WFWP USA: Unified Korea webinar - Rising Above Challenges - Preview of topics

Angelika Selle November 4, 2021

Global Women's Peace Network Women's Leadership in Reconciliation & Peacemaking

"A Unified Korea: Rising Above Challenges"



Ryu Youn Kwon

President of KuenSaem
After-School Class



Teson Chon
Third generation North
Korean in Japan. Choson
school graduate.



Koji lida Representative Director, Uri Hana. Boxing coach, Choson University.



Dr. Beatrice Bischof
Foreign Affairs
Association, Munich,
Germany



Welcoming Remarks
Dr. Julia H. Moon
President of Women's
Federation for World Peace,
International



Angelika Selle
President of Women's
Federation for World
Peace, USA



Margie Moon President of WFWP, West Central & Mid-eastern Region of Korea



Moriko Hori President of Women's Federation for World Peace, Japan

November 8, 2021, 7:30 PM EST

tinyurl.com/RisingAboveChallenges



A Global Women's Peace Network international forum presented by Women's Federation for World Peace Korea, Japan, and United States

Dear Peacemakers,

On behalf of the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) USA, it is our great pleasure to invite you to the **second international Global Women's Peace Network forum**, which we are hosting alongside our WFWP counterparts in Korea and Japan.

This of "A Unified virtual will address topic program the Korea: Rising Above Challenges," which is part of the Women's Leadership in Reconciliation and Peacemaking series. During the initial collaborative GWPN forum, we heard from panelists of North Korean descent, in an effort to better understand their unique needs and what might help bridge the gap on the Korean Peninsula. With this in mind, we will now be exploring what it takes to overcome the challenges leading up to a Korean reunification in substance, and possible obstacles to prepare for afterward.

This program will be a platform to further unification efforts, through spreading awareness, listening to personal stories and experiences, and to discuss practical pointers to make reunification possible. If you have yet to register for this significant program, now is the time to do so!

We look forward to joining together as an international community on Monday, November 8th, 2021, from 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM EST. The principal language will be in Korean, with interpretation available in English and Japanese.

- Women's Federation for World Peace USA

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Preview the Speaker's Topics:

Our first panelist, Ryu Youn Kwon, is the President of the KuenSaem After-School Class.

During her presentation, Ms. Kwon will recount her heart-wrenching family story, experiencing economic hardship and political punishments living in North Korea. Having fled to China in 1997, and eventually arriving in South Korea in 2001, she was pained by the bullying her children experienced as defectors in South Korea. Ms. Kwon will be sharing her story overcoming these challenges, and how it fueled her desire to serve North Korean refugees, and to be a force for unification.

Koji lida is the Representative Director of the NPO Uri Hana, and a boxing coach of Choson University.

After learning about the Japanese colonial rule during a trip to Korea, Mr. lida was deeply pained by his Japanese history of domination. Since that time, he has devoted his life to the issues of reconciliation through his professional boxing, adoption into a Korean family, and NPO work to build bridges between Japanese and Korean people. He will share about his trials and life experiences, and encourage those involved in the Korean War to do their part to resolve the separations that remain to this day.

Teson Chon is a graduate of a Choson school and is a third generation North Korean living in Japan.

He will present about the origin of Choson schools, established by those who fled from Korea during the Japanese occupation before the division, and the unique identity of their descendants who seek their ancestors' unified homeland.

The final panelist, **Dr. rer. pol. Beatrice Bischof**, is a member of the managing board of the Foreign Affairs Association in Munich. She attended to the Ludwig-Maximilians-University at Munich. Then she completed her studies focused on political sciences, constitutional law and literature sciences and graduated as Dr. rer. pol. with the additional focus on economic and social history. Until 1996 she was member of the managing board of the company of her family. Then she finished an education as TV journalist at the Kirch Media Group. Since that time she has been working as a TV journalist, political scientist, consultant and author.

Dr. Bischof will share about the challenges and supporting factors involved in the reunification of East and West Germany, as an example of what to expect and prepare for on the Korean Peninsula. She will describe the importance of nation-building to bring two diverse systems into one, the supportive events and individuals that helped grow a unified national identity, the economic and political challenges after unification, and the anchoring involvement of the wider European region. In addition, Dr. Bischof will share possible activities to develop personal bonds across the Korean Peninsula.

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