

Opening Unification Preparatory Academy with Foreign Residents in Korea

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Reframing Unification Discourse in a Multicultural Era and Defining the Substantive Tasks

National Unification Federation opened the "Unification Preparatory Academy with Foreign Residents in Korea" at the Unification Center in Cheongpa-dong, Seoul, on September 25, 2025. Supported by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) Korea, the academy was inaugurated with the goal of "restructuring unification discourse within a multicultural context and clarifying substantive tasks." More than 40 participants, including foreigners, young adults and experts on unification attended the opening session. During her presentation, YSP team leader Ko Yu-mi emphasized the role of the younger generation, stating "Securing youth-driven momentum is essential through sustainable practices such as campaigns and plogging (environmental clean-up activities)."

Additionally, Korea Multicultural Policy Research Institute Director Lee Ho-seok expressed that "experiences in conflict management within a multicultural society can serve as a practical model for mitigating cultural shock after unification." Participants engaged in lectures and discussions, expressing the need to establish a multi-layered governance system in which the government and civil society - both Koreans and foreign residents - collaborate. The dialogue focused on identifying practical measures to build a sustainable foundation for unification. A Federation representative noted that "this academy aims to go beyond simply delivering knowledge, it seeks to foster empathy for unification and promote global civic solidarity." The representative also stated that the organization plans to strengthen a citizen-led unification movement making use of the abilities of multicultural supporters and the younger generation, thereby expanding the foundation for peace and unification on the Korean Peninsula.