



# UPF EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST NEWSLETTER



## SEVENTH RALLY OF HOPE FOCUSES ON THINK TANK 2022: TOWARD THE PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA

From reports by UPF International

World leaders and experts renewed their calls for peaceful reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula during the 7th virtual Rally of Hope on September 12, 2021. The event, broadcast live from South Korea and attended by millions of online participants from around the world, featured the Universal Peace Federation's (UPF) new initiative, Think Tank 2022.

Think Tank 2022 is developing Expert Working Groups linked to UPF's seven international associations, who will work together and pool their best insights as to how peaceful reunification can be accomplished in the coming years. It has already hosted numerous webinars and will also carry out fact-finding consultations, International Leadership Conferences,

and a major World Summit in South Korea.

"I truly believe that an extraordinary future awaits the people of North Korea—and I have faith that if they pursue the path of denuclearization, they will make that future a magnificent reality," former U.S. President Donald Trump said in remarks prepared for the event.

The rally was among the growing efforts of UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon to address worldwide challenges, including poverty, equality, and environmental degradation. "Now the time has come for Korea to fulfill its responsibility," Dr. Moon said at the event. "The prospects for peace on the Korean Peninsula are excellent. This will happen."

Samdech Hun Sen, prime minister of Cambodia, whose Asian Vision Institute will serve as the Asia-Pacific Secretariat of Think Tank 2022, said this rally would strengthen the culture of peace and mutual trust under the framework of international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific area.

Former President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso urged the global community to create the best external conditions for the Koreans themselves to find a way for true reconciliation and peace.

Other speakers included Shinzo Abe, former prime minister of Japan, Nataša Mičić, former president of Serbia, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, former president of the Philippines,



1-3 | THINK TANK  
2022



4-8 | ILC 2021  
WEBINARS



12-13 | MIDDLE  
EAST



15-16 | PEACE ROAD  
2021



*Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, co-founder, UPF; Mrs. Wonju McDevitt, chief of staff; Dr. Young-ho Yun, director general, with the resolution formally establishing Think Tank 2022.*

Anthony Carmona, former president of Trinidad and Tobago, H.D. Deve Gowda, former prime minister of India, and four governors of South Korean provinces, as well as newly elected Seoul Mayor Oh See-hoon, Gwangju Mayor Lee Yong-sup, and Busan Mayor Park Heong-joon, who congratulated Dr. Moon and UPF for the work to advance reconciliation and cooperation on the peninsula.

Think Tank 2022 was officially launched on May 9, 2021, during the 6th Rally of Hope, in which Ban Ki-moon, former United Nations secretary-general, attested that “This network will make a difference for peace on the Korean Peninsula through international unity”.

On that occasion, former U.S. Vice President Mike Pence expressed his belief that this effort would in time reap a harvest of peace that would benefit the people of Korea, the United States and all humankind.

European speakers included Vjosa Osmani, president of Kosovo, and Sarah Gilbert, a virologist who co-developed the Oxford Vaccine in response to COVID-19.

## LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER



*Dr. Katsumi Otsuka  
Chairman,  
UPF Europe & Middle East*

*Dear Readers,*

*After more than a year of interruption, we are pleased to present this new edition of our UPF Europe & Middle East newsletter.*

*The Covid pandemic has caused disruption and tragedy throughout the world. It continues to impact our health, our economy, and our daily lives. However, it has not stopped our outreach activities. On the contrary, with the help of modern technology, we have reached out to millions of viewers through our virtual programs. And we have engaged prominent leaders to join us in addressing a message of hope to peoples of the world.*

*In this year, 2021, one of UPF's main objectives has been to support the dialogue toward peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula. In this newsletter, we review the major events that we organized on this critical issue, including the launch of Think Tank 2022, a worldwide group of experts dedicated to moving forward UPF's Northeast Asia Peace Initiative.*

*Thank you for participating online in many of these activities. They will continue intensely this year, and lead to the World Summit that will be held in Korea in early 2022.*



**H.E. Ban Ki-Moon**  
*Secretary General,  
United Nations (2007-2016)  
- 6th Rally of Hope -*



**H.E. Donald Trump**  
*President, United States of  
America (2017-2021)  
- 7th Rally of Hope -*



**H.E. Shinzo Abe**  
*Prime Minister, Japan  
(2006-2007; 2012-2020)  
- 7th Rally of Hope -*

## ASIA-PACIFIC THINK TANK 2022 INAUGURATION

From reports by UPF International



**H.E. Samdech Hun Sen**  
Prime Minister,  
Cambodia

The Think Tank 2022 Asia-Pacific Secretariat, with the Asian Vision Institute (AVI) serving as the host of the Secretariat, was launched on the occasion of the Rally of Hope on 12 September, 2021, with the aim to promote and facilitate dialogue, mediation, and the strengthening of the ecosystem of peace in the Asia-Pacific region. “As a country placing priceless value upon peace, Cambodia highly appreciates the organization of this rally to strengthen the culture of peace and mutual trust under the framework of international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific area,” said H.E. Samdech Hun Sen, prime minister of Cambodia. Honorable Khuon Sudary, chairperson of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC) and vice president of the National Assembly of Cambodia, signed the resolution on behalf of Cambodia.



**H.E. José Manuel Barroso**  
President, European  
Commission (2004-2014)  
- 7th Rally of Hope -



**H.E. Vjosa Osmani**  
President,  
Republic of Kosovo  
- 6th Rally of Hope -



**H.E. Nataša Mičić**  
President, Republic of  
Serbia (2002-2004)  
- 7th Rally of Hope -



**Hon. David Beasley**  
Executive Director,  
World Food Programme  
- 6th Rally of Hope -

## THINK TANK 2022 FORUMS

From UPF international and The Washington Times

On September 18, 2021, Hon. Michael R. Pompeo, US secretary of state (2018-2021), was the keynote speaker at the first Think Tank 2022 Forum on the future of the Korean Peninsula, sponsored by The Washington Times Foundation and UPF. “I’m concerned that the United States is returning to an Obama-era policy of ‘Strategic Patience 2.0,’” Mr. Pompeo told an audience of dignitaries from South Korea and Japan at a virtual gathering that included remarks from other

former high-level U.S., South Korean and Japanese diplomats. Focusing a portion of his remarks on the virtues of religious freedom as “the most fundamental of all human rights”, he asserted that its promotion is “crucial to peace in Northeast Asia.” A series of similar forums on the future of the Korean Peninsula will be organized by UPF before the March 2022 Korean elections.



**Hon. Michael R. Pompeo**  
Secretary of State, United  
States of America (2018-2021)

# INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES – ILC 2021 –

Written by Mr. Jacques Marion,  
co-chair, UPF Europe and Middle East

In April, June, July and August 2021, UPF and its constituent associations hosted a series of virtual conferences on peace and reunification of the Korean Peninsula, each addressing the theme from a different perspective. The ILC 2021 events were held simultaneously throughout the world. UPF Europe & Middle East hosted a total of 34 webinars, attended by thousands of participants. Eminent speakers included former heads of state, parliamentarians, religious figures and leaders from academia, the media, the arts and the business sphere.

## ILC APRIL 2021 (APRIL 26 - MAY 1) – THE REUNIFICATION OF KOREA: FOUNDATION FOR A UNIFIED WORLD



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On April 29 the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP) held a webinar on the theme: **“The Implications for Europe of the Process toward Peaceful Reunification on the Korean Peninsula”**, moderated by Dr. Werner Fasslabend, former Austrian minister of defense. The panelists emphasized the need for dialogue despite sanctions, and the positive role Europe can play in integrating North Korea into the world community.

- 1 H.E. Kjell Magne Bondevik, former prime minister, Norway
- 2 H.E. Yves Leterme, former prime minister, Belgium
- 3 Dr. Alexander Zhebin, Institute of Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences
- 4 Dr. Karin Kneissl, former foreign minister, Austria



(1) H.E. Anneli Jäätteenmäki  
former prime minister  
of Finland



(2) Mr. Lutfi Dervishi  
journalist and political  
analyst, Albania



(3) Dr. Oleksiy Rohotchenko  
National Academy of Arts,  
Ukraine

A webinar on **Women in International Peacemaking (IAFLP)** moderated by H.E. Anneli Jäätteenmäki, (1), highlighted the unique role women can play in peace negotiations. The panel featured prominent women leaders from Lebanon, Russia, Germany and South Korea.

Addressing the **Role of the Media (IMAP)** Mr. Lufti Dervishi (2) discussed the tension between fact- and opinion-based media reports. Other panelists, including the chairmen of *The Washington Times* and Japan-based *Sekkaï Nippo*, addressed the influence of social networks and propaganda on the Korean Peninsula.

In a webinar on **Peace Through Culture (IAACP)** Dr. Rohotchenko (3) and fellow panelists described the rich arts culture of Korea. Sharing their personal experience in both North and South Korea, they underlined the role of the arts to bridge the divide between the two peoples.

A webinar on the theme **“Toward a Northeast Asian Economic Community” (IAAP)** was moderated by Dr. Swanström (4). Based on the historical experience of the European Community, the panelists, including scholars from Europe, Japan and Russia, discussed the prospects and challenges of an Asian Economic Zone.

**The Role of Parliamentarians (IAPP)** was discussed by Baroness Verma (5), from the UK House of Lords, and parliamentarians from Russia and Italy. They addressed the role of parliamentary diplomacy in easing the tensions on the Korean Peninsula, underlining the capacity of parliamentarians to ascertain real issues of contention.

Religious leaders, scholars and peace activists discussed **The Role of Faith in Overcoming Division (IAPD)** on the Peninsula. Reminding us that the Schuman declaration facilitated the integration of European nations after World War II, Dr. Figel (6), suggested that a similar approach could be taken on the Korean Peninsula.



(4) Dr. Niklas Swanström  
executive director, Institute  
for Security and Development  
Policy, Sweden



(5) Baroness Sandip Verma  
member of the House of  
Lords, United Kingdom



(6) Dr. Ján Figel  
former E.U. commissioner;  
special envoy, promotion of  
religion or belief

## ILC JUNE 2021 (JUNE 24-30) – PEACE AND SECURITY

### The Role of Neutral Nations

In a webinar hosted by UPF on June 10, Major General Patrick Gauchat (photo), head of the Swiss delegation to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission (NNSC), spoke of the NNSC peacekeeping mission. Created by the 1953 armistice agreement, the NNSC is currently

composed of Swiss and Swedish officers stationed at the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in Panmunjom, whose role is to maintain a channel of communications between both sides, demonstrating that the ceasefire is still in force.



### The UN and the Korean Peninsula: Toward De-escalation and Rapprochement

On June 30, focusing on the issue of nuclear weapons, panelists insisted on the negative effect of sanctions on North Korea, and suggested that a reduction policy would instead gradually allow socio-economic development and the building of trust.

- 1 *Amb. Dr. Jesus Domingo, Ambassador of the Philippines to New Zealand*
- 2 *Dr. Angela Mickley, Professor of peace education, Potsdam University, Germany.*
- 3 *Dr. Tariq Rauf, Former Head of security policy, International Atomic Energy Agency*
- 4 *Ms. Srruthi Raaja Elange Lehka, United Nations Representative for Peacebuilding and Youth Leadership, Women's Federation for World Peace International.*



On June 24, the **State of Relations between USA, China and Russia** was discussed by US and Russian panelists. Dr. Georgy Toloraya, director of the East Asia section at the Institute of Economics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, expressed pessimism about denuclearization. The best scenario is for North Korea to become a “conventional country,” cooperating with its neighbors. To get there, however, both sides need to feel less of a sense of danger or threat.



A joint US-Europe webinar on **Biden Administration Policies** was held on June 29 with US, Russian and European scholars. Dr. Barthelémy Courmont, senior research fellow at the Paris-based Institute of International and Strategic Relations, said that he did not expect the Biden presidency to break the status quo as the previous administration did. He stressed the importance of sanctions, through comprehensive international cooperation.



On June 25, UPF hosted a webinar on the **71st Anniversary of the Korean War**. Dr. No Hi Pak, senior adviser for UPF-Korea, gave a personal testimony of the tragedy experienced by Korean people during the war. He then explained about the tour he led around the world, 60 years later, with the Little Angels Children's Folk Ballet of Korea, to express the gratitude of Korean people to all the Korean War veterans.



On June 30, scholars from Austria, New Zealand and Germany discussed the theme **Europe and the Korean Peninsula**. Dr. Beatrice Bischof, from the Foreign Affairs Association in Munich, spoke of the 136-year-long Korean-German relations. To boost people-to-people exchange, she suggested creating economic hubs in the DMZ to allow women from North and South to cooperate on common projects.



On June 29, the topic of **Europe and Russia's Relations to the DPRK** was addressed by scholars from the UK, Russia and Sweden. Dr. Edward Howell, lecturer in politics at the University of Oxford, noted that the ultimate question was “How to build trust?” He suggested that the US change its goal from total denuclearization to a more realistic first step of threat reduction.



In the **Closing session**, Dr. Afsar Rathor, president of the environmental NGO of LIOS-SOIL, a Vienna-based environmental NGO, made a summary of the recommendations given by all the conference speakers, to be compiled and offered to stimulate a constructive dialogue on the Korean Peninsula.

## ILC JULY 2021 (JULY 27-29) – BEST PRACTICES IN TRACK II DIPLOMACY



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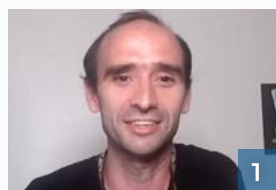


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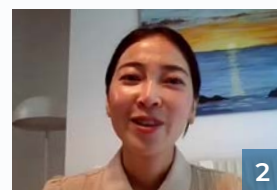
### The Emerging Power of Women's Diplomacy

On July 28, prominent women leaders discussed the crises on the Korean Peninsula and in their own countries, tracing some of the causes to unbalanced leadership. They emphasized the role of women in decision-making to build a more compassionate and inclusive future.

- 1 **Dr. Sun Jin Moon**, senior vice president, WFPW International
- 2 **H.E. Neziha Labidi**, minister for Women, Family, Children and Senior Citizens (2016-2020), Tunisia
- 3 **H.E. Nayla Moawad**, first lady (1989); minister of Social Affairs (2005-2008), Lebanon
- 4 **Ms. Kholoud Wattar Kassem**, founder and president, Lebanese Women Towards Decision Making NGO, Lebanon



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### Young People Contributing to Peace in Korea

On July 29, panelists explained about initiatives in the fields of sports, the arts and the environment aimed at rapprochement between North and South Korea, inviting young people to act as peacemakers in Korea and throughout the world.

- 1 **Mr. Andrei Litvinov**, founder of Ethnic Korean Kids Center and of "Culture DNA", Ukraine
- 2 **Ms. Jeonghye Hassinen**, secretary general, IAYSP Europe and Middle East, Austria
- 3 **Ms. Ju-hee Um**, IAYSP Korea, Unius Project, South Korea
- 4 **Ms. Mélanie Komagata**, postgraduate student in East Asian studies, University of Geneva



(1) **Hon. Glyn Ford**  
former UK member,  
the European Parliament;  
founder, Track 2 Asia, UK

In a webinar on **Track 1.5 Diplomacy Initiatives with North Korea** (July 27), Hon. Glyn Ford (1) and Dr. Antonio Betancourt (UPF USA) related their personal experience with "track 1.5 diplomacy" that resulted in significant initiatives, such as humanitarian aid from the European Union to North Korea during the famine, or dialogue at the highest level between US and North Korean leaders.



(4) **Mr. Mark Tokola**  
vice-president, Korea  
Economic Institute of  
America, USA

A webinar on **Resources and Tools of Faith Based Organizations** (July 27) involved religious leaders from Russia, South Korea and Switzerland representing Orthodoxy, Protestantism and Judaism. Rev. Dr. Stephen Kim (2) spoke about Christianity's role in unifying Korea, emphasizing it must go beyond the evangelical dimension and bring about unification through forgiveness and reconciliation.



(2) **Rev. Dr. Stephen Kim**  
co-chairman, Korean  
Clergy Leadership  
Conference, South Korea

On July 27, during a webinar on the **Power of Humanitarian Initiatives**, humanitarian activists introduced their work on the Peninsula. Mr. Thomas Fisler (3), who was based in North Korea with the Swiss Cooperation Agency, described how the Covid pandemic brought humanitarian aid to a halt and exacerbated the plight of ordinary people.



(5) **Ms. Natalya Karpova**  
deputy, Khasan  
Municipal District,  
Russian Far East

On July 28, economists and business leaders discussed the potential of **Private Sector Initiatives for the North Korean Economy**. North Korea's biggest problem is not denuclearization, but the economy, said Mr. Mark Tokola (4). Fundamental reforms are necessary to create incentives for North Korean entrepreneurs and foreign investors.



(3) **Mr. Thomas Fisler**  
former director, Swiss  
Agency for Development and  
Cooperation, Pyongyang

On July 28, panelists from the USA, Russia and Korea discussed the theme of **Culture as Peacemaker**. Mrs. Natalia Karpova (5), an official in a Russian town bordering North Korea, explained how the dismantling of the Soviet Union created opportunities for ordinary citizens to travel to North Korea. "Culture, education and sports will help preserve peace", she said.



(6) **Mr. Ali Laçej**  
coordinator, Albanian  
Peace Council, Albania

On July 29, a webinar on the **Peace Road Initiative** described UPF projects aimed at tearing down the walls and linking people, as a model for reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula. Mr. Ali Laçej (6) reported about the Peace Road Balkans initiative, as a program that gives space for religions and cultures to coexist in harmony, creating bridges among the peoples.

## ILC AUGUST 2021 (AUGUST 19-21)

### – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WORLDVIEWS

#### Competing Worldviews Concerning Korean Reunification (Aug. 20)

On a panel jointly organized by UPF Europe and UPF USA, scholars from leading institutions and media professionals discussed the worldviews, values, and ideologies that drive the agendas and policies of the primary stakeholder nations in the process of Korean reunification. How and to what extent do they make it difficult for all stakeholders to reach agreement on the way forward? And what room is there for compromise, so that lasting peace can come to the Korean Peninsula?



- 1 Ms. Kaeleigh Moffitt, Congressional Liaison, UPF USA  
 2 Hon. Dr. Yevgeny Kim, leading researcher, Center for Korean Studies, Institute of the Far East, Russian Academy of Sciences  
 3 Mr. Michael Breen, CEO, Insight Communications Consultants; former president, Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club

- 4 Dr. Thomas Ward, president, Unification Theological Seminary, USA  
 5 Mr. Torbjørn Færøvik, historian, journalist and author, specialist on East Asia, Norway  
 6 Mr. Bruce Klingner, senior research fellow for Northeast Asia, Asian Studies Center, The Heritage Foundation, USA



(1) Dr. Claude Béglé  
former member, Swiss Parliament; founder and president, Symbioswiss

A webinar on **Prospects for a Northeast Asian Economic Union** (Aug. 20) included panelists from Europe, Russia, China and the USA. They noted that regional economic cooperation is hampered by unresolved historical conflicts; yet, East Asia's cultural ties can be the basis for closer regional collaboration. Dr. Claude Béglé (1) said that the US-China rivalry may affect the region; however regional integration is already at work through widespread trade with China, Japan and South Korea.

Discussing the **Potential and Benefits of Trade with North Korea** (Aug. 20), panelists from Russia, Austria and Israel addressed the topic of economic incentives to ease tensions on the Korean Peninsula. Dr. Pavel Leshakov (2) reviewed the evolution of the DPRK's economic strategy under Chairman Kim Jong Un's leadership. Yet, he said, the strict sanctions enforced on the country since 2017 have left little room for North Korea's engagement with the world economy.



(2) Dr. Pavel Leshakov  
counselor, Russian Embassy to the Republic of Korea, Russia



(3) Prof. Yoshisumi Asai  
researcher, Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, Doshisha University, Japan

Scholars from Korea, Japan and the USA discussed the theme: **The Korean People's Common History and Culture: Resources for Peace** (Aug. 21). Prof. Yoshisumi Asai (3) gave some insight into Kim Il Sung's Juche ideology, the way it emerged in the 1960s during the confrontation between China and the Soviet Union, and how the regime is maintained through the 'education' of its people, rather than the use of force. Dr. Alon Levkowitz (4) explained the various economic and social advantages of cooperation between the two Koreas, centering on a long-term vision of mutual prosperity.



(4) Dr. Alon Levkowitz  
Asian and Korean Studies, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel



(5) Mr. Andrew Salmon  
MBE, Northeast Asia correspondent editor, Asia Times

Journalists from the USA, Europe and Korea discussed **The Role of the Media** (Aug. 21) in relation to the Korean Peninsula. Mr. Andrew Salmon (5) explained the increasing challenge of reporting news from China, and the possibility offered by South Korea to report on North Korea and to deliver bigger-picture analyses on the region. According to Mrs. Jung Mi Hwang (6), to support reunification, the media should help reduce the quantitative and qualitative gap of knowledge and information between South and North Korean citizens. This is the first goal of her newspaper, she said.



(6) Ms. Jung Mi Hwang  
vice-president, The Segye Times, Republic of Korea

## THE KOREA - JAPAN UNDERSEA TUNNEL

Mr. Jacques Marion, Co-Chair, UPF Europe and Middle East



- 1 Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon visits the pilot tunnel in Karatsu.
- 2 The Korea-Japan Tunnel route
- 3 Prof. Roger Vickerman, emeritus professor of European economics, University of Kent, United Kingdom

The Korea – Japan undersea tunnel project was proposed in 1981 by UPF founder Dr. Sun Myung Moon at the Tenth International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences. As the first link of a great International Highway that would run through China to the West and Russia to the North, it would contribute to the creation of a prosperous Northeast Asian Economic Zone. The Korea-Japan Tunnel Research Institute considers possible routes from Karatsu on Japan’s Kyushu Island to the Korean port city of Busan, or alternatively to the city of Geoje. The tunnel would cross the Korea Strait via the Japanese islands of Tsushima and Iki, covering a total distance of 230 kilometers.

The tunnel project was the theme of two webinars during the April and August 2021 International Leadership Conferences. Experts from Europe and the Middle East contributed to the panel by giving examples of experiences from the Marmaray Tunnel crossing the Bosphorus Strait in Istanbul, and the Channel Tunnel between France and Great Britain.

- 4 Ms. Gözde Dizdar, vice-president, Centrist Asia Pacific Democrats International, Turkey
- 5 Dr. Yoshimitsu Nishikawa, Institute of Social Sciences, Toyo University, Japan
- 6 Prof. Jin-Hee Park, Transportation and Logistics, Korean Maritime and Oceanic University, South Korea

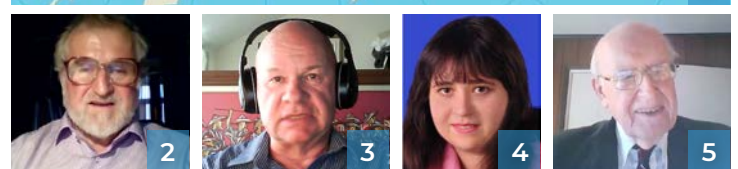
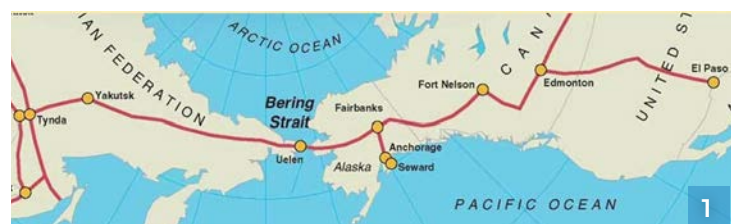
## THE BERING STRAIT UNDERSEA TUNNEL

Mr. Jacques Marion, Co-Chair, UPF Europe and Middle East

The Bering Strait Undersea Tunnel would connect the Chukotka region in the Far East of Russia with the state of Alaska in the United States. Crossing the Bering Strait over a distance of 89 kilometers via the Diomedede islands, this bold engineering project has increasingly reappeared in experts’ minds and government research since the 19th century.

In 2005, the UPF founders declared that a tunnel or bridge at the Bering Strait would make a significant contribution to world peace. By overcoming historical conflicts between the USA and Russia, the tunnel would symbolize a new era. It would also significantly shorten freight transport time between Asia and North America, thus greatly benefiting trade among the great economic powers of the region.

The project was the theme of several webinars in August 2021. Leading experts from Russia, Canada and the United States described the prospects of



- 1 Bering Strait Tunnel Railway route
- 2 Dr. Victor Razbegin, co-founder, Intercontinental Railway, Russia
- 3 Dr. Peter Stockdale, Environment policy analyst, Canada
- 4 Dr. Y. A. Harlamova, Russian Academy of Transport, Russia
- 5 Mr. Louis Cerny, International Railroad consultant; former executive director, American Railway Engineering Association

an intercontinental link at the Bering Strait in terms of economic and cultural exchange, as well as ecological conservation.



## FOUNDERS' MESSAGE

**DREAMING OF A PEACEFUL WORLD**

Excerpts from the UPF founders' autobiographies on two visionary projects that, if implemented, would lead to lasting peace in Northeast Asia: Firstly, an International Peace Highway linking Japan and Korea, as well as Asia and North America at the Bering Strait, by undersea tunnels. Secondly, the call for the UN to establish its fifth office as well as a Peace Park at the DMZ on the Korean Peninsula.



**As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen,**  
*Dr. Sun Myung Moon's Autobiography, p. 343-344*

We live in an age of globalism. For the sake of the future we must become one. One way I propose to facilitate that is through the International Peace Highway, a huge undertaking. It will link Korea and Japan by an undersea tunnel and create a bridge across the Bering Strait that separates Russia and North America. These great links can unify the world. When the highway is completed it will be possible to travel by car from Africa's Cape of Good Hope to Santiago, Chile, and from London to New York. There will be no roadblocks; the entire world will be interconnected as if by capillary vessels.

The world will become one integrated community, and everyone will be able to travel freely across international borders. Borders that give free passage to anyone will lose their significance as borders. Something similar will be true for religion. As the frequency of exchanges among religions increases, greater mutual understanding will arise, conflict will disappear, and the walls of separation will crumble. [...] This cultural revolution will bring the world into one.

The Silk Road was not simply a trade route that people used in order to sell silk and buy spices. It was also a vehicle for the peoples of the East and West to meet and for Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity to meet. These different cultures intermingled and gave rise to a new culture. The International Peace Highway will play a similar role in the twenty-first century.

**Mother of Peace,**  
*Dr Hak Ja Han Moon's Memoirs, p. 202-203*

The United Nations established its headquarters in New York City at the end of World War II. Seventy years have since passed. There are three other major UN offices, in Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. But even though the world has entered the Asia-Pacific era, there is no major UN office in Asia.

I have recommended that the UN open its fifth international office in Korea, specifically, in the demilitarized zone (DMZ) on the 38th parallel. I am supporting various groups, including the Universal Peace Federation and the Citizens Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea, in their efforts to turn the DMZ into a global peace park. This will bring the issue of Korean reunification to the attention of the world's people as no other action can.

All the nations of Asia would be pleased to serve as the site of a new, global UN headquarters, but I believe that Korea has unique qualifications. [...] Korea has something very deep within its culture that can serve the world.

Some 70 years ago, the UN forces shed blood and sweat for the sake of peace in Korea. By ending the division on the peninsula, the UN would complete the mission of those soldiers who gave their lives, and inspire peace in the world. In his speech given at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in 2000, my husband announced our vision of a peace park in the Demilitarized Zone. Fifteen years later, in May of 2015, at the UN Office in Vienna, Austria, I proposed that a fifth UN office be built there. The president of the Republic of Korea proposed to North Korea at the UN that a peace park be built in the DMZ. If North and South Korea invite the UN to build its fifth office in the DMZ, it will, by that very act alone, turn a theater of war—where so many on both sides of the conflict shed their blood—into a Mecca of peace.

WORLD NEWS

For more information visit [www.rallyofhope.eu](http://www.rallyofhope.eu)

# THE RALLY OF HOPE SERIES

From reports by UPF International

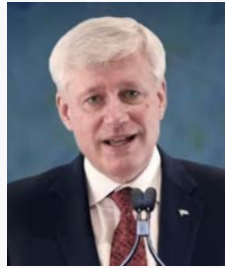


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1 Dr Hak Ja Han Moon speaking at the 6th Rally of Hope  
2 The "Fan Dance" by The Little Angels Children's Folk Ballet of Korea



**Hon. Stephen Harper**  
Prime Minister,  
Canada (2006-2015)  
- 1st Rally of Hope -



**H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde**  
President, Ethiopia  
- 3rd Rally of Hope -



**H.E. Dr. George Manneh Weah**  
President, Liberia  
- 3rd Rally of Hope -



**H.E. Michael Pence**  
Vice President,  
United States of  
America (2017-2021)  
- 6th Rally of Hope -



**H.E. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo**  
President, The  
Philippines (2001-2010)  
- 7th Rally of Hope -



**H.E. F.W. de Klerk**  
President, South Africa  
(1989-1994)  
- 5th Rally of Hope -

The International Summit Council for Peace, one of UPF's primary associations, co-hosted the first Rally of Hope on August 9, 2020. It represented the latest in a series of summits, real and virtual, held since 2018. It brought thousands of world leaders together in search of a shared culture of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values.

Since then, UPF has continued to hold Rallies of Hope featuring distinguished world leaders, along with first-class entertainment, reaching millions of

people via various broadcast providers and internet platforms.

The 3rd Rally of Hope was held in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Korean War, while calling for the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula.

The 4th Rally of Hope was a joint effort with the World Christian Leadership Conference (WCLC), an organization affiliated with UPF, and featured more than 2,000 Christian pastors from the

United States and 3,000 clerics from throughout the world.

On May 9, 2021, the 6th Rally of Hope featured the inauguration of UPF's Think Tank 2022 initiative for the reunification of Korea.

On September 12, the 7th Rally of Hope featured the launch of the Think Tank 2022 Asia Pacific Secretariat and of the Organizing Committee of the upcoming World Summit in Korea.



**Cardinal Kelvin Felix**  
Archbishop emeritus  
of Castries  
- 4th Rally of Hope -



**Dr. Nasaruddin Umar**  
Grand Imam, Istiqlal  
Mosque, Indonesia  
- 3rd Rally of Hope -



3

3 An Interfaith Water Ceremony was held for the sake of peace between religions at the 5th Rally of Hope.

# RALLY OF HOPE SPEAKERS FROM EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST



## H.E. Alfred Moisiu

*President, Albania (2002 - 2007)  
- 1st Rally of Hope -*

*The Balkan Peninsula can be the treasure of Europe. It has been the confrontation line between East and West, but it can be a bridge between East and West. To manifest its true potential, it needs a special focus for deep reconciliation. Europe, especially, is responsible to make it happen. European policy makers must be more careful in their judgments and decisions in relation to the problems in the Balkans, so that true justice prevails. Otherwise, the Balkans will continue to produce more history than it can consume.*

## H.E. Yves Leterme

*Prime Minister, Belgium (2009-2011)  
- 3rd Rally of Hope -*

*Seventy years ago, the Kingdom of Belgium engaged in the UN-led effort to defend freedom and protect Korean citizens from communist invasion. More than 3,000 volunteering Belgian soldiers joined in a battle that made our shared values prevail. In Belgium, it has been since a matter of collective pride to witness the tremendous development Korea achieved. ... It is today our hope that these impressive achievements and the underpinning values may soon flourish in the entire reunited Korean Peninsula, at the benefit of all Korean citizens.*



## H.E. Mirek Topolánek

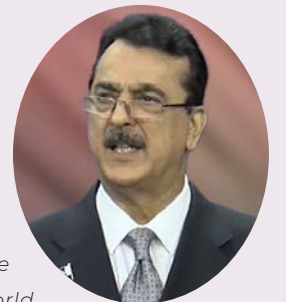
*Prime Minister, Czech Republic  
(2006-2009) - 1st Rally of Hope -*

*The coronavirus destruction cannot equal that of World War II. We are much stronger, richer and have bigger capacities than our ancestors in the 50s. But I feel that in comparison to them we lack faith, will, self-confidence and the ability to distinguish between the substantial and the unsubstantial. ... There is no restoration without preservation. Let's preserve the good from the past, avoid well-known mistakes and we will not lose the future. Your lives matter!*

## H.E. Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani

*Prime Minister, Pakistan (2008-2012)  
- 2nd Rally of Hope -*

*Over years and decades, we have overcome famines, plagues and wars, and we have done it together. The aftermath of the First World War saw the formation of the League of Nations. The destruction wreaked by the Second World War led to the creation of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Today, we need to again pool our resources, expertise, energies, and compassion to work towards a world which is safe, kind and just.*



## Dame Sarah Gilbert

*Professor of Vaccinology,  
University of Oxford - 5th Rally of Hope -*

*It was important for us that we were making a vaccine for the world, and that it should be made widely available, with no profit during the pandemic, or at any time for one used in low- and middle-income countries. AstraZeneca shared our vision. As our team continued to expand, so did the work that needed to be done, and we supported each other through many long and challenging days, at a time when the pandemic was having a devastating effect. This is a vaccine for the world. Safe and highly effective, easy to store and transport, low cost, and available in large quantities.*

## Archpriest Vladimir Fedorov

*Russian Orthodox Church  
- 4th Rally of Hope -*

*Those who profess peace as a value, a fundamental value, are called to work together, to be in solidarity. ... This is something that a quarter of a century ago I could not afford, fearing how I will conduct a dialogue with those with whom I disagree. And today I am deeply convinced that every chance should be used for cooperation. And in the process of reconciliation between North and South Korea, this topic will be relevant all the time: how to hear a person with different convictions. ...this is a serious peacekeeping task.*



REGIONAL NEWS

# TOWARD PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

From reports by Mark Brann, UPF-UK; David Fraser Harris, UPF-Middle East; and Franco Famularo, UPF-Canada



Panelists of the webinars

UPF held a series of webinars on the Abraham Accords with a distinguished panel of world leaders. This recent U.S.-brokered agreement between Israel, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates, later joined by Sudan and Morocco, signifies a historic moment of hope in the Middle East.

The first webinar took place on January 14, 2021, with former heads of state from the Middle East, the United States, and Europe.

The second webinar on February 25, 2021, was convened

with parliamentarians to include the perspectives of all major stakeholders in the Abraham Accords.

The third webinar on April 15, 2021, convened by the Europe and Middle East branches of UPF and its International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), brought together experts from Morocco, Israel, the United States and Europe to discuss the Morocco Tripartite Agreement.

The fourth webinar held on July 8, 2021, on the theme, “The Role of Religious Leaders in Track Two Peace Processes”, was organized jointly by the Europe-Middle East and North American branches of UPF and its Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD).



- 1 **Dr. Yasmine Hasnaoui**,  
*Institute of Saharan Studies, Morocco*
- 2 **Dr. Samia Tawil Burton**,  
*George Washington University, USA*
- 3 **Archbishop George A. Stallings**,  
*co-chair, IAPD, North America*
- 4 **Prof. Hanoch Ben-Pazi**,  
*chairman, Jewish Philosophy Department, Bar-Ilan University*
- 5 **Dr. Mohammad Habash**,  
*Abu Dhabi University, UAE*
- 6 **Rev. Anders Gadegaard**,  
*dean, Copenhagen Cathedral*

REGIONAL NEWS

# INTERRELIGIOUS ASSOCIATION FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT (IAPD)

## Lebanon IAPD



On 27 May, 2021, UPF and the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) in Lebanon held a conference with 14 religious leaders, representing the Christian denominations, Sunni and Shia Islam, and the Druze faith.

## IAPD Launched in Portugal

The Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) in Portugal was launched on June 19, 2021, with representatives of Christianity (four denominations), Hinduism (two communities), Eastern philosophies (two entities), and Islam (one community).



## REGIONAL NEWS

**INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE FOR PEACE**

Written by David Fraser Harris, secretary general, UPF-Middle East



- 1 **Dr. Yousef Zaknoun**,  
director, Al-Liqa' Center; Professor of philosophy and ethics of life, Bethlehem University
- 2 **Bishop Emeritus Munib Younan**,  
president, Lutheran World Federation (2010-2017); Honorary president, Religions for Peace, Palestine
- 3 **Dr. Thuraya Bashalani**,  
professor & researcher, Faculty of Religious Sciences, Saint Joseph University of Beirut; secretary-general, Middle East Council of Churches
- 4 **Dr. Maria Elizabeth De Los Rios Uriarte**,  
professor of philosophy, Anáhuac University and Panamerican University, Mexico
- 5 **Dr. Thomas Walsh**,  
chair, UPF International
- 6 **Dr. Tageldin Hamad**,  
international coordinator, Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD)

UPF Europe and the Middle East and its Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) organized an online conference on February 4, 2021, in conjunction with the Al-Liqa' Center for Religious and Heritage Studies in the Holy Land. Founded in 1982 by Palestinian Muslim and Christian academic and religious leaders, the center aims at fostering interfaith and cultural dialogue and understanding between the three Abrahamic religions.

Entitled "A Dialogue toward Peace, Harmony and Fraternity Confirmation", the webinar commemorated two

United Nations observances: World Interfaith Harmony Week and the first International Day of Human Fraternity. As this new UN Day was inspired by the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity established in 2019 by Pope Francis, and Al Azhar Grand Imam Al-Tayeb, the two keynote speakers at the webinar were Msgr. Yoannis Lahzi Gaid, former private secretary to Pope Francis and Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam, secretary general of the Higher Committee.

A second event was organized on May 28, 2021, with the theme "Building a Culture of Truth and Love

during Times of Crisis: The Role and Responsibility of the Church." Speaking against the backdrop of the recent hostilities between Israel and Palestine, prominent church leaders and scholars, including His Eminence Cardinal Bechara Boutros Al-Rahi, patriarch of the Maronite Church, and His Beatitude Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin patriarch of Jerusalem, addressed that crisis. Speaking from Jerusalem, Beirut, New York, and Mexico City, the panelists also addressed the global pandemic and related questions in the field of medical ethics.



**His Eminence Cardinal Bechara Boutros Al-Rahi**  
Patriarch, Antioch and All the East, Maronite Church



**His Beatitude Pierbattista Pizzaballa**  
Latin patriarch of Jerusalem



**Msgr. Yoannis Lahzi Gaid**  
Former private secretary, His Holiness Pope Francis



**Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam**  
Secretary general, Higher Committee of Human Fraternity

REGIONAL NEWS

# THE BALKANS AND THE KOREAN PENINSULA

Written by Jack Corley, president, UPF-Eastern Europe



- H.E. Alfred Moisiu, President of Albania (2002-2007)*
- H.E. Filip Vujanović, President of Montenegro (2003-2018)*
- Dr. Yeon Ah Moon, Chair, UPF Korea*
- Mr. Lutfi Dervishi, Journalist and political analyst, Albania*
- Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, Chair, UPF Europe and Middle East*
- Hon. Ho-Jin Lee, Acting President, UN Association, Republic of Korea*
- Dr. Heung-Soon Park, Expert on UN affairs*
- Dr. Hyung-Suk Kim, Vice Minister of Unification (2016-2017), Republic of Korea*
- Mr. Gani Rroshi, Secretary general, UPF Albania*

On March 27, 2021, a webinar on the theme “The Balkan and Korean Peninsulas: Similarities, Learning from Experiences and Possible Cooperation” was organized by UPF and its constituent association International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP) with Albanian journalist Lutfi Dervishi as the moderator. After an introduction by Dr. Yeon Ah Moon, H.E. Alfred Moisiu pointed out that the Korean and Balkan peninsulas, although geographically

and culturally far apart, have gone through many similar challenges throughout their history. H.E. Filip Vujanović noted three similarities between both peninsulas: their geostrategic and geopolitical importance on a global level; a challenging and tragic 20th century marked by war, destruction and human tragedy; and their necessity for long-lasting peace.

In a speech read by Mr. Gani Rroshi,

H.E. Fatmir Sejdiu, president of Kosovo (2006-2010), said that although the Balkan Peninsula is blessed with an abundance of underground resources, surrounded by oceans and in the midst of continental cultures, it also has been cursed with conflict throughout its history.

Other speakers were Hon. Ho-Jin Lee, Dr. Hyung-Suk Kim, Dr. Heung-Soon Park, Dr. Hyun-Young Lee, and Dr. Katsumi Otsuka.

## Albania Peace Councils

UPF Albania has been actively organizing Peace Councils in all 61 municipalities of the country. As leaders from different spheres of society, council members organize cultural and educational programs fostering peace and harmony among citizens.

(Left to right) Mr. Gani Rroshi, UPF Albania secretary general, with members of the Presiding Council: Dr. Niko Veizi; Prof. Majlinda Memaj; Dr. Astrit Memia; Hon. Rajmonda Stefa; Dr. Eva Çipi (Chair); Mrs. Flamur Shehu; Dr. Nora Malaj; Mr. Myzajlen Hoxha; and Mr. Abdulla Domi



## PEACE EMBASSIES



- 1 Inauguration of the Peace Embassy in Slovakia, September 25, 2021 - Dr. Roman Joch, Director, Civic Institute, Prague, addressing the participants.
- 2 Peace Embassy in Tirana, Albania. This future regional headquarters of UPF in the Balkans will be inaugurated in November 2021.

REGIONAL NEWS



# PEACE ROAD - 2021 -

The Peace Road is a global goodwill project of the Universal Peace Federation. The project dates back to 1981, when the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon proposed an International Highway that would physically connect all people of the world. The Peace Road initiative promotes two projects in particular: an undersea tunnel between Korea and Japan, and the Bering Strait Project to connect Alaska and Siberia.



1-3 **United Kingdom:** Walkers follow the route of Hadrian's Wall near the border between England and Scotland for the sake of national unity within the country in the wake of Brexit.

4 **Switzerland:** Cyclists riding near Bad Zursach, along the Rhine River

5 **Italy:** Visiting the arboretum created in memory of the soldiers from Turin who died during WWI

6 **France:** With Monseigneur Marc, director of the Sainte-Présence Orthodox monastery, Brittany

7 **Norway:** Visiting a Korean-built peace pagoda on Korea's National Liberation Day



Peace Road Austria-Germany-Czech Republic

Germans, Austrians and Czechs came together in the Bohemian Forest where the nations have a common border.

REGIONAL NEWS

# PEACE ROAD MARATHON PROMOTES HEALTHY LIFESTYLE FOR YOUTH

Written by Dmitry Samko, Chairman, UPF Moscow



Moscow, Russia - The supermarathon "Children against Drugs - I Choose Sport!" concluded after 1,150 kilometers.

From June 12 to 26, 2021, a total of thirty-five children and fifteen adults ran a relay race through the historic cities of Russia's Golden Ring. In addition, about 500 people joined in as the supermarathon passed through their town or city.

The organizer of the project was Ambassador for Peace Sergei Suprunyuk, the chairman of the Supermarathon Runners for a Healthy Lifestyle organizing committee. UPF has been a co-organizer for many years, along with the General Directorate for Drug Control of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

For the fourth year in a row the supermarathon received a grant from the Presidential Grants Fund, and for the sixth year the theme has been "Children against Drugs—I Choose Sport!" The young athletes running are showing an example of sports and physical education as a real alternative to drug use, alcohol consumption, smoking, and various doping.

During the 15 days of the race, the marathon receive huge coverage in the media.

Many meetings were organized in cities along the route—with schoolchildren, youth, residents of orphanages and social rehabilitation centers for minors; and with representatives of government bodies, public organizations, and drug control units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The supermarathon finished in the Moscow region on June 26—which was also the United Nations' International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.



- 1 The young participants of the marathon
- 2 A representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs addresses the participants on the final day.
- 3 Each annual marathon starts in Red Square, Moscow

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Visit [www.eume.upf.org/nl9](http://www.eume.upf.org/nl9) for the complete reports.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. - Dec. 2021 Think Tank 2022 Forums
- November 2021 Online Rally of Hope  
Balkan Peace Conference
- December 2021 Online Rally of Hope
- January 2022 World Summit 2022

This program is tentative.

See the calendar of events at [www.eume.upf.org/agenda/events](http://www.eume.upf.org/agenda/events)