

UPF Austria President Speaks at Vienna Diplomatic Academy

Peter Haider
May 21, 2025



Vienna, Austria - Mr. Peter Haider, president of UPF-Austria, was invited to speak at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna on May 21, 2025, on the topic, "What role do you see interfaith harmony could play in the foundation of a just international order?" Other speakers, which included several ambassadors to the United Nations in Vienna, addressed the overall theme of "Opportunities and Challenges for Middle Powers and the Contemporary Geopolitical Order."

The seminar, organized by the Embassy of Pakistan and the Vienna School of International Studies, drew a large audience including representatives from several embassies, UN diplomats, international students, and members of the Pakistani community in Austria.



A special address was delivered via Zoom by Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, chair of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Assembly and former foreign minister of Pakistan. The panel included Amb. Li Song of the People's Republic of China; Amb. Carl Hallergård, of the European Union; Amb. Mustafa Kibaroglu of Türkiye, who is also dean of the faculty of economics, administrative and social sciences at MEF University in Istanbul; Mr. Peter Haider, president of UPF-Austria and chair of the NGO Committee on Peace UN Vienna; Amb. Gerhard Sailer of the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and international Affairs; and Amb. Kamran Akhtar Malik of Pakistan.



Ms. Khar stressed the centrality of multilateralism in resolving global issues. In this context, she highlighted the inability of the United Nations to resolve conflicts in South Asia, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and other parts of the world. Referring to the impact of global power competition on effective multilateralism, she warned against the selective application of principles in different situations, resulting in loss of confidence in the system. In conclusion, she urged the international community to pay particular attention to the normalization of violations of territorial integrity by a group of states, which could severely undermine global and regional peace and stability.



All the speakers were unequivocal in their condemnation of the heinous terrorist attack on a school bus in Pakistan's Baluchistan province, and emphasized that the targeting of innocent children is totally unjustifiable. They further stated that a rules-based international order provides clear guidelines and principles and reduces conflicts and misunderstandings. It creates the foundation for the peaceful resolution of conflicts and global stability. Multilateralism ensures that all countries, large and small, have a voice in global affairs.



After stating that the United Nations remains the cornerstone of global cooperation, despite its imperfections, and still is the most legitimate platform for multilateral engagement, Mr. Haider introduced the proposal made by the UPF founder, the late Rev. Sun Myung Moon, in August 2000:

"The existing United Nations structure, composed of national representatives, may be regarded as a congress where the interests of each member nation are represented. However, I submit that serious consideration should be given to forming a council of religious representatives within the structure of the United Nations. This assembly or council would consist of respected spiritual leaders in fields such as religion, culture, and education. The wisdom and vision of religious leaders will substantially supplement the political insight, experience and skill of the world's political leaders and will be able to make great advances in ushering in a world of peace."



Mr. Haider further quoted from Pope Leo XIV's speech to the media, in which he co-opted journalists and journalism in general for his campaign for peace: "We must say 'No' to the war of words and images; we must reject the paradigm of war!" In conclusion, Mr. Haider reiterated we do not need loud, violent communication, saying: "Let us disarm words, and we will help disarm the world. A disarmed and disarming communication allows us to share a different view of the world and act in a way that is in accordance with our human dignity."

Report in the Pakistan press: www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2025/05/23/embassy-of-pakistan-and-vienna-school-of-international-studies-organize-a-seminar/



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Embassy of Pakistan and Vienna School of international studies organize a seminar

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Vienna Austria, (PR) : Seminar Organized By Embassy of Pakistan and Vienna School of International Studies in Vienna on Challenges & Opportunities For Middle Powers In The Geopolitical Order, A large number of Ambassadors, included Ambassadors of Austria,China,Turkey, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Mexico (CDA) and representatives from several embassies, UN diplomats, international students and the Pakistani community participated in the seminar.

A special address was delivered via Zoom by Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, Chairman, Foreign Relations Committee, National Assembly of Pakistan.

Other speakers at the event included the Chinese His Excellency Ambassador to Austria Li Song, His Excellency Ambassador Karl Hallergaard (EU), Mr Mustafa Kibaroglu, DPR Turkiye, Peter Haider, President Universal Peace Federation Austria, Gerhard Seiler, (MFA Austria) and His Excellency Ambassador of Pakistan Kamran Akhtar Malik.

Ms. Khar stressed the centrality of multilateralism in resolving global issues. She further emphasized the need to refer to the paralysis of the United Nations in the context of conflicts in South Asia, the Middle East, Eastern Europe and other parts of the world. She said that global power competition was undermining effective multilateralism. She warned against the selective application of principles in different situations, which resulted in the loss of confidence in the multilateral system. She urged the international community to take serious note of the

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National / International

RIBJA announces solidarity with

normalization of violations of territorial integrity by a group of states, which could seriously undermine global and regional peace and stability.

All the speakers condemned the heinous terrorist attack in Khuzdar, Balochistan, in unequivocal terms and said that targeting innocent children cannot be justified in any way. They further said. A rules-based international order provides clear rules and principles, reduces conflicts and misunderstandings. It is the foundation of peaceful resolution of conflicts and global stability. Multilateralism ensures that all countries, large and small, have one voice in global affairs. By upholding sovereignty, equality and transparency, we promote cooperation in our interconnected world. Collective action on global challenges such as climate change and health crises is possible only through multilateralism. No country can tackle these problems alone. Fair trade and economic openness thrive in a rules-based system, which supports development and poverty reduction worldwide. Let us maintain a level playing field. By curbing power politics and unilateralism, a rules-based order promotes long-term global stability. Cooperation beats conflict every time.

In his remarks, His Excellency Ambassador Kamran Akhtar reiterated Pakistan's steadfast support for the global multilateral system, while also highlighting the shortcomings of the United Nations in resolving long-standing conflicts, including Jammu and Kashmir and Palestine. He stressed that a strong and effective United Nations is essential for global peace and security. In order to address the current security challenges, the Ambassador reiterated Pakistan's unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The Ambassador also stressed the importance of upholding the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter, including the peaceful resolution of disputes and the protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States.

A question and answer session continued at the end of the seminar. Finally, the Embassy of Pakistan arranged food for all the participants.



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