

UPF Albania: President Alfred Moisiu, President Fatmir Sejdiu and Michael Balcomb receive *Gratitude of Tropoja* award

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In one of the most beautiful places in Albania, in the Valbona Valley, on July 6, 2024, a beautiful ceremony was organized to honor the President of Albania HE. Alfred Moisiu and the President of Kosovo HE. Fatmir Sejdiu, as well as Dr. Michael Balcomb, Chairman of the Universal Peace Federation for Europe and the Middle East with the title "GRATITUDE OF TROPOJA". In his speech, the Mayor of Tropoja, Mr. Rexhë Byberi, emphasized that both presidents have already received the title "HONORARY CITIZEN" of Tropoja. Today it is an honor for Tropoja to award President Alfred Moisiu and President Fatmir Sejdiu the title "GRATITUDE OF TROPOJA", with the motivation " for their continuous contribution to the promotion and strengthening of democratic values and peace in our country, in the region and beyond".

At the same time, this award was also granted to the Co-chairman of the Universal Peace Federation for Europe and the Middle East, Dr. Michael Balcomb, for his great contribution to peace,

especially for supporting the work of the Universal Peace Federation in Albania in expanding its network of "Ambassadors for Peace" throughout the country through the Peace Councils in all 61 municipalities of Albania. The president highly appreciated the award, emphasized that Tropoja remains the cradle of tradition, hospitality, and patriotism, and wished that Tropoja and Valbona, particularly, become a desired tourist destination for every Albanian and foreigner. Dr. Michael Balcomb, in his speech, said that by seeing the amazing beauty of Valbona, where heaven and earth seem to dance together, he understands even more clearly why Albanians have a natural love for God and guests and the courage to achieve anything.



The ceremony became more beautiful by the artistic performances of rhapsodists, dancers, and the children's group, who created a fantastic atmosphere. We want to express our gratitude to the Mayor of Tropoja Mr. Rexhë Byberi, who is also an 'Ambassador for Peace', the Chairwoman of the Tropoja Peace Council, Mrs. Ferdie Rrahmanaj for organizing this event in cooperation with Tropoja Municipality, and Mr. Abdulla Domi, chairman of the Kukës Regional Peace Council and Vice-chairman of the Universal Peace Federation Albania for coordinating the preparations for the activity. Special thanks also to the deputy mayor of Tropoja Municipality, Mr. Abedin Kërnaja, for the care in every detail of the program.

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