

## UPF Korea Commemorates 20th Anniversary with Academic Seminar

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### Strengthening Community-Based Grassroots Networks

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of its founding on September 26, 2025, Universal Peace Federation Korea (UPF) held an academic seminar at its Korean headquarters. The seminar, themed "Strengthening Community-Based Grassroots Networks," was co-hosted with the Korean Peace NGO Association and brought together scholars, NGO leaders, and civil society representatives to explore UPF's future direction in peace initiatives. In his opening remarks, UPF Korea President Kim Seok Jin highlighted the organization's achievements and vision, stating that "for the past 20 years, UPF has advanced global peace governance in more than 150 countries under the vision of One Family under God."

Delivering his keynote address, Seowon University Professor Dr. Ra Mi-kyung emphasized the growing importance of grassroots cooperation among NGOs centered on local communities, especially in the face of a rapidly aging demographic, social polarization, and the global climate crisis. Participants discussed new models of community-led peacebuilding and strategies to encourage voluntary engagement from young people and the broader civil society. UPF Korea and the Korean Peace NGO Association announced plans to continue their collaborative efforts, linking academic research with on-site initiatives and promoting peace activities that can be practiced in everyday life.