

# FFWPU UK: Check Out Our New Media Press Pack!

Michael Balcomb  
October 4, 2022



Over the past few months, the Communications Team has been working on updating our media Press Pack which is now complete. Order one for yourself!

The purpose of the new Press Pack is for it to be used as an outreach tool.

If you wish to receive a physical copy of the Press Pack, please email the address you want it to be sent to, to either: [comms@ffwpu.org.uk](mailto:comms@ffwpu.org.uk) or [pr@ffwpu.org.uk](mailto:pr@ffwpu.org.uk).

If you request a physical copy of the Press Pack, we would kindly ask you to send a small donation to cover postage costs. To send a donation, please visit: [ffwpu.breezechms.com/give](https://ffwpu.breezechms.com/give)

You can access and download the digital version of the pack below.

[Press Pack - FFWPU UK](#)

# DID YOU KNOW?



Young men and women participating in a FFWPU Holy Marriage Blessing.



Rev. and Mrs. Moon meet with Secretary General Gorbachev, 1990.



The Little Angels are introduced to Queen Elizabeth, 1971.



Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon alongside former General-Secretary of the UN, Ban Ki Moon at the World Summit 2022.



Rev. Moon presents the 2012 Peace Cup to future South Korean captain Son Heung Min

1

The Unification Community is featured in the Guinness Book of Records for holding the world's largest mass wedding. Contrary to popular belief, members of the Unification Community are not matched together by Sun Myung Moon on the day of their marriage. Nowadays, young Unificationists are encouraged to look for a spouse on the grounds of compatibility, values and purity. In 2012, Channel 4 broadcast a documentary titled "Married to the Moonies", which followed three young British Unificationists as they prepared to travel to Korea to be married alongside thousands of others by Father and Mother Moon. The program was produced by Firecracker Films and was well-received.

2

Despite having spoken out against the ideology of communism throughout his public ministry and at the height of the Cold War, Reverend and Mrs. Moon were invited into the Kremlin in 1990 by the then Secretary General Gorbachev. A similar unlikely meeting later occurred with President Kim Il Sung of Communist North Korea with the end goal being to eventually reunite the Korean Peninsula. While Sun Myung Moon may not have lived to see his efforts pay off, the anniversary of passing prompted an annual message of condolence from the current North Korean premier, Kim Jong Un.

3

The Little Angels, a children's folk ballet, were founded to convey the peace-loving spirit of the Korean people and their culture to the world. To date, they have travelled to over fifty countries, made over sixty overseas tours and gave more than 7,000 stage performances worldwide. Notably, they gave a special performance for Queen Elizabeth II, at the Royal Variety Performance in 1971.

4

Throughout the course of her life, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon has cultivated relationships with various world leaders, including Ban Ki Moon, the former General-Secretary of the United Nations (2007-2016). At the World Summit in 2022, more than 85 current and former heads of state sent messages of support.

5

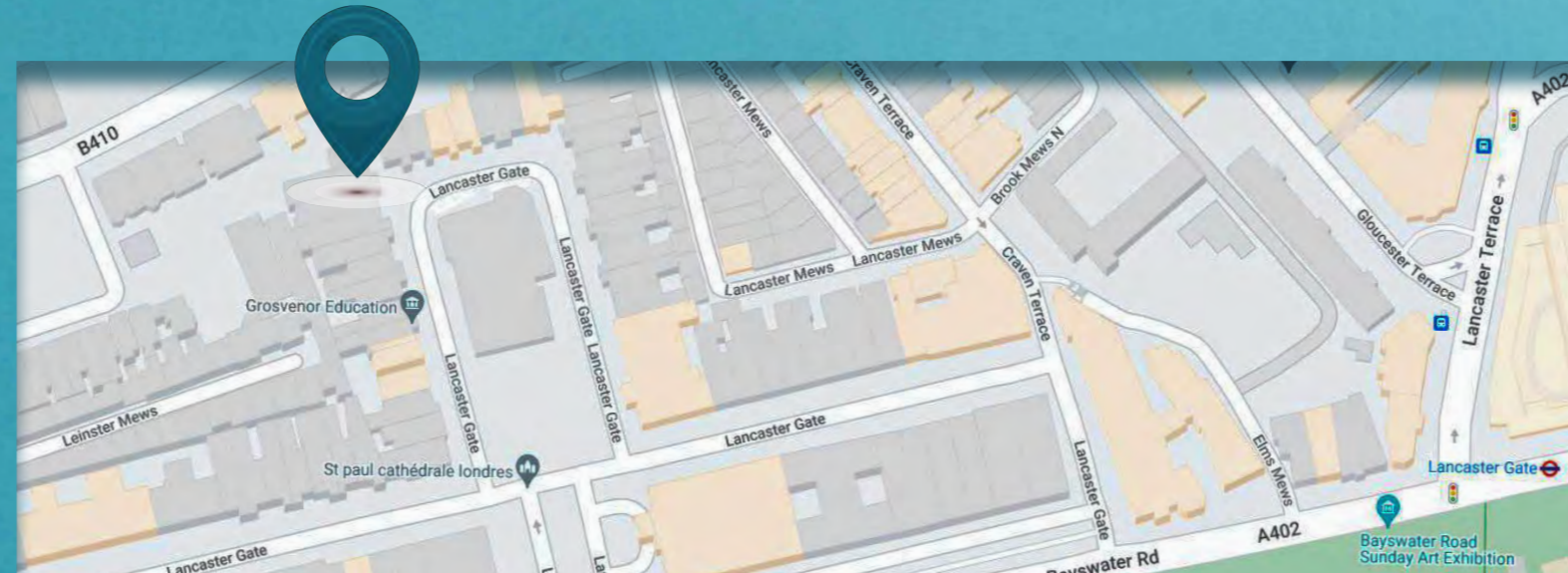
The Moons founded a pre-season international friendly football tournament called the "Peace Cup" alongside Brazilian footballing star Pele. The tournament was a means to promote world peace and encourage professional teams to serve their communities. English football clubs such as Tottenham Hotspur and Aston Villa have participated, in addition to footballing giants like Real Madrid and Juventus.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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UK Press Office  
Family Federation for World Peace and Unification  
Websites: [www.familyfed.co.uk](http://www.familyfed.co.uk) / [www.familyfedcommunity.co.uk](http://www.familyfedcommunity.co.uk)  
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# FAMILY FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE AND UNIFICATION



## The Unification Community at a Glance

# THE UNIFICATION COMMUNITY

The Unification Community is the collective name for the many organisations and institutions founded and inspired by the late Reverend Sun Myung and his wife Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Today it is a broad alliance of individuals and groups working towards world peace by beyond the boundaries of race, nation and religion.



“More precious than life is love, for there can be no life without love.”

*Rev. Sun Myung Moon*

“The problems afflicting humanity can only be resolved through the vision of one family under God.”

*Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon*

## Founders:

### Reverend Sun Myung Moon (1920 – 2012)

After a life-changing encounter with Jesus when he was just 15, Sun Myung Moon devoted his entire life to creating a world where all people can live in peace, harmony and happiness as the children of the one God, the Heavenly Parent.

Freed by United Nations forces from a communist labour camp during the Korean War, he came to South Korea as a refugee and began to work tirelessly to enable and reinforce committed marriages and strong, healthy families as the building block for peaceful societies, and to foster international and intercultural reconciliation.

Beyond religion, nationality, race and ethnicity, he taught that we are all one human family, a global community centred on God, our Heavenly Parent.

### Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon (1943 --)

Over more than 50 years of public ministry, Mother Moon has dedicated her life to the realisation of peace. As a prominent female religious leader operating on a global level, her powerful message has inspired millions to transcend national, racial and ideological boundaries. Since her husband's passing in 2012, Mother Moon has led the worldwide ministry of the Unification Community.

Called by God to serve as the True Parents of humanity, Father and Mother Moon created non-profit organisations, businesses, conferences, schools and colleges, youth and women's organizations and prestigious peace awards to resolve historical wounds and find lasting solutions to the world's many problems.



## FAMILY FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE AND UNIFICATION

FFWPU is a community of faith and family with God, the Heavenly Parent at our centre. We work together with all faith groups to create a peaceful and cohesive society. We hold regular worship services, youth programs, educational workshops, environmental service projects and marriage blessing ceremonies, open to all. FFWPU representatives are available to explain Unification theology and perspectives on current issues with an emphasis on God's ongoing work in human history. Visit our websites for more information: [www.familyfed.co.uk](http://www.familyfed.co.uk) and [www.familyfedcommunity.co.uk](http://www.familyfedcommunity.co.uk)



A young couple attend a Marriage Blessing Ceremony in South Korea.



## UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

UPF is an international and interreligious network of individuals and organizations, including representatives from religion, government, civil society and the private sector dedicated to achieving world peace. An NGO in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, UPF supports the work of the United Nations, particularly in the areas of interfaith peacebuilding, peace education, and the strengthening of marriage and family. For more information, please visit: [www.uk.upf.org](http://www.uk.upf.org)



Pope Francis meets UPF Chair, Dr. Thomas Walsh, at the Vatican.



## WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE

WFWP is a women's organization that promotes women as an essential ingredient in creating a peaceful global society. The organization is united globally by this vision while addressing the unique issues and barriers in each region on the grassroots level and through high-level events. WFWP-UK promotes the annual Young Women's Speech Contest and supports ongoing service projects and schools in Africa. For more information, please visit: [www.wfwp.org](http://www.wfwp.org)



A WFWP meeting at the Palace of Westminster.

# STILL CONTROVERSIAL?

Historically, most major religious movements of any significance met with tremendous misunderstanding and condemnation at their inception and, if such a tendency is anything to go by, the Unification Community is no exception.

It was not the original intention of the Moons to start their own church. When Sun Myung Moon was just 15, Jesus Christ revealed to him that the end of the age was fast approaching. On developing this understanding further, Moon took the revelation to churches in Korea but they were dismissive and refused to listen to what he had to say. He gained a small group of followers but critics soon began to spread bad rumours about them. Preaching in the Communist-held northern part of Korea resulted in his being thrown into a harsh labour camp. On his eventual release, he fled as a refugee to South Korea, where he met Mother Moon. The couple were married in 1960 and continued their public ministry together from that date.

Rev. Moon first visited the UK in 1965 and over the coming years he and his wife returned to this country many times, holding scientific and academic conferences, marriage blessing ceremonies and more. As the new faith grew, it met with opposition and misunderstanding. A small pressure group of so-called "sect experts" actively campaigned against all new religious movements and claimed to be able to provide

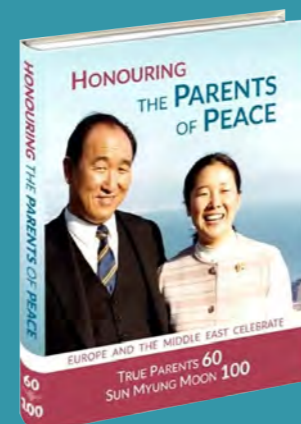
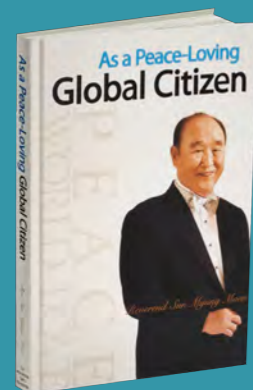
information about them. When these allegations were repeated in the popular press they tended to be distorted, exaggerated and unreliable.

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification was founded in 1997 as a new broader-based evolution of the Unification Community as an alliance of people who generally share the vision of building God-centred families as the basis for healthy communities, stable societies and a peaceful world. Since then, the Family Federation has gained respect from a broad cross-section of society.

Nevertheless, controversy and misunderstanding continue to reappear from time to time, most recently in connection with the tragic assassination of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2022. Abe had spoken at two online events hosted by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and his disturbed killer claimed that he committed this despicable crime because Abe had "supported the Unification Church" with which the killer (who was not and had never been a member) had become obsessed. This in turn led to a storm of negative press articles in Japan and around the world, which only now are being re-evaluated as false, misleading and indeed verging on hate speech.

“For years I have called for a world where all religions, races and nations live and exist together as one. For thousands of years history has seen the continuous increase of divisions. Now, however, we live in an age of globalism. For the sake of the future we must become one.”

*As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen*



“For the first time, I am opening up a window into my life. I do so with the hope that the story of this life, lived in accordance with God's love, will inspire in others the same mission, passion, devotion and dream.”

*Mother of Peace*

*\*Complementary copies of these books are available to the press on request.*

## THE SUNHAK PEACE PRIZE

The Sunhak Peace Prize, founded in 2013, recognises outstanding individuals and organizations working for the cause of peace. Past laureates have worked in the areas of food security, climate change advocacy, women's education and human rights, medical care for refugees, and sustainable economic development. The 2022 Prize Winners were Dame Sarah Gilbert of Oxford University for her pioneering work in developing the COVID-19 vaccine; and GAVI, the Global Vaccination Initiative. For more information, visit: [www.sunhakpeaceprize.org/en/](http://www.sunhakpeaceprize.org/en/)



Dame Sarah Gilbert receives the SunHak Peace Prize at the 2022 Award Ceremony.

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH AND STUDENTS FOR PEACE

IAYSP, founded in 2017, is empowering youth and students to become global citizens through character education and peace projects that support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. In Albania, IAYSP is working with the city government as part of the European Youth Capital project. Elsewhere, IAYSP volunteers are helping Ukrainian refugee families throughout Europe. For more information, visit: [www.iaysp.org](http://www.iaysp.org)



The launch of IAYSP Europe - Vienna, Austria in 2018.

## WE CAN OFFER:

- 1 **INTERVIEWS**  
With experts and staff working across the United Kingdom and overseas.
- 2 **PERSONAL ACCOUNTS**  
From individuals throughout the world.
- 3 **PRESS PASSES**  
For many of our different conferences.
- 4 **BRIEFINGS**  
Explaining our position on a wide range of issues, including talks on the movement's theological understanding.
- 5 **VISITS**  
To overseas development projects.
- 6 **PHOTOS AND VIDEOS**  
Access to our available archive.
- 7 **LITERATURE**  
On request, we can provide literature such as the autobiographies of our founders. We can also provide our annual report.