

FFWPU International: Announcement of the 6th Sunhak Peace Prize Winners

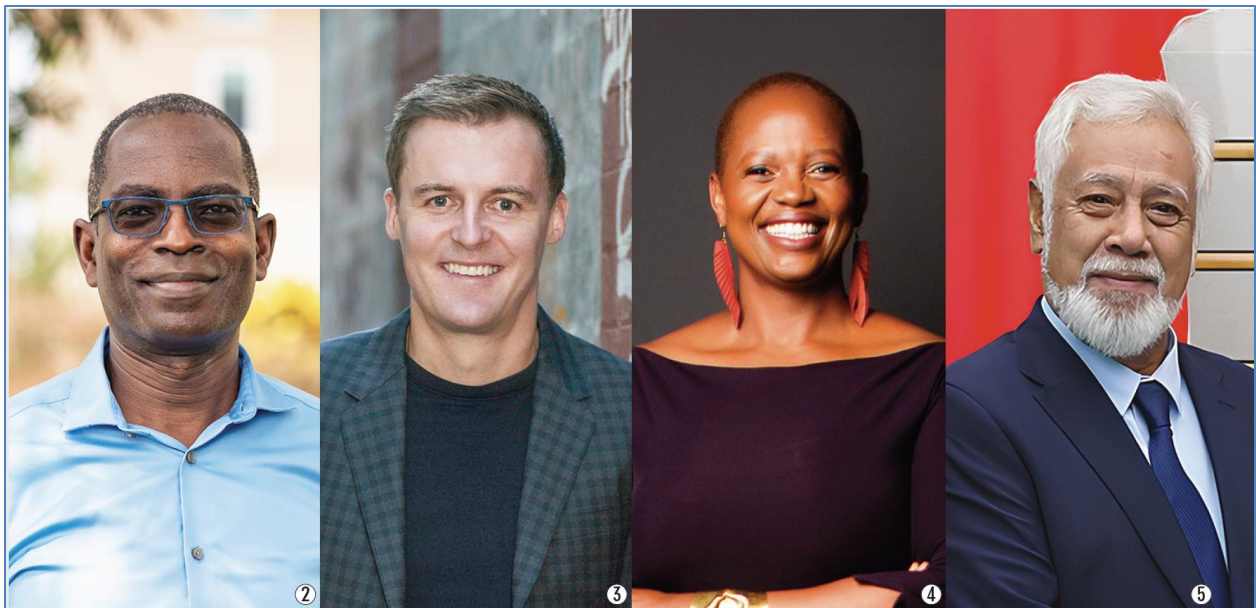
Song Yong cheon  
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The 6th Sunhak Peace Prize has announced its laureates, recognizing individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to peace and human welfare.

On January 15, the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee (chaired by José Manuel Barroso, former President of the European Commission's Executive Committee) announced the winners of the sixth prize: Patrick Awuah Jr. (age 58, founder and president of Ashesi University), Hugh Evans (age 41, co-founder and CEO of Global Citizen), and Wanjira Mathai (age 53, Regional Director for Africa at the World Resources Institute). Additionally, the Founder's Special Prize was awarded to Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão (age 78, Prime Minister of East Timor).

That day, the founder of the Sunhak Peace Prize, Dr. Hak Ja Han, in her welcome message, stated: "Over the past ten years, the Sunhak Peace Prize, which has promoted the three principles of respect for human rights, conflict resolution, and environmental preservation, has continued to identify heroes who have dedicated themselves and fought tirelessly to resolve global challenges." She further affirmed: "In the future, we will continue to identify excellent global leaders and make every effort to expand a vision for humanity to live and breathe in peace."



Chairman José Manuel Barroso commented: "The sixth Sunhak Peace Prize has focused on innovative leaders who have transformed the ideal of peace into concrete actions." He added: "This year's laureates are pioneers who have courageously challenged global problems facing humanity and have achieved substantial and sustainable changes."



He also emphasized: "This year's laureates have presented innovative solutions to complex and urgent problems facing today's world, such as poverty, inequality, and climate change, through ethical leadership

formation through education, social transformation through global citizen movement, and harmonization of environmental conservation with community regeneration." He added: "Their achievements demonstrate the power of hope and solidarity in the face of challenges facing the human community, once again illuminating the Sunhak Peace Prize's vision toward peaceful coexistence and shared prosperity."

The sixth Sunhak Peace Prize award ceremony will be held on April 11, 2025, at the Lotte Hotel in Jamsil, Seoul, South Korea, both online and in person.



**Innovative Leaders Dedicated to Realizing the Peace Ideal**

Patrick Awuah, Sunhak Peace Prize laureate, is an educational reform pioneer who founded Ashesi University to provide an innovative environment where young Africans can develop their potential in STEM fields.

Thanks to his work, over 90% of graduates have secured quality employment or successfully started businesses, and the female graduation rate has reached 50%, thus promoting gender equity in Africa. He has transformed the African higher education paradigm by forming leaders with ethics and entrepreneurial spirit, earning international recognition.

Hugh Evans, founder of Global Citizen, has raised approximately \$43.6 billion for development and poverty eradication programs, benefiting more than 1.3 billion people worldwide by providing access to essential services.

He has urged leaders at international forums such as the G7, G20, and UN to commit financially and politically to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), driving strategic changes at the global level.

His digital platform has enabled citizens worldwide to become key actors in the fight against poverty, inequality, and the climate crisis, achieving the implementation of 30 international policy changes.

Wanjira Mathai is recognized for her innovative approach combining environmental restoration with economic development. Through the Green Belt Movement, she has planted more than 51 million trees, combating deforestation and soil erosion, revitalizing the local economy, and generating employment for women.

The "2025 Founder's Special Prize" has been awarded to Xanana Gusmão, Prime Minister of East Timor, who has dedicated his life to his country's independence and reconstruction. As the first president and current government leader, he has established democracy and peace in the nation.

His leadership in international cooperation has been crucial for East Timor's stability and development, and as founder and first president of g7+, he has promoted global solidarity among conflict-affected countries.

*①Sunhak Peace Prize Founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han ②~⑤On January 15, the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee in Seoul held a press conference to announce the winners of the 6th prize. From left to right, Sunhak Peace Prize laureates: Patrick Awuah, Hugh Evans, Wanjira Mathai, and Founder's Special Prize winner, Xanana Gusmão. ⑥During the press conference held at the Seoul Press Center, Committee Chairman Barroso announced the winners via video message. ⑦Dr. Moon Yeon-ah, member of the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee, read the founder's welcome message. ⑧Yang Chang-shik, President of the Sunhak Peace Prize Foundation, announced the prize winners.*