



Eastern Europe Highlights from January 2023

Celebrating True Parents' Birthday in Eastern Europe



Armenia



Belarus



Bulgaria



Croatia



Estonia



Lithuania



Georgia



Moldova



Latvia

Celebrating True Parents' Birthday in Eastern Europe – Albania/Kosovo



Pristina, Kosovo



Tirana



Shkodra



Vlora



Elbasan



Korca



Fier



Durres

Celebrating True Parents' Birthday in Eastern Europe - Russia



Yekaterinburg



St. Petersburg



Ulyanovsk



Moscow Peace Embassy

January Workshops for Second Generation in Moscow Peace Embassy



Ages 7 - 13



Ages 14 - 17

Throughout January, workshops for Second Generation children were held in the major Russian communities with a total of over 400 participants. In the Moscow Peace Embassy three programmes were held for different age groups, with a total of 130 participants.
- Elena Kalmatskaya



Ages 18+

Russian Blessed Children Sing and Dance to Comfort the Elderly



Angels of Peace, a singing and dancing group of Russian blessed children, gave a New Year's concert in a new home for elderly people. The troupe, which is a project of WFWP-Russia, received the invitation after the director of the home saw an earlier performance of theirs. The elderly people were really moved and inspired. ... In another WFWP project, Moscow schoolchildren created beautiful toys and handmade cards and presented them to senior citizens, who were delighted to receive them. – *Olga Vakulinskaya*

Minus 25 in Moscow – Let's Go Street Witnessing!

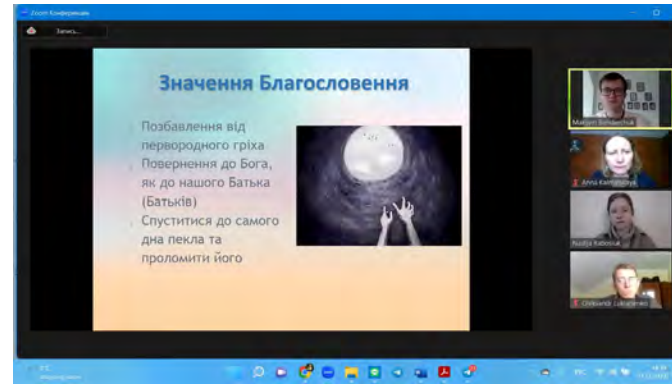
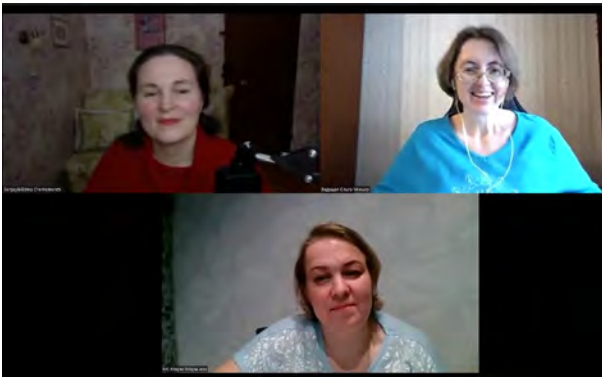
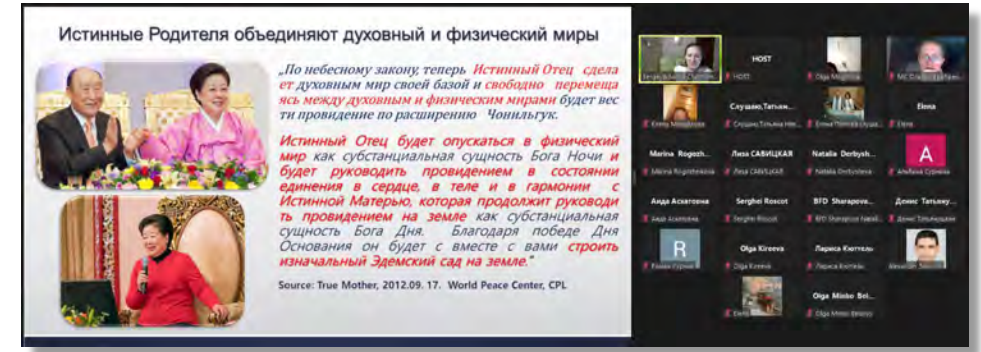


A hardy group completed seven days of “Winter Witnessing” on the streets of Moscow from 3 to 9 January. The weather was extremely cold, even by Moscow standards—sometimes as cold as minus-25 Celsius. Nevertheless, nine members went out for the whole seven days: two from Moscow, one from the Volga Region, five from the St. Petersburg Region—and a former missionary from Switzerland. Some Moscow members also joined in for a day or even a few hours. The team gave about 30 Divine Principle presentations, and four guests came back for more lectures.

Afterward one volunteer wrote: “On the last day of the campaign I felt so happy witnessing and communicating to God that my realization was that no money or power can bring such happiness to a person, and I felt I don’t have to envy anyone, even billionaires or celebrities. Quite the opposite—they would envy me if they knew what I was going through.” – *Artyom Palkin*



Eastern Europe BFD Activities



The BFD of Eastern Europe recently held three seminars to present Part 2 of Level 2 Blessing education as a follow-up to a previous EUME Blessing workshop. A total of 33 Blessing candidates –10 in Albania, 12 in Russia, and 11 in Ukraine – took part. Each nation prepared content most relevant for their candidates. The seminars included sincere testimonies from blessed families about their own preparation for matching.

A webinar about the Spirit World/Physical World Blessing drew an audience of around 30 leaders and members. New assistants who have experience of guiding candidates through the process were introduced. The webinar was recorded in both Russian and English.

Under the guidance of Russian national leader Alexei Saveliev, the Blessed Family and Second Generation Departments of Russia worked together to hold a very successful workshop about different aspects of blessed family life.

In the last few days of 2022, Eastern Europe BFD leader Galina Chernomorets met with regional BFD staff to review the past year and to plan for 2023. –
Galina Chernomorets

Shin Albania Bids Farewell to SunMoon UPA Missionaries



Fier



Tirana



Shkodra



Korca



Vlora



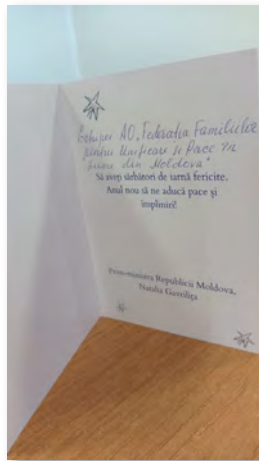
Tirana 2

After nearly four months in Albania, 30 SunMoon UPA students have returned to Korea. For most of them it was the first time experiencing frontline activities. Although they met many challenges and ups and downs, by the end most of them had gained spiritual children. During their time in Albania, they created a joyful atmosphere in the centre and invested their talents in singing, decorating, etc. At the CheonBo event, 10 of them joined the *Chanyang* team as well. Many tears were shed by the missionaries and local members, as the time came to say goodbye. – *Manjola Vasmatics*



Activities in Moldova

- **Family Federation**
 - In the town of Anenii Noi, the Skazka (“Fairy Tale”) Centre opened its doors to children from both Moldova and Ukraine. ... In Chisinau, the Sunflower Centre will begin digital literacy classes for children 7 to 13, using 10 computers that were donated by the UN Human Rights Committee. ... The first meeting of an association of NGOs established by the United Nations to support human rights in the Transnistria region included a representative of FF, which is a member of the association. ... The office of Moldovan Prime Minister Natalia Gavrilița sent a Christmas card to FF.
- **Youth and Students for Peace**
 - At their weekly meeting YSP members made plans to celebrate World Interfaith Harmony Week (the first week of February) with an intercultural festival.
- **Heavenly Parent’s Holy Community**
 - Andrei Eșanu, the leader of FF, gave an inspiring and moving testimony at Sunday service, talking about his early life and how he came to meet True Parents. – *Sabina Nadejdin*



Activities in Moldova



Opening of Anenii Noi Fairy Tale Centre



Fairy Tale Centre activities



Fairy Tale Centre manager, Natalia Roscot on TV



Sunflower Centre Activities in Chisinau Peace Embassy

Activities in support of Ukrainian refugee mothers and children continue at our Peace Embassy in Chisinau. Every weekday 40 to 50 children engage in educational and cultural activities, including art, dancing, and singing. At the same time, their mothers have formed a moms' club in which they receive counseling and take part in various activities.

In the central Moldovan town of Anenii Noi, the Fairytale Center has opened to care for children, both Moldovan and Ukrainian, as a result of an agreement between Family Federation and the European Union. This center is managed by Natalia Roscot, a Russian sister blessed with a Moldovan husband. – *Sabina Nadejdin*



Activities in Belarus

- Eight Second Generation teenagers and their parents participated in a moving Il Shim ceremony. On the next day, we held the ceremony for one boy who could not participate with his group.
- In December and January, YSP volunteers visited the homes of 50 families with disabled children, held small parties in their homes and gave the children gifts provided by sponsors. In addition, YSP enabled 150 children to attend a New Year's concert and gave presents to boarding schools for the disabled.
- At the request of one of our Peace Ambassadors, members took part in a New Year's program in a social centre for the elderly. We talked about the Korean traditions of celebrating the new year, sang a song, brought gifts and prepared Korean *kimbab*.
- Our Prayer Service Group met with the leader of the Mother in Prayer movement. We prayed together, sang holy songs, and spoke of our experiences with God. This group then invited us to their quarterly prayer meeting.
- Our community celebrated True Parents' Birthday on January 29 with a large festive program, including a video and a story about True Parents' life, a quiz, and a performance of Korean singing and dancing about the birth of True Mother. After a lunch of traditional Korean dishes, there was a fair, a master class and a table football tournament. About 80 people took part in the celebration.

– Olga Plotnikova



Romanian Seven-Day DP Workshop Concludes



The year-end seven-day Divine Principle workshop, the conclusion of witnessing activities in 2022, ended on 3 January. In addition to five Romanian CARP members—two from the first semester and three from the second semester—there were two Romanian Second Generations, four CIG missionaries and four UPA missionaries at the workshop, which was held in the beautiful countryside near the town of Moeciu de Sus. Before the lectures started, participants set goals and action plans. Romanian national president Miki Predescu, CARP leader Gabriela Fondos and CIG staff member Adelina Lazer were the lecturers. Every afternoon there were interesting and meaningful action tasks. On 31 December, the participants enjoyed a Family Night with singing and dancing that lasted until midnight, when they started the New Year together with prayer. On the last day of the workshop, Rev. Bong-moon Jeong, the former national leader, gave a lecture and guidance about the life of faith.

— Miki Predescu

New Beginnings for Romanian CARP



Discussion Topic: Controlling Our Words

Inspired by True Father's motto—before seeking to conquer the universe, we first must conquer ourselves—Romanian CARP chose “self-control” as the theme for its Open HDH meetings in the new semester. The first meeting of the new year, with 20 guests and eight members, focused on controlling the words that we speak, so that we don't hurt other people's heart. Participants formed groups of six to read and discuss excerpts from two books: *The Way for Young People* with True Father's words and *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie.



New Activity: Chess Night

Romanian CARP started a new activity for guests: Chess Night. Thirteen guests attended the first such event, which was organized by the nation's youngest blessed family. GPA members and CARP members also were present. Chess Night will be held on alternating Wednesday evenings. – *Miki Predescu*





Estonia YSP: Happiness Is Cooking Together

YSP held a meeting for new guests and older Second Generation on the topic of happiness. YSP member Alena Astapova organized the meeting in the Tallinn Peace Embassy, where everyone cooked a meal together, enjoyed the meal with lively conversation, and finally played games. Through this meeting the Second Generation learned to organize meetings and to witness. And the guests learned about YSP and said they want to come back. – *Olga Martinson*



Ukraine Community Joins Central Europe Sub-region



Our Ukrainian community formally became part of the Central Europe sub-region on January 3rd, in a special meeting in the Glanów workshop site in Poland. This change was requested by our Ukrainian leaders, who are concerned about a recent Ukrainian government declaration warning of consequences to organizations that may appear to have links with Russia. To avoid any misunderstanding and after discussions with Dr. Michael Balcomb, the decision was made to accommodate this request.

I want to express my deep gratitude for the hard work and sincere faith and devotion of our Ukrainian community. They have set a very high standard of faith and unity with True Parents' providence. I particularly want to thank Rev. Jin Pal Chung and his family, who have faithfully supported the providence in Ukraine as National Messiahs.

I am also grateful to the current national leaders of Ukraine, Anna Kalmatskaya and Anatoly Kikin, who have continued their providential work, both inside and beyond the borders of Ukraine, despite the many challenges. As an international blessed couple—Anna is Russian-born, and Anatoly is Ukrainian—they are a beautiful example of love surmounting national borders.

Although our Ukrainian community will no longer be part of Eastern Europe sub-region, we will continue to pray for and support these great brothers and sisters as they continue their mission, and we pray that peace and blessings will come to their country in the nearest future. – *Jack and Renee Corley*



Thank you!