

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Political Incitement Behind Japanese Media Attacks On Family Fed

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Literary critic Eitaro Ogawa delivering the keynote speech in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan on the afternoon of October 19, 2025



Two pillars of conservatism targeted as Japanese media for years deliberately waged campaign against Shinzo Abe and the outspoken anti-communist Unification Church

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Eitaro Ogawa on Family Federation Media Coverage: "No Factual Basis for Dissolution"

by editorial staff of [Sekai Nippo](#)

The "Association of Second-Generation Members for Protecting the Human Rights of Believers", composed mainly of second-generation believers of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) (FFWPU, formerly known as the [Unification Church](#)), held a public symposium on October 19, in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture.



Panel discussion at the symposium in Nagoya October 19, 2025

In his keynote address, literary critic Eitaro Ogawa (小川 榮太郎) [See editor's note below] stated that

after investigating the matter of the [Family Federation](#)'s potential dissolution, he found that "there was zero concreteness." Expressing his concern, he went on to say,

"I cannot see any factual basis for the claim that 'the [Unification Church](#) qualifies for a dissolution request.' The government that made that judgment and the mass media that fueled public opinion in that direction are committing a complete injustice."



Eitaro Ogawa during the panel discussion at the symposium in Nagoya October 19, 2025. Screenshot from video by Association of Second-Generation Members for Protecting the Human Rights of Believers

Ogawa also took part in a panel discussion with Nozomi Kojima (小島希晶), the association's representative, and attorney Shinichi Tokunaga (徳永信一). When the discussion turned to media coverage of the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (安倍晋三), Ogawa emphasized,

"For many years, television media have been dominated by an anti-Japanese, anti-Abe, left-leaning bias. Early on, they deliberately used criticism of the [Unification Church](#) to create a framework in which Abe himself was attacked alongside it."

Ogawa stressed that the media deliberately guided public opinion "to eliminate two pillars of conservatism - Abe and the [religious organization](#)". He called for "a thorough investigation" into this media manipulation.

Ogawa also touched on the issue of second-generation religious followers, stating,

"Unless we clearly define what constitutes 'religious harm', there is a risk that the concept will keep expanding. The time has come for both the state and religion to redefine many aspects of their relationship."

[Editor's note: Eitaro Ogawa (小川榮太郎) is an award-winning writer, author of several books, literary and cultural critic, President of the Japanese Peace Studies Institute, a security and culture think tank.]

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Kim Dong-yeon (김동연), Vice-President, [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification in South Korea](#). Screenshot from video by [FFWPU](#)

particular, suspicions have been raised that money or goods were offered in exchange for benefits related to a project to develop Cambodia's Mekong River. The [Family Federation](#) of Korea wishes to offer clarification on this matter.

True Mother as the Leader of Our

Church

[True Mother](#) serves as the religious and spiritual leader of the [Family Federation](#), dedicating herself to spreading a faith-based vision and values that convey our Heavenly Parent's will for the realization of peace and harmony among all humankind. She does not directly engage in the secular decision-making or administrative operations of the [Family Federation](#) or its international headquarters, such as policy formulation, budget execution, or organizational management.



[Mother Han](#), here painted by her daughter Eun-jin Moon Jenkins October 2025. Photo: [FFWPU](#)

These matters are independently decided and implemented by the heads of each organization – such as the Director-General of the *World Mission Headquarters*, the foundation chairperson and national leaders – in accordance with legal guidelines and the articles of association.

Some media outlets have interpreted [True Mother](#)'s words, "May Heavenly Parent's will be fulfilled in this land," as implying religious-political collusion. In reality, this statement expresses a spiritual aspiration shared by traditional religions, including Christianity, for a renewed world or the "kingdom of [God](#)".

Clarification on Diplomatic and Peace Activities

The [Family Federation](#)'s long-standing effort to encourage the construction of a fifth United Nations Office on the Korean Peninsula has always been an international public peace initiative aimed at promoting peace and stability on the Peninsula and advancing the national interests of Korea. Characterizing this as a lobbying activity for a particular political faction or interest group is a clear distortion of facts.



Yoon Yeong-ho, here 5th Dec. 2021. Screenshot from transmission by *Peace TV*

Regarding the Mekong River Peace Park project reported in the media: this initiative was pursued independently by the former Director-General of the International Headquarters, who took all related materials with him even after his dismissal in May 2023. The [church](#) has neither taken over nor continued this project, nor was it a policy pursued at the [church](#) level.

Furthermore, [True Mother](#) has never issued any improper requests or directives to Dr. Yoon Yeong-ho, the former Director-General. That being said, while this situation arose from the personal misconduct of a leader entrusted with organizational authority, our [church](#)'s organizational structure should have had safeguards to prevent these actions. In response, the Korean Headquarters is currently pursuing internal structural reforms and improvements to management systems in order to prevent such things from happening in the future.

Clarification on ODA and Government Funding

Though some media outlets have made allegations that "[church](#) event expenses were supported through *Overseas Development Assistance* (ODA)," this is both institutionally and legally impossible. According to OECD statistical guidelines and Article 7 of the *Economic Development Cooperation Fund Act*, religious facilities and organizations are explicitly excluded from ODA eligibility. Moreover, there has never been a single instance in which Korea's *Economic Development Cooperation Fund* (EDCF) provided support to religious facilities or [church](#)-related events. Korea's policy of assisting developing countries is a national-level diplomatic policy, consistently maintained through the administrations of Presidents Park Geun-hye, Moon Jae-in, and Yoon Suk-veol.

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Regarding International Events and Political Participation

International events hosted by the [Family Federation](#) are always public events with themes of world peace, reconciliation, and shared prosperity for humanity. Accordingly, when politicians or social leaders deliver congratulatory remarks at these events, it is not the political mobilization of a religious gathering but rather an expression of collaboration for peace among nations and peace in society.

The
church



Mother Han addressing the "Summit for Peace on the Korean Peninsula" 13th February 2022 in [Gyeongju](#), South Korea. Screenshot from live transmission by PeacelinkTV

maintains strict political neutrality and has never aligned with or taken a biased stance toward any political party. For instance, at the "Summit for Peace on the Korean Peninsula", held on 13th February 2022, both ruling and opposition presidential candidates were invited. These events are unrelated to political partisanship and are conducted solely as part of the church's broader international peace diplomacy initiatives.

[True Mother](#) holds fast to the belief that the truth will be revealed, saying, "Even if it takes time, justice will surely prevail." At this time, it is essential for all of us to uphold the standards of truth and our faith as we go forward. The [Family Federation](#)'s Korean Headquarters will respond firmly to false reports and religious prejudice and will strive to ensure that the media and the public perceive the essence of our work through a fair perspective based on facts. With the conviction that our Heavenly Parent and the [True Parents](#) are with us, we encourage all members to unite with unwavering faith and sincere devotions.

Featured image above: Logos of South Korean media outlets around central illustration made by Grok xAI, October 2025.

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