

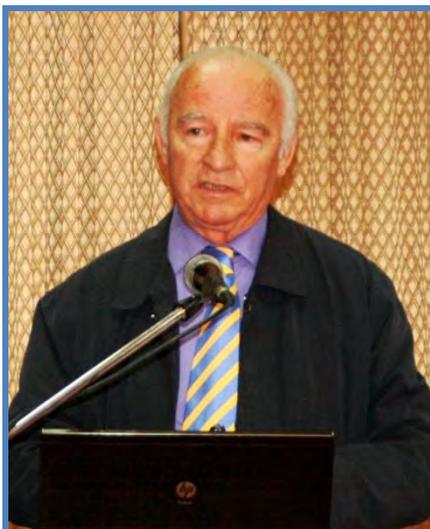
Report on Ambassadors for Peace Assembly in Durrës Local Peace Council, 26th of October 2013

The Assemblies of Ambassadors for Peace have been going on last weekend, on October 26th and 27th in Durrës, Vlora and Fier city.

Last Saturday, on October 26th around 35 Ambassadors for Peace gathered at the Culture Palace of the Durrës city to analyze the work of the Local Peace Council since it was established one and a half year ago on May 26th 2012. Durrës regional Local Peace Council has around 45 Ambassadors for Peace and includes 2 other small cities close to Durrës.



The event started at 11.00 and it was moderated by Av. Flutura Kona – deputy chairman of Durrës Peace Council and former State Lawyer. The delegates from the Presiding Council of UPF were Mr. Bajram Ibraj – Chairman of the Presiding Council of UPF Albania, Prof. Flamur Shehu – Deputy Chairman of the Presiding Council and Mr. Z. Gani Rroshi – Member of Presiding Council of UPF.



Prof. Flamur Shehu, on behalf of the Presiding Council of UPF greeted the Ambassadors for Peace present at the event and congratulated the Local Peace Council for all the activities they did on local level and their participation on national level activities during the past one and half year. Prof. Shehu recommended the Peace Council to focus its work of preserving and promoting family values as the cornerstone of the society. He cited Father Moon's words *'God cannot even punish his enemy, because he thinks of his relatives who love him. Therefore he teaches us to love our enemies.* I wish you great success in your mission as Peace Ambassadors and as a newly established Peace Council'.



Afterwards the moderator invited Mr. Flamur Hidri – the Chairman of Durrës Peace Council. Mr. Hidri made a detailed analyzes of the work done by the Peace Council during the past one and a half year and presented all the local and national activities where Durrës Ambassadors for Peace have been attending and contributing. Among others Mr. Hidri also said *‘Our goals and objectives have been much bigger, however, for many different reasons we couldn’t realize everything. We didn’t have enough support from the head office, but also our engagement, sense of ownership and investment should have been bigger, even though we have tried to do something. Some of our core duties as Ambassadors for Peace according to the UPF statute, such as UPF membership fee of 1000 Lek, was not collected. And this is because of organizational reasons by the staff, but also because of neglecting by us, AfP. Therefore, I hope that by starting today we will start fulfilling this symbolical obligation as AfP’.*



The event continued with the video presentation, introducing international activities of UPF, its initiatives, its cooperation with the UN, World Peace Summits and many other activities organized in different counties of the world and Founders’ vision for a world of peace considering humanity as One Family Under God.

After the video presentation, Mr. Gani Rroshi gave a power-point presentation of UPF activities organized in all Local Peace Councils in Tirana, Vlora, Elbasan, Korca, Shkodra, Fier and Lezha.

The key speaker was Mr. Bajram Ibraj – Chairman of UPF Albania who presented to all AfP and all the others present the 5 Principles of UPF and reminding everyone on the vision and foundation UPF is build and stands on *“1 – God is the Parent of all humankind; 2 – Human Beings are essentially spiritual in nature.; 3 – Living for the sake of others is highest standard of living; 4 – Marriage is a holy institution and Family is the school of love and peace; 5 – International and Interreligious Harmony is fundamental for building a world of peace..”* Afterwards Mr. Ibraj spoke about the organizational consolidation of UPF in Albania by being more active in society, more visible in the media and for this, Ambassadors for Peace should become the owners of UPF principles and serve more the nation.



The most exciting part of the event was the appointment of new Ambassadors for Peace. Eight respected VIPs received the certificate of the Ambassadors for Peace, proposed by the members of Durrës Peace Council. Among them we can mention Mr. Roland Xhelili – Prefect of Durrësi Prefecture together with his wife, Z. Ramadan Gugashi – businessmen and Citizen of Honor of Durrësi city, Av. Hilmi Barameta – Lawyer, Former Adviser of the President of Albania, Mr. Petrit Zeneli, Mr. Besnik Rexha, Mr. Petrit Çeveli and Mrs. Brikena Balla.

After the appointment of new Ambassadors for Peace, Mr. Ibraj led the process of elections for the members of Local Peace Council which has 12 members. After the approval the proposed members of the Council by all the AfP present, Mr. Ibraj proposed that the previous leadership of Durrës Peace Council led by Mr. Flamur Hidri as Chairman, Mrs. Flutura Kona and Mr. Gëzim Agasi as vice Chairs continue to maintain their position for a second mandate, since they didn't even complete a 2 year mandate and many of the planned activities could be realized on the 2nd mandate. The proposal was welcomed by all the AfP present and was approved unanimously. Also the new Secretary General of Durres Peace Council Mr. Arjan Haziraj was introduced to the Ambassadors for Peace.



The Assembly ended with a group photo for all the newly appointed Ambassadors for Peace and all participants. At the end, before living, all the Ambassadors for Peace paid the membership fee by fulfilling the fundamental obligation of being part of an organization and feeling owner of it. After everything finished, the staff - members of Family Federation – had prepare a modest cocktail where everybody spent some more time together as a family.

We wish great success to all the Ambassadors for Peace in Durrës region and to the re-elected leadership!

Reported by: The Secretariat of the Universal Peace Federation – Albania