



30th Anniversary of WFWP and a Bridge of Peace between Austria, Hungary and Slovakia

Bratislava, Slovakia, May 28, 2022

By *Lubica Magnusson*

A joint program was organized by three WFWP chapters – Slovakia, Austria and Hungary last Saturday, on May 28, in Bratislava, Slovakia. The program was dedicated to the 30th Anniversary of founding WFWP and the Bridge of Peace between Austria, Hungary and Slovakia.

From Slovakia 28 participants including one couple, two second gen. brothers and our WFWP guests took part. 23 persons (from 10 different nationalities) including three couples came from Austria and 18 participants came from Hungary – 16 women including three young female students and a WFWP Peace Ambassador, who is a lawyer (she made the law in Hungary to protect women from the problem of violence in the family), as well as three husbands.

The program started with a city tour in the morning and a typical Slovak lunch (duck + dumpling and red cabbage) later.

The event in the afternoon took place in the beautiful new Peace Embassy of Bratislava.

Mrs. Katsuyo Bendzsá, WFWP President from Hungary had a welcoming address. It was followed by the presentation of the President of WFWP Slovakia Mrs. Lubica Magnusson about the roots of the WFWP founded by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her late husband Rev. Sun Myung Moon and about the life and accomplishments of Mother Moon – the Mother of Peace as she is called by many. Renate Amesbauer, WFWP President from Austria, spoke then about the UN dimension of WFWP activity in Vienna. After that we celebrated 30th Anniversary with cutting anniversary cakes prepared and decorated beautifully by Viktoria Savčenko from Slovakia.

The Bridge of Peace ceremony in the second part of the program was dedicated to peace in all Europe. Slovak and Hungarian songs sung by our sisters Miriam Alexy, Dorota Šimeková and a whole Hungarian team as well as the poem written by an Austrian brother helped to prepare the atmosphere. Dr. Maria Riehl explained the meaning of the Bridge of Peace and the importance of reconciliation to heal the wounds of history, in order to move forward to lasting peace in the future.

17 triplets of ladies could be made with one lady from each country and two more couples. And also 2 triplets of men joined together after some encouragement from the side of the ladies!

Everyone was moved and excited about new sisters and brothers and many found a deep meaning in why they had come together with just those two persons.

As the conclusion of the ceremony, we sang the song "Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me..." with a prayerful heart - two times while holding each other hands, thinking and praying especially for peace in Europe established again! It was a wonderful ceremony, a day which was blessed with good weather and was filled with excitement when all the participants were pleased. We pray for hope that our neighboring countries will continue to be connected with good exchanges and to have a relationship centered on True Love.

We would like to express our gratitude to all Slovak WFWP team to inviting us at this time for the program in Bratislava.







