

UPF International: Science for a Peaceful Future

Tageldin Hamad
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President, UPF International



Each year on November 10, the international community observes [World Science Day for Peace and Development](#), proclaimed by UNESCO in 2001 to highlight science's role in sustainable progress and peace. The 2025 theme, [Trust, Transformation, and Tomorrow: The Science We Need for 2050](#), underscores the importance of transparency, inclusion, and ethics in scientific practice.



These values resonate deeply with the Universal Peace Federation's [principles](#) of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universally shared values, emphasizing that scientific progress must be rooted in trust and moral purpose. The theme also reflects UPF's vision of transformation through cooperation and moral leadership, affirming that true progress unites knowledge and character.

Founded in 2005 by [Dr. Hak Ja Han](#) and the late [Rev. Sun Myung Moon](#), UPF recognizes that sustainable development is inseparable from human dignity. Humanity faces climate change, biodiversity loss, and AI's social impacts; UPF affirms that progress without ethics is incomplete.

1984

World Research Institute for Science and Technology (WRIST)



The International Association of Academicians for Peace ([IAAP](#)), a UPF association, unites scholars for ethical research. IAAP promotes dialogue, showcasing interdisciplinary research on sustainability and human development. It advances projects on sustainability, bioethics, and education and continues initiatives previously established by UPF co-founders like the International Conference for the Unity of Sciences ([ICUS](#), 1972), Professors World Peace Academy ([PWPA](#), 1973), Unification Thought Institute ([UTI](#), 1972), and the World Research Institute for Science and Technology (WRIST, 1984).

1985

International Conference for the Unity of Sciences (ICUS)



ICUS gathered Nobel laureates including [Sir John Eccles](#), [Dr. Eugene Wigner](#), and [Dr. Ilya Prigogine](#), hosting major conferences over the decades in cities such as Seoul, Tokyo, Washington, and Paris. Events like [ICUS VIII](#) (1979), [ICUS XIII](#) (1984), and [ICUS XXI](#) (2000) discussed science and values, shaping

interdisciplinary dialogue for decades. PWPA launched the [International Journal on World Peace](#) (1984). UTI linked science and spirituality via Unification Thought; WRIST focused on technology, applied science, ocean engineering, technology transfer, and environmental research.



UPF supports the UN's [2030 Agenda](#) for Sustainable Development, highlighting how its own principles correspond to key SDGs: education ([SDG 4](#)) through moral learning, innovation and infrastructure ([SDG 9](#)) through responsible scientific advancement, and climate action ([SDG 13](#)) through stewardship of creation. These efforts align closely with UPF's belief in the ethical use of science for global wellbeing. UPF also supports UNESCO's science for peace initiatives, the [UN Decade of Ocean Science](#) (2021 - 2030), and the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#).



UPF calls on governments and institutions to promote scientific integrity and cooperation via joint research. UPF envisions scientific progress fostering reconciliation between humanity and nature, promoting unity and respect.

