

Conference in the Italian Parliament, a Significant Step in the Italian Providence

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On September 13, we held an important conference in a special hall of the Italian Parliament, sponsored by UPF and WFP. From 9:30 am. until 7:00 pm, we convened with a very high level audience of sixty-three guests, including parliamentarians and other politicians, academics, leader of NGOs, journalists and presidents of important institutions -- a rather elite group that we can definitely say belong to the social mainstream.

The occasion was made possible by two Italian Parliamentarians, MP Eleonora Bechis, whose constituency is Piedmont 1 in the Turin area and who is a member of several important parliamentary commissions; and MP Roberto Rampi, whose constituency is Lombardia 1, near Milan and who is a member of the Democratic Party. They had attended the recent Inauguration of the European chapter of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. Being enthusiastic about their experience in London, even before coming back, they requested one of the most beautiful and important halls in the parliament for reporting about it.



We had just a week time to prepare everything, inviting people, organizing a reception, preparing our speeches and complying with security requests. We had to run very fast but we made it, cooperating well

with each other, UPF, WFWP, FFWPU staff members, including several from our second generation.

Speaking of True Parents

Finally, we held one of the most significant events in Italian providential history. First of all, the location was the one where parliamentarians discuss new laws. In our speeches, Carlo Zonato, president of UPF; Elisabetta Nistri, president of WFWP; and Giuseppe Cali, president of FFWPU gave the most beautiful testimonies to True Parents' vision resonating, for the first time ever, in a core place of the country. Gabriella Mieli, vice-president of WFWP, as MC of the event, read True Mother's speech, the one that Sun Jin Moon read in the Parliament Building in London.

Grappling with modern issues

Several other speeches were presented on various topics: Peace and Mass Migrations, Family, Peace and Sustainable Development, and Women's role in Preventing Radicalization. Finally some case studies on good practices from our peace federations. Giorgio Gasperoni, FFWPU national leader of San Marino; spoke about some recent projects in cooperation with Italian and Israeli movements. Umberto Angelucci, regional president for Middle East, gave us a meaningful testimony of his work in Afghanistan. Particularly significant was the speech given by MP Centemero, who is the Secretary of the Permanent Commission on Constitutional Affairs. She wanted to go to London but she couldn't so she participated with a paper on human rights, to confirm her will to cooperate with us.

Moving ahead

The conference was dense with important information, deep discussions and suggestions, but also full of hope, good will and spirit. We felt God's Grace coming down, not only to us but to all of Italy. It was the first time such a powerful testimony to True Parents entered so clearly into our main national institution.

All participants were caught in this spirit and offered their cooperation to develop the association of parliamentarians and the federation for peace.

All this looks as if it is the beginning of the fulfillment of ours and True Parents' dreams, to build the substantial Cheon Il Guk, after so much sacrificing. Of course, we are well aware that there is still a long way to go, but we are in the age after "Foundation Day," after the fourth anniversary of True Father's Seonghwa, and increasingly, the impossible is becoming absolutely possible. We just started but we are committed to embodying and promoting the change we want to see in our country and in the world.