

UPF UK Peace Road: Connecting Humanity - Roads, Safety, and Ecosystem Restoration

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The Peace Road initiative, one of the most recognisable global programmes of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), traces its origins to the early 1980s when [Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon](#) first outlined a visionary plan for an International Peace Highway connecting nations, cultures, and economies. Rooted in the UPF principle that humanity is One Family under God, Peace Road highlights how physical connectivity can help overcome fear, mistrust, and historical division. Today, it stands as a global movement promoting peacebuilding, road safety, and environmental stewardship in alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Historical Vision and Foundations



Historical trade routes - from the Silk Road to the Roman road networks - illustrate how long-distance corridors unite societies and support shared development. In the 20th century, large infrastructure systems such as the U.S. Interstate Highway demonstrated how connected societies prosper economically and socially.

UPF's founders built on this global legacy.

1981 (ICUS, Seoul): Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon proposed an International Peace Highway, including tunnels between Korea and Japan and between the USA and Russia, as a way to foster long-term regional cooperation.

2005 (UPF Global Inauguration): [Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon](#) and Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon introduced a bold proposal for a [Bering Strait Peace Tunnel](#), envisioned as a link between North America and Eurasia - turning former confrontations into pathways for shared prosperity, echoing Isaiah 2:4.

These proposals inspired academic conferences, engineering discussions, youth forums, and cross-border outreach that gradually evolved into the modern Peace Road movement.



A Global Movement for Peace and Practical Cooperation

Since 2005, Peace Road has grown into a worldwide platform uniting citizens through symbolic peace walks, long-distance cycling, and coordinated vehicle routes. These journeys allow participants to "walk the road of peace," raising awareness for reconciliation, safer mobility, and environmental protection.

Peace Road activities now occur across Asia, Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Oceania, reflecting UPF's global network of [Ambassadors for Peace](#), civil-society partners, and community leaders.

In the United Kingdom, Peace Road projects have aligned with iconic routes such as the Coast to Coast Walk, which traverses three national parks, connecting natural landscapes with messages of unity, ecology, and community engagement. European activities - from the European Peace Walk to multi-country cycling events - mirror similar efforts in Africa, Australia, and across Eurasia. Long-distance super-marathons, including a Moscow - Paris relay and foot-crossings of the USA, testify to Peace Road's global scale and spirit of perseverance.

Even in 2018, Peace Road participants engaged symbolically in Pyongyang - an extraordinary reminder of the initiative's commitment to the peaceful opening of borders.

Advancing the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety (2021 - 2030)

The UN's Second Decade of Action for Road Safety calls for reducing global road deaths and injuries by 50% by 2030. Peace Road contributes to this agenda by promoting:

- Safer roads and roadsides

- System-based safety approaches (management, safer vehicles, safer users, post-crash response)

- Public awareness of road safety culture

- Education through community-level initiatives

As a conceptual global corridor, the Peace Road model encourages the adoption of cutting-edge infrastructure safety standards at every stage - design, construction, and operation.

Supporting the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021 - 2030)

Infrastructure and ecological stewardship are inseparable. Peace Road aligns with this UN Decade by

advocating for:

Green corridors and wildlife crossings

Nature-sensitive construction

Landscape restoration around mobility routes

Public education on biodiversity and conservation

Through community activities - beach clean-ups, tree planting, nature walks - Peace Road integrates environmental action with its peacebuilding mission. This directly supports SDG 3.6 (safer mobility), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 15 (ecosystem and biodiversity protection).

Peace Road and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Across four decades, Peace Road has consistently highlighted global priorities central to UPF-UK's mission:

SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing (road safety, mobility)

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

SDG 13: Climate Action

SDG 15: Life on Land (ecosystem conservation)

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Through symbolic road journeys and cross-border engagement, Peace Road demonstrates how infrastructure, environmental protection, and dialogue can advance peaceful cooperation.

A Pathway Toward Global Unity

More than a concept or corridor, Peace Road is a living demonstration of the Universal Peace Federation's belief in interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values. It shows that genuine progress emerges from shared responsibility - protecting lives, restoring the environment, and strengthening bonds between peoples and nations.

As participants continue to walk, cycle, and traverse symbolic routes worldwide - including across the UK - Peace Road stands as a reminder that peace is built not only through dialogue but also through practical cooperation and a willingness to bridge divides.

Explore Further:

Peace Road - [Bering Strait Peace Tunnel](#)

[Peace Road 2024: France, Belgium, and the UK - 30th Anniversary of the Channel Tunnel](#)

[Peace Road: Universal Peace Federation's Vision of an International Highway](#)

[Become a Supporter of UPF - UK](#) - Stand with us by contributing regularly to sustain our mission. Your support enables long-term peace initiatives, leadership training, and the growth of the Ambassadors for Peace network.