

Launch of Peace Road Unification Expedition The International Students' Summit

Song Yong-cheon
July 2024



"Unification of the Korean Peninsula is a global issue, not just a regional one."

On the 37th anniversary of the National Alliance, Chairman Hwang Sun-jo pledged to build "a happy community of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universally shared values for the Korean people."



The "2024 Launch Ceremony for the Peace Road Unification Expedition" began with the 'The International Students' Friendship Summit,' a dynamic debate on Korean Peninsula unification conducted by foreign students in Korea.

This event, hosted by the National Alliance for the Unification Movement, was held on the 24th at Sun Moon University's International Conference Room. It featured a diverse panel that included six students from Sun Moon University alongside other university students, unification organization members, and local residents, drawing around 300 participants.

Chairman Hwang Sun-jo shared his insights during his welcome address, emphasizing the importance of viewing inter-Korean tensions as opportunities

for progress. He committed to fostering an international foundation and a national movement to support the unification for an Interdependent, Mutual Prosperous Korean community.



Chairman Song Kwang-seok of the FFWPU-Korea expressed his hope that the Peace Road Unification

Expedition would catalyze a resurgence in civilian-led unification efforts.

Participants discussed the unification issue as a global concern, not just a local one, sparking a renewed interest among domestic university students who had previously been indifferent to the topic. Jonathan Gasper from France (22 years old) highlighted the historical unity of Korea, asserting that unification is a destiny that completes and advances a nation. Kinami Satomi (23 years old) from the USA discussed the difficulty of reconciling divided nations and emphasized the role foreign students can play in supporting peace and reconciliation initiatives.



Diana Bakulinskaya from Russia (20 years old) talked about resolving national and ethnic conflicts with love and consideration for others. Kanaye Dazawa from Japan (23 years old) reminded attendees that North Korea is not separate from South Korea and that unification is a global issue that humanity should actively engage with. Zures Honon from Benin (28 years old) discussed the economic and cultural benefits of unification, while Hoti Luyen from Vietnam (22 years old) viewed the unification as a complex but rewarding process that promises peace and prosperity for the region.

Following the summit, approximately 40 members of the Peace Road National Expedition Team, consisting of Sun Moon University international students, participated in a riding event to express their hopes for Korean unification.

In addition, the National Alliance has outlined various unification movement projects to be conducted during the second half of the year. These include the continuation of the Open Summits on Unification for foreign university students funded by the Ministry of Unification, a workshop or tour to experience life on the divided area, and a symposium on democratic unification for diplomatic mission staff, all aimed at building international support for peace and unification on the Korean Peninsula.