

Peace Road 2022 - Berlin was held in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin

Michael Balcomb
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Peace Road 2022-Berlin was held in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin (Germany) on July 27. The anniversary of the Korean War Armistice.

When the whole world is facing a crisis at the height of the prolonged Ukraine-Russia War, raising fears of a new Cold War between the East and West, PEACE ROAD 2022- Berlin was held with the aspiration for world peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula.

Peace Road has been held every year since its launch in 2013 as the "Korea-Japan 3800km Peace Bike Campaign for Unification," and this year marks its 10th anniversary. The Great March for Unification PEACE ROAD 2022 started with the slogan "No New Walls in Europe – Remember Korea!"

More than 1,000 participants from 50 countries, including participants of Peace Road from Germany and other European countries, Berlin citizens, Korean immigrants, etc., took part in the event and urged an end to wars and conflicts around the world, calling for peace.



Peace Road 2022- Berlin was held for four days (July 26 to 29) with programs such as the International Conference, Peace Road Great March for Unification, Aid for Refugees, etc.

The Peace Road Conference, co-hosted by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and Youth and Students for Peace (YSP), was held on July 26 at the Humboldt University of Berlin. The conference was divided into two sessions.

The first session was entitled "From Swords to Ploughshares – Prospects for Peace on the Korean Peninsula and in Europe," and the second was entitled "Peace Road: A Global Project toward Sustainable Peace."

The participants strongly agreed when the speaker said, "At the time of the armistice on July 27, 1953, nobody expected the Korean Peninsula to stay divided 70 years later." In one heart, they claimed, "We must not repeat in Ukraine the division of Korea."

On August 2, 1987, World CARP cried in Berlin to "Tear down this wall!" Mr. Kwang-seok Song, who is now the Korean Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Peace Road Organizing Committee (Chairman of Unification Korea Federation), was only a college student. This year, however, he is standing tall as we mark together the 10th Anniversary of Peace Road.



Mr. Song stated, "Peace Road Great March for Unification which marks its 10th anniversary this year is the key project of the 'construction of the International Peace Highway' proclaimed by Rev. Sun Myung Moon, a global religious leader, and peace activist; and he proclaimed it during the 10th ICUS Conference held in Seoul in 1981. It contains his grand vision to open an era of world peace by bringing down national borders and binding humanity as one family by connecting the world through networks of superhighways." Then, he explained why Peace Road 2022- Berlin was held on July 27. "On July 27, 2013, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon wrote 'Unification of our homeland on a Korea-Japan map. That is why we set July 27 as 'Peace Road Day.' In addition, July 27 was the anniversary of the armistice officially concluding the Korean War in 1953."

Peace Road 2022- Berlin began when approximately 100 bicyclists who started from the Berlin TV tower arrived at the Brandenburg City Hall. This was followed by various programs such as cultural performances, speeches, and congratulatory remarks. More than 1000 participants from 50 countries worldwide participated in the rally under the slogan "Don't repeat in Ukraine the division of Korea! Don't build new walls in Europe!"

Dr. Michael Balcomb, the European Chairman of the Organization Committee, stated, "The Berlin Wall was visible. But today, the wall is invisible, yet no less real. It is a wall in the hearts of men and women." Then he exclaimed, "We must not repeat the division of Korea in Ukraine."



After the peace rally, the participants left the City Hall and took on the streets for a peace march in West Berlin on foot. The parade of participants calling out the slogan of "No more War in Ukraine" and "One Korea" reached up to 500 meters. After the peace march, they visited 'Moldova,' an informal settlement for Ukraine refugees to carry out volunteer activities.

Meanwhile, YSP launched the Peace Road 2022 Great March for Unification on June 19 on Geojeodo Island in Korea. Since then, Peace Road continued until August 15 in approximately 160 countries, including Korea, Japan, the United States, Germany, etc.

During this period, from June 19 to August 15, the participants claimed lasting world peace. They appealed to the international society on the importance of reunification of Korea, one of the last divided country in the world.