

Towards a new vision for developing Universal Peace Federation in Europe

Background and introduction

UPF was born in 2005 out of IIFWP (Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace) which had itself been established by True Parents in the late 1990s. It began with True Father's inaugural world tour of 120 plus nations and his initiation of many International Leadership Conferences ("ILCs"). In other words its early growth was very much stimulated from the top down.

In its initial years members of FFWPU in Europe focussed on it very much, almost to the exclusion of FFWPU (2005-2009) making tens of thousands of ambassadors for peace across Europe.

From 2009 to 2012 the focus of our European movement shifted away markedly towards FFWPU and this focus on FFWPU was emphasised even more with True Mother's directions leading up to Foundation Day.

True Parents's vision was always for UPF to be a truly universal organisation reaching out to all kind of people by all kinds of members and by no means (as has tended to happen) to high level people only by very specialised UPF staff persons. For example, Father said "make babies and young people AfPs".

It should be the widest (most universal) gate to True Parents' realm of heart.

Strengths of UPF

- 1) Brought many high level VIPs to ILCs and ELCs (recently to World Summit 2013)
- 2) Brought many AfPs (maybe 25,000) to initial events (U.N. days etc)
- 3) Made many good contacts with parliamentarians (e.g. U.K. Bosnia, Malta, Albania/Kosovo)
- 4) Great way to reach out to high level VIPs in a non-church way through projects and activities and general peace-related principles derived from D.P.

Weaknesses of UPF

- 1) Did not understand and implement True Parents vision (it stayed as mostly a way a few UPF staff witnessing to high level people in society)
- 2) Lack of its own discreet leadership, identity & resources
- 3) Many nations do not have a Secretary-General at all or no effective one
- 4) Lack of way for FFWPU members to have ownership of UPF (can't be AfPs or members) therefore little utilised
- 5) Brought many to the gates but few inside (regular contact and cooperation) and even fewer to Blessing and almost none to FFWPU membership)

e.g. many came to ILCs and ELCs, to TP's speeches, Little Angels performances etc but never came back because we had no ready way to reach out to them or bring them closer.

How to develop UPF in line with the 20/20 vision

We need to re-establish UPF as the principle initial contact point for all kinds of people with our movement and an organisation that develops them until they are blessed. At that point (if not earlier) they should be taken care of by the FFWPU/The church which (unlike UPF!) is equipped to guide them to actually fulfil their Blessing.

UPF should develop as a discreet and externally separate organisation from FFWPU and WFWP with all the advantages that that entails (It should not be able to be seen or portrayed as a branch or extension of the church)

UPF should become a membership organisation giving both AfPs and FFWPU members and others the means to use it to bring people to TP's (e.g. Tribal Messiahs use to witness to their families and tribes and AfPs to witness to their children).

Membership should be of a very simple kind (as with WFWP) consisting of the right to be kept informed, attend events etc, not necessarily with any voting or decision taking rights.

A modest annual fee would be charged (say, 70 euros in Western Europe 40 in Eastern Europe and 25 euros in the Balkans). This would give UPF the resources to keep members informed regularly throughout the year through e.newsletters and invitations to events and help our many contacts to stay connected and not drift away after initial contact.

Focus principally on 6 key nations of UK, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Albania and Kosovo but develop all nations as much as possible.

Each nation should appoint a capable UPF team (Secretary-General plus Secretary/Admin person to carry out UPF programme and activities in that nation!

Main duties and activities of National Chapters

- 1) Appoint capable Secretary-General ("S-G") and Secretary ("Sec")
- 2) Create an "education stream" for existing AfPs and other able type contacts through D.P teaching (in accordance with True Mothers direction to teach DP constantly.
Teaching the word of God should be just as much the life blood of UPF as of FFWPU!
- 3) Contribute to ILCs and ELCs by sending national level participants
- 4) Make new AfPs and new UPF members (an empowerment package of written materials, DVDs etc will be compiled on the European and national levels as an aid and set of guidelines to assist UPF type witnessing.
- 5) Provide very simple induction sessions for new members showing how UPF can be used for outreach purposes and how it should not be used.

6) Create activities and responsibilities to engage AfPs in working for the providence (e.g.

Sourcing items for DPRK medical aid project, IRFF Africa projects, Hyderabad orphanage, doing secretarial work in the UPF office etc etc..)

7) Keep AfPs and UPF members informed about UPF activities (monthly newsletter etc)

Each nation's S-G and Sec. should have a clear mission statement to guide his/her mission and UPF's development