

VOL. 9, NO. 1, 2015

# UPF TODAY

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PEACE



2<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEONGHWA BANQUET

## WORLD SUMMIT

Seoul  
2014

UPF August 12, 2014 Cheon Jeong Gung



## WORLD SUMMIT 2014

Africa Day Celebrations



Religious Youth Service



Leadership Conferences



## FROM THE PUBLISHER

This issue of *UPF Today* offers highlights from 2014, a year that saw great achievements by UPF National Chapters throughout the world. The World Summit 2014 was the flagship program of UPF in 2014. The celebration of Africa Day, as a joint effort of UPF with the African Union's Mission to the United Nations, draws wide support and the participation of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. UPF's longstanding efforts to promote peace in the Middle East, through the Middle East Peace Initiative, has won wide respect around the world and, on this foundation, UPF was invited to a special consultation organized by the Vatican's Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences on "The Crisis in Syria: Can We Remain Indifferent?" The UN International Day of Peace was honored by UPF programs in more than 40 nations. The volume and quality of work that is being carried out by UPF is growing and building momentum, at a time when our world is being shaken by a variety of threats to peace and human development. We hope you gain inspiration from the various reports contained in the pages that follow. Please also visit our web site at [www.upf.org](http://www.upf.org). Thank you for your interest in and support for the work of UPF. Peace.



Dr. Thomas G. Walsh  
President, UPF

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Albania	Czech Republic	Indonesia	Norway	Tanzania
Argentina	DR Congo	Israel	Peru	Timor-Leste
Australia	Ecuador	Italy	Philippines	Ukraine
Austria	Egypt	Japan	Romania	United Kingdom
Azerbaijan	Fiji	Kenya	Russia	United States
Bangladesh	Finland	Lesotho	Samoa	Uruguay
Barbados	France	Malaysia	Slovakia	Washington D.C.
Belgium	Germany	Marshall Islands	South Korea	Zambia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ghana	Moldova	Sri Lanka	
Cambodia	Greece	Netherlands	Switzerland	
China	Grenada	New Zealand	Syria	
	India	Nigeria	Tajikistan	



## UPF TODAY

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PEACE

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*UPF Today* is the membership magazine of the Universal Peace Federation, founded by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. Envisioning peace as a state of harmonious interdependence among individuals, families, nations and peoples, UPF advocates constructive and original practices that contribute to achieving a unified world of peace, the hope of all ages. The magazine offers a forum for Ambassadors for Peace—fostering human development, good governance, public service, and collaborative peace efforts involving religions, nations and nongovernmental organizations.

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### COVER:

World Summit 2014 participants standing with Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon; (inset pictures) Mr. King Mensah shakes hands with Rev. Eiji Tokuno at Africa Day Celebration in Sendai, Japan; RYS participants help plant trees in Washington DC, USA; and conference in Moldova promoting European-Eurasian dialogue



# World Summit on Peace, Security and Development

By Joy Pople

Convened at a time of heightened global concerns about security, the UPF World Summit at the Millennium Seoul Hilton Hotel Aug. 9-13, 2014, addressed issues of peace, security and development. More than 300 delegates from 68 nations listened to distinguished leaders discuss the theme from national, regional and global perspectives.

“UPF’s World Summit series provides a context,” said UPF President Dr. Thomas G. Walsh, “in which the critical issues of peace, security and human development can be addressed comprehensively by high-level government officials — including current heads of state and government — together with representatives of civil society, the private sector and the world’s great faith traditions.”

## GLOBAL ASSEMBLY

King Letsie III, head of state of the southern African kingdom of Lesotho, lamented the “dark clouds of tensions and lack of trust,” calling for effective partnerships for development and a reform of the United Nations so it can stand as a “global governance system that ensures justice and fairness.”

Atua Tupua Tamasese Ta’isi Efi, head of state of the Pacific island nation of Samoa, described

the central place the ocean plays in the culture of his nation and the traditional practices of his people to ensure sustainability: “The taking of natural resources was never to go beyond what nature herself could sustain in terms of natural re-growth.”

Four speakers had also participated in the World Summit in Korea in February 2013 and elaborated on themes from their presentations then. Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina President Zivko Budimir described the ongoing “stormy times of peace” in his Balkan nation, including an attempted coup; he expressed his commitment to continue to follow the “path of truth and freedom.”

Sri Lanka Prime Minister D. M. Jayaratne talked about the economic growth his South Asia island nation has been experiencing as a fruit of the resettlement and reconciliation process after 16 years of civil war. As he did last year, he gave evidence



H.M. KING LETSIE III ERATION Seoul

## WORLD SUMMIT 2014

of his commitment to interreligious peacebuilding by showing photos of Ambuluwawa, a religious complex housing places of worship of four major religions.

Timor-Leste Prime Minister Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão gave an update about the Commission of Truth and Friendship established to heal relations between his people and the neighboring Indonesians on the island of Timor after a bitter war, because “both Timor-Leste and Indonesia wanted to clear the way for true and genuine reconciliation and tolerance among communities and people.”

The wife of the Prime Minister of Tanzania, Tunu Pinda, reviewed the ongoing conflicts throughout Africa and the challenges to development posed by the resulting refugees and internally displaced persons. She reported that with the end of some conflicts, “the continent has started to enjoy peace dividends” and six of the ten fastest-growing economies in the world are in Africa.

Two first ladies eloquently represented the peoples of the Pacific islands. First Lady of Fiji Adi Koila Mara Nailatikau endorsed UPF’s commitment to peaceful resolution of conflicts through dialogue and consensus and called for greater roles for women in promoting peace, development and security. First Lady of Marshall Islands Lieom Anono Loeak spoke of the unique contribution the Pacific island nations can make to peacebuilding because of their cultures, value system and diversity. “Peace must stem from our inner and better state of mind. And so it is to the minds and hearts of people that we must first begin our work.”

Amb. Anwarul K. Chowdhury, former Under Secretary General of the United Nations

and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, has devoted decades to the promotion of a culture of peace. “It is my faith,” he said, “that the values of non-violence, tolerance and democracy which augment the flourishing of the culture of peace will generate the mindset that is a prerequisite for the transition from force to reason, from conflict and violence to dialogue and peace.”

Giving voice to the young generation, Maori Prince Whatumoana Paki from Kiingitanga, New Zealand, spoke on behalf of his father and reviewed the efforts of his people to retain the lands, customs and culture over the centuries and recent progress in mending relationships with the British crown. He spoke of their traditional values of advocacy, patience, courage, forgiveness and faith.

The Global Assembly sessions were moderated by Dr. Thomas Walsh and Dr. Tageldin Hamad, secretary general of UPF. They expressed special appreciation to the president of the UN General Assembly for sending his representative, Amb. Noel Sinclair, deputy chef de cabinet. “The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Dr. John Ashe, was delighted to receive an invitation to be present at this ceremony here today,” Amb. Sinclair reported. “He recognizes, and I recognize, that what you are doing today is the business of the United Nations. The United Nations was formed in the shadow of a war, with a determination that war should never be fought again. You may be far from New York, but what you are doing is part of the work of the United Nations, of the General Assembly, of this year’s president, and he wanted you to know this.”





## FOUNDER'S VISION

“We gather here united as ‘one family under God,’” Mrs. Sun Jin Moon, director general of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification International, said, inviting people to join her in carrying on her parents’ mission of promoting a “world of harmony, kinship, service, and faith, and to commit ourselves in service to all of God’s children around the globe.”

On behalf of her mother, she read the founder’s address, which emphasized the family, interreligious cooperation, good governance, international cooperation, a responsible mass media, the age of women, and practical ways to bring together people from around the globe. “I invite you all to take up this challenge of building a new world of universal peace,” the address concluded. “Let us all stand together as one and build one family under God.”

## THE RELEVANCE OF RELIGION FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

In keeping with the founders’ conviction that the foundation for lasting peace is in the human heart and that God is the ultimate source of peace, the summit opened with invocations by faith leaders, and the final panel discussion addressed the relevance of religion for peace and development.

Several speakers expressed the need for the insights and wisdom of faith in global affairs, facilitated by an interreligious council connected with the United Nations, as articulated in the founder’s address at the UN in 2000. Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr., former speaker of the Philippine House of Representatives and co-chairman of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties Standing Committee, spoke passionately and affirmatively of UPF’s efforts to establish an interreligious council within the UN system, sparking responses that cut across many of the Summit sessions.

“There can be no peace if we do not also bring peace among the religions,” according to Mr. Chung Tae Ik, chairman of the Korean Council on Foreign Relations. “Too many conflicts around the world are linked to interreligious strife, and not only strife between religions but strife between extremist groups within religions. That is why I believe the UN should adopt UPF’s proposal.”

UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser sent a statement to the conference supporting the need for interreligious and intercultural dialogue, and a statement by former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali expressed appreciation for civil society initiatives supporting the ongoing work of the UN.



# Africa Day Celebrated with the African Union

By UPF International

A gala celebration of Africa Day took place at the Manhattan Center in New York City on May 23, 2014, co-sponsored by the African Group and the African Union in partnership with the Universal Peace Federation and the United Nations African Ambassadors Spouses Group. The theme for this year's Africa Day was "Year of Agriculture and Food Security."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon graced the gala celebration and addressed the hundreds of distinguished guests, comprising UN Ambassadors and dignitaries, African Union officials, and other high-level officials of the diaspora. He commended African countries for their continuous progress, stating that: "Transformation, growth, dynamism, progress and partnership: these concepts are central to the African Union's narrative as it embarks on the second half of its first centennial."

H.E. Mr. Tête António, permanent observer of the Mission of the African Union to the United Nations, welcomed the audience, and H.E. Mr. Sidi

Mohamed Boubacar, permanent representative of Mauritania to the United Nations, delivered the message of the chair of the African Union. Last year's Africa Day celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity/African Union, and its "Agenda 2063," expresses the African Union's vision and aspirations for development during the next 50 years. Other speakers included Mr. Tageldin Ibrahim Hamad, secretary general of UPF, and H.E. Mr. Courtenay Rattray, permanent representative of Jamaica to the United Nations and chair of the Permanent Memorial Committee on Slavery.

Madam Afua Serwaah Kanda, president of the United Nations African Ambassadors Spouses Group and wife of the ambassador of Ghana to the United Nations, greeted the guests. The spouses group sponsored the evening's African culinary buffet of exquisite dishes representing the various regions of Africa, which guests enjoyed after the cake-cutting ceremony and photos.

The evening had elements of solemnity and historical importance as well as an exceptional



AFRICA DAY BANQUET IN NEW YORK



SENDAI, JAPAN

banquet of sumptuous dishes, vibrant entertainment and enthusiastic dancing to energetic African music. There were dynamic musical performances by DJ Nile Queen, Kongo Culture, Yacouba Sissoko, Salah, King Napoleon, Ruart Music Group and Razia Said.



LONDON, UK

## UPF CELEBRATES AFRICA DAY IN:

Melbourne,  
Australia  
Brisbane,  
Australia  
Sydney,  
Australia  
Bologna, Italy

Sendai, Japan  
Bienne,  
Switzerland  
Geneva,  
Switzerland  
London, UK  
New York, USA



NEW YORK, USA



SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

# Vatican's Academy of Sciences Consultation on Syria's Crisis

**U**PF's president Dr. Thomas G. Walsh, along with the secretary general of UPF-Argentina, Miguel Werner, were privileged to have been invited to attend a consultation convened on January 13, 2014 and organized by Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, on the theme "Syria: Can We Remain Indifferent?"

## THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS PREPARED FOR HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS:

The first and most urgent step, agreeable to all men and women of goodwill, should be an immediate cease-fire and end to violence of all kinds, an end without political preconditions. All internal combatants should put down their weapons; all foreign powers should take immediate steps to stop the flow of arms and arms funding that feed the escalation of violence and destruction. The immediate cessation of violence is in the interest of all. It is a humanitarian imperative, and represents the first step to reconciliation.

The end of fighting should be accompanied by the immediate start of humanitarian assistance and reconstruction. Millions of Syrian people have been

displaced. Countless numbers are refugees, being housed temporarily in camps in neighboring countries. The displaced populations are suffering from extreme and life-threatening deprivations of nutrition, safe water, sanitation, electricity, safe shelter, telecommunications, transport, and other basic human needs required by any well-functioning society. Let Syria embark, with the full plentitude of global financial and human support, on a path of rebuilding, one that can begin even before all political and social questions are resolved.

These, then, are preconditions for lasting peace: an immediate cessation of violence; the start of rebuilding; inter-communal dialogue; and progress to resolve all regional conflicts, and the participation of all regional and global actors in the pursuit of peace in Geneva 2. They provide a base of security and reconstruction upon which lasting peace can be built. New political forms in Syria are needed, to ensure representation, participation, reform, and the voice and security of all social groups. Political transformation is needed. It is not a precondition for ending violence; rather, it will accompany the cessation of violence and the rebuilding of trust.





PARTICIPANTS OUTSIDE THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES BUILDING IN THE VATICAN

As Pope Francis said at the Vigil of Prayer for Peace on September 7, 2013:

I once again ask the Lord that we Christians, and our brothers and sisters of other religions, and every man and woman of good will, cry out forcefully: violence and war are never the way to peace! Let everyone be moved to look into the depths of his or her conscience and listen to that word which says: Leave behind the self-interest that hardens your heart, overcome the indifference that makes your heart insensitive towards others, conquer your deadly reasoning, and open yourself to dialogue and reconciliation. Look upon your brother's sorrow and do not add to it, stay your hand, rebuild the harmony that has been shattered; and all this achieved not by conflict but by encounter!



JEAN-LOUIS PIERRE CARDINAL TAURAN



VATICAN CONSULTATION PARTICIPANTS

# UPF Conferences on Marriage & Family

By UPF International

UPF chapters organized a variety of events commemorating the UN International Day of Families, May 15, 2014. Since 2009, UPF has been promoting this UN observance because it considers the family as a microcosm of the global community and because sustainable peace is grounded in the family as the most intimate social unit, the school of love.

In Africa programs were organized in DR Congo, Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia; in the Americas in Argentina, Barbados, Ecuador, Peru and the US; in Asia and Oceania in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and New Zealand; and in Europe in Albania, Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Greece, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway and the UK.

“By providing economic and emotional sustenance to their members, families can raise productive, caring citizens committed to the common good,” UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in his statement about this year’s theme, “Families Matter for the Achievement of Development Goals.” He added that strong, well-functioning families can help “reduce poverty, improve the well-being of

mothers, promote gender equality and uphold human rights.”

On this 20th anniversary of the UN International Year of the Family, he encouraged member states to support families in realizing their full potential, factor their needs into development policies and consider their circumstances in addressing conflicts.

## FORUM AT THE UN IN NEW YORK DISCUSSES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PARENTS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

In commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the UN International Year of the Family and the UN Global Day of Parents, the Permanent Mission of Grenada and UPF organized a forum about “The Significance of Parents in Human and Societal Development” held June 17, 2014 at the UN headquarters in New York. This event was honored by the enthusiastic co-sponsorship of the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, El Salvador, Indonesia, Nigeria and Romania and greatly enhanced by the supportive partnership of the Women’s Federation for World Peace International.



FORUM ON “THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PARENTS IN HUMAN AND SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT,” UN HEADQUARTERS



“FAMILY VALUES AND THEIR LINK TO ECONOMIC WELL-BEING AND SOCIAL OUTCOMES” CONFERENCE AT THE UN IN GENEVA

## CONFERENCE AT THE UN IN GENEVA CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY

A conference on “Family Values and Their Link to Economic Well-being and Social Outcomes” took place at the Palais des Nations (UN headquarters) in Geneva June 30-July 1, 2014, marking the 20th anniversary of the UN International Year of the Family. Speakers included educators, researchers, government officials and activists from Austria, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Slovakia, Switzerland, the UK, and the US.

Conference organizers Heiner and Carolyn Handschin noted news of the June 25, 2014, adoption by the UN Human Rights Council of a resolution for the “Protection of the Family”.

This European Leadership Conference was organized by UPF-Europe and the Women’s Federation for World Peace-Europe in cooperation with the Federation of Catholic Family Associations of Europe and the Fondation L’entreconnaissance.

The conference aimed at showing the significance of Family Values as a remedy, as preventative and as a guideline for a healthy and prosperous Europe and world. The conference brought together experts from European nations and the United States in order to build capacities among allies in civil society and government, to work upon a proactive and convincing strategy and to regain momentum in reversing the current trends.

## CONFERENCE IN THE CZECH PARLIAMENT ON THE FAMILY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Following the successful conference on Family and Society on the 20th anniversary of the UN International Year of the Family which was organized together with the German UPF chapter in May 2014 in the Czech Parliament, the UPF-Czech Republic convened a European Leadership Conference in the House of Parliament in Prague Oct. 14, 2014. The topic was “The Family in the 21st Century.”

Speakers included educators, researchers, parliamentarians and activists from 10 countries: Austria, Netherlands, France, Germany, Slovakia, Switzerland, the UK, Czech Republic, Korea and the USA. The conference was under auspices of three members of the Czech Parliament: Hon. Nina Nováková, Hon. Radka Maxová and Hon. Jiří Mihola and in cooperation with the Women’s Federation for World Peace and the Civic Institute.



PARTICIPANTS AT A CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

# International Day of Peace

By UPF International

UPF chapters in 42 nations organized programs commemorating the UN International Day of Peace, September 21. The theme chosen by the UN for 2014 was “The Right of Peoples to Peace.”

“We must douse the fires of extremism and tackle the root causes of conflict,” said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in his message on the occasion, which was read at many UPF events. “Peace is a long road that we must travel together – step by step, beginning today.”

A number of forums drew on the wisdom of people of diverse faiths: in Israel, on genocide prevention; in the USA, on identifying common grounds for people of faith to work together; in Nigeria, on working together to address inter-religious strife; and in Norway, on insights into current affairs. Prayers for peace and symbolic expressions of interreligious harmony such as pouring water into a common bowl were part of programs in Benin, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, New Zealand, Switzerland and the USA. People in the Marshall Islands and Solomon Islands gathered to study peace messages and offer prayers for peace.

A forum in the National Congress of Peru offered insights into peace, and programs in France, Italy and San Marino introduced UPF’s regional peace initiatives. Seminars on peace took place in Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Estonia, Gabon, Malaysia and the Netherlands. UPF-Argentina’s sixth annual



CAMBODIA

International Poetry Contest for the International Day of Peace drew 343 entries from 25 nations on the theme “Roads and Bridges for Peace.”

The International Day of Peace was also an occasion to reach out to aid the less fortunate, such as orphans in Albania and students and the elderly in Nepal. In Sri Lanka, a house was built for a needy family.

Street fairs, festivals and peace walks brought the message of peace to the general public in Australia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, New Zealand, Nicaragua, and Russia. In Italy and Russia, UPF continued its tradition of annual sports competitions for youth that emphasize building character and new friendships. A bike ride for peace took place in Azerbaijan, and athletes ran from St. Petersburg, Russia through Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to promote dialogue among people of the Baltic nations.

In nations such as Cambodia, Indonesia and Nepal, presentations were given on character development, moral values and strengthening marriage and family. Programs were held at schools in Moldova, Thailand and Trinidad & Tobago.

The UN message for the day called on people around the world to “reflect on peace – and what it means for our human family. Let us hold it in our hearts and minds and tenderly nurture it so it may grow and blossom.”



MALAYSIA



JAPAN

## 42 UPF CHAPTERS CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

Albania	Germany	New Zealand
Argentina	Gabon	Nicaragua
Australia	Iceland	Nigeria
Azerbaijan	Indonesia	Norway
Bolivia	Israel	Peru
Cambodia	Italy	Russia
Canada	Japan	San Marino
Central African Rep.	Latvia	Solomon Isl.
Colombia	Lithuania	Sri Lanka
Costa Rica	Malaysia	Switzerland
DR Congo	Marshall Isl.	Taiwan
Ecuador	Moldova	Thailand
Estonia	Nepal	Trinidad & Tobago
France	Netherlands	USA



NEW ZEALAND



MOLDOVA

# From Conflict to Dialogue on the Korean Peninsula

By Dr. Vladimir Petrovskiy

An international conference on “Towards a Road Map for Peace and Development in Northeast Asia: From Conflict to Dialogue on the Korean Peninsula” took place on May 30, 2014 in Vladivostok. The event was attended by 100 experts from Russia, the US, South Korea, China and Japan who discussed issues of security and cooperation in Northeast Asia.

The dramatic division of Korea continues to be the focus of international attention and remains a subject of academic debate. Experts, public figures and statesmen call upon academics, politicians and the public in the region to focus their attention on creating a model of sustainable and progressive inter-Korean dialogue and make it irreversible, based on a system of transparency and mutual trust. Among the topics discussed were: denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, the role of external factors in the peace process on the Korean Peninsula, international programs to promote the socioeconomic development of



AMB. CHUNG TAE IK

the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), the DPRK involvement in regional economic and political cooperation, development of plans for sub-regional cooperation in the energy sector and promotion of cultural and humanitarian cooperation and human exchanges on the Korean Peninsula.

The conference was initiated by the Universal Peace Federation and the Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography of Peoples in the Far East, Far Eastern branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography is the only academic institution in Russia and in the world dedicated to the complex study of the past and present of the region through the prism of history, archeology, ethnography, culture, politics and economics, and to project on this basis the future of the Russian Far East and adjacent areas of China, Japan and Korea. The Universal Peace Federation, represents a global

alliance of organizations and people of good will committed to the cause of world peace.

Opening the first session of the conference, Chairman of the Legislative Assembly of Primorsky Krai Viktor Gorchakov urged participants to work for peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, which is the foundation of security and cooperation in Northeast Asia. Dr. Victor Larin, chairman of the Public Chamber of Primorye and director of the Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnography of the Peoples in the Far East, delivered the keynote address. He analyzed the situation after developments in the Crimea and its influence on creation of “a new security architecture” in Asia as well as the future of the Korean Peninsula.

Chung Tae Ik, chairman of the Korean Council for International Affairs and former Ambassador in Moscow, pointed out structural changes of international policy in Northeast Asia and in Korean diplomacy.

### NORTHEAST ASIA PACIFIC INITIATIVE

This conference took place in the framework of the Northeast Asia Peace Initiative and the series of conferences on peace and security in Northeast Asia held in Washington, Tokyo, Seoul and Moscow. The Northeast Asia Peace Initiative is based on the following principles. Dialogue is a tool for peace and development providing a basis for mutual respect, trust and cooperation. Despite existence of different points of view or disagreement between peoples and governments of the region, there are common values, common interests and common aspirations, which should be explored and supported. Local organizations, or NGOs, can play an invaluable role in addition to the work of governments through official diplomatic channels. Economic and trade cooperation is an important component of a comprehensive peace agenda. People-to-people diplomacy involving ordinary citizens, youth, women leaders, etc., promotes mutual understanding, cooperation and prosperity.

## MOLDOVA CONFERENCE



# Eurasia-Europe Dialogue

By UPF - Moldova

A conference entitled “Eurasia-Europe Dialogue for Peace” took place Dec. 5-7, 2014 in Chisinau, Moldova. Before an audience of 120 participants, in a major hotel of the Moldovan capital city, the conference was opened by the First Lady of Moldova Mrs. Margareta Timofti; she was followed by distinguished guest speakers from Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, Moldova, Netherlands, Russia and Ukraine.

This was the fourth in a series of Europe-Eurasia conferences initiated at the UPF founder’s request in 2011. The first conference was held in Moscow in April 2012 on the theme of multiculturalism and attended by high-level representatives from both regions. On that foundation, in October 2012, a large conference on partnership between Europe and Russia was held at the UN headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

In December 2013, with the co-sponsorship of the Permanent Mission of Tajikistan to the European Union and UNESCO and several NGOs, a third conference was held in Paris. At that time the Ukraine crisis had just begun. Although the first president of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk had to cancel his participation due to the Maidan revolution, the first lady of Moldova attended the conference along with prominent participants from Azerbaijan, the Baltic nations, Moldova, Russia and Tajikistan as well as western Europe.

The Ukraine crisis underlined the importance and relevance of the UPF series of Europe-Eurasia dialogue meetings. As the conflict over Ukraine territory worsened and a dangerous stagnation developed in the Donetsk region, the UPF-Eurasia

headquarters proposed that a fourth conference be held in Moldova to address the crisis and discuss a process of reconciliation.

Moldova, just like Ukraine, stands at the center of the power struggle between Russia and Europe. When the Soviet Union dissolved, a part of Moldovan territory, Transnistria, broke away and remains under Russian influence. The political situation in Moldova has been tense ever since, with opposing pro-Russia and pro-Europe factions competing for power. The recent parliamentary elections on November 30 confirmed the current pro-Europe majority, but by a slight margin.

In these circumstances, the fourth UPF conference on “Europe-Eurasia dialogue” was both a source of expectation and concern: would the conference be able to avoid an open confrontation between Russian, Ukrainian and Moldovan participants? UPF-Eurasia invited prominent Ambassadors for Peace from these three nations; they came with a mindset of dialogue, and although everyone expressed frankly their positions, debates were handled serenely.



MRS. MARGARETA TIMOFTI



# UPF Nigeria Takes Steps toward Unification

By Dr. Raphael Oko

To commemorate the first anniversary of the formal launch of the campaign for national unification, UPF-Nigeria convened the National Unification Summit on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at the National Merit Award House in the Maitama District of Nigeria's capital, Abuja. Leading Nigerians formulated goals and action plans in the next step toward national unification.

Participants discussed the opportunities and challenges facing the campaign and developed strategies to move forward. The summit ended with the formulation of national unification goals of promoting religious harmony, regional integration and resource development and utilization. It also provided opportunities for Ambassadors for Peace and other stakeholders to make a stronger commitment to strengthening marriages and families in Nigeria as tools for national unification.

The theme of the summit was "From Amalgamation to Unification: Strengthening Marriages and Building Unified Families for National Peace and Unification." The summit also commemorated the 23rd anniversary of moving the federal capital of Nigeria from Lagos to Abuja.

The summit discussed the process for realizing national unification by 2020. All Nigerian



Ambassadors for Peace were called upon to contribute their wisdom and resources to the goal of Nigeria becoming a peacefully unified nation by the year 2020.

The summit included the induction of Ambassadors for Peace for National Unification and the establishment of Ambassadors for Peace National Unification Committees to realize each of the three above-mentioned National Unification Goals. The committees will develop National Unification Programs and Projects to achieve the goals of national unification.

The Ambassadors for Peace endorsed the following core activities which should be implemented to achieve national unification:

- Convening of periodic National Unification Summits
- Endorsement of the National Unification Declaration
- Formulation of National Unification Goals: Religious Harmony; Regional Integration; Resources Development





WASHINGTON D.C., USA



TOKYO, JAPAN

# Peace and Security Forums

UPF acknowledges the need for careful and proportionate use of power, including political, economic, military and civil society power to sustain lasting peace. However, we strongly emphasize “soft power” solutions as essential to peacebuilding. A leading exponent of “track two” diplomacy, UPF emphasizes the role and responsibility of religious and spiritual leaders to transcend historical self-interest and pursue the ideal of “One family under God.”

## WASHINGTON DC FORUM

- JAN. 15 Women’s Role in Syria’s Transition and Reconciliation
- FEB. 19 India as a Facilitator for Stability and Confidence Builder
- MAR. 26 The Role of China as a Partner for Economic and Political Stability in Asia and the World
- APR. 30 The Coming Arctic Boom and Polar Foreign Policy
- MAY 28 Russia as a US Partner for Peace and Stability in the World
- JUN. 25 The Corruption Factor in the Destabilization and Violence of African Societies
- AUG. 27 The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria: Return of the Caliphate?
- MAR. 13 The BRICS as a Counterbalance to the U.S.-Europe-led International Geopolitical and Financial System
- NOV. 19 Understanding the Global Threat of Ebola
- DEC. 17 A Score Card: The First Three Years of Kim Jong Un’s Rule

## JERUSALEM FORUM

- FEB. 26 Egypt toward New Leadership
- APR. 13 Israel’s Plan B for Solving the Israeli-Palestinian Crisis
- JUN. 8 Israel’s Security Budget - Long-term Planning
- SEP. 9 Universal Lessons of the Holocaust: No More Genocide
- NOV. 20 Israeli-U.S. Relations
- DEC. 10 Security Council Recognition of a Palestinian State: Implications for the State of Israel
- DEC. 18 Sinai Peninsula: A Regional Terror Threat or Land of New Opportunities?
- DEC. 25 Redeployment of Israel’s Northern Border: The Civil War in Syria

## TOKYO FORUM

- FEB. 21 Towards Peace in the Middle East Through Harmonizing and Cooperation among Religions
- MAR. 6 Sport and Diplomacy: Towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- APR. 3-5 Peacemaking Processes in Europe: Proposals for East Asia
- JUL. 2 North Korea’s Nuclear and Missile Developments and their Impact on the World
- OCT. 11 Learning from Gandhi, the Practical Idealist
- NOV. 18 Japan-Europe Leadership Forum held in 3 Japanese cities
- NOV. 26 International Peace Cooperation and Human Resource Development



JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

## Building Trust through Interreligious Dialogue

By UPF International

UPF sponsored a side event on the theme of “Building Trust through Interreligious Dialogue” at the UN Alliance of Civilizations’ Sixth Global Forum in Bali, Indonesia, August 29-30, 2014.



IMAM FEISAL ABDUL RAUF

“The Alliance of Civilizations was created to reach the hearts and minds of people and build bridges to peace,” said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in his address to the forum. “All major faiths value peace and tolerance.”

Under the theme “Unity in Diversity: Celebrating Diversity for Common and Shared Values,” the forum highlighted strategic and practical measures that can promote common values and a shared sense of responsibility. Breakout sessions explored interreligious and cross-cultural dialogue; the role of women; the power of sports, art, music and entertainment; youth; and the media.

Speakers at the UPF side event included Acharya Shrivatsa Gosvami, Shri Radha Raman Temple, Vrindavan, India; Ven. Hemaloka of Buddhist Maha Vihara Brickfields, Malaysia; Fr. Eliseo Mercado, convener of the National Peace Council, Philippines; and Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, founder of the Cordoba Initiative, US.

Drawing on extensive personal experience, they described how to dialogue and exchange views and insights in ways that build trust and promote cooperation among people of different faiths.



H.E. MR. AL-NASSER

The host nation, Indonesia, is home to more than 490 different ethnic groups, speaking different languages, following different traditions and professing different religions. “The Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Sinic and Western civilizations have merged with local cultures to become part of our rich heritage as a nation,” stated Indonesia’s President H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in his keynote address. Indonesia’s diversity is celebrated in the national motto, *Bhinneka Tunggal Ika* (“Unity in Diversity”), which was also the conference theme.

“I believe that God created us free to live, and that we can truly invest the love and compassion implanted in us to develop civilized relations between different civilizations,” stated H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, UN high representative for the Alliance of Civilizations.



MRS. MCLACKLAND, DR. HAMAD, DR. WALSH, FR. MERCADO, VEN. HEMALOKA, IMAM RAUF, AND SHRIVATSA GOSVAMI



DR. WALSH, DR. B.K. MODI, H.E. MR. NASSIR AL-NASSER, DR. HAMAD



FORUM HELD AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK

## FORUM AT THE UN ON GLOBALIZATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A significant event on “Globalization and Sustainable Development: The Role of Government, NGOs and Private Sector” was convened on Oct. 31, 2014 at the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium at the United Nations in New York. The program was sponsored by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and organized by the Global Citizen Forum and UPF. The program represented a collaboration among intergovernmental bodies (UN Alliance of Civilizations and the International Organization for Migration), an NGO (UPF), and the private sector (Global Citizen Forum).

Speakers explored the ways in which government, NGOs and the private sector can cooperate productively toward the achievement of sustainable development in the context of globalization. Special emphasis was given to consideration of the ways in which the private sector and civil society can support the mission of the United Nations and the post-2015 sustainable development goals.

It is evident that the challenges posed by globalization and sustainable development are so far-reaching and complex that the best efforts of governments, international organizations, NGOs, the private sector and other stakeholders are required, recognizing that each has a distinctive but complementary responsibility and role to play.

### TOPICS OF GREAT CONTROVERSY

Globalization and sustainable development are topics of great controversy. Globalization is the process of international integration arising from the interchange of world views, products, ideas and other aspects of culture. Sustainable development aims at integrating economic, environmental and social objectives to seek a more balanced pathway to development. It has been described as “development that meets the

needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” In August 2014, a UN working group submitted to the UN General Assembly a list of 17 proposed Sustainable Development Goals to take the place of the Millennium Development Goals, whose term was from 2000 to 2015. The debate about defining sustainable development goals continues at the UN.

### COMMON RESPONSIBILITY

The involvement of NGOs and private sector in wise, innovative and efficient partnerships with governments and the United Nations can help make our global village sustainable, which is our common responsibility.

Moderated by Ambassador Tariq Al-Ansari, the program’s keynote speakers included H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, high representative for the UN Alliance of Civilizations; Dr. B.K. Modi, founder-president of the Global Citizen Forum; Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of the Universal Peace Federation; and Ambassador Michele Klein-Solomon, permanent observer of the UN International Organization for Migration.

Speakers for the panel on “Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and the Role of Governments, NGOs and Private Sector” were Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, former under-secretary-general and high representative of the United Nations; Ambassador Noel Sinclair, former deputy chef de cabinet for the president of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly; Dr. Tageldin Hamad, secretary general of the World Association of NGOs; and Ms. Isha Judd, founder of Isha Educating for Peace.

Finally, the session on “Business, Technology and the Social Sector: Harbingers of a New Civilization” featured Mr. Kelly Wright, anchor for Fox News; Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, president of the Divine Shakti Foundation; Dr. Manohar Shinde, president of the Dharma Civilization Foundation; and Mr. Brad Jenkins, Rotary International.

# RYS Programs in 2014



*UPF chapters organize Religious Youth Service projects that offer service-learning opportunities with a special focus on developing personal leadership and peacemaking skills. Through living together and providing altruistic service in a community, participants demonstrate that it is possible for our global human family to come together in peace for our mutual well being.*



**ZUGDIDI, GEORGIA - JUL. 13-20**  
Visiting places of worship of different religions



**CHISINAU, MOLDOVA - AUG. 3-6**  
Cooperate and trust for peace and development



**WASHINGTON D.C., USA - JUL. 21-25**  
Developing personal leadership and peacemaking skills



**COMAYAGUA, HONDURAS - JAN. 7-17**  
Building a security wall around a school



**KAPUGAL, SRI LANKA - DEC. 6-12**  
Restoration a hospital



**QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES - MAY 29-31**  
Promoting community development

# Indonesia University Hosts International Youth Convention

By UPF - Indonesia

In the early morning of Oct. 8, 2014, about 3,000 students lined up to enter the main auditorium of the University of North Sumatra for the International Youth Convention on the theme “Young People of Character - The Hope of the Future.” UPF-Indonesia and the University of North Sumatra co-hosted the event in partnership with several other institutions of higher learning, especially the State University of Medan.

After rousing Opening Remarks by Dr. Raja Bonsu Hutagalung, vice rector of the University of North Sumatra, Dr. Robert Kittel, education director of UPF-Asia, asked all the youth present to remain pure until marriage as the foundation for a happy married life in the future. The students responded emphatically, making a pledge of purity guided by Ms. Elvi and Mr. Giscard. Dr. Chung Sik Yong, chairman of UPF-Asia, introduced UPF’s core principles of peace based on the motto of ‘Living for the Sake of Others’ established by its founders, Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon. The audience responded well to his explanation that giving precedes receiving in order to establish relationships of true love. Mrs. Ursula McLackland, secretary general of UPF-Asia, expanded on this concept in her presentation on “Raising Public-minded Leaders,” asking the young people to become model leaders by putting the public interest above private matters. The Vice Governor of North Sumatra, Ir. H. Tengku Erry Nuradi, who had rushed from a



previous engagement in order to learn about UPF, acknowledged the value of UPF’s principles of peace in his address.

Mr. Hajime Saito, secretary general of UPF-Indochina and instructor in three different martial arts, explained the value of practicing martial arts for the sake of character building. Afterwards, students of unified martial arts (Tongil Moodo), aikido, Brazilian jiu-jitsu and merah putih (Pencak Silat, an indigenous Indonesian martial art form) gave demonstrations that amazed the audience.

The program concluded with the presentation of 20 Ambassador for Peace certificates to faculty members of partnering institutions and another 20 Collegiate Ambassador for Peace certificates to outstanding students from Indonesia and other nations.



# International Leadership Conference Held in Uruguay

By Miguel Werner, Secretary General, UPF-Argentina

**T**owards a New Paradigm of Peace and Human Development in Latin America was the title of an International Leadership Conference in Montevideo April 21-23, 2014. It was an effort of UPF to find ways to confront the challenges of peaceful coexistence in a region of this globalized world where various crises that seem to revive old disputes are flourishing.

Some 90 delegates from 16 nations, including Ambassadors for Peace from the Americas and a group of journalists, from Korea attended the sessions. The audience grew to 200 participants when Mrs. Selina Sun Jin Moon read the message of her mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, co-founder of UPF, during the most intense day of the conference.



SRA. GRACIELA ROMPANI DE PACHECO

The meeting, which took place at the Radisson Montevideo Victoria Plaza Hotel, sought to strengthen bonds and promote North-South cooperation. It featured contributions by outstanding specialists and dignitaries, including brilliant discourses by two former presidents of Uruguay, Dr. Julio Maria Sanguinetti and Dr. Luis Alberto Lacalle, who is currently a senator.

## “A CALL TO ACTION”

“On this great continent, and throughout this hemisphere, all people aspire to live in freedom and in harmony with one another as brothers and sisters, and in harmony with nature. This ideal has been God’s very own cherished hope and the desire of humankind throughout the ages. I believe that at this time in history we are faced with an urgent challenge to make this ideal a living reality,” Mrs. Selina Sun Jin Moon said at the beginning of the message which her mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, sent to the ILC.

*Translated by Joy Pople*



# Forum in Paris on Human Rights, Responsibilities for Peace

By UPF-France

Commemorating Human Rights Day, UPF-France held a meeting on “Human Rights, Responsibilities for Peace: The Role of Civil Society in Peacebuilding.”

The audience of about 80 participants who met on December 13, 2014, in Paris included Ambassadors for Peace and new guests.

After an opening address introducing 2014 activities of UPF in Europe and France, the first session on “Rights to Peace, Education for Peace” began with Professor Edmond Jouve, a renowned constitutional law scholar, who outlined the progress of human rights and argued that human rights gradually will take precedence in international law. He was followed by Dr. Jean-Luc Berlet, a professor of philosophy, who gave a stimulating talk on the role of love and its development through the “three blessings.”

The second session, on “Human Rights and Spirituality,” began with Venerable Michel Thao Chan, founder of the peace organization Cercle de Réflexion des Nations, who explained how human rights could be gradually internalized to become a way of looking at and transforming the world. Then Mr. Mohammed Haouat, president of the UNESCO-affiliated association ASILEC, gave a report on Islam’s view of human rights, emphasizing how the image of Islam has been distorted by current events.

UPF-France President Jacques Marion presented the UPF view on the meaning and importance of interreligious dialogue. He explained how the family is meant to play a



major role as a training ground for harmonizing human rights and duties.

In the last session, on “Youth and Peace,” Alexandre Huard of Youth UPF reported on Religious Youth Service (RYS) programs around the world. Then three leaders of Coexister, a well-known youth interreligious organization in France, spoke about their vision and activities. During an interfaith tour around the world, they said, they had the opportunity to meet UPF leaders in New York and to discuss future joint projects.

The program ended with a ceremony awarding four new Ambassadors for Peace, including M. Jean Marie Rouaut, a French walking race champion and supporter of “sports for peace” activities.



NEWLY-APPOINTED AMBASSADORS FOR PEACE

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FORTHCOMING

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UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION *Seoul*  
**WORLD SUMMIT 2015**  
SUNHAK PEACE PRIZE



[worldsummit2015.org](http://worldsummit2015.org)

**Seoul, Korea**

**August 27-31, 2015**

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UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

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