



Eastern Europe Monthly Highlights
August 2023



Eastern Europe Youth Meet True Mother During Pilgrimage •



EUME pilgrimage participants with True Mother



Eastern Europe pilgrimage participants with Yeonah Nim

The EUME pilgrimage to Korea included 26 members, primarily Second Generation, from Eastern Europe (11 from Shin Albania, 11 from Russia, 2 from Lithuania, and 1 each from Croatia and Romania). Together with young people from all over EUME, they attended programs at Cheongpyeong, including prayer vigils and a Special Great Works commemorating the anniversary of True Father's ascension. They also journeyed to Busan to visit the Rock of Tears. However, the highlight of the pilgrimage was lunch with True Mother on 1 September at the Cheon Jeong Gung. There they inspired True Mother by performing in Korean several songs that were written by Hyo Jin Nim.

Holy Days in Moscow and St. Petersburg



St. Petersburg



Moscow

Moldova YSP Activities – Chisinau Youth Festival



YSP of Moldova participated in the Youth Festival held by the National Youth Council on Saturday, 19 August, in central Chisinau. The evening before the event, YSP volunteers worked on preparations late into the night, and many slept at the Peace Embassy and joined HDH in the morning. At the festival, which took place on a pedestrian street near the Chisinau City Hall, YSP had a tent where they led an interactive educational program promoting peace, including discussions on conflict and peace, and other interesting activities. The volunteers challenged themselves to approach young people and invite them to the tent. Despite the very hot weather, they met a few good young people who showed interest in joining the YSP team for volunteering activities. – Sabina Nadejdin

Activities in Moldova – Family Federation



The Fairytale Centre in Anenii Noi has been conducting a diction course for children. Along with correct diction and speech, the children are taught vocabulary and beautiful expressions; public speaking and managing emotions; improvisation and creativity. ... Sunflower Centre in Chisinau held a closing event for Summer Camp 2023, with about 70 children and about 50 parents in attendance. There were performances by children, competitions between children and parents, and a program from a professional animator. ... Andrei Eșanu gave a 30-minute detailed and informative presentation about the Family Federation founders to about 40 parents. He explained the values and activities that made the foundation for the creation of the Sunflower Centre. ... The Sunflower team held a "Goodbye, kindergarten!" event for nine children going on to first grade this autumn. ... On August 24, the Swiss Solidarity Foundation informed FF of Moldova that it had approved the proposal submitted by FF to participate in a project for aiding Ukrainian refugees. The total project amount is € 49 500. – *Sabina Nadejdin*

Russians Create 'Summer Storm' of Blessing Festivals



In Russia, a total of 437 couples received the Blessing at five Family Festivals on the weekend of 26 and 27 August. Two festivals were held in the Central region, and three in the Ural-Siberian region. The most important outcome is that Central Blessed Families are working as a team, working with local administrations, and building trust and a foundation for future cooperation. ... In the Ural-Siberia region, six families have qualified as CheonBo, and two or three more families have almost reached the goal. ... Starting in September, an “autumn wave” of Family Festivals and couples’ education will be held. – *Alexei Saveliev*



Belarus Members Bless 65 Couples

- On 12 August, at a big city festival held in the city of Iwye, our organization was invited to congratulate the participants of the city family competition. We held a ceremony of renewal of the family union for four married couples on stage. An additional 61 couples received the Blessing in our festival tent, including the leaders of the city's Muslim community, the families of district administration employees, and many others. Everything went well, and the atmosphere was sublime and joyful. We have received many grateful responses from the participants. There were 12 people in our team, including two Second Generation youth. – *Olga Plotnikova*



Armenians Climb a Vertical Peace Road

- Sixteen participants hiked through the mountainous terrain of Armenia's Vayodzor region on 19 and 20 August as a Peace Road event. On the first day they set up a tent camp. Then, project leader Hovhannes Barseghyan gave a talk on the significance of the Peace Road initiative in the context of global peace. ... On the following day they climbed to an altitude of 1,900 meters to the ancient fortress of Smbataberd. Dating back to the fifth century, this fortress bore witness to centuries of history. Amid these time-worn walls, participants made a resolute declaration: The Peace Road would serve to foster peace among nations. Covering a distance of 5.5 kilometres with an elevation gain of 400 meters, the route symbolized humanity's collective endeavour to ascend toward mutual understanding. ... On their return journey, participants paused at the historic crossroads of the 13th century Noravank Monastery. Amid the tranquil ambience of this revered site, an interfaith prayer resonated, encapsulating their shared aspiration for peace that transcended the confines of individual beliefs. – *Hovhannes Barseghyan*



Romanian CARP Moved by Korean Experience

- Four CARP members and the national leader have arrived back in Romania after visiting Korea from 17 to 27 August. Their purpose in making the trip was twofold: to understand True Parents' heart through visiting important places of our movement and to understand the "culture of heart" through fundraising in Korea. ... They began their visit by attending an HJ CheonBo one-day workshop, where the young people had their first experience of Chanyang and Cheonshim Won prayer. ... They also were invited to a Youth Worship Sunday Service organized by True Parents' grandchildren. There they reunited with UPA missionaries who worked in Romania last year, and they had lunch together with a SunMoon University professor who spoke deeply about Heavenly Parent's providence and her own experiences with True Parents. ... On another day they had a nice bonding time with Seoul YSP members, having dinner and going bowling together. ... As they met the EUME Pilgrimage group and visited historic sites of our movement, they were happy to meet young people from other parts of Europe and the Middle East. ... However, the deepest part of their visit to Korea was fundraising in Seoul. At first it was challenging, but all of them had a great experience with the Korean people and could really feel their warm, caring heart. – *Miki Predescu*

Latvian National Leaders Welcome Their Sixth Child

- Janis and Kermen Vjaters, the national leaders in Latvia, gave birth to their sixth child, a daughter named Ervena, just after midnight on Monday, 21 August, at their home in Jurmala, Latvia.



Thank You!

