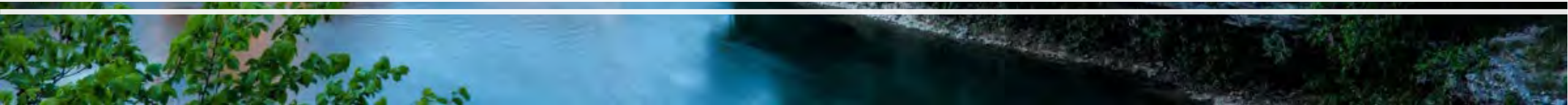




Eastern Europe Monthly Highlights for June 2023



President Yong-Cheon Song Visits Shin Albania 15-17 June



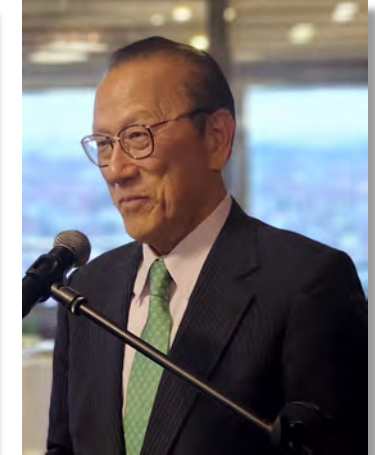
WFWP Programme in Kosovo Parliament



WFWP Pres. Moriko Hori



PM Albin Kurti



The second conference in the series of 'No Peace Without Women' was held on 13 June 2023, at the Parliament in Pristina, Kosovo. Sponsors and partners were the Kosovo Office of the Prime Minister and the EUME branches of WFWP, WFWPI UN Office, UPF, and the International Association of First Ladies for Peace (IAFLP). The conference opened with an address from the Prime Minister of Kosovo, HE Albin Kurti, who had excused himself from an urgent meeting on the situation in the north of Kosovo to do so. HE Liza Gashi, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and HE Emilia Redžepi, deputy prime minister, were also speakers and critical elements in the preparations and in extending invitations to members of Parliament. The event was attended by 120 leaders, 12 of whom were ambassadors from various nations, with over 20 media outlets covering the event. - Carolyn Handschin and Mitty Tohma

In Shin Albania, 1,000 Attend Family Festival

10 June



Family Federation organized an exciting Family Festival in the city of Shkodra. Brothers and sisters invested a lot of effort in preparing songs and dance routines. Although a heavy hail storm occurred shortly before the festival began, around a thousand people came out to take part in the festival. – *Manjola Vasmatics*



TIMD Master Takamitsu Hoshiko



**Appointment of Andrius Jurkunas as TIMD
director for Eastern Europe**



6-Day TIMD Workshop in Shin Albania
17-22 June



**Eastern Europe TIMD director
Andrius Jurkunas**



**Shin Albania National Leader
Manjola Vasmatics**



3-Day TIMD Workshop in Shin Albania
28-30 June

Eastern Europe Subregional President Visits Croatia



From 10 to 13 June, after a long bus ride from Prague to Zagreb, Eastern Europe Subregional President Jack Corley visited Croatia. During his visit he gave a Sunday sermon titled “Living in the Era of Cheon Il Guk,” visited several families, held meetings with Second Generation youth and travelled with national leaders Ji Suk and Anto Tomas to the beautiful resort town of Opatija on the Adriatic coast. He also gave his support for the establishment of a witnessing centre in Zagreb. – *Renee Corley*

Summer 2023 Programmes in Russia

No.	PROGRAMME/LOCATION	DATE	AGE GROUP	PARTICIPANTS
1.	Junior 2 nd Generation (Moscow)	June 5 - 8	7-11 yrs	70
2.	Seminar for 2 nd Gen. Teenagers (Moscow)	June 17-23	13-14 yrs	65
3.	Kola Project (Kola and St. Petersburg)	June 17-July 4	16 yrs	24
4.	Fundraising and Education (Mow./St. P.)	June 25-July 17	17 yrs	11
5.	Summer Education Camp (St. P./Ladoga)	July 1-7	15 yrs	24
6.	DP Seminar for Teenagers (St. Petersburg)	July 24-Aug. 4	14 yrs	38
7.	21-Day DP Workshop (St. Petersburg)	July 31-Aug. 20	2 nd Gen 18+/1 st Gen.	14
8.	YSP HJ Rank – fundraising (Kazan)	July 1-Aug. 1	Students	05
9.	YSP Baikal Youth Forum (Lake Baikal)	July 25-31	Students/NGO Leaders	25
10.	Pilgrimage to Korea	Aug. 14-Sept. 3	16+ yrs	08
5 Locations				284

Russian Second-Generation Children Learn about God and True Parents



Seventy Second-Generation children and 12 parents from Russia's Central Region attended a seminar in the Moscow Peace Embassy from 5 to 8 June, which was designed to help children in the first through fifth grades better understand and feel God and True Parents. ... The first two days were for fourth and fifth graders, who learned that it was important to recognize three strengths in oneself and to use them to serve others and bring joy to God and True Parents. ... On the third day, which was devoted to prayer and the relationship with Heavenly Parent, second and third graders joined. ... On the last day, the youngest participants joined, together with their parents, and learned about relationships with parents—our father and mother, our True Parents, and Heavenly Parent. ... In addition, there were songs, games, walks, sports and creativity, and performances at the final concert. – *Elena Kalmatskaya*

7-Day Workshop in Moscow – June 17-23



Sixty five participants 13-14 years old





Children's Summer Camp at Sunflower Centre in Moldova Peace Embassy

- Sunflower Centre opened its Summer Camp on 6 June, and about 60 mostly Ukrainian refugee children and 20 parents have come every day. Along with six Second Generation children attending the Summer Camp, four elder Second Gens are volunteering at the Sunflower Centre. – *Sabina Nadejdin*





News from Moldovan Refugee Care Centres

- On the 16th June parents and children who benefit from the refugee care programme in the Peace Embassy in Chisinau volunteered to spend a day beautifying the grounds. They cleaned, weeded and planted flowers as a sign of gratitude for the care they have received at the Peace Embassy Sunflower Project.
- In the town of Anenii Noi, Family Federation director Natalia Roscot signed an agreement for a 37,500 Euro grant from the European Union and the Swedish Embassy in support of the Fairytale Family and Children's Centre, of which she is the director. – *Sabina Nadejdin*

FFWPU-Moldova Says Farewell to Sunflower Centre Co-Founder



**In front of the Peace Embassy
in Chisinau, Moldova**



Meredith Wiedemer



Appointment as Ambassador for Peace

It was an emotional parting for Moldovan members and Meredith Wiedemer, the force behind the founding of FFWPU's Sunflower Centre, which has supported Ukrainian refugee children and their mothers. Mrs. Wiedemer, an American who moved to Chisinau in 2021 with her U.S. diplomat husband and their three children, is now moving to Beijing because of her husband's reassignment. ... In 2022, when Mrs. Wiedemer saw FFWPU-Moldova distributing tons of food, clothing and supplies to refugees through its Peace Embassy, she had the inspiration to turn the Peace Embassy into a place where refugee children could receive arts and music classes and their mothers could receive free psychosocial counselling, while also providing employment for refugees. Mrs. Wiedemer worked hard with FFWPU to create a community and family centre that brought happiness to many refugee families, while earning the recognition of the Moldovan president and prime minister and even the CNN television news channel, which broadcast a report on Sunflower Centre. She also brought many partners and donors, such as Catholic Relief Services, IsraAID, Swiss Solidarity, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and others. Mrs. Wiedemer was proud to be honoured as a UPF Ambassador for Peace, and she nominated 14 Sunflower Centre staff members to also become Ambassadors for Peace, because she believed they would feel appreciated, the same way she felt when she received this title. – *Andre Eşanu*



UPF-EUME Leaders Complete Baltic Tour - Lithuania

- From 24 to 29 June, Dr. Katsumi Otsuka and Jacques Marion, the UPF co-chairmen for Europe and the Middle East, visited the three Baltic nations. Their first stop was Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, where they met about 40 members, including young children, at the Sunday Service. Dr. Otsuka reported on True Mother's recent messages and gave internal guidance for blessed families. Afterward the two leaders had personal meetings with members before having dinner with national leaders Aram and Roma Karagezian and their family. – *Jacques Marion*





UPF-EUME Leaders Complete Baltic Tour - Latvia



- On 26 June a four-hour bus ride took them to Riga, the capital of Latvia, where at the Peace Embassy they were welcomed by national leaders Janis and Kermen Vjaters and Latvian members. In the afternoon they met several Ambassadors for Peace, including the former chief of staff of the Latvian army. – *Jacques Marion*



UPF-EUME Leaders Complete Baltic Tour - Estonia

- On 27 June, another four-hour bus ride brought them to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, where national leaders Avo and Olga Martinson organized “One Korea,” a special Football for Peace event for the reunification of Korea. ... The project was initiated in 2017 in cooperation with Estonian Peace Ambassador Reigo Tonsberg, who for 15 years has developed True Parents’ Football for Peace project in Estonia and the region. The June 28 event was organized in partnership with the Estonia Korea Cultural Association led by Arina Han, an ethnic Korean native of Kazakhstan. Twenty young children, both Second Generation and from the cultural association, played football in two teams representing North and South Korea. Dr. Otsuka launched the game with a small peace ceremony. After the event, the participants had lunch at the Korean cultural centre, where two participants were awarded Ambassador for Peace certificates. – *Jacques Marion*





Weekend Workshop

Theme: 'Heavenly Bulgaria Starts with Me'



- Four blessed families attended a weekend (23-25 June) workshop in the Peace Embassy in Sofia. "Heavenly Bulgaria Starts with Me" featured talks by Gani Rroshi, the Eastern Europe regional vice president, and Rev. Gi-young Shin, a longtime missionary to Albania. There were very inspiring lectures on how to work together and the necessity and significance of witnessing, as well as a precious discussion time. Our regular Friday evening prayer meeting and monthly vigil prayer were integrated in the program. On Sunday morning, a new Holy Ground was established in the yard of the Peace Embassy, and the program concluded with Sunday Service and lunch together. – *Edina Zsolcsak*





Romanian Members Welcome Regional Vice President



- Romanian CARP members and blessed families gathered at the CARP Centre in Bucharest to welcome Eastern Europe Vice President Gani Rroshi, who had driven from his home country of Albania together with Rev. Gi-young Shin, a Korean missionary to Albania. The evening started with introductions. Because there were two engineering students there, Mr. Rroshi explained that he first understood Divine Principle through understanding the description of Universal Prime Energy. After dinner, Mr. Rroshi gave an inspiring and thought-provoking talk on “Why We Must Be Grateful.” – *Miki Predescu*



Friendship and Fellowship at Romanian ‘Family Picnic’

- FFWPU and CARP jointly organized their first “Family Picnic” in a large park in Bucharest, inviting family, friends and co-workers. Eleven new guests came to the picnic, as well as three blessed families and three CARP members. In addition, there was one married couple who had received the Blessing at a Valentine’s ball in February. After an introduction to our movement, followed by ice-breaker games, there was lunch. In the afternoon three groups formed: active (sports), children’s games, and mothers’ discussion. ... The weather services had predicted a rainstorm on the day of the picnic. Because for three weeks the members had invested their heart and effort in preparations, the national leader prayed desperately during a vigil prayer in the Cheonshim Won. In the morning, the weather was beautiful and sunny, and the rainstorm started only after the picnic had ended. The national leader felt the protection of Heavenly Parent, and the power of working with “Spirit and Truth.” – *Miki Predescu*



Belarus Guests and Members Celebrate Day of All True Things Together

- The Belarus community organized a Day of All True Things celebration for both new guests and longtime members. More than 70 people took part, and 11 blessed families took responsibility for the preparations. After the greeting to True Parents and the reciting of Family Pledge, national leader Olga Plotnikova explained the significance of the Holy Day. Then the BFD leader led a family HDH titled "A Word about Love, Family and the World of Creation." There were musical performances, an eco-volunteering presentation, and a photo quiz called "These Amazing Animals." An outdoor activity called "Conversation with Trees" was followed by a barbecue lunch, football, and other activities. – *Olga Plotnikova*

Moscow Treasures from Heaven Camp Offers Love and Renewal



The Treasures from Heaven summer camp held at the Moscow Peace Embassy this year from 26 to 29 June was a huge success. Ten parents and eight children participated, and there were eight volunteers and some kitchen staff. Our community donated four times more money than in previous years—almost \$1,000—enabling us to organize a program that was interesting for both adults and children. ... Every day there was an inspiring morning service via Zoom. Eastern Europe President Jack Corley, EUME *Cheon Eui Won* Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, Second Generation Department leader Elena Kalmatskaya, and Treasures of Heaven EUME leader Lisa Janssen all gave a message. Every day the parents also had internal discussions with coaches and a psychologist, all of whom are our members. ... The volunteers accompanied the children to master-classes, walks in the park, and playing games. This year the families and volunteers had a beautiful outing to a historic place, Tsaritsino, and its park. Another new event was a family night with singing, poetry and laughter. ... At the end, the parents said that the camp allowed them to recharge their batteries. One family whose autistic son recently passed away explained that the program gave them internal renewal and energy to move on. The volunteers said they learned how to develop their heart of unconditional love. They enjoyed their experiences and are eager to come back next year. ... All our Treasures from Heaven community felt love not only from Heavenly Parent but also from our brothers and sisters who want to support families and children with special needs. – *Tatiana Panichenko*



Thank You!