

UPF Córdoba, Argentina's peace walk across the downtown of Córdoba City

Miguel Werner
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Córdoba, Argentina -- A peace walk across the downtown of Córdoba City, located in the center of Argentina, took place on December 1 as part of UPF-Argentina's Peace Road 2019. This yearly world campaign sees many rallies and activities in 130 countries under the theme "Connecting the World Through Peace." It was declared of importance by the Córdoba legislature "for its noble purpose of bringing peoples and cultures together" (Declaration 23406, 11/13/2019).

The walk started in San Martín Square, where Walter Nostrala, Parlasur parliamentarian, gave a few words and legislative advisor Lucas Pérez presented the city's declaration. We also introduced the representatives of the entities involved in the Peace Road and took a photo in front of the Libertador Monument. The six-km route included the Palace of Justice, the Municipality, the City Hall Square, the Paseo del Buen Pastor, the Church of the Capuchins, the Ferreyra Palace, and the Civil Center of the Bicentennial–Panal.

In front of the Civil Center, we surrounded a tree as a way to "embrace the planet," and held an interreligious prayer "for peace and unity." Prayers were given by pastor Miguel Barrera, from the "Jerusalén Puerta de Dios" Church, and Gustavo Aldasoro, from the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU)–Argentina. Cristina Escobar, president of the Pangea Foundation (native geo-environmental artistic project), offered a reflection on the traditions of native peoples. When reaching San Martín Square, in front of the City Hall, Parlasur Parliamentarian Humberto Benedetto gave a few words in a brief artistic program that had music and dances in which CARP members and FFWPU members participated (1).

This was the second edition of Peace Road in Córdoba. Earlier, on November 10, we held the fifth edition of Peace Road in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, with a walk, a bike ride, and a symbolic embrace of the planet at the Palermo Planetarium. It was declared "of interest for promoting and upholding human rights" by the City of Buenos Aires Legislature (2).

UPF is one of the global advocates of Peace Road, which varies in each country and region, along with other civil society organizations in the public and private sector. In Córdoba, Peace Road 2019 was held under the initiative of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), the FFWPU, the Women's Federation for World Peace, CARP, Red Cooperar, the Civil Association Acercando Naciones, and other supporting entities, such as All Boys Solidario Córdoba and América Madre Headquarters. All entities committed to this proposal for peaceful coexistence, mutual prosperity, and universal values (3).