



The Universal Peace Federation

A Vision for Universal Peace



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The Universal Peace Federation (UPF)

Since its founding in 2005, the Universal Peace Federation has brought people together across boundaries of nation, culture, and religion in the pursuit of universal peace. UPF's work responds to the isolation, division and suffering caused by conflict at every level, from the individual and the family to the nation and the world. Through UPF's global network, seeds of hope and healing are carried into practical action across the world; by working together, we multiply the good that peace initiatives can achieve.

Holding General Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), UPF supports the work of the United Nations and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. UPF is also committed to strengthening the United Nations as an effective instrument for world peace.

UPF affirms that humanity is “one family under God” and that our highest achievements are rooted in spiritual and moral growth. Peace begins within the individual and the family, where parental love enables the home to become a "school of love and peace".



Peace expands through dialogue and cooperation, and is sustained through service, reconciliation, and forgiveness. Because conflict is most effectively addressed before it takes root, UPF places special emphasis on prevention within families, communities, and nations.

UPF's unique combination of spiritual vision and practical action reflects the conviction that cooperative, consistent, and concerted peace efforts can bring the world significantly closer to universal peace in our time. This hopeful vision is rooted in the life and teachings of UPF's founders, Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han.

“ One Family under God”



The Founders of UPF



Dr. Sun Myung Moon (1920 – 2012)

A Peace-Loving Global Citizen

From his youth until his passing in 2012, Dr. Sun Myung Moon dedicated his life to the pursuit of peace amid the upheavals of the modern world. Guided by a profound sense of purpose, he led an international peace movement that has inspired countless people across cultures, nations and religions. His life and vision are movingly presented in his autobiography, *As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen*.

Dr. Hak Ja Han (1943 -)

The Mother of Peace

Building on the work undertaken by the founders together, Dr. Hak Ja Han has continued to provide leadership to UPF, emphasizing the transformative power of compassion, reconciliation, and parental love in the family, society, and wider world. She has highlighted the indispensable contribution of women's leadership to building a culture of peace. Her message of peace and her life story are beautifully conveyed in her memoir, *Mother of Peace*.

Together, Dr. Moon and Dr. Han have shaped the guiding ethos of UPF through their example of selfless service and the principle of living for the sake of others, which continues to inspire UPF's peacebuilding activities around the world.

Core Vision and Principles

UPF's founders have taught that **“true love is the fundamental philosophy of the Universal Peace Federation”** and that lasting peace must be **“based on the principles of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values rooted in true love.”** Accordingly, UPF's work is dedicated to cultivating a culture of heart through the practice of true love—living for the sake of others— expressed through these three principles in every sphere of human endeavor.



Interdependence

is the recognition that individuals, communities, nations, and the natural world are woven into a single network of mutual relationships, in which each depends on the others for existence and growth. Economies, ecosystems, technologies, and security are deeply interconnected. Living this principle calls for cooperation beyond narrow self-interest and for economic and social arrangements that balance individual initiative, responsible ownership guided by conscience, and the common good. It points us towards wider access to, and more equitable sharing of resources, knowledge, and opportunity, together with responsibility for their ethical and sustainable use.



Mutual prosperity

seeks to improve political and social institutions so that all people can participate fully in good governance. It begins by recognizing the inherent worth and dignity of every human being and offers an alternative to the zero-sum struggle for power often found in existing political systems. Rooted in the spirit of one

human family, mutual prosperity calls for accountability, shared responsibility, and broad participation in public life. Because political institutions ultimately rest upon relationships among persons and families, governance should become increasingly inclusive, ethical, and responsive to the common good.



Universal values

provide the ethical and spiritual foundation for both interdependence and mutual prosperity. They encompass the dignity of every person, personal responsibility, cooperation, and the commitment to live for the sake of others – qualities that reflect our common humanity while honoring the uniqueness of every individual. Universal values point to conscience as the inner compass that guides discernment of what is true and good, fostering a culture of peace and respect for human dignity. Human beings are endowed with basic rights and freedoms, which are protected through law and effective institutions, and sustained by the shared recognition that humanity is one family.

Mutuality is at the heart of all three principles. The spirit of mutuality, rooted in heart and harmony with universal principles, enables us to address the great challenges of our time and bequeath a more peaceful and sustainable world to future generations.

Together, interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values form an integrated vision of society, rooted in true love, cooperation, justice, and sustainable development. This resonant vision is advanced throughout the world by a global network of leaders dedicated to living for the sake of others as UPF Ambassadors for Peace.

UPF Ambassadors for Peace

Launched in 2001, the Ambassadors for Peace initiative has grown into a broad international network of peace leaders, men and women from many nations, faith traditions, cultures, and walks of life. UPF Ambassadors for Peace contribute to conflict transformation, reconciliation, and the building of a culture of peace grounded in universal spiritual and moral values.



UPF Ambassadors for Peace promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, strengthen marriage and the family as the foundation of a healthy society, advance ethical leadership, and build trust among peoples for the sake of future generations. Serving in government, civil society, religion, education, business, the arts, sports, and the media, they deepen awareness of our interdependence and help foster a more harmonious, resilient, and flourishing global society.

Ambassadors for Peace pledge to uphold universal spiritual and ethical principles, build bridges of understanding among people of different religions, nations, and cultures, and strengthen the solidarity and dignity of the human family. Through their own fields of service, they seek to embody the UPF ideal of living for the sake of others.

Ambassadors for Peace serve in countries throughout the world and come from diverse religious, cultural, and professional backgrounds. Inspired by the ideals of true loving parents, true ethical teachers, and true public-minded leaders—who nurture with care, guide with wisdom, and serve the common good—Ambassadors for Peace embody UPF’s vision of leadership and provide a vital foundation for UPF’s work throughout the world.



Washington, D.C., 2026 – Danyi Ma is appointed an Ambassador for Peace in recognition of her work in international arts and cross-cultural exchange.



Albania, 2025 – Seminar for Parents on Principles of Peace
Some Ambassadors for Peace attended



Sri Lanka, 2024 – UPF provides food aid to families affected by flooding.



Peace Summit 2023 – The session concluded with the appointment of Ambassadors for Peace.



Nigeria, 2020 – Ambassadors for Peace provide face masks and handwashing facilities as part of a COVID-19 intervention project.



Pakistan, 2010 – UPF-Japan volunteers deliver food and mattresses to families affected by flooding.

UPF Primary Associations



ISCP

The International Summit Council for Peace

brings together current and former heads of state and government to advance peace, good governance, and international cooperation through principled leadership and dialogue.



IAFLP

The International Association of First Ladies for Peace

unites current and former First Ladies and women leaders to promote compassionate leadership, strong families, women's empowerment, and a culture of peace.



IAPP

The International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace

engages parliamentarians in strengthening democratic governance, human rights, and international cooperation for peace and development.



IAPD

The Interreligious Association for Peace and Development

brings together religious leaders and faith communities to foster interfaith cooperation, mutual understanding, and the spiritual and moral foundations of peace.

UPF Primary Associations



IMAP
The International Media
Association for Peace

engages media professionals in promoting responsible journalism, ethical communication, and the media's role in advancing truth, dialogue, and peace.



IAED
The International Association
for Peace and Economic
Development

promotes ethical entrepreneurship and economic cooperation as essential foundations for sustainable peace and shared prosperity.



IAAP
The International Association
of Academicians for Peace

brings together scholars and educators to provide intellectual leadership for peace through research, dialogue, and ethical principles.



IAACP
The International Association
of Arts and Culture for Peace

unites artists and cultural leaders to advance peace by inspiring hope, mutual understanding, and our shared human identity through the arts.

UPF's primary associations, which are UPF projects, extend its peacebuilding work into major areas of public and professional life.

Historical Background

Long before the formal inauguration of the Universal Peace Federation in 2005, its founders, Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han, had been laying the foundations of an international peace movement. The end of the Cold War opened new possibilities for international dialogue and peacebuilding across many regions.



In April 1990, during a period of major change in the Soviet Union and international relations, Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han convened the World Media Conference in Moscow and met with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Dr. Moon presented his vision for reform, peace, and international cooperation. The meeting was followed by educational exchanges, including programs that brought Russian students to study in the United States.



In December 1991, the founders traveled to Pyongyang to meet Chairman Kim Il Sung and encourage dialogue between North and South Korea toward a peaceful future.



During the same period, as religious tensions affected many parts of the world, the founders expanded interreligious dialogue in the Middle East and elsewhere. They brought Muslim, Jewish, Christian, and other religious leaders together through seminars and conferences. These and other interreligious activities contributed to the establishment in 1999 of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, the direct predecessor of UPF.

Historical Background



In 2000, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, Dr. Moon presented his vision of peace through cooperation between religious and political leaders and proposed the establishment of an Interreligious Council within the United Nations.



In September 2005, UPF was inaugurated in New York as the culmination of the founders' lifelong work for peace. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han personally carried UPF's founding message on a world speaking tour that reached 100 cities in 100 days.



In 2006, Dr. Han undertook two further world tours for peace, accompanied by their adult children and grandchildren, addressing audiences in 120 countries.



After Dr. Moon's passing in 2012, Dr. Han has continued to guide the development of UPF and the expansion of its international and multi-sector work, including the UPF Associations.

Major Fields of Activity

Interfaith Peacebuilding: UPF promotes dialogue and cooperation among religious leaders and communities, encouraging people of all faiths to identify the universal values within their scriptures and traditions that can benefit all humanity. Through conferences, interfaith councils, pilgrimages, and joint service projects, UPF fosters mutual understanding, reconciliation, and a shared commitment to the common good.



Peace and Security: UPF supports conflict prevention, reconciliation, and regional cooperation by convening current and former public leaders, parliamentarians, religious leaders, scholars, and civil society representatives. Through Track II dialogue and diplomacy, UPF helps participants identify practical areas of common interest and cooperation, and encourages leaders to pursue the ideal of “one human family”.

Marriage and Family: Marriage, parenting, and the family are the foundations of sustainable human development and the building blocks of society. UPF’s educational programs highlight the personal and social benefits of marriage and promote a culture that values and strengthens family life.



Education and Character Development: UPF promotes education that integrates intellectual growth with moral and spiritual development. Recognizing that lasting peace begins with the individual, and must be nurtured in each generation, UPF’s educational programs emphasize character, integrity, responsibility, compassion, and the cultivation of a heart that lives for the sake of others, preparing future generations for ethical leadership.

United Nations Relations: Holding General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, UPF contributes to relevant United Nations processes and supports the Sustainable Development Goals. Through international conferences and policy dialogue, UPF brings civil society perspectives to discussions of global governance and international cooperation.



Flagship Projects

The Northeast Asia Peace Initiative promotes dialogue, reconciliation, and regional cooperation, with particular attention to peace on the Korean Peninsula. It draws inspiration from the founders' 1991 meeting with Chairman Kim Il Sung and supports Track II and other non-governmental dialogue among stakeholders in the region.



The Middle East Peace Initiative launched in 2003, has brought together thousands of Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and other religious leaders for Heart-to-Heart seminars and peace marches to holy sites in Israel and the Palestinian territories, sustaining an international effort for interreligious understanding, reconciliation, and peace in the Middle East.

The International Highway Project and Peace Road

Like the Roman roads that carried the Pax Romana and the Silk Road that connected continents through trade, culture, and religion, UPF's founders offer a peace vision for the third millennium: an international highway network connecting peoples across the globe. The vision includes proposed undersea links between Japan and Korea and across the Bering Strait between Russia and the United States.

The annual **Peace Road project** promotes this vision through international bicycle rallies and peace marches that foster friendship, environmental stewardship and global solidarity.



Proposal for an Interreligious Council at the United Nations

UPF has consistently advocated for an Interreligious Council within the United Nations structure, conceived as a moral counterpart to the General Assembly. Composed of spiritual leaders respected for their wisdom and public service, it could serve as a voice of conscience within the United Nations, drawing attention to the human consequences of international decisions and contributing to conflict resolution.

The Sunhak Peace Prize Initiated by Dr. Hak Ja Han in 2013, the Sunhak Peace Prize is an international award recognizing individuals and organizations whose work contributes to peace and human well-being for future generations. It highlights leadership in fields such as sustainable human development, conflict resolution, and ecological conservation.





**The Universal
Peace Federation**

“Building Peace Together as One Family Under God”

UPF looks toward a future in which differences need not become divisions and the strength of one community can contribute to the well-being of all. That future is shaped wherever people choose dialogue over hostility, service over indifference, and cooperation over conflict or isolation.

UPF continues its work worldwide in the conviction that universal peace can be brought closer for all of us when people and institutions act together for the good of the whole human family.



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www.upf.org



866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 529, NY 10017, USA



+1 212 588-1802



info@upf.org