knowledge, education, and science was important. Furthermore, propaganda is present on both sides of the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel, he said, and we should go against that trend by planting seeds that lead to mutual respect. Concerning the DPRK’s nuclear program, Hon. Dr. Béglié said he believes the true intentions of the program are not just military. The DPRK may develop its military and heavy industry, but it also invests in light industry and consumer goods. Therefore, the economy may be a key component to the solution, as it can counter fear and misunderstanding. Furthermore, there is the potential for synergy between the two economies, and opening the DPRK would provide advantages to both. Institutionally, the North and the South could form a federal state. However, what should be remembered in the process is that it is “not about one winning and the other being defeated, but about finding a solution together with two winners,” he said.

H.E. Dominique de Villepin, Prime Minister (2005-2007) of France, stated that we are living in a defining moment, with the South Korean presidential elections in March and the U.S. midterm elections and the 20<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party both taking place later this year. In this context, he said, “The Korean Peninsula could be the basis of an exemplary pathway to peace.” To have a fruitful dialogue between the two sides, he suggested that the focus should be on political, cultural, and social interactions, which respond to the aspirations of both people and regimes. It is therefore essential to accept “the principle of no regime change” and to offer a vision of a denuclearized Korean Peninsula, free of foreign troops. Regarding negotiations, H.E. Villepin suggested that strong economic and security incentives are to be put forward, such as “a progressive lift of sanctions and a double freeze of nuclear development and military exercises before any process of denuclearization.” He further encouraged the mobilization of the international community and of institutions to “accompany, mediate, and guarantee the commitments.” He concluded with these words: “Each one of us can and may contribute. This could be the starting point of a peaceful revolution, a renewed awareness of the global community finally taking its destiny into its own hands.”

H.E. José María Aznar, Prime Minister (1996-2004) of Spain, first highlighted the importance of organizations such as UPF contributing to peacebuilding and dialogue. He recalled from his own experience during his mandate that all instruments for dialogue and peace must be used and that peace can be pursued not only through Track I diplomacy but also “civil society, trade and commerce, humanitarian relief, interfaith dialogue, cultural exchange, and tourism.” In this manner, we can work toward building trust, mutual respect, reconciliation, and cooperation. We can enhance dialogue between North and South Korea using several strategies, he said: First, to improve relations between the two Koreas, the DPRK should denuclearize, and sustainable dialogue should be maintained. In this manner, security concerns of the two Koreas would be addressed, and the great powers of the region could contribute to this constructively. Second, to gain popular support for future negotiations, cooperation with civil society is necessary. In addition, the governments of the two Koreas should facilitate family reunions. Third, if there is willingness to establish peace and prosperity with mutual respect, important agreements will be reached.

H.E. Ilir Meta, President of Albania, affirmed that “a breakthrough of peace on the Korean Peninsula would reflect globally.” He highlighted the importance of preserving and protecting peace, which history has taught us can be fragile and under threat. Peace should never be taken for granted, he said, and it is our responsibility to work and invest seriously for peace. Quoting the Albanian saint Mother Teresa—“What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family”—the president said, “If all leaders love their people as their family, humankind will be at peace without conflicts and divisions.” Moreover, he sees the youth and education as the foundation



of all societies and the future. He also recognizes religious leaders as guides for social justice and peace who can offer their mediation skills. In conclusion, President Meta recommended that governments and civil society work together not only by speaking the same language of peace but also by truly believing in peace, which must "be the mission of every leader and the aspiration of every nation." In this manner, the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel will become "a symbol of peace rather than division."

H.E. Filip Vujanović, President (2003-2018) of Montenegro, expressed his appreciation to UPF for establishing a platform to discuss the prospects for peace in the Balkans. Indeed, Montenegro and all of the former Yugoslavia experienced terrible wars in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, he said. The former president said that because of having personally experienced the suffering and devastation of war, the people understand deeply "the importance of peace, dialogue, and resolving disputes in a peaceful manner." If we want to live with love, happiness, understanding, pluralism, respect, democracy, and prosperity, he said, we must see peace as "the first and foremost value to preserve." Moreover, a future conference organized by UPF with speakers from the Balkans and from Korea would facilitate the exchange of ideas about peacebuilding in both regions, he said. Despite their many differences, he said, all share the same objective: "to reconcile and build lasting peace." It is through continuous dialogue that we can come to understand "each other's way of thinking, culture, challenges, and politics" and in this manner accomplish the shared goal of peace. Peace fosters further cooperation in economy, trade, technology, green energy, fighting diseases, and responding to natural disasters. H.E. Vujanovic concluded that through this, we will build "a sustainable future for our future generations."

H.E. Albin Kurti, Prime Minister of Kosovo, affirmed that the people of Kosovo and the Korean Peninsula share a similar path of suffering, due to numerous experiences of invasions and occupations. Furthermore, he said, ideology is what divided not only our world but also the Korean people. It separated families and friends who then became enemies. However, "what remains true throughout history is that the longing for freedom stirs in every human heart," he said. Indeed, it is essential to speak our opinion freely, which impacts how we are governed and live, he said. However, despite this desire for freedom being shared by all of humankind, some people still haven't let go of the dark ideas of the past. Nevertheless, we cannot let ourselves "succumb to autocrats and dictators who suppress freedoms and oppress the people," the prime minister said. Instead, we must aim at lasting peace on the Korean and Balkan Peninsulas. For that, we must take responsibility to work for peace, as history has proven that "conflicts do not resolve on their own." Dr. Moon has taught us that "peace flourishes where there is justice, and justice requires repentance, which must be accompanied by restitution." H.E. Kurti concluded with these words: "Freedom seeks to attain lasting peace. All of us must do our part wherever we are."

H.E. Miladen Ivanic, President (2014-2018) of Bosnia and Herzegovina, stated that the main causes for conflict in Korea were the relations between the great powers, for which ordinary people had to pay the price. Based on Bosnia-Herzegovina's experience, a major "precondition for peace is the consensus of the great powers," he said. Therefore, we should persuade them to see beyond their interests by hearing local people's voices, he said. Besides political leaders, the religious and civil sectors play an important role in peacebuilding, reconciliation, and achieving a sustainable progress, he said. H.E. Ivanic expressed his conviction that it is time for Korea to transform from a symbol of conflict to a peaceful example for the world. Moreover, peace on the Korean Peninsula concerns the whole world. Bosnia-Herzegovina has experienced war and conflict, and he testified that it wasn't easy to reach a compromise. However, once it was reached, it affected positively all other conflicts in the world. Therefore, such development on one side of the world impacts all of humanity, notably through positive news spread around the globe. To conclude, he suggested that, since "contact between people is necessary to remove prejudices and build a sustainable and prosperous region," it is essential to open borders and enable tourism, trade, and cultural exchanges, which will contribute to easing relations.

H.E. Ahmet Davutoglu, Prime Minister (2014-2016) of Turkey, said that the global experience of the pandemic has proven that we all share a common destiny, which therefore implies the need for cooperation for the future of humanity. In his last book, he used the terms "systemic earthquake" and "world order" to explain the systemic crisis we are facing and the world cooperation that all regions must establish for peace. He reminded us that the resolution of the Korean question has a symbolic meaning for all of us. Moreover, all the countries that were divided during the Cold War—Germany, Yemen, Vietnam—are again one, except Korea. Nevertheless, despite the many challenges, H.E. Davutoglu said, "It is now time for a new era on the Korean Peninsula," because challenges also mean new opportunities. The German people faced similar challenges before they united. Furthermore, peace on the Korean Peninsula after decades of armistice will bring a strong message to humankind that a new era of peace has begun. Thus, it is time for Korea to unite, and for all families to be brought back together "as one entity of common destiny." He affirmed that this conference will therefore have a historic significance. H.E. Davutoglu concluded with these words: "The destiny of Korea is our common destiny."

Dr. Manuel Rodríguez Rodríguez from Peru, president of the National Association for the Development of Intelligence, Creativity and Talent, said, "UPF seeks to foster a broader dialogue with great love for humanity, which breaks down barriers and traces a path toward peace, respect and mutual understanding."

Hon. Dr. Werner Fasslabend, the Austrian minister of defense (1990-2000) and the president of Austria's National Council (2000-2002), recalled having grown up in a town near the border with the former Czechoslovakia. "We thought that it would take years, maybe decades, until the Iron Curtain could fall, but then it came almost surprisingly and very quickly. And now we are living in a situation that it is not only a neighboring country but it is a member of the European Union, and it is easy to go there without a passport, not even needing to exchange money if you want to buy something. ... And it can go very quickly that things will change fundamentally [between North and South Korea], and for this moment you have to be prepared, but I am sure the European lesson that a divided Germany, a divided Central Europe, could be very unified will be the best lesson also for Korea."

Dr. Alexander Vorontsov, head of the Department of Korean and Mongolian Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences, said that "in the Republic of Korea there are two main conceptions or approaches to the Korean unification problem. The first one is the so-called German Variant; that means instant absorption of North Korea. The second one means unification through a relatively prolonged period of peaceful coexistence of the two Koreas and the growth of cooperation, gradual rapprochement and convergence." Dr. Vorontsov said: "Russia is concerned with maintaining peace and safety, security on the Korean Peninsula, friendly relations with both states on the Korean Peninsula and with a unified state. The optimal variant of realization of this goal will be the unification of Korea. In comparison with other key interested states, Russia is more in favor of the prospect of Korean unification—but under the condition that the unification should be carried out peacefully."

Hon. Pier Ferdinando Casini, Senator, President, Italian Chamber of Deputies (2001-2006); Honorary Chair, Inter-Parliamentary Union, said: "The fact that the two Koreas, despite ups and downs in their relations, are not at peace, but neither are they at war, continues to leave the door open to the transformation of the armistice into a veritable peace treaty. ... As the constant commitment of UPF, which has never given up on the idea of a Korean Peninsula free from internal borders, has shown us, recognizing the spirit of collaboration is the best political investment for negotiable

strengthening the spirit of collaboration is the best political investment for promoting dialogue now and for a concrete solution in the near future."

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**SESSION VI: DIPLOMACY, SECURITY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

Written by David Payer  
 Saturday, February 12, 2022

**South Korea**—Former heads of state, senior government officials and parliamentarians from around the world, as well as a prominent faith leader, joined the *Think Tank 2022* Forum Session VI of the World Summit 2022. This was co-hosted by UPF and the Royal Government of Cambodia, on February 12, 2022 to discuss the intersection of diplomacy, security and religious freedom in the context of seeking the peaceful reunification of North and South Korea.

**Speakers:**

Dr. Michael Jenkins, President of UPF International, emphasized the role of religious freedom as a cornerstone of any efforts for peace. Pastor Paula White-Cain, Head, Paula White Ministries, U.S.A., spoke of her time leading the White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative. "President Trump was the first U.S. President to hold a meeting at the United Nations on protecting religious freedom around the world where he personally called on the nations of the world to end religious persecution. We followed up on that event with an Executive Order advancing International Religious Freedom that solidifies America's stand on this critical issue by naming it a foreign policy priority of the United States and promising we will respect and vigorously promote religious freedom." She encouraged all to follow the biblical exhortation to be peacemakers. "Jesus' fundamental teaching is to love your enemies, for this is one of the greatest secrets to achieving peace. You're the epitome of Matthew 5:9 — 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.'"

Hon. Shim Jae Kwon, Chairperson (2012-2016) of the Korean National Assembly's Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, outlined the history of efforts to unite the Korean Peninsula. "Korea has been divided for 74 years as of now. During this time almost 4 million people have lost their lives because of the Korean war, a tragic civil war." The process was stagnant until the fall of the Soviet Union and collapse of the communist Eastern Bloc. Then North Korea's leader Kim Il Sung suggested parameters for a loosely federated Korean nation. The 2000 National Summit of the two presidents (North and South) generated a joint declaration. "The June 15<sup>th</sup> Joint Declaration was a historic breakthrough showing the two Korea's strong will toward reunification." Tragically this agreement broke down, and by 2006 the DPRK began nuclear weapons testing. "All the former promises of working toward peaceful reunification were thrown away. Things got very tough." The Trump administration made major diplomatic advances to deal with the nuclear issue, but these broke down at the failure of the Hanoi Summit. Hon. Shim stated, "I do believe it is not too late. We can take action now. If the three parties (North Korea, South Korea and the United States) try to act together, these problems can be overcome."

Amb. Callista L. Gingrich, U.S. Ambassador (2017-2021) to the Holy See, spoke of the imperative to seek religious freedom by describing what happens when it is absent. "For decades, the North Korean government has denied the Korean people their fundamental right to worship freely. Through fear, intimidation and retribution, the Kim regime has repressed freedom of thought, conscience and religion. Those who practice their faith are subject to execution, torture, physical abuse, or arrest. Some organizations estimate that at least 50,000-70,000 Christians are in prison for exercising their religious beliefs in North Korea." She described the many ways the Trump administration worked with the Vatican to establish this foundational understanding when addressing national issues. "Religious freedom is a key building block of peace and security. This fundamental human right is a bulwark against the forces of extremism and tyranny and provides the foundation upon which societies can thrive. In the United States, the right to worship freely is often called America's first freedom. It is a necessary component of U. S. foreign policy and our commitment to ensuring a more peaceful world." Finally, she exhorted cooperation between the many facets of society to reach this goal. "All of us, across governments, civil society, and faith-based organizations, must work together to build bridges that facilitate tolerance and understanding."

UPF President Dr. Michael Jenkins stressed: "To attain peace, we need to acknowledge God. Politics alone will not do it. It is a fundamental principle to bring together political and religious leaders to bring success."

Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, Prime Minister (2006-2015) of Canada, also focused on the topic of religious freedom. He discussed how the foundations of a nation determine their conduct. "Let us begin by reminding ourselves that the Republic of Korea has never sought the reunification of the peninsula through force. It has been focused on the progress of its citizens, not military conquest. But the DPRK has sought military conquest, not only through the war of 1950 to 1953, but also through its relentless development of military capabilities at literally any cost to its citizens over many decades. This difference in the fundamental priorities of the two states stems directly from the fundamentally different nature of their systems." He reflected on what they had done in Canada. "In Canada we asked: 'What can be done to establish culture and conditions for democracy to take root?' For this reason, my government established the office of religious freedom." When individuals opposed this and asked for freedom *from* religion, he countered them. "It is not only religion that can be extreme; it is the *lack* of religion that can also be extreme. It is certainly undemocratic and dangerous to negate all other political viewpoints by claiming to speak for God. It is equally undemocratic and dangerous to claim that one can negate all other political viewpoints in the name of a mere human being." He also acknowledged that religious freedom does not solve all problems. "Freedom of religion is the reminder that by being conceived in God's image, we are important. But because we are *not* God, there must be limits on our power."

Hon. Dan Burton, member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1983-2013) and international Co-Chair of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), acknowledged that Dr. Moon is doing more for peace than anyone I have seen on the global stage and we sincerely thank her because without her, none of us would be able to be part of this great WS 2022 today. UPF and the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace have almost 7000 parliamentarians working together and our conclusion is that we need more action by more people."

Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr., Chair Emeritus of Universal Peace Federation, and International Co-Chair of IAPP, issued an official virtual statement as Chairman of International Conference of Asia Political Parties. In his remarks, he promoted the feasibility of establishing a loose Confederation for the two Koreas, until at some point in the future, they can become a united Republic, with alternating presidency. He stated that it is possible if there is a common will, with the support of the U.S., China, Russia and Japan, and with ASEAN, the European Union and the UN providing



China, Russia and Japan, and with ASEAN, the European Union and the UN providing guidance and active support. He mentioned that Asia and the global community must build on the efforts of historic, direct talks between U.S. President Donald Trump, North Korean Leader Kim Jong-un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in, which will eventually lead to a roadmap to eventual unification and lasting peace in the Korean Peninsula. Although students of realpolitik may say this is wishful thinking, Hon. De Venecia emphasized that this is how impossible initiatives begin.

H.E. Jimmy Morales, President (2016-2020) of Guatemala participated by video to encourage immediate action over mere discussion to seek peaceful solutions for our world in the midst of continued poverty. "If we can achieve peace on the Korean Peninsula, it is possible to attain it in the whole world. Peace can be pursued through more than a Track I diplomatic path."

H.E. Rosalia Arteaga Serrano, President (1997) of Ecuador, added her concerns about the "challenge of asymmetry between the very wealthy and poor countries." She referenced the reunification of East and West Germany that made dreams possible for their peoples and noted that "peace is not just the situation between countries, it is dealing with our own lives."

Hon. Mike Pompeo, U.S. Secretary of State (2018-2021) and CIA director (2017-2018), focused his remarks on the contrast of societal values: "In our administration, we sought peace through strength by seeking dignity of people. This is not only an American mission but a mission for the West to allow every person to practice faith as they so choose." In the process of seeking Korean reunification, he stated, "We will never forget the suffering of this nation. We remember the division of this country. We believed we were close to achieving peace when I visited Kim Jong-un. In spite of the work that remains to be done, there is a path forward to peace." He held a cautious stance toward China. "The Chinese Communist Party does not share our values. Chinese aggression continues today. America must confront this and work with our friends of peace-loving nations and peoples—first and foremost, through diplomacy. That is why we shared our vision with Chairman Kim. Our vision would have made the lives of people there better. We did not place sanctions on North Korea to punish them, but to make the way of peace clearer."

The final speaker, Hon. Mark Esper, U.S. Secretary of Defense (2019-2021), focused on strategic perspectives. "Too many suffer in the world's biggest prison: North Korea. Too often we put the urgent before the important issues. Our opponents exploit our inattention. America's presence in the Middle East demonstrates this. During this time, China has built the largest military in the world. Russia's military has modernized. Both Putin and Xi Jinping are propping up North Korea. We can't control the actions of China, Russia and North Korea, but we can control our own abilities. We must work closer together collaboratively in all domains: technology, military and economics. We must commit to engage China together showing resolve and determination so they will pursue different approaches that respect international law and norms. We must expand our cooperation to India, New Zealand and beyond. This should be done multilaterally, engaging all democratic bodies. We must bolster our armed forces and exercise them more jointly. A strong military will buttress our diplomacy. The U.S. must lead with our values—the virtues of democracy and God-given religious rights."

Chairman of UPF International, Dr. Thomas Walsh, concluded the gathering inviting all the participants to affirm the Seoul Resolution for Peace on the Korean Peninsula.

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## SESSION VII: THE KOREAN PENINSULA IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

Written by William Stoner  
Saturday, February 12, 2022

**Seoul, South Korea**—In Session VII, "The Korean Peninsula in the Context of the Asia Pacific Region," Hon. Ek Nath Dhakal, UPF Asia – Pacific Regional Chairman, and former Minister for the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction of the Government of Nepal moderated a panel of nine speakers.

**Speakers:**

Hon. Hyung Suk Kim, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Unification (2016-2017), South Korea, said, "It is my honor to speak to the World Summit 2022. The current situation in Korea is complicated and worrisome. In 2019 we had three inter-Korean summits and two DPRK-U.S. summits so we anticipated much success for diplomacy, but the DPRK-U.S. summit in Hanoi, Vietnam caused the North to become rigid and hostile. The pandemic in 2020 created a barrier to communication. The DPRK exerted its strength by testing ICBM missiles seven times in January of 2022. They demand that hostile policies against the North must be abandoned. If not, it threatens to continue testing more ICBMs. The U.S. is saying the international community must push the DPRK to stop the violations of the Security Council of the UN, but still there is a possibility of dialogue without strings attached. China and Russia have not taken an interest in this issue. At the same time, the U.S. and China are in economic conflict while the U.S. and Russia are in conflict over tension in the Ukraine. It appears that the new aggression of the DPRK has been put on the back burner. Here at this Summit, it is our common belief that current peace is possible and the ultimate reunification of the Korean Peninsula must be achieved. To accomplish this goal, we must utilize diplomacy and active intervention instead of weapons or armed forces. With diplomacy there should be ways of deterring the recklessness of the North. Many nations can become involved, but we need to focus on the DPRK. We must encourage them to move in the direction we want. We must look at the German model. Commerce should continue in the private sector. Now the North has over 500 farmers' markets and the youth have many mobile phones. When Kim Jong-un took office, he spoke of building a strong infrastructure. He studied in Switzerland as a youth, so he knows the importance of economic affluence. It is in the economic interest of the DPRK to listen to the suggestions of Asia."

H.E. Suos Yara, Chairman of the Commission of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Cambodia, stated, "I am very grateful for Dr. Walsh and UPF for building this Summit. I believe parliamentary diplomacy is a powerful platform for building peace. It has been 70 years since the end of hostilities in Korea, but a peace treaty has yet to be signed in Korea. I call upon the two Koreas to establish a channel for communication so that a peace treaty can be achieved at some point. The Korean people long for this peace. The Korean conflict is a unique situation. Once peace is established, it will be possible for mutual prosperity to be realized; however, we need a new solution, a new paradigm shift. We need a safe and open space for new ideas." He also called for the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) to be redeployed by non-military personnel and the cooperation among different stakeholders on food security for peace.

"There are three policy proposals: 1) A peace treaty should be reached as soon as possible. The government can only do so much; the solution is mostly in the hands of the Korean people. The international community can create a supportive environment. 2) Explore changing the DMZ into a Peace Zone. Non-military personnel should be allowed to conduct commercial activity, tourism, and cultural events. 3) Promote cultural cooperation. The Winter Olympics 2018 is a good example. All this should be based upon the principle of 'two states toward one nation based on one peninsula with one people and one culture.' Family reunions between the two Koreas should be put at the front of the dialogue. This 'low-hanging fruit' is easily attainable and puts people-to-people relationships first. A peace solution should be approached from a humanitarian aspect. We hope for peace, but we must take action. We cannot wait too long. Peace must start with realistic action. I wish for the two Koreas: peace and prosperity."

H.E. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President (2001-2010) of the Philippines remarked, "My father, the late president, had a good relationship with Father and Mother Moon when they visited our nation in 2005. I am proud to follow in his footsteps. Our nation sent troops to protect your nation. We should look at how the world has grown since the two World Wars. We must take all steps to avoid wars, especially due to the threat of nuclear weapons. We must help the underdeveloped nations to grow more prosperous. No poverty! This is one of the greatest challenges for humanity. This requires the efforts of all of us. We must work within our communities to assist each other. Peace is the natural state of mankind! Today there exists a great disparity between North and South. There is too much hunger in the North and this prolongs poverty. This crisis provides an opportunity to mend fences on the part of the South by initiating projects that can close the income gap. The two Korean leaders have sought better relations since 2018. Such efforts will help people in local communities."

H.E. Maithripala Sirisena, President (2015-2019) of Sri Lanka stated, "I am honored to attend this Summit. Sri Lanka enjoys a long friendship with South Korea. We must bring together our collective experiences and wisdom to achieve mutual understanding, peace, and prosperity for the world. The separation between the two nations has created great economic difficulty for the North. The German reunification is a good example of collapsing the wall of separation to achieve a strong economy. Vietnam has exhibited another novel example of unification. These two nations have achieved peace in two different ways. Sometimes there are certain portions of the population that resist reunification. That is usually evident in the side that enjoys economic affluence. People fear that unification could negatively affect the prosperity of their country due to immigration. Economic affluence may come from reunification because of the assets of shared language and culture. In 2018 South Korean President Moon met with the North and created the Kaesong Industrial Zone. In 2020 a building was destroyed. There are no short or easy solutions. One must look at the long-term effects. The two examples of Germany and Vietnam show that, even though there were conflicts due to different political ideologies, they now enjoy peace and prosperity through a common language and living pattern. Threatening nuclear attacks will not bring unification. What good can possibly come from these missiles? Also drawing lines on a map at the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel have not drawn the two sides to come together. Let us swear that we will not be warmongers but peacemakers and sacrifice in whatever way necessary to benefit mankind. I sincerely hope that strength and willingness to sacrifice will emerge from this summit."



H.E. Ing Kantha Phavi, Minister of Women's Affairs, Cambodia, said, "I am here today to represent the First Lady of Cambodia. May I express my deep appreciation for being invited to speak at this Summit and to contribute in some way to peace on the Korean Peninsula. Cambodia has a special relationship with both the people of South and North Korea. Both countries have been our friends for many years. I wish to speak on the issues of women leaders, first ladies, and the reunification of Korea. Considering the heightened tension in the Asia Pacific region, this Summit could not have been more timely.

"Thanks to the wise leadership of Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, total peace has been achieved throughout Cambodia. He has also contributed to general peace in the Asia Pacific region and beyond. Thanks to peacekeeping forces from the UN, Cambodia now experiences peace throughout our nation. Since 2006 Cambodia has sent many of its own peacekeepers to join UN forces in other nations. We are second only to Indonesia in sending our women in support of peacekeeping forces in Asia. Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen is the leader of ASEAN. Only through mutual respect, understanding, and trust can lasting peace be achieved. This cannot be achieved without women's participation and women sitting at the meeting table. The Mother of Peace, founder of this Summit, is a good example of the vital role of women. I would like to suggest that it is only through gender equality that true and lasting peace can be achieved for all. Cambodia is committed to achieving peace through the contribution of women."

Mdm. Adi Koila Nailatikau, First Lady (2009-2015) of Fiji, stated, "I have attended many World Summits since 2013 and each one of them has been focused upon reunification of the Korean Peninsula. As a result of these summits, I feel confident that we will see peace on the Korean Peninsula in our lifetime. In Fiji both land and ocean give us life and are at the center of our lives. The scattered island nations in the Pacific find strength as we share the ocean together. In Korea you only need to look back at nature to find what both sides share in common. The very ground is what is in common throughout the entire peninsula. By finding out what you have in common, you can remove what causes differences. Making these differences work together can help move you forward."

"Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon have known that peace would come to the Korean Peninsula. Their constant efforts have achieved more for lasting peace than many nations put together. They have known that peace is a process and may take a long time to achieve. Following the leadership of UPF, it is now up to the leaders of North and South to provide their people with incentives to seek peace. Beyond laws and politics, each person wants to live in peace. There are major differences between the two sides, so the process of dialogue may not give each side what they want but they will get what they need. Faith-based organizations will always lead their people to peace with values of respect for one's self and for human life. The family unit is what people will fight for. Economic incentives for peace should begin with families to insure stability, economic growth, employment, education, food and water. It is the Korean people who are the peninsula's greatest resource. They suffered the most during the war and accomplished much to rebuild afterwards. This should be a 'Korean-led' reunification. They will be affected by this the most and it will be the Korean people who will achieve reunification and keep the peace for hundreds of years to come. Other countries should support them. All stakeholders, governments, non-profit organizations, and civil societies have a part to play. The essence of it all is that Koreans should lead this reunification process themselves."

"In the island nation of Tonga, an undersea volcano created shock waves around the world. They are a resilient people. The shockwaves from this volcano and the corona pandemic remind us all that we share the same earth and environment. We are all human at the end of the day. We must respect each other as we move forward on this peace process."

H.E. Yousaf Raza Gillani, Prime Minister (2008-2012) of Pakistan, remarked, "Considering our challenges, war is never a solution to settling differences. Our challenge lies in delicately balancing the critical equation between peace and development. 'There can be no human development without peace.' Ending poverty and ensuring human rights are all essential sustainable development goals that cannot be achieved without peace. 'Peace is indispensable for the development and nourishment of our civilization, and it must be maintained by all means.' We must join hands and make concerted efforts to put out the raging fires of conflicts through increased cooperation, harmony, and dialogue. It is time to build bridges between minds and hearts. It is time to move from escalation to de-escalation. I firmly believe that conflict resolution based on mutual respect must be our priority for human existence as well as the goal of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula."

Hon. Lord Fatafehi Fakafanua, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Tonga, remarked, "I am deeply honored to speak to this World Summit 2022. Our two nations are separated by a great ocean, but your vision of peace in your region and the world has reached our shores. We are recovering from one of the largest volcano eruptions in history. We thank you wholeheartedly for your prayers and support. The legacy of peace established by Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon has united us all today in our endeavor to achieve world peace. I offer my extreme gratitude to UPF for convening the World Summit 2022. This summit provides an opportunity for us as peace-builders and leaders to continue this legacy established by the founders. 'Peace is not just the destination but also the journey.' That journey has seen UPF make progressive steps towards this vision. It is my fervent hope that peace will be achieved on the Korean Peninsula very soon. I want to reassure the founders of UPF and the hosts of this summit that your efforts are shared by all of us as your global family. As your fellow peacebuilder, I call upon the international community to work together through trust and mutual respect. I offer my best wishes for a fruitful outcome of this summit."

Mdm. Shiranthi Wickremasinghe Rajapaksa, First Lady (2005-2015) of Sri Lanka, said, "I am honored to speak to this summit of UPF. It is the goal of all people to live in harmony. World peace is an ideal of a world without violence. The UPF's programs have made significant progress for promoting peace in multiple ways, such as the empowerment of women and developing the next generation of leaders. Peace is the path we take for bringing growth and prosperity. The path towards peace must be carefully planned to accommodate the needs of all people. I would like to emphasize that the pursuit for peace in Korea is a life-changing process inside and outside their borders. This World Summit 2022 will provide the way for us as we learn, listen, and discuss. Let us press onward to a bright and peaceful future. I salute those of you who have dedicated your life to the pursuit of peace."

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**SESSION VIII: THE KOREAN PENINSULA: AFRICAN VOICES FOR PEACE**

Written by Alan Jessen, coordinator, IAED-North America  
 Saturday, February 12, 2022

**South Korea**—Think Tank 2022 Forum Session VIII of the World Summit 2022, co-hosted by UPF and the Royal Government of Cambodia, was held on February 12, 2022. The forum featured nine leaders from Africa, among them current and former heads of state, first ladies and spiritual leaders, who addressed the theme “The Korean Peninsula: African Voices for Peace.”

The session was introduced by UPF International chairman, Dr. Thomas Walsh, who spoke of the African region as the strongest pillar of UPF’s global foundation. He noted the heart of affection the African leaders hold for UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who is known worldwide as the “Mother of Peace.” In a recorded video message, each speaker expressed their earnest desire to come in person to Korea for the Summit despite the COVID-19 pandemic, which ultimately precluded their visit. The moderator of the session was Dr. Tageldin Hamad, Vice President of UPF International and Chairman of the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO).

**Speakers**

Two of the nine speakers were spiritual leaders, while the other seven represented their nations as presidents, vice presidents or first ladies.

Prophet Samuel Radebe, founder and leader of The Revelation Spiritual Home in South Africa, said: “We are in the midst of a terrible pandemic and millions are suffering and looking for hope. The essential need at this time in history is for all people to return to the Creator, our Heavenly Parent. This is the central responsibility of spiritual and religious leaders. Without the Creator, problems of this world cannot be solved. We need spiritual guidance from people who are gifted spiritually to lead and guide. Politics alone cannot solve the problems. We are seeing the world enter into a darker phase; there is no moral compass, no direction in order to solve world problems because of lack of spiritual guidance. Our True Mother, Mother Moon has been working tirelessly, investing blood, sweat and tears. She has brought us hope. If we can unite with her and support her in building the Heavenly Parents Holy Community, we can transform this world and build one cosmic family of humanity. That is why I once again call upon the political leaders of Korea to seek True Mother’s anointing and blessing.”

Common themes emerged among the voices of African leaders. One of these was the feeling of existential threat brought about by the pandemic and other forces—perhaps most eloquently spoken by Hon. Nevers Mumba, Vice President (2003-2004) of Zambia, but shared with seriousness by all: “Never in the history of our world has mankind faced such strained relations and pandemics as today. War drums are beating in Europe with great potential for devastating effects on the entire globe; in Africa we have experienced six military coups in the past 18 months—an unprecedented number. We see poverty, family breakdown, climate change and the list goes on....I encourage the two-track approach to peace that involves civil society, trade and commerce, humanitarian relief, interfaith dialogue, cultural exchange and tourism. This multilateral approach is the way to peace. May God guide and inspire all the participants to go the extra mile in the search for peace.”

In response to the imminent threats and challenges, the leaders expressed that humanity is one family and called for worldwide cooperation. H.E. Alassane Ouattara, president of Côte d'Ivoire, said there is a need for “interaction among civilizations which require peoples to have a common course of action and inclusive view on issues relating to peace and human development.”

H.E. Mohamed El Baradei, Nobel Peace Prize laureate; Vice President (2013) of Egypt; and director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (1997-2009), congratulated UPF for the World Summit 2022 and *Think Tank 2022* as examples of Track II diplomacy which can lay the groundwork for official negotiation and dialogue between the two Koreas away from geopolitical competition. “We need to change our mindset and internalize that whatever our ethnic, ideological or religious differences, we are in the end one human family and that what unites us is far greater than what divides us. We have no option but to find a way to live together. International cooperation is a moral imperative for our interconnected world.”

Mdm. Monica Chakwera, First Lady of Malawi, stated that there is “no success in a divided world; we are all one family. In challenging times like these we must work together to heal the wounds of the past and engage fully in the transformation of present conditions and create a future of unparalleled dignity and beauty for all beings and all life.”

The speakers articulated a deep understanding of history and the many conflicts and disputes between powers that separate people, including in Korea. They expressed that it is imperative that North and South Korea be reunited and share their rich culture beyond the border that presents itself as an artifice inherited from history. The speakers also conveyed that, however commendable the efforts the two countries have made towards reconciliation, they must be supported by the entire international community.

H.E. Kwassi Klutse, Prime Minister (1996-1999) of Togo said, “The profound challenges we face require us to go beyond our borders.” Regarding Korea, he urged, “Let all the peoples of the world stand up as one to call upon the brotherly people of the Korean Peninsula and their allies to use the power of true love and mutual understanding to achieve reconciliation and peace on the peninsula.”

Dame Patience Jonathan, First Lady of Nigeria (2010-2015), said: “Without peace there will be no prosperity and no human development. I believe that women and children are the main victims of the recent crisis and therefore should be part of the solution. As women we are home builders and peacebuilders. We are naturally designed for this role and have risen up to the occasion in the past. We, of the International Association of First Ladies for Peace, are ready to fulfill our God-given role to work for peace on the Korean Peninsula.”

Hon. Delfim das Neves, President of the National Assembly of São Tomé and Príncipe, and many of the speakers agreed that the significance of pursuing peace on the Korean Peninsula is of great importance at this time. The realization of peace on the peninsula would give hope that peace can be achieved anywhere and everywhere. The steps that are being taken by Dr. Moon and UPF can be applied in other conflict centers of the world.

All the speakers expressed gratitude for the convening of the World Summit 2022 and

All the speakers expressed gratitude for the conveners of the World Summit 2022 and in particular to the host, Dr. Moon, for her dedication and resolve for finding a real and lasting solution to the very important issue of peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Sheikh Mansour Diouf, representative of the Grand Khalif of the Murid Brotherhood in Yoff, Ouakam et Ngor in Dakar, Senegal, shared: "This conference expresses for me that God's Will is always to help his people with dignitaries and individuals like you who, despite conflicts in this world—be they military, ethnic or social conflicts—always stand firm, to alert and say no to violence and yes to peace. Despite all that has devastated humanity, Mother Moon, you still hold your head high and you call upon humanity to hold out hope, to try to transgress these violent rules and these terrorist rules in order to continue to work for this ideal, which is peace in this world. For this I, and I am sure others, can only express gratitude for the importance you attach to human life. Mother, my dear Mother, the one whom I call the 'Mother of Humanity,' I wish you a long life, solid iron health and a great success at this summit, of which I have no doubt."

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