

Peace Road 2016

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By Steinar Murud

The PEACE ROAD project 2016 was organized on a short notice but gathered more participants than last year. As an alternative to academic or more theoretical events, the PEACE ROAD seems to inspire many new people in a different way. It is a new approach to peace.

This year's topic was «One World, One Korea», with the specific goal to support the opening of a 5th UN Office in Korea. With such a goal we were happy to have three Koreans among the participants.

The PEACE ROAD-launch took place at our church centre in Oslo, while the

activity was a hike to the top of one of the highest mountains in South Norway, Gaustadtoppen (1883 metres). In good weather the view is spectacular, with the possibility to see one sixth of Norway.

The hikers drove by car from Oslo and gathered at the foot of the mountain for a common march to the top. Reaching the top took about two and a half hours.

According to the weather forecast we expected bright sunshine. Therefore we were surprised to see a grey sky and clouds. As we arrived on the top the fog became thicker and it even started to rain. However as we stayed at the top, enjoying our lunch, the weather

started to clear up. And bit by bit new parts of the horizon were revealed. That was spectacular and very rewarding, as if heaven were giving its blessing. We were all very inspired!

Our group of 26 participants was an interesting mix of young and old, from high school students to retired. 8 nationalities were represented from 4 continents. In itself the group was a micro-world where every one managed to reach the top.

Let us hope that this year's PEACE ROAD can serve as a condition for Korea and the World to "reach the top" and be unified!

