UPF Europe and Middle East Newsletter: International Day of Peace

Jacques Marion September 20, 2025



Statement by UPF on the International Day of Peace 2025



Statement by the Universal Peace Federation on the International Day of Peace 2025 and Conclusion of the 100 Days Campaign.

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The Peace We Choose: A Global Journey of Conscience and Compassion

Statement by the Universal Peace Federation on the International Day of Peace 2025 and the Conclusion of the 100 Days Campaign Toward the International Day of Peace

Click here for the video address by Dr. Tageldin Hamad, President, UPF

On this twenty-first day of September 2025, the Universal Peace Federation joins the world in solemn observance of the International Day of Peace. This year's global theme, "Act Now for a Peaceful World," resonates with the urgent need for shared responsibility in addressing the root causes of division, injustice, and violence. Today also marks the conclusion of the UPF 100 Days Campaign Toward the International Day of Peace, a season of reflection and action that mobilized individuals and partners around the world to renew their commitment to peace through education, interfaith dialogue, and service.

Peace is not merely the absence of conflict. It is a dynamic, moral, and spiritual harmony that arises when individuals, families, and societies align themselves with principles that affirm the dignity of every human life. At the heart of the Universal Peace Federation's mission is the recognition that we are members of one interdependent human family. We are bound not by blood or geography, but by conscience, compassion, and shared responsibility.

These ideals, championed by the founders <u>Dr. Hak Ja Han</u> and her late husband <u>Rev. Sun Myung Moon</u>, continue to guide our work across regions, faiths, and cultures. As the founders taught, religion that places its own nation and people first can never fulfill its responsibility on a global level. We must transcend nationality, tradition, and ideology in order to build a society that embraces all peoples and leads humanity toward lasting peace. People of faith and goodwill must reach unity of heart and live together as one family under a common spiritual purpose. This vision is not utopian. It is necessary.

The Universal Peace Federation affirms that the source of true and lasting peace is not merely

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institutional or material, but spiritual in nature. Peace flows from a higher moral order, a divine origin, and a sense of purpose that transcends individual or national interests. As one of our core teachings expresses, any religion that seeks to bring peace to the world must not be self-centered or consumed by its own importance. It must be open to dialogue and humble in service. This conviction aligns with the spirit of UN General Assembly Resolution 79/316, which promotes interreligious and intercultural dialogue.

The 100 Days Campaign reflected the spirit of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 4, promoting peace education, dialogue, and inclusive participation at all levels of society. These efforts also support the UN Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace, which calls for preventive diplomacy, early warning mechanisms, and investments in peacebuilding before tensions escalate into violence. We therefore encourage all global actors to elevate dialogue, uphold moral leadership, and pursue reconciliation not only through political negotiation, but through service to others, the healing of historical wounds, and the rebuilding of trust.

During the 100 Days Campaign, the Universal Peace Federation reached hundreds of thousands of individuals across continents with a message of peace, harmony, and reconciliation. Through <u>forums</u>, <u>interfaith gatherings</u>, <u>digital outreach</u>, and <u>community programs</u>, this global effort inspired new connections and renewed commitments to shared humanity. Looking ahead, UPF envisions the coming season as the <u>International Year of the Volunteers for Sustainable Development</u> (IVY 2026), during which our supporters and Ambassadors for Peace of the Universal Peace Federation will continue transforming the message of peace into concrete acts of compassion through humanitarian outreach, service projects, and assistance to those in need. In every region, this spirit of altruism will carry the campaign forward, turning words into impact and solidarity into action.

We call upon heads of state and parliamentarians to strengthen policies that protect human rights, both offline and online, and to address inequality through inclusive governance. We support efforts to advance disarmament, including those marked by the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons on September 26. We further call for coordinated action to address the climate crisis as a growing threat to peace and security, particularly for vulnerable communities, by promoting ecological justice and environmental resilience in line with Sustainable Development Goal 13.

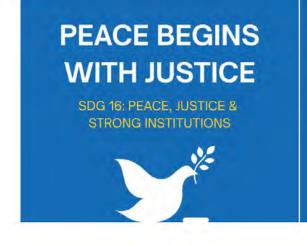
We urge governments to increase investment in peace education curricula in schools, and to support the creation of interfaith and intercultural councils at the local and national levels. We especially appeal to young people, women, and marginalized communities to rise as builders of peace and mutual prosperity. We call on governments to ensure meaningful mechanisms for youth participation, as outlined in the <u>Youth, Peace and Security</u> agenda. We also affirm the vital role of women in reconciliation and conflict prevention, as recognized in the <u>Women, Peace and Security</u> framework. We particularly support initiatives such as the UN GA 80 High-level meeting on the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women on <u>September 22</u>, addressing the call for new models of leadership anchored in compassion and integrity.

As this campaign concludes, the vision of the Universal Peace Federation remains firm: to advance peace grounded in universal spiritual principles, interdependence, and moral responsibility. Our work echoes the spirit of UN General Assembly Resolution 73/329, promoting a global culture of peace with love and conscience through education, service, and multistakeholder cooperation. Our hope is not abstract. It is grounded in lived experience and reinforced by acts of courage and compassion across communities.

Let us act now for a peaceful world. As the United Nations prepares for the <u>Second World Summit for Social Development</u> in Doha this November, the Universal Peace Federation stands ready to contribute perspectives from interfaith and civil society actors committed to justice and inclusion. Drawing upon the outcomes of the <u>Summit of the Future</u> held in 2024, we reaffirm our commitment to implementing the <u>Pact for the Future</u> and advancing a vision of shared human dignity that transcends boundaries.

These efforts reflect not only UPF's founding ideals, but also the momentum created by the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace, and the frameworks outlined in Our Common Agenda. As the international community inaugurates the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, and prepares for its high-level meeting to commemorate 80 years of the United Nations on September 22, the Universal Peace Federation pledges to help shape a more inclusive, sustainable, and spiritually grounded global order. In the words of the founders, the greatest power is not that which conquers enemies, but that which transforms them into brothers and sisters.

Dr. Tageldin Hamad President, Universal Peace Federation



WHAT IS SDG 16?

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.







We are an international and interreligious network of individuals and organizations, including representatives from religion, government, civil society and the private sector dedicated to achieving world peace. UPF supports the work of the United Nations, particularly in the areas of interfaith peacebuilding, peace education, and the strengthening of marriage and family.

Universal Peace Federation is an NGO in General Consultative Status with the <u>Economic and Social Council of the United Nations</u>
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Video Address by Dr. Tageldin Hamad, President, UPF

2 Written by: Dr. Tageldin Hamad, President, Universal Peace Federation

m 17 September 2025



Video Address by Dr. Tageldin Hamad, President, Universal Peace Federation, on the International Day of Peace 2025 and the Conclusion of the 100 Days Campaign.

Dear friends and partners of the Universal Peace Federation, Ambassadors for Peace, brothers and sisters.

It is a true honor to speak with you today on this important occasion, the International Day of Peace 2025. Together, we join the global family in affirming the value of peace, the need for shared responsibility, and the call to build a more compassionate world.

The Universal Peace Federation carried out a 100 Days Campaign toward the International Day of Peace. Through forums, interfaith gatherings, humanitarian outreach, and digital programs, we delivered a message of peace, harmony, and reconciliation.

Your presence and care truly made a difference.

Peace is not only the absence of war. It is a way of life. It crosses not only borders, but also beliefs, generations, and experience.

The founders of UPF, Dr. Hak Ja Han and Rev. Sun Myung Moon, taught that peace must be based on spiritual values, moral leadership, and unity. We must serve others and build peace not only in words, but in deeds in our communities and beyond.

We also stand at a time of global transition. The United Nations is calling for a new agenda for peace. Many challenges remain. But we believe in hope and in cooperation.

Let us act now for peace. Let us raise our voices in compassion and understanding. Let us serve not only with words, but with our hearts and our hands.



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Dr. Tageldin Hamad, President. Universal Peace Federation

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