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Proclamation Ceremony of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War



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The 3rd HWPL International Law Peace Committee Meeting

Marking the 3rd committee meeting, the HWPL International Law Peace Committee met before the proclamation ceremony. Through 3 days of in-depth discussions on making the final modifications, the com-

mittee has finally achieved writing the final draft of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War. Coming from various legal and cultural backgrounds, each of the committee members provided and shared their expertise and insights on each article and provision which made the proclamation ceremony possible. The HWPL International Law Peace Committee played a pivotal role in publicly presenting the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War and reaffirming our solidarity in supporting the necessity of an international law being implemented for a world without wars.



HWPL International Law Peace Committee Speaks on the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War



"The proclamation of this Declaration means a lot. It means the achievement of efforts made by number of people and great idea of Chairman Lee to send the message to the world, calling for peace and solidarity among nations...The idea is to have this document (the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War) as an invitation. This declaration is an invitation for the heads of state. We call upon them to see the ideals and the principles shown in this declaration that are common to lots of people around the world. Our expectation is, if we have significant number of followers, heads of state will have to listen to us. Once they listen to us, then, our principle, our ideas can take force and become the law, international law of the future, hopefully the near-future."

Dr. Fathi Kemicha
Tunisian Republic



"The biggest problem created by mankind for themselves is the pursuit of power and pursuit of controlling others' faiths. Perhaps this Declaration could not solve all the problems, but at least we've put much effort to reaffirm our solidarity and produce this document (Declaration)...As a non-governmental organization, HWPL's strength lies on the dedication, energy, and spirit that its members are showing particularly under the chairmanship of Mr. Lee. If they continue to put their efforts, this Declaration will get attention from the global community and it may lay the foundation of a binding convention in the future."

Prof. Dr. Nazrul Islam
Republic of Bangladesh



"We (the HWPL International Law Peace Committee) recognize that conflicts are emerging in very high number in the world today. I believe that it is time to have a global discussion on the cessation of war and armed conflicts in the global context...We should not forget that the highest number of victims in the war are children and women. I am strongly convinced that women should take participation in the process before the start of the war or during the armed conflicts so that the voices of women are heard. I believe that what is the most important right now is the prevention of any armed conflicts, and that women should be involved in this process. We, women, can contribute to it, and I believe we, all human beings, are equal including women."

Mgr. Anna Cervenakova
Czech Republic



"The HWPL International Law Peace Committee has worked on the draft of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War which in a way reminds the number of important principles in the International Law that relates to the prohibition on the use of force in the international relations, the principles of the basic human rights, the freedom of religions, etc and number of very important objectives...The proclamation of the Declaration is like the reminder toward everyone around the world that international law is important that the peace settlement of disputes is to be promoted and that is how you can have a world which is free from war and armed conflicts."

Mr. Narinder Singh
Republic of India



Proclamation Ceremony of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War

Over 1,000 renowned figures both from Korea and all over the world including Ministers, legal representatives, media, youth, and women's organizations have gathered to support the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War at the COEX Auditorium in Seoul, Republic of Korea on March 14, 2016. The proclamation ceremony served not only as a platform to proclaim such a Declaration to the public but also to initiate its development process into an enforceable International Law, bringing forth a world without wars.

Purpose

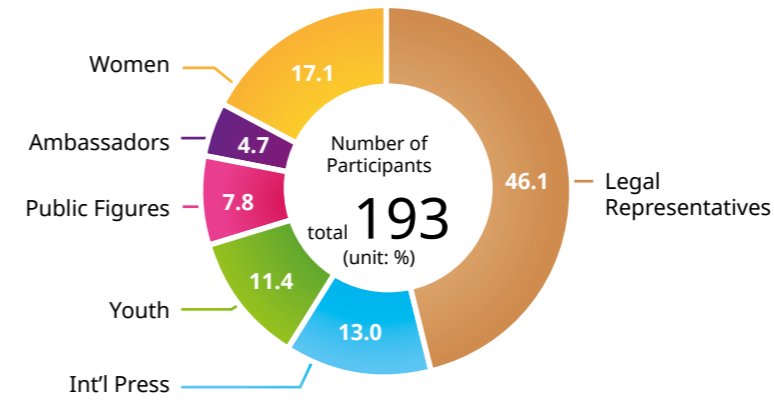
As current international law is based upon a premise that armed force can be used in certain circumstances, without change, it would be impossible to completely stamp out the embers of conflict. Everyone who truly wants a world of peace should take part in establishing a new international legal instrument that will cease all wars on earth. The Proclamation Ceremony of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War has been arranged to proclaim and commemorate the Declaration drafted by Chairman Man Hee Lee of HWPL and the HWPL International Law Peace Committee to urge all people of the world to join this work.

Achievements

1. Publicly presented the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War
2. Initiated the development process of the Declaration into an enforceable International Law that can be effectively implemented
3. Reaffirmed the necessity of an international law being implemented for a world without wars

Participants

Participants from all over the world



Participants of diverse social and cultural backgrounds added a wide range of perspectives into the ceremony. While majority of participants were legal representatives (46.1%), the other half consisted of sectors such as youth (11.4%), women (17.1%), public figures (7.8%), international press (13.0%), and Ambassadors (4.7%). All attendees played an integral role in increasing awareness of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of World and maximizing its potential.

HWPL International Law Peace Committee

The HWPL International Law Peace Committee, consisting primarily of leading influential experts in the field of international law, was established during the 1st Annual Commemoration of the World Alliance of Religions' Peace (WARP) Summit in September 2015. The committee members, under the clear purpose of prohibiting war and war-like activities, have been tirelessly working to develop the draft of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War which was publicly presented only after 6 months the committee was inaugurated.





<The Declaration, comprised of the Preamble and 10 Articles and 38 provisions,
due to its length only the first provision of each article will be provided on this page>
The full text is available at www.peacelaw.org

Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War

Article 1 - Prohibition of the threat or use of force

1. States should solemnly reaffirm that they refrain from the use of force in all circumstances, save where permitted by international law, and should condemn aggression as constituting an international crime.

Article 2 - War potential

1. States should co-operate with a view to the gradual global reduction of armament production.

Article 3 - Friendly relations and the prohibition of acts of aggression

1. In accordance with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2625 (XXV), states should develop friendly relations based upon respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and should take appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace.

Article 4 - State boundaries

1. In accordance with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2625 (XXV), every State has the duty to refrain in its international relations from military, political, economic, or any other form of coercion aimed against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations. This is without prejudice to instances when such forms of coercion may be lawfully applied, inter alia, to induce states to cease internationally wrongful acts, or when sanctioned by the United Nations Security Council.

Article 5 - Self-determination

1. The duty of every state to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political indepen-

dence of any other state includes the duty not to engage in any action that would result in the dismemberment of any state, or force the secession or annexation of any territorial unit from that state.

Article 6 - Dispute settlement

1. States should recognize the obligation to settle their international disputes through peaceful means including reference to the International Court of Justice, other judicial bodies, regional judicial arrangements, or through arbitration, mediation, conciliation, or other forms of alternative dispute resolution and in such a manner that international peace and security are not endangered. States should carry out any judgment or decision reached by a judicial body in good faith.

Article 7 - Right to self-defence

1. Nothing in the present Declaration should be construed so as to impair the inherent right to individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a State, until such time as the Security Council has taken measures to maintain international peace and security.

Article 8 - Freedom of religion

1. States should unite to strengthen international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs.

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.

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.



Today will never be forgotten in the history of mankind. Why would that be the case? Today is the day the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War is proclaimed to the entire world. Peace, something beyond our wildest dream, has come into our hands in the form of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War. If we are truly family members of this world, we need to be in one heart, one will and one purpose for the cessation of war and achievement of world peace. We need to throw ourselves into this work, and become messengers of peace. Furthermore, we will build peace monuments and provide peace education so that our future generations can cherish and be reminded of this moment and live well. Just as the marathon became the starting point to celebrate Olympic Games, the whole world has been running for several thousand years. Now, we have come to a point of final destination point. As we proclaim peace to the world, and I hope everyone in the world will be able to participate in the atmosphere of festival and celebration.



Mr. Man Hee Lee,
Chairman of HWPL



I am truly proud of all of you here in attendance. You are the foundation of the peace of humanity, the heroes for the future generations. Our children will be able to live in a new era of peace, thanking you for making it possible. The name of each and every one of you will shine gloriously in history. Once the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War is proclaimed today, all the youth and women around the world will raise their voices to advocate it. They will urge

the international community to implement the provisions of the Declaration. The completion of this work is right before our eyes. And for this achievement, the IWPG and IPYG, which are the two wings of HWPL, will continue to march forward until the very end. We also urge all of you here in attendance to participate. Dear HWPL Advisory Council members, please continue to be HWPL's companions of peace. All of you, the ministers and officials from around the world, please make this Declaration known in your own countries so that it can take effect internationally. And to all journalists—we ask that you become the trumpets of peace, the trumpets that proclaim this historic moment of peace to the ends of the earth. Ending wars is the most valuable thing we can accomplish and leave behind for the future generations; this will become their eternal inheritance. Today is not an end, but a beginning, the true beginning of the era of peace. We, the IWPG, will support you as a united force of 3.6 billion women around the world. I promise on behalf of all women to protect our children from the war fronts. When light meets light, there is victory.

Ms. Nam Hee Kim,
Chairwoman's of IWPG



"It (the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War) is considered as a culmination for all International Conventions and Treaties to which the State of Palestine has joined and committed itself to, and we are looking for that this Charter will contribute for the commitment of all States to stop wars, renounce conflicts and achieve peace."

H.E. Ali Abu Diak,
Minister of Justice
The State of Palestine



"Since peace is the responsibility of the whole international community, the role of women is not less important than that of men, especially as regards their pioneer role in families, societies and countries. Also, we must not forget their effective contributions at the international level as concerns facing all forms of dictatorship, injustice, segregation and terror."

H.E. Alice Chabtini
Minister of Displaced and Acting
Minister of Justice in Lebanon



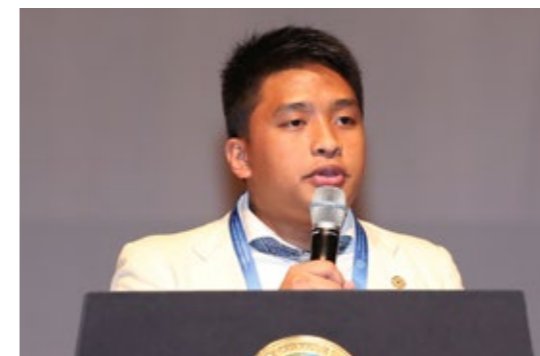
"The fate of the human beings rest in our hands, and we have to decide whether we should be united for our own survival or be divided for our exterminations. People of Sri Lanka wholeheartedly wish for all success of every endeavor of HWPL and IWPG including the declaration of Peace and Cessation of War and all the future activities."

Hon. Wijeyadasa Rajapakse,
Minister of Buddha Sasana
Sri Lanka



"It is no longer lip service that we need but rather an action to make this a reality for all people on this generation and generations to follow. I would urge all people in influence to use their influence for the improvement of the humanity rather than its destruction."

Lex Mpati,
President of Supreme Court of Appeal
South Africa



"We were longing for the Proclamation Ceremony of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War. We truly believe that this unprecedented international law (Declaration) will be achieved soon when we, the youth, urge for it as the HWPL Advocacy Committee."

Abubakar Basman, Security Council
Member of the Muslim Youth Council
and Al-Raid Philippines



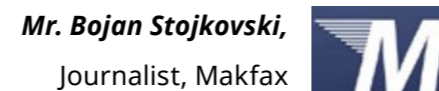
Press Conference

Q. What is the biggest difference between the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War, the one that we witnessed today, from the existing Declarations or International Peace Law?



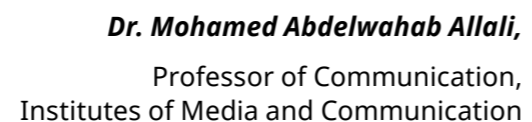
HWPL Chairman Lee: The role of the current international law seems weak when it comes to ceasing all wars and achieving a sustainable peace. Why is it the case? It is because we have justified wars as legally permissible. Within the boundary of this Declaration which will be developed to be accepted by many, war and warlike activities cannot be initiated, all weaponry ought to be transformed into daily tools, and armies can no longer be trained. When we do this work of peace, it will be done. It was deemed impossible only because we did not do it. Stop war and peace will prevail. When we abide by what's stated in the Declaration, war will not break out and peace will be achieved.

Q. What are the driving forces of the implementation of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War?



Dr. Fathi Kemicha, Member of the ICCA Governing Board: The driving force for the implementation of this declaration will be what is already in the hands of HWPL. There is already a good network placed that can be expanded and we (the HWPL International Law Peace Committee) are very optimistic about the outcomes. Once thousands and millions of young people, women, and men go for what is written in the Declaration, the states have no other choice but to listen to the civil society. We are very confident about the (implementation) process.

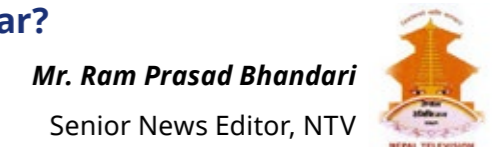
Q. What is the plan of actions of youth and women for the development of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War?



IWPG Chairwoman Kim: The difference between the HWPL Declaration and existing international law is like the difference between heaven and earth. The current international law may minimize the casualties and destructions when war breaks out or tends to be half-hearted for solving conflicts. However, the law proclaimed today is designed to block war completely. We, IWPG and IPYG, the wings of HWPL, will urge this

initiative to be implemented and get agreements from all nations in the international community. It will light the global family's hearts for peace. After the Declaration is implemented, women and youth in each country will constantly urge and monitor the governments to make sure they keep their words, and apply the Peace Curriculum to seed peace-loving minds for the future generations. This Declaration is going to be the best privilege that mankind can enjoy. Thus, we shall not stop after this Declaration but cooperate with the UN so the Earth will never go through war again. That is why all women and youth should gather their strength to achieve world peace.

Q. What is the role of media to develop the Declaration and establish the International Convention of Peace and Cessation of War?



HWPL Chairman Lee: Media has a very important responsibility to be at the forefront of spreading the message of peace as active peace messengers. The Proclamation Ceremony of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War served as a pathway towards peace, providing an opportunity for the world to witness the momentous act in the history of peace. I believe media takes a great part in urging this Declaration so that everyone can take it for granted and it can be effectively implemented worldwide to greet the new era of peace.



The inauguration of the HWPL Peace Advocacy Committee

Following the Proclamation Ceremony, 30 youth and women representatives gathered at the inauguration ceremony of the HWPL Peace Advocacy Committee to further discuss practical action plans for youth and women organizations to promote and urge for the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War. Dedicated to maximize the potential of the Declaration, the committee members provided presentations on various publicity strategies that are applicable to their communities and countries.

The HWPL Peace Advocacy Committee aims to promote and participate in the development process of turning the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War into an enforceable International Law. It does so by engaging the public with online and offline platforms such as social network services, media, HWPL international law seminar, peace walks, peace education etc.

Moreover, it will urge the heads of state to fully support and acknowledge the Declaration and spread a culture of peace by educating their citizens through schools, universities, and public institutions such as libraries and museums. Youth, the future decision-makers, continue to be the driving force in making a peaceful world while women continue to protect the world with the loving heart of a mother.



Judge Gustaf Moller was warmly welcomed by the HWPL protocols

Mr. Pravin H. Parekh, President of Confederation of Indian Bar



The HWPL International Law Peace Committee is posing 'V' for Victory for Peace



Chairwoman Nam Hee Kim is answering questions raised by various international media at the Press Conference



Chairman Man Hee Lee is holding up the signed agreement of support of the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War



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