



HWPL NEWS

Monthly Newsletter of Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light

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2016
Heavenly Culture
World Peace
Restoration of Light



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Looking back at HWPL's 2016

Looking back over the year of 2016 as it nears its end, it can be seen that HWPL took another great leap forward towards sustainable peace-building throughout the world. HWPL has been the inspiration, motivation, and guidance for leaders in all levels and fields of society, social workers, artists, and all citizens longing for

January

The monument to the Declaration of World Peace erected in Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao Province, Philippines



2016.1

April

The launch of the Legislate Peace Campaign - the worldwide support program collecting signatures advocating the implementation of the DPCW



2016.4

2016.3

2016.5



March

The proclamation of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW)



May

105 IPYG Peace Walks held in 52 nations for raising awareness of the Legislate Peace Campaign

Looking back at HWPL's 2016

a world without wars. In this last newsletter of such a wonderful year, HWPL reflects on the work of peace it has carried out through this journey of 12 months, as well as how it seeks to carry on the mission of world peace further.

June

The Korea- China- Japan Trilateral Religious Leaders' Peace Conference & Mahatma Gandhi Prize for Non-Violent Peace Award Ceremony



2016.6

Sept

- Hosting the 2nd Annual Commemoration of the World Alliance of Religions' Peace (WARP) Summit
- World leaders' active and practical discussions on introducing a resolution based on the principles of the DPCW to the UN



2016.9

2016.7-8

2016.10-11



July - Aug

Official letters and videos of support received from the world that support the work of adopting the DPCW at the UN



Nov - Dec

Establishing the Group of Friendly States and cooperating for the submission of the DPCW to the UN in 2017

Realizing the law for humanity, the DPCW to be introduced to the UN

HWPL's International law initiative for the cessation of wars and world peace has borne its fruit in 2016 through the 3rd International Law Peace Committee meeting, which led to the completion of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW).

On 14 March 2016 current ministers, chief justices, and parliament members of each nation were invited to the meeting and witnessed the proclamation of the Declaration. Since then, through the Legislate Peace Campaign, the DPCW and its values have been widely spread and endorsed by official letters and collected signatures of former and current heads of state, ministers, city mayors, and representatives of civil societies, religious leaders, and many citizens.

In September, during the 2nd Annual Commemoration of the WARP Summit, in-depth discussions on the topic of the adoption of the Declaration as a UN Resolution were held by UN experts, chief justices, Ministers of Justice, and Chairmen of National Assemblies.

Currently, HWPL is networking with States and IGOs to establish cooperative relationships and create a group of friendly states that strongly support the initiative and the DPCW in order to introduce the document to the UN.

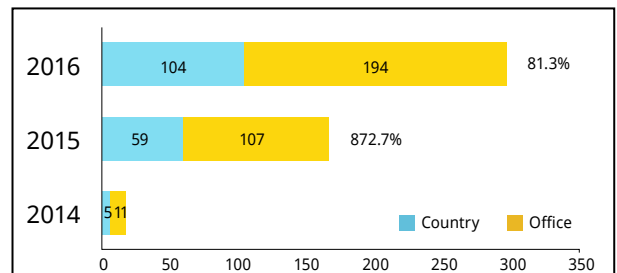


Discovering the answer for truth, Religious leaders united under interfaith peace dialogues

HWPL currently operates WARP Offices, which are offered as a practical solution to achieve peace and bring an end to war, terrorism and armed conflicts that have arisen from differences in religious ideologies and conflicts. On the 18th of September 2014, religious leaders at the WARP Summit signed the Unity of Religion Agreement after Chairman Lee urged them to bring all religions together to become one in order to prevent any more religious conflicts. Starting in 2014, 11 WARP Offices were established in 5 countries. In 2015, the number quickly grew and 107 WARP Offices were held in 59 countries. As of December 2016, 194 WARP Offices found in 104 countries were currently in session. This year, we have seen a 76.3% increase in the number of hosting countries and an 81.3% increase in the number of WARP Offices in session.

WARP Office participants gathered at the 2nd Annual Commemoration of the September 18th WARP Summit to discuss the standards of trustworthy scriptures. After having thorough investigations and discussions, 6 panelists representing each major section of faith (Anglicanism, Orthodox Church, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism) agreed upon 'prophecy and fulfillment' as one of the important standards that makes a scripture trustworthy. Since the WARP Summit in 2016, WARP Office participants have been actively engaging in conversations and discussions which also focus on the search for concrete standards that make a scripture trustworthy.

Year	# of Countries	# of Office	# of Countries G/R	# of Offices G/R
2014	5	11		
2015	59	107	1080.0%	872.7%
2016	104	194	76.3%	81.3%



HWPL Media Network, delivering the news of peace



Growth in Media Presence



Diversification in Media Coverage



HWPL Publicity Ambassador



Media Forum
(for Advocacy of the DPCW)



Press coverage on HWPL peace initiatives and global projects has been increasing every year. Such peace-building actions, including advocacy movements in support of an international law for peace, inter-religious harmony, and peace education, have gained support and attention from the international community.

1. Growth of HWPL's Media Reports

- Growth in Media Coverage : 590 in 2014 → 1,100 in 2015 → 1,800 in 2016
- Major media groups that covered news on, or built a partnership with, HWPL include CNN, BBC, Aljazeera, MAP, and PTI
- Diverse media groups that covered HWPL include TV news and visual media outlets, newspapers, radio, press associations, and internet news

2. Development of a Press Network aiming to support HWPL's peace activities

- *Feb 24* : HWPL Media Forum, Indonesia
- *Mar 23* : SABC, HWPL, and Turquoise Harmony Institute host a dialogue for "Our Common Humanity", South Africa
- *May 16* : Peacebuilding through Information and Communication, Morocco
- *June 4* : HWPL Short Film Festival, Georgia
- *Aug 6* : Media Forum for Peace and Non-violence, Egypt
- *Sep 17* : Media Forum for Advocacy of the DPCW during the 2nd Annual Commemoration of the WARP Summit, South Korea



HWPL Publicity Ambassadors in the Press :

129 Ambassadors from 118 media organizations in 54 nations (as of October 2016)

The role of the ambassadors is to establish global and regional associations for journalists and increase media coverage on peace activities to raise awareness.

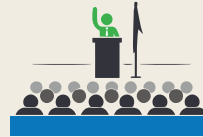
IPYG, calling youth to unite in an effort to stop wars



Growth in Membership Organizations



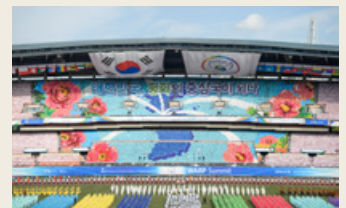
International Law for Peace



Advocacy Forum for the DPCW



Peace Festival for the WARP Summit



1. Growth in Membership Organizations

- 1) 5.2 million members from 797 partner organizations in 110 countries (Dec 2016)
 - 2) 220 projects in association with partner organizations to improve the recognition of peace-building efforts in local areas
- Advocacy movements in support of the DPCW include meetings and the writing of signatures by 700,000 citizens as of December this year

2. Actions towards Global Advocacy of the International Law for Peace

- 1) Promotion Activities and Seminars for the DPCW
 - 68 seminars in 32 countries
 - 700,000 signatures from citizens in support of the DPCW
- 2) Peace Walks
 - 53 events in 35 countries in 2016

3. Advocacy Forum for the DPCW

- Youth leaders from the UN participated in the summit to support the DPCW.
- Representatives of youth organizations gathered to discuss action plans in order for the DPCW to be recognized in international organizations.

4. Peace Festival for the WARP Summit

IPYG Card Performance : 12,000 youth members of IPYG participated in making combinations of images created through cards, which illustrated the atrocities of wars in the 20th century and asked for support for the cessation of war and world peace based on the principles of the DPCW.

Peace cannot come by the toil of one person but by the understanding and responsibility of all



After receiving inspiration from the WARP Summit 2016, the summit participants began to organize advocacy forums and signing campaigns in their respective countries to spread peace messages and to gather more peace supporters.

The advocacy forum held in Elite Plaza in Yerevan, Armenia on 17 November brought together a total of 62 figures including 6 political parties, social representatives, leaders of religion, women, and youth organizations to develop the environments for peace in the country as well as around the globe. To accomplish this, they focused on the question of why Armenia should support the DPCW.

Participants first shared about Armenian history, which left the people with a lingering sense of anxiety caused by the political and diplomatic instabilities starting from 900 BC. Reflecting upon the necessity of the implementation of an instrument that encompasses all nations, they then shared the principles of the DPCW which addresses the issue of

conflict resolution based on preventing war-related behaviors, safeguarding religious and ethnic identities, and encouraging a culture of peace through international cooperation.

Rt. Hon. Hrant Bagratyan, the former Prime Minister of Armenia and an HWPL Peace Advocacy Committee member said, "The forum and discussion sessions went very well. It helped people's understanding about the Declaration," and "the document fully corresponds to the wishes of Armenians."

15 international press agencies have covered and broadcasted the Armenian advocacy forums through 17 different reports. One of the news companies also wrote that "The successive forum is already being organized which may open in mid-December with the follow-up measures of participants. HWPL expects more of this kind of forums in many nations, the organized movement by the figures who promised to take action when they go back to their own homeland."

Tbilisi Model United Nations (MUN) 2016 Autumn Session



While Armenia was moved by prominent leaders from various sectors, in Georgia, the youth were motivated by the Tbilisi Model United Nations (MUN) 2016 Autumn Session which was held at the International Black Sea University.

As MUN is an educational simulation in which students get opportunities to learn about diplomacy and international relations under a similar system to that of the United Nations, an NGO, Georgian Model United Nations Association(GMUNA), invited HWPL and 130 students from various schools throughout Tbilisi to introduce the DPCW at this MUN session.

Participants including high school and college students showed a great interest in the principles of the document since it encompasses peace and security, which aims for an ultimate end of armed conflicts through peaceful means. They signed to support and urge for the successful introduction of the Declaration to the UN.

One of the participating students said that the aim of the DPCW is "something you cannot see in MUN. It was pretty fascinating to experience and see other participants begin to work together to understand and make things better, since it can profit all of the current issues that we face. It sounds like the ultimate good."

The next simulation session that GMUNA is planning to hold early next year will practice the part in relations to the UN Committees and their system to demonstrate the adoption process of the DPCW and for the purposes of furthering the advocacy activities.



2016 Conference in Support of HWPL's Work for Peace and Cessation of War

Korean political officials, religious leaders, press, and citizens, a total of 1,000 people, gathered at a conference hosted by HWPL on 24 November 2016 in Coex Auditorium to demonstrate the urgency with which a legally binding document based on the principles of the DPCW must be implemented.

HWPL Chairman Man Hee Lee emphasized that the work of peace can no longer be put off and that the leaders must take action beyond mere lip service. "The international community has to acknowledge what is delineated in the DPCW and then modify and develop the current international legal systems."

The advocacy conference sought to demonstrate how to remedy disparities caused by war and war-like activities throughout the world.

Chairwoman Nam Hee Kim of IWPG said that women's leadership and participation are essential for the global peace process. "Peace is not something that can be achieved by the authority or power of politicians or noble men. However, despite many obstacles, the work of peace must be done. IWPG gathers the 3.6 billion women of the world and actively works for the Declaration to be adopted by

the UN."

Twelve panelists representing government, civil society, university, and faith-based organizations each spoke respectively about their explicit support for the Declaration and urged that the leaders at all levels should cooperate with HWPL's work for peace and cessation of war, creating an environment for peace-building.

Mr. Yu-Hyuk Kim, tenured emeritus professor of Dan-Kuk University, in his commemorative speech, emphasized that HWPL produces substantial results in bringing peace. "We all have the same purpose of achieving the world of peace without wars. In reality, it is to make a better future and ideally, it is to infinitely settle peace and realize the far-reaching universal value of humanity...This work has been proclaimed by many, but HWPL Chairman, the greatest peace advocate, is beyond the proclamation and always on the move to bring forth peace."

During the interview, some panelists shared their experience of participating in this conference and HWPL's World Alliance of Religions' Peace (WARP) Office.



Q. What is your impression of the 2016 HWPL Advocacy Conference for Peace and Cessation of War?



Mr. Seong-Sil Bae, Ethics Chairman of Sungkyunkwan Confucian Elders Committee

"Speaking of cessation of war, it is incredible work. I've attended the WARP Office three times and I was genuinely surprised. I am also a veteran and fought in the Vietnam War in 1965. I have experienced the atrocities of war with my own eyes. Those who have not experienced war do not understand its nature. I felt the worst of humanity, war, should never happen in any circumstances.

I was delightfully surprised to have found out that Chairman Lee is doing this very work through HWPL - cessation of war. For this work, I was determined to dedicate my entire life and be at the forefront in promoting this work worldwide as an HWPL Publicity Ambassador while participating at the event."

The conference brought the Korean leaders to the forefront of international peace and security and presented their creative partnerships to inspire the world in the peace-building arena under the banner of the DPCW.

Peace Messengers who enlivened the year 2016

Many around the world are working to bring peace and prosperity, overcoming the barriers of nationality, religion, ethnicity and language differences. We are taking this opportunity to express our gratitude to the 'Peace Messengers of the Year' who have greatly advanced the peace-building process with HWPL in 2016.

Mr. Orly L. Escarrilla - Museum Director, Museo Dabawenyo of Davao City

As the museum director of Museo Dabawenyo, he has received 1,126 signatures of support for the DPCW from the museum visitors during a period of 6 months. He is currently continuing the campaign to spread the message of peace in the museum.



Mr. Omar Er-rouch - Head of the English Desk, Moroccan News Agency (MAP)

At the Media Forum held during the 2nd Annual Commemoration of the WARP Summit, he served as a chair-person for the African continent table and reported HWPL news 4 times through MAP (Moroccan News Agency). He has also given a lecture at the media forum in the school of journalism in Morocco to spur these bright and talented young adults to join the work of peace.



Rt. Hon. Hrant Bagratyan - Armenia / Former Prime Minister

He has expressed support for the Declaration (DPCW) in his written letter of support in March 2016. As a member of the HWPL Peace Advisory Council, he participated in the Advocacy Forum, High-level meetings and other sessions at the Summit this year to discuss the steps of presenting the Declaration to the UN. He also continues to promote the values of the DPCW by organizing Advocacy Forums for the political leaders, youth and women leaders, and the press in Armenia.



Ven. Oeun Sam Art – Secretariat of Supreme Sangha Council / Head Office of Protocol and International Relation

As a personal assistant to H.H Tep Vong, he participated at the WARP Summit this year with His Holiness. Appointed as an HWPL Publicity Ambassador, he’s actively discussed HWPL’s peace work with others and dedicated himself to establishing a curriculum for HWPL Religious Youth Peace Camp and establishing WARP Offices. He is also the founder of lifelibraryfoundation.org, working to build libraries and provide scholarships for the youth of Cambodia.



Pandit Avi Sharma - President of Lord Shiva Hindu Temple

He has participated in the WARP Office in Rotterdam, Netherlands for a total of 7 times in 2016 and actively provided support for organizing WARP Offices in Amsterdam and Italy. As an HWPL Publicity Ambassador, he encouraged not only the religious leaders but also many renowned and powerful figures to join the work of peace.



A Closer Look at the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War – Article IX

The Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW) has been drafted with the intent of promoting the respect of fundamental human rights and international law, and of further involving States in the active protection of those rights. In this month's newsletter, let us take a closer look at the Article 9 and 10 of the DPCW. (The full text of the Declaration and its explanation booklet are also available at www.peacelaw.org)



Article 9 - Religion, ethnic identity and peace

1. States should engage in multilateral consultations to deal with situations where differences attributable to religion or ethnicity pose a threat to peace so that necessary remedial action may be taken and to identify the root causes of a situation causing tension between different religious or ethnic groups, in order to adopt necessary measures to promote mutual understanding between the groups concerned.
2. States should take measures to ensure that religious belief or ethnic identity are not utilized as a pretext for gross and systematic acts of violence. In circumstances where individuals or groups perpetrate or assist in such acts in the name of their religion, states should take adequate measures that lead to the prosecution and punishment of such activities.
3. Recognizing the threat to peaceful coexistence that violent religious extremism may cause, states should implement, in good faith, legal measures against individuals or groups attempting to perpetrate or assist in gross and systematic acts of violence in the name of religion. Such measures should, in extreme cases, include the proscription of faith groups –including sects or cults – that perpetrate acts of violence against the territorial integrity and political independence of any state.



A Closer Look at the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War – Article X



Article 10 - Spreading a culture of peace

1. States should recognize and engage with groups and organizations that seek to further the cause of peace as a global movement. States should facilitate such groups in their awareness-raising activities, including providing tuition in human rights and peace studies, as provided for, inter alia, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1999 UN Declaration on a Culture of Peace.
2. States should recognize that, in order to preserve a lasting culture of peace, public awareness of the need for, and value of, peace should be created. In this regard, states are encouraged to facilitate activities, commemorations, and initiatives that engage public consciousness with peace, including the erection of peace monuments as an alternative to war monuments.
3. Heads of state and heads of government should acknowledge that they are uniquely well placed to encourage a culture of peace, and should act to support this declaration to bring about the cessation of war.
4. States should promote a culture of peace including ensuring conditions in which-
 - (a) citizens are able to participate in the political affairs of the state as equals regardless of religious or ethnic differences;
 - (b) a free media is maintained which allows grievances to be aired and addressed; and
 - (c) education is imparted to promote respect and mutual understanding among different religious, belief and ethnic groups;
 - (d) the right to development of peoples, including the achievement of the UN sustainable development goals, can be realized; and
 - (e) the wellbeing of all human kind with the participation of women and men to ensure peaceful coexistence amongst nations, states, and peoples may be guaranteed.



2016 HWPL NEWS



The HWPL Public Relations Department would like to express our deepest gratitude to the subscribers of the HWPL Monthly Newsletter. We began issuing it to accurately and quickly deliver the message of peace to our global peace family concerning the vision, current issues, events, and activities of HWPL. In the upcoming year, we will continue to deliver HWPL's worldwide global peace projects to your doorstep.

This short questionnaire (link below) will be an opportunity to share your opinions about the HWPL Newsletter and will bring us one step closer to our valuable readers. Your insights will improve our performance and give a fresh direction to the HWPL Newsletter.

Please click the link below and give us your feedback and suggestions.

Those who participate and complete the questionnaire will be provided with a small gift from HWPL. Please be sure to include your mailing address.



Google Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/vSTKJNoezziqtVU93>



Suffering and tears are still there ...

Despite the attempts and wishes of many longing for peace this year, war-like activities and terrors are continuously being carried out in major areas facing armed conflicts. The question then becomes, why is it that the innocent children, women, and citizens have to experience all those atrocities? What can compensate for their lives? Why are they still being sacrificed?

To put an end to unnecessary fights and leave the legacy of peace to future generations, HWPL will work effortlessly to re-define and legislate the concept of peace that all leaders and citizens should perceive through developing and urging for an international instrument based on the DPCW, as well as to establish true interfaith harmony through HWPL's WARP Office meetings.

Gettyimage August 22, 2016

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ABC NEWS Sep 12, 2016



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