

UPF International: Restoring Trust - What Can Be Done for Peace Now?

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UPF Summer Events 2026 invite practical contributions from regions, associations, and national chapters ahead of the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The [Universal Peace Federation](#) has launched UPF Summer Events 2026, a series of programs under the public theme "Restoring Trust: What Can Be Done for Peace Now?" ahead of the opening of the 81st session of the [UN General Assembly](#) in September 2026. The series invites UPF regions, associations, national chapters and peace initiatives to offer short reflections based on local experience, moral responsibility and UPF's peace vision.

The series began on June 18, 2026, with the [International Summit Council for Peace](#) (ISCP) webinar on "[The Future of the Rules-based World Order](#)". The webinar examined the emerging global order, multilateral governance, artificial intelligence, environmental accountability and moral leadership. In that setting, Dr. Tageldin Hamad, president of UPF-International, emphasized that institutions gain legitimacy when rooted in service and that leadership gains credibility when guided by conscience and public responsibility. That standard guides the kind of examples UPF is asking its regions and associations to share this summer: evidence from their work that peace grows where justice, service, conscience and public responsibility are made visible.

The United Nations remains the central global framework for this effort. [Sustainable Development Goal 16](#) (SDG 16) calls for peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice, and inclusive institutions at all levels. Aligning with the [2026 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#) and the lead-up to the 81st session of the UN General Assembly, this series can illustrate how institutional trust, justice and inclusive decision-making reinforce each other. This is especially relevant as member states continue implementation of the [Pact for the Future](#) and the broader reform agenda for multilateral cooperation, with the partnership logic of [Sustainable Development Goal 17](#) as a practical reference.

Trust in public life grows when people practice dialogue, fair treatment, restraint in conflict, service to others and respect for human dignity. Parliamentarians and local government leaders, faith communities, youth networks, women's associations, educators, media professionals, families and local leaders can contribute to peacebuilding and responsible governance through these practices.

The founders of UPF, [Dr. Hak Ja Han](#) and the late [Rev. Sun Myung Moon](#), taught that lasting peace begins with a vision of humanity as one family under God. For UPF, this vision functions as a public ethic that connects family, community and global responsibility. UPF connects this vision to public life through three ideals: interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values. Interdependence takes practical form through shared security. Mutual prosperity takes practical form through equitable participation. Universal values take practical form through institutions that protect dignity and responsibility.

UPF invites its regions and associations to bring forward concrete examples from their own work, showing how values become public action. Contributions may include conflict mediation, interfaith service, youth leadership, community recovery after crises and public education for peace. Interfaith dialogue can demonstrate how religious communities build trust across differences.

Through this summer series, UPF supports continued collaboration among the United Nations system, governments, civil society, faith communities, educators, media professionals, families and youth, in strengthening the conditions that make a culture of peace possible.



INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT COUNCIL FOR PEACE

The International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP) was initiated by UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon on February 8, 2019 on the occasion of World Summit 2019 in Seoul, Korea. ISCP is an international network of current and former heads of state and government, who, through dialogue and collaboration, explore solutions and offer recommendations to address the world's critical problems, including climate change and environmental issues, religious conflicts, poverty, war, corruption and family breakdown.

The ISCP provides a meeting place for world leaders where their wisdom and experience can be utilized and their initiatives can be discussed in the service of global peace and the betterment of humankind.

ISCP is committed to building a world of peace in which everyone can live in freedom, harmony, cooperation and prosperity. ISCP upholds the core principles of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values, and acts as a facilitator and advisor for the achievement of peace and development.

A crowning project of the Universal Peace Federation, the ISCP works in close cooperation with the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace, the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development, the International Association of Traditional Rulers for Peace, and other UPF initiatives.

[The Founding ISCP Resolution \(2019, South Korea\)](#)
[Backgrounder and Purpose of the ISCP](#)

INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT COUNCIL FOR PEACE INAUGURAL RESOLUTION

February 7-11 at the Lotte World Hotel, Seoul, South Korea

As participants in World Summit 2019 sponsored by the Universal Peace Federation and convened in Seoul, Korea, on February 7-11, 2019, on the theme, "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values," we affirm the urgent need for responsible leadership and good governance in bringing about a world of lasting peace, a world in which people of all nationalities, ethnicities, races, cultures, and worldviews may live together in mutual respect, harmony and cooperation as one family under God.

We applaud the leadership of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her late husband, Rev. Sun Myung Moon for their vision and work over many decades to create "one family under God," and recognize the contributions to peace that have been achieved through the Universal Peace Federation, an NGO in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

We have gathered in Korea, in the year of the Centenary of the March 1st Independence Movement, and we support the Korean people in their quest for peace and the reunification of the Korean Peninsula.
As current and former heads of state, government and world leaders from diverse nations and political systems, we recognize that humanity faces serious challenges that must be met and overcome through cooperation, mutual respect and a commitment to universal values.

We live in an interdependent world. No nation and no government exists in isolation. Many of our most difficult problems—terrorism, cyber-crime, climate change, poverty, inequality, food insecurity, conflict—are transnational in nature. We must work together collaboratively in order to resolve global, regional and national problems. Moreover, in order to carry out a comprehensive approach to peace and development, we must work across various sectors of society, including government, civil society, faith-based organizations, academia and the private sector.

Men and women who have served as heads of state or government are uniquely qualified to bring their wisdom and experience to bear in the search for solutions to humanity's most serious problems and the effort to provide recommendations—to national governments, to inter-governmental organizations, to regional associations of nations such as the European Union, the Arab Leagues, ASEAN, and to the United Nations—that offer a path to peace and mutual prosperity for the whole human family and generations to come.

On this day, February 8, 2019, at the Opening Plenary of the World Summit 2019, we endorse the proposal to establish a new association of current and former heads of state and government, known provisionally as the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP). The ISCP will work in concert with the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) and the International Association of Traditional Rulers for Peace (IATP) throughout the world. We welcome the inauguration of this initiative and trust that it will contribute greatly to lasting peace for the whole human family.

Signed this day, February 8, 2019, in Seoul, Korea.

BACKGROUNDER AND PURPOSE OF THE ISCP

Purpose

The forerunner of the ISCP was the Summit Council for World Peace, founded in 1987 by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon as a means to harness the extraordinary wealth of knowledge, experience, intelligence, and goodwill of former heads of state and heads of governments. After a distinguished record of more than two decades working with the world's top leadership, the Council's activities were brought under the umbrella of the UPF when it was founded in 2005.

In February 2019 in Seoul, Korea at the World Summit 2019, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who has been integrating and refining the global mission of UPF, relaunched the International Summit Council for Peace as a separate initiative and with a renewed mission to bring together current and former world leaders and develop recommendations for the problems confronting humanity focused on three main areas – peace, security and human development.

International Inauguration

At World Summit 2019 held from February 8 to 11 at the Lotte World Hotel in Seoul, South Korea, 1200 participants from 110 nations, including 40 current and former heads of state and government, enthusiastically responded to Dr. Moon's challenge "to join hands as one family under God." Among the many prominent global leaders, she invited keynote speakers, U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney (2001-2009) and U.S. Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (1995-1999) to share their wisdom and experience on the most pressing issues in our world today.

A resolution was approved to establish a new association of current and former heads of state, heads of government and other world leaders known provisionally as the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP). The ISCP would work in concert with the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) and the International Association of Traditional Rulers for Peace (IATP).

Awardees

Dr. Moon presented ISCP Distinguished Award medals to ten current and former world leaders:

- Hon. Dick Cheney, Vice President (2001-2009), the United States of America
- Hon. Ousmane Moutari, Ambassador of Niger to the United Nations
- H.E. Tuiaua Tupua Tamasese Efi, Head of State (2007-2017), Samoa
- H.E. Luis Federico Franco, President (2012-2013), Paraguay
- H.E. Anthony Carmona, President (2013-2018),Trinidad and Tobago
- Hon. Stanislav S. Shushkevich, Chairman (1991-1994), Supreme Soviet, Belarus
- H.E. Alfred Moisiu, President 2002-2007), Albania
- Hon. Iakoba Taelia Italeli, Governor General of Tuvalu
- H.E. Evaristo Carvalho, President of São Tomé and Príncipe
- H.E. Jerry Rawlings, President (1981-2001), Ghana

African Inauguration

At the Africa Summit and Leadership Conference (ASLC), held on June 7 and 8, 2019 at the Hilton Sandton hotel in Johannesburg, South Africa, heads of state and dignitaries from all over the continent were invited to sign a resolution to inaugurate ISCP's African regional chapter. In recognition of their lifetime of public service and willingness to dedicate their experience, Dr. Moon presented the leaders with the ISCP Distinguished Award medal.

Awardees

- Hon. Gwede Mantashe, Chairman of the African National Congress (Representing President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa)
- H.E. Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President (2010-2015), Nigeria
- H.E. Dioncounda Traoré, President (2012-2013), Mali
- H.E. Mahamane Ousmane, President (1993-1996),Niger
- Hon. Dr. Speciosa Kazibwe, Vice President (1994-2003), Uganda
- H.E. Prime Minister Kwassi Klutse, Prime Minister (1996-1999), of Togo
- Hon.Clara M. Ferreira de Bom Jesus, wife of Prime Minister of Sao Tome & Principe
- Hon. Alex C. Grant, Member of Parliament, Representing President George Weah of Liberia
- Hon. Josiah Dunira Hungwe, Provincial Governor of Masvingo, Representing President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe

Inaugural ISCP programs on the regional and national levels will be held throughout 2019, and the first World Assembly of ISCP will be convened in 2020.

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ISCP WEBINAR: PROMINENT LEADERS ANALYZE EMERGING GLOBAL ORDER



ISCP – The International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP) hosted a global webinar on June 18, 2026, on the theme “The Future of the Rules-based World Order,” addressing the fracturing post-World War II international system. Moderated by **Dr. Franco Famularo**, ISCP global coordinator, the event convened four former heads of state or government and a global leadership expert, broadcasting to over 360 participants across more than 80 countries.

The panel provided a highly detailed analysis of the current “world disorder,” emphasizing that the rules-based order requires urgent, courageous evolution rather than dismantling. The consensus demands democratizing global governance (specifically the UN Security Council), establishing an International Environmental Court with compulsory jurisdiction, managing the rapid rise of AI and alternative financial systems, and cultivating a moral leadership framework that prioritizes human dignity.

Panelist Insights and Policy Recommendations

H.E. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, former president of the Philippines, described geopolitical and economic shifts and the AI revolution as profound challenges fracturing the current system. The rise of the Global South and the BRICS nations is producing an emerging Eurasian-centered bloc, she said. Driven by the weaponization of the global financial system via sanctions, developing nations are actively seeking alternative payment schemes and reserve arrangements.

She warned of the existential risks of delegating sensitive decisions (employment, credit, war) to automated AI systems that fundamentally lack human compassion, noting that autonomous weapons make war more feasible.

Ms. Arroyo urged international bodies to manage rather than block these multipolar shifts. She called for the demilitarization of AI through democratic oversight, and advocated for an “Asian way of peace,” a strategy prioritizing pragmatic economic integration and regional dialogue over balance-of-power military blocs.

H.E. Goodluck Jonathan, former president of Nigeria, focused on the structural inequalities embedded within global institutions. He highlighted the glaring demographic imbalance of the UN Security Council. Africa, with 54 sovereign states and over 1.5 billion people, lacks permanent representation. Reforming the Council would help restore legitimacy and effectiveness to the United Nations, he said. He stressed that calls for reform from the developing world must not be viewed as attempts to dismantle the global order, but rather necessary contributions to make it inclusive and balanced.

H.E. Anthony Carmona, former president of Trinidad and Tobago and former judge at the International Criminal Court (ICC), delivered an impassioned defense of multilateralism and sovereign equality. He argued that the rules-based order is only as strong as its defense of the weakest nations; the sovereignty of small island developing states cannot be treated as secondary.

Mr. Carmona identified the lack of a permanent mechanism to prosecute environmental destruction a catastrophic gap in global justice. The ICC lacks the resources and scientific expertise to handle crimes against the environment, like ecocide, he said. He proposed a stand-alone International Environmental Court with compulsory jurisdiction to hold states and corporations legally accountable for climate negligence, utilizing both legal judges and environmental scientists.

H.E. José Manuel Barroso, former prime minister of Portugal and former European Commission president, noted that while the post-WWII system was heavily Western-inspired, its core tenets were universally adopted and facilitated the remarkable growth of the Global South. He predicted a messy rebalancing characterized by plurilateral, region-to-region agreements rather than universal multilateral consensus.

He stressed that the Global North must abandon its arrogance, while the Global South must move past historical colonial resentment. Future diplomacy must focus on the fundamental dignity of the individual and cooperative frameworks for delivering global public good.

Dr. Tageldin Hamad, president of UPF International, focused on the internal, moral architecture required to sustain external international law. He advocated the civilizational principle of humanity as one family, highlighting that no nation can secure its future by treating others as expendable. Without universal values, international rules become empty technical procedures, he said. Dr. Hamad proposed “leadership with a parental heart” that pursues reconciliation and healing. He also suggested creating an Interfaith Council within the UN framework to bring vital ethical and spiritual wisdom to international deliberations.

Conclusion and Strategic Directives

The ISCP webinar concluded that preserving global stability requires moving beyond the rigid structures of

1945. To transition successfully into a multipolar reality, global governance bodies must execute three major directives:

Democratize power: Undertake structural reform of the UN Security Council to dismantle monopolistic veto powers and ensure equitable representation.

Enforce environmental law: Establish an International Environmental Court with compulsory jurisdiction and deep scientific expertise to hold entities legally liable for ecological destruction.

Reform leadership models: Institutionalize female and youth leadership at the highest levels of global diplomacy, and embed ethical frameworks into international deliberation to ensure rules serve justice, healing and universal human dignity.

Click [here](#) for a recording of the webinar.

Compiled by Alvin Pang, UPF-Asia Pacific
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