

UPF Event on North Korea

Prague, Czech Republic, 26. June 2013

Anton Uhnak



The Czech UPF chapter held a very interesting lecture on North Korea in Prague last Wednesday, 26th June 2013. The topic was Focus: North Korea. The MC of the whole event was Professor Milan Kálal, AFP who visited South Korea several times as a responsible person for the students exchange between his alma mater and the University in Pohang.

At the beginning a short video showed the life in North Korea. The first lecture delivered by Mr. Anton Uhnak showed the historical context of the development on the Korean peninsula. The presenter tried to show a long history of the Korean nation and explain the present situation based on this historical development. In his speech he emphasized the significance of the Pacific Rim area for the future of mankind. Korea will play a significant role in the world. The unification of Korea is not so easy but there is hope that it will happen. There are many NGOs working on the unification of Korea. He said that the best philosophy for unification is the Headwing ideology advocated by Rev. Moon.

In the second speech Dr Juraj Lajda as a publisher presented a newly published book on North Korea „The Cleanest Race“ with the subtitle How the North Koreans see themselves and why it matters. The American author B.R. Myers explained the real motivation of the political system in NK. It has to do with the myths and legends of Koreans with the image of the role of mother and a leader as a parental leader. The Koreans feel as an innocent, pure and vulnerable nation which needs in this evil and dangerous world a protection in the figure of a parental leader. This is the reason why the North Koreans are so emotionally attached to their leadership. The writer tries to break the media image of North Korea and explain that it is a great mistake to compare the North Korean regime with the communist regimes in the former Soviet Union and other former communist countries.

After the lectures there was a vivid discussion. Monika Lajdova, a student of the Sun Moon University explained during the discussion how North Korea is perceived in the South and what the students think. The participants appreciated the lectures because people do not know too much about Korea generally and there is a lack of relevant information. Some of them said that the lectures were very useful. Almost a half of the audience were new guests and students.

