



# UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

To: UPF Regional Chairs and UPF Regional Secretaries General  
From: UPF International  
Re: MEPI Programs in December  
Date: October 24, 2013

Greetings from UPF International.

We recently concluded a very successful interfaith conference in Amman, Jordan, addressing the crisis in Syria. You can see the report at the following link:  
[upf.org/upf-news/141-africa-middle-east/5431-amman-conference-on-prospects-for-dialogue-and-reconciliation-in-syria](http://upf.org/upf-news/141-africa-middle-east/5431-amman-conference-on-prospects-for-dialogue-and-reconciliation-in-syria)

In addition, following directly after the Amman, Jordan interfaith conference, we convened a similar meeting in Jerusalem, which was equally productive. What is most encouraging about these recent conferences is the extent to which the participants want to support UPF and help UPF take a more active leadership role in global affairs. This speaks to the growing appreciation and respect for the work you and our National Chapters are doing in your Regions.

As mentioned in the memo of October 15, UPF International will organize a program in Jerusalem in December as part of our ongoing Middle East Peace Initiative. This program is being convened on the 10th anniversary of the interfaith program held in December 2003, which was directly guided by our Founders, and which affirmed and honored the legacy of Jesus, together with Moses and Mohammed. We will gather again in December 2013 to carry forward the legacy and spirit of that special program, which was witnessed by nearly 20,000 people at Independence Park in Jerusalem.

I want to convey the overall plan, which has been worked out with Dr. Chang Shik Yang, UPF's International Chairman, along with Dr. Young Tack Yang, Regional Chair, UPF Middle East, and Mr. Hod Ben Zvi, UPF Israel.

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**Program:** The program will consist of **two components**, as follows:

**A. High Level Interfaith Conference:** approximately 20-30 interfaith leaders and experts in Middle East geopolitical affairs will gather to discuss, "*Religion, Peace and International Relations in the Middle East: Prospects for Conflict Resolution, Peace and Stability.*"

**Dates:** December 19-22, 2013

**Participants:** UPF Regions should recommend high level participants [religious leaders, academics, political scientists with expertise in the Middle East, etc.] who have capacity to contribute in a substantial way to the success of the conference. There is no set quota for Regions. Rather, participants will be selected based on their level of expertise and potential contribution to the quality of the conference. Recommendations must be submitted by November 15, 2013.

**Airfare Policy:** For high level participants who are approved by UPF Headquarters, some or all of the airfare may be covered.

**Hotel and Meal Policy:** Hotel and meal expenses will be covered for approved participants.

**Administration:** UPF International, together with UPF Israel, will organize the Interfaith Conference.

**B. Religious Youth Service:** 20-30 young participants will be invited to participate in an RYS program which features interfaith education, leadership development and community service.

**Dates:** December 18-23, 2013

**Participants:** Each Region is encouraged to send 2-3 young leaders to join this program. It is fine if our own 2nd Generation are included, but we hope that the ratio of 2nd Gen to those from other religious traditions is about 40% to 60%.

**Airfare Policy:** UPF International will provide an airfare grant of \$500 for approved participants coming from USA, Europe, Middle East, Northeast, and an \$800 grant for those coming from Africa, Asia, Japan, Korea, Latin American and Oceania. Participants are required to cover the remainder of the airfare costs not covered by the grant. Grants will be distributed through the regional office.

**Hotel and Meal Policy:** RYS participants will be required to pay a \$250 registration fee, which will cover their meals, their simple accommodations at an inexpensive hotel or hostel, and ground transportation.

**Administration:** UPF International, together with UPF Israel, will manage the administration of the RYS program.

Please give serious consideration to participation in these programs that pay respect to our Founders' legacy in promoting peace and reconciliation among the religions of the Middle East and all the religions of the world.

Attached below are the following:

1. Tentative schedule and application form for the high level interfaith conference
2. Tentative schedule and application form for the RYS program
3. Invitation Letter
4. Registration Form
5. Travel Form
6. RYS Invitation Letter
7. RYS Registration Form
8. RYS Travel Form
9. Jordan Interfaith Consultation, Executive Report

Please submit your recommendations by November 15.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas G. Walsh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Walsh" clearly legible.

Dr. Thomas G. Walsh  
President  
Universal Peace Federation



# Universal Peace Federation



## “Religion, Peace and International Relations in the Middle East: Prospects for Conflict-Resolution, Peace and Stability”

December 19-22, 2013      Jerusalem

### Tentative Schedule

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

- All Day Arrivals
- 5:00 PM Registration
- 6:30 PM Dinner
- 7:30 PM ***Opening Session: Religion, Conflict Resolution and International Relations***

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 7:00 AM Interfaith Meditation
- 7:15 AM Breakfast
- 8:30 AM ***Session II: The Need for Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation***
- 10:30 AM Break
- 11:00 AM ***Session III: The Crisis in the Middle East and the Broader Geo-Political Context***
- 12:30 PM Lunch
- 2:00 PM ***Session IV: The Crisis in Syria and the Search for Solutions***
- 3:30 PM Break
- 4:00 PM Shabbat welcome / free time
- 6:00 PM Dinner

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 7:00 AM Interfaith Meditation
- 7:15 AM Breakfast
- 8:30 AM ***Session V: The Stalemate in Israel and Palestine: The Search for Interfaith Solutions***
- 10:30 AM Break
- 11:30 AM ***Session VI: The Stalemate in Israel and Palestine: The Search for Political Solutions***
- 1:00 PM Lunch
- 2:30 PM ***Session VII: Cooperation Among the Abrahamic Faiths: The Reality and Possibilities***
- 6:00 PM Dinner
- 7:00 PM ***Closing Session: UPF's Middle East Peace Initiative 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Building a Roadmap for Peace***

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 7:00 AM Breakfast and Departures



# Universal Peace Federation



## Religious Youth Service

### “Interfaith Education, Leadership Training and Community Service”

December 18-23, 2013      Jerusalem

#### Tentative Schedule

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

- All Day      Arrivals
- 5:00 PM      Registration
- 6:30 PM      Dinner
- 7:30 PM      *Opening Session: Orientation to the Holy Land and the RYS Program*

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19      INTERFAITH EDUCATION

- 7:00 AM      Interfaith Meditation
- 7:15 AM      Breakfast
- 8:30 AM      *Morning Briefing: The Need for Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation*
- 10:00 AM      Break
- 10:30 AM      *Tour of Jewish, Christian, Muslim Holy Sites of Jerusalem*
- 12:30 PM      Lunch
- 1:30 PM      *Interfaith Encounters: Visits to Several Faith Communities and Places of Worship in and Near Jerusalem*
- 3:30 PM      Break
- 4:00 PM      *UPF's Middle East Peace Initiative 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Building a Roadmap for Peace*
- 6:00 PM      Dinner
- 7:30 PM      *Reflections and Sharing Experiences of the Day*

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- 7:00 AM Interfaith Meditation
- 7:15 AM Breakfast
- 8:30 AM *Introduction to the Geo-Political Realities in the Middle East*
- 10:00 AM Break
- 10:30 AM *Visit with Government Leaders in Jerusalem*
- 1:00 PM Lunch
- 2:00 PM *Briefing from Israeli "Think Tank" Experts*
- 6:00 PM Dinner
- 7:30 PM *Reflections and Sharing Experiences of the Day*

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 7:00 AM Interfaith Meditation
- 7:15 AM Breakfast
- 8:30 AM *Orientation to Community Service Project*
- 10:00 AM Break
- 10:30 AM *Community Service Project in Jerusalem*
- 1:00 PM Lunch
- 2:00 PM *Community Service Project in Nazareth*
- 6:00 PM Dinner
- 7:30 PM *Reflections and Sharing Experiences of the Day*

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 CLOSING DAY

- 7:00 AM Interfaith Meditation
- 7:15 AM Breakfast
- 8:30 AM *Interfaith Encounters: Visits to Several Faith Communities and Places of Worship*
- 10:00 AM Break

10:30 AM *Interfaith Encounters: Visits to Several Faith Communities and Places of Worship*

1:00 PM Lunch

2:00 PM *Sightseeing*

6:30 PM *Closing Dinner*

*Late Night Departures*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 23 DEPARTURES**



# UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

October 24, 2013

## PRESIDING COUNCIL

### CHAIRMAN

Dr. Chang Shik Yang

### PRESIDENT

Dr. Thomas G. Walsh

### SECRETARY GENERAL

Mr. Taj Hamad

Hon. Jose De Venecia, Jr.  
Chair Emeritus:

Former Speaker of the House of  
Representatives, Philippines

Rt. Hon. Hamilton Green  
Former Prime Minister, Guyana

H.E. Dr. Ahmad T. Kabbah  
Former President Sierra Leone

H.E. Dr. Abd Elaziz M. Hegazy  
Former Prime Minister, Egypt

Sra. Graciela Rompani de  
Pacheco  
Former First Lady, Uruguay

H.E. Dr. Stanislav Shushkevich  
Former President, Supreme  
Council, Belaruss

H.E. Johnson Toribiong  
Former President, Palau

Dear,

On behalf of the Universal Peace Federation, we are pleased to invite you to participate in a special consultation that addresses the current crisis in Syria and other points of conflict in the Middle East. We are already painfully aware of the magnitude of the current crisis, the loss of life, the displacement of persons, and the horrors of war. We all fear the potential for this crisis to escalate even further into a wider conflict, involving other countries in the region, as well as major power like Russia, the European Union and the USA.

This special consultation will bring together approximately 20 religious leaders, academics and Middle East experts. The theme of the conference is "Religion, Peace and International Relations in the Middle East: Prospects for Conflict Resolution, Peace and Stability." The consultation is being convened in Jerusalem on **December 19-22, 2013**, and builds on the foundation of our recent conference in Amman, Jordan which was held on October 11-13. Please see the attached "Executive Report." We believe your participation in this important conference will help assure its success.

There is growing, yet still inadequate awareness of the important role which religions could and should play in international relations. Some of the obstacles are related to outdated attitudes toward religion on the part of the mainstream community of international relations experts, and others are related to religion's own inadequacies and unfortunate practices. These obstacles can be overcome, and religion can be a significant and constructive player in global affairs. The consultation will provide an opportunity for us to consider the way in which religious believers of diverse faiths and ethnic or national backgrounds can come together in a spirit of harmony and cooperation to speak with one voice of the need for dialogue, cooperation, and peace.

Throughout the history of UPF's Middle East Peace Initiative, we have consistently encouraged interfaith dialogue and cooperation. In addition, UPF has for thirteen years been advocating for the United Nations to build within its system an interfaith council of spiritual elders. We admire and are encouraged by initiatives taken up by King Abdullah II of Jordan, Pope Francis, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz, H.E. Nasser Al Nassir of the UN's Alliance of Civilizations, and many others who affirm the need for interfaith, intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue and cooperation.

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With this in mind, the consultation provides a golden opportunity for us to come together as an international and interreligious group of leaders from various sectors, to listen and learn, to share and reflect on how we can serve as relevant, constructive stakeholders in the search for a solution to the crisis in Syria and the wider Middle East.

We hope you will join us in Jerusalem. We look forward to your favorable reply.

Respectfully yours,



Chang Shik Yang  
Chairman  
UPF International



Thomas G. Walsh, Ph.D  
President  
UPF International

# Registration Form

**Participant**

UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION  
**Religion, Peace and International Relations in the Middle East:  
Prospects for Conflict-Resolution, Peace and Stability”**  
DECEMBER 19-22, 2013 JERUSALEM  
**Please respond ASAP by email or by fax**

Completion of this registration form and attendance at the conference indicates that you agree to comply with any UPF policies set forth in the invitation package; and, that your photo or video-taped image, as well as your written or spoken presentations from the conference, may be published by UPF. Please note that UPF is not responsible for health-related conditions, personal liability, or personal items lost or damaged during the conference.

**Gender:**

M  F

**Is your passport current?**

Yes  No

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Visa Status:**

I already have a visa  Will apply

Not Needed

**Legal Passport Name:**

Honorific (Mr., Ms., Dr., etc.)      First Name      Middle Name      FAMILY NAME      (Second Family Name)

**Name as you want it to appear on your Name Badge:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *No more than 20 characters. Include honorific, such as Ven., Dr., Mr., Ms.*

**Job Title:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Number and Street (No P.O. Boxes please)*

City      COUNTRY (if in USA, give State)      Postal Code

**Office Phone:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Country Code / City Code / Office Phone

**Office Fax:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Country Code / City Code / Office Fax

**Home Phone:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Country Code / City Code / Home Phone

**E-mail:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel Room:**  Non-Smoking  Smoking

I will pay US\$150 per day for a single room (if available)  No  Yes Language: \_\_\_\_\_

**Will you need translation?**

**Next of Kin/Emergency**

**Contact Person:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any medical conditions we should be aware of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Invited By (Name of Your Local Contact): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Travel Form****“Religion, Peace and International Relations in the Middle East:  
Prospects for Conflict-Resolution, Peace and Stability”****Participant**

December 19-22, 2013 Jerusalem

**Fax form or email****PERSONAL INFORMATION****Honorific (*Mr., Ms., Dr., etc.*):****First Name:****Middle Name:****Family Name:****(Second Family Name):****Passport Number:****ARRIVAL INFORMATION****Arrival Date:****Arrival Time:****Arrival Flight:****Arrival Gate:****Arriving From (City):****DEPARTURE INFORMATION****Departure Date:****Departure Time:****Departure Flight:****Departure Gate:****Departure To (City):****SIGNATURE AND DATE**



# UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

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Sra. Graciela Rompani de

Pacheco

Former First Lady, Uruguay

H.E. Dr. Stanislav Shushkevich

Former President, Supreme

Council, Belarus

H.E. Johnson Toribiong

Former President, Palau

October 24, 2013

Mr.....

Address.....

.....

Dear,

On behalf of the Universal Peace Federation, we are pleased to invite you to participate in a special program of the Religious Youth Service to be held in Jerusalem on December 18-23, 2013 as part of a series of programs honoring the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UPF's Middle East Peace Initiative founded in 2003 by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. Throughout the history of UPF's Middle East Peace Initiative, we have consistently encouraged interfaith dialogue and cooperation.

This special program will bring together approximately 20-30 young people from diverse religions, nations and ethnic backgrounds to engage in a program that has three primary components:

- Interfaith Education
- Leadership Training
- Community Service

We believe your participation in this important program will help assure its success. Furthermore, it provides a golden opportunity for you to have the experience of a lifetime, develop your capacities, and make many new lifelong friends.

The Religious Youth Service was begun in 1985 at the time of the first Assembly of the World's Religions, and has sustained an active series of programs since that time. You will find RYS alumni all over the world who will enthusiastically affirm the value of their life-transforming RYS experience. For background information on RYS, please go to [www.upf.org/rys](http://www.upf.org/rys).

We hope you will join us in Jerusalem. We look forward to your favorable reply.

Respectfully yours,

Thomas G. Walsh, Ph.D  
President  
UPF International

Hod Ben Zvi  
RYS Director  
UPF Israel

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# Registration Form

## Participant

**Religious Youth Service**  
**“Interfaith Education, Leadership Training and Community Service”**  
December 18-23, 2013 Jerusalem  
**Please respond ASAP by email or by fax**

Completion of this registration form and attendance at the conference indicates that you agree to comply with any UPF policies set forth in the invitation package; and, that your photo or video-taped image, as well as your written or spoken presentations from the conference, may be published by UPF. Please note that UPF is not responsible for health-related conditions, personal liability, or personal items lost or damaged during the conference.

**Gender:** M  F**Is your passport current?** Yes  No

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Visa Status:** I already have a visa  Will apply Not Needed**Legal Passport Name:**

Honorific (Mr., Ms., Dr., etc.)      First Name      Middle Name      FAMILY NAME      (Second Family Name)

**Name as you want it to appear on your Name Badge:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *No more than 20 characters. Include honorific, such as Ven., Dr., Mr., Ms.*

**Job Title:** \_\_\_\_\_**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Number and Street (No P.O. Boxes please)

City

COUNTRY (if in USA, give State)

Postal Code

**Office Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Country Code / City Code / Office Phone

**Office Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

Country Code / City Code / Office Fax

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Country Code / City Code / Home Phone

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_**Hotel Room:** Non-Smoking  Smoking I will pay US150 per day for a single room (if available)  No  Yes Language:**Will you need translation?****Next of Kin/Emergency****Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any medical conditions we should be aware of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Invited By (Name of Your Local Contact): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Travel Form****Participant**

Religious Youth Service  
“Interfaith Education, Leadership Training and Community Service”  
December 18-23, 2013 Jerusalem  
**Fax form or email**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION****Honorific (*Mr., Ms., Dr., etc.*):****First Name:****Middle Name:****Family Name:****(Second Family Name):****Passport Number:****ARRIVAL INFORMATION****Arrival Date:****Arrival Time:****Arrival Flight:****Arrival Gate:****Arriving From (City):****DEPARTURE INFORMATION****Departure Date:****Departure Time:****Departure Flight:****Departure Gate:****Departure To (City):****SIGNATURE AND DATE**