Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens 2022



Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens 2022

"Religions and Civilizations: Social Justice and Healing for All"

8-9 October 2022 (KST, GMT +9)

BACKGROUND

Since the end of the Cold War, humanity has opened up a global era where the World is linked across borders with the spread of globalization. For the last 30 years, the international society has achieved material prosperity through cooperation and trust and has responded to global crises that threaten human society.

However, as the pandemic of the COVID-19 occurs, the vulnerabilities of social structures hidden by the rapid development of material civilization and the loss of human inner values have been exposed to society, and the World has become more prevalent in spiritual poverty and ignorance with the decline of morality.

As a result, today's peace faces global crises such as our security, livelihood and life-threatening climate, nuclear weapons, and the loss of humanity. It is essential to restore warm humanity with the restoration of morality through harmony between spiritual and material civilization to overcome these crises.

During the outbreak of the COVID-19, the pandemic has kept attacking our communities and workplaces with hate speech and violence directed at racial minorities. These cases have happened around the World. These social justice and healing issues caused by COVID-19 become important tasks that humankind must solve to advance to a higher civilization. How should religions solve these issues to create the One World? Can faith lead to new change for the peaceful World as a key player?





Event: The Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens 2022 will be held in 8-9 October, 2022. (KST) The event will be co-organized by the Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens (ICCGC), Research Center of Religions at the WonKwang University, the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies (SBCS) and the Won-Buddhism UN Office.

Theme: The theme is that "Religions and Civilizations: Social Justice and Healing for All."

Format: Online Conference

Venue: Zoom Webinar

Rationale: The ICCGC was launched according to the united religions movement that has been discussed since 1950s to the present. The conference is the collective intelligence and interfaith action coalition to build a global civil society. The event is sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Republic of Korea and the United Religions Foundation.

Purpose: The purpose of the event is to establish the religious collective intelligence platform to make the 'One World' by advocating global citizenship and spreading its education worldwide.

Participants: More than 200 delegates from government, NGO/NPOs, academic society, religious circle and youth group will be attended the event.

Information

Website

Zoom Webinar ID: <u>844 0931 4133</u> (No Password) Website: <u>www.iccgc.co.kr</u> Language: English-Korean (simultaneous interpretation)

Event Schedule

(Day 1) 8 Oct. 2022, 10:00-17:00 (KST, GMT +9) (Day 2) 9 Oct. 2022, 13:00-17:00 (KST, GMT +9)

The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Korea

Contact Us

Sponsored by

The Won Buddhism

The United Religions Foundation

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Co-organized by

The Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens The Research Center for Religions, Wonkwang University The Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies The Won Buddhism UN Office

In Collaboration with

The World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth The Won Buddhism Committee for United Religions The Corps. PEACE



Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism



Keynote Speaker



"Religions and Civilizations: Social Justice and Healing for All?"

Dr. Mark Unno is a professor of East Asian Buddhism and department head of religious studies at the University of Oregon and is president of the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies (SBCS). Dr. Unno specializes in Classical Japanese Buddhism, Comparative Religious Thought, Interreligious Dialogue, and Buddhism and Psychotherapy. His publications in include: Shingon Refractions: author, Myoe and the Mantra of Light (Wisdom 2004), and editor, Buddhism and Psychotherapy Across Cultures (Wisdom 2006). His essays appear regularly in leading academic journals as well as general audience journals such as Tricycle, Lion's Roar, and Buddhadharma: The Practitioner's Quarterly.

Session Description

Opening Session.

Keynote Speech. "Religions and Civilizations: Social Justice and Healing for All"

During the outbreak of the COVID-19, the pandemic has kept attacking our communities and workplaces with hate speech and violence directed at racial minorities. These cases have happened around the World. These social justice and healing issues caused by COVID-19 become important tasks that humankind must solve to advance to a higher civilization.

Special Dialogue. "How Buddhism can help re-shape a better Post-COVID World?"

Special dialogue will review and discuss further a topic of the keynote speech, with Buddhism and its teaching or philosophy.

Session 1. Peace Dialogue "End Racism. Building Peace"

As conflicts continue to erupt across the globe, causing people to flee, we have seen race-based discrimination at borders. As COVID-19 keeps attacking our communities, we have seen how certain racial groups have been hit much harder than others. As economies suffer, we have seen hate speech and violence directed at racial minorities. We all have a role to play in fostering peace. And tackling racism is a crucial way to contribute. (see more: <u>UN International Day of Peace</u>)

Session 2. Social Justice Dialogue "Faith and Spiritual Leadership to Combat Stigma and Conflict during Pandemic Recovery"

An interfaith dialogue to continue commitment to advance the cause of developing a culture of peace and harmony by bringing together faith and spiritual leaders to motivate people of the world. At this session, leaders will bring their moral and spiritual authority to bear on the need for solidarity and cooperation among peoples and nations of the world, to control the scourge of COVID-19 with resources available and shared equitably. (see more: <u>UN Interfaith Harmony Week</u>)

Session 3. Understanding Religion "Learning Buddhism: Spiritual Outreach through Music"

The session focus on Buddhism and its educational cases of the world's largest Buddhism youth association, the World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth (WFBY). Speakers will present how youth Buddhists behave and what attracts them most, and then they will talk about one of the key ideas we do in spreading dhamma through music. They will introduce how to write music, why it is essential, and how music inspires the learning of dhamma and maybe showcase some samples of Buddhist music.

Session 4. Religion and Peace. "Religion and Relief: A Case for Inter-religious Cooperation in Ukraine"

Millions of refugees from Ukraine have crossed borders into neighboring countries, and many more have been forced to move inside the country due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Faith-based Organizations (FBOs) in Republic of Korea created an emergency relief team and collaborated with local groups in Ukraine to support Ukrainian refugees. The session will discuss and review the situation in Ukraine and the refugee crisis in Ukraine.

Session 5. Knowledge Dialogue. "Trend Reviews: Transformative Education for Global Citizenship"

The COVID-19 pandemic is a watershed moment for education and has held up a mirror to the cracks in our education system. This defining moment in history has coerced us into rethinking education and reimagining learning spaces. However, the religious community still lacks information and knowledge about the global citizenship education and its changes in education because of low interest. This session will discuss on the trends of global citizenship education and its current issues.

Session 6. High-level Dialogue. "The Crisis of Civilization and Religions: Global Challenges and Religious Responses to COVID-19" The COVID-19 pandemic presents major challenges in profound and still evolving ways, with high death tolls and extreme economic and social impacts worldwide. It also raises questions about how religious institutions, beliefs, leaders, and practices are contributing to the ongoing coronavirus crisis and response. In this rapidly evolving situation, religious voices should be part of the broad policy exchange, based on an informed and nuanced understanding of developments.

Closing Session.

Overall Discussion. "Interfaith Coalition for Peace: Focolare Movement and United Religions Movement for the Next"

Although each religion has made various efforts for world peace, the world is still unstable due to poverty, disease, and inequality. In particular, the role of religion in human society has become more important due to the pandemic. Both the Christian Focolare movement and the Won Buddhism united religions movement are for world peace, and we are going to find out what kind of peace movement they will develop after the COVID-19.

Eminent Guests (Alphabetical Order)

Dr. Chigia Castillo (Director, School of Dialogue with Oriental Religions in Tagaytay) Ms. Christina Lee (Inter-religious Dialogue Advisor, Focolare Movement) Rev. Kyoung-won Cho (Editor in Chief, Hanulannews) Rev. Won-Hyoung Cho (Executive Secretary, World BongGong Foundation) Mr. Eun-sang Choi (Chairperson, United Religions Foundation) Dr. U-tak Chung (Senior Advisor, Global Partnership for Education in Korea) Rev. Je-kyung Chung (Won Buddhism) Rev. Young-hoon Han (Won Buddhism) Rev. Dr. Seok Heo (Associate Professor, Wonkwang University) Rev. Ji-hae Jang (Editor in Chief, Wonnews) Dr. Azza Karam (Secretary-General, Religions for Peace International) Dr. Julius-Kei Kato (Associate Professor, King's College-Western University) Dr. Sung-gon Kim (Honorary President, Asian Conference of Religions of Peace) Rev. Tae-sung Kim (Secretary-General, Korean Conference for Religions for Peace) Rev. Young-joo Kim (Chairperson, Korea Peace Foundation) Dr. Joon-suk Lee (Executive Director, Corps. PEACE) Rev. Dr. Leo Lefebure (Professor, Georgetown University & Co-chairs, ICCGC 2022) Dr. Carloyn Jones Medine (Professor, University of Georgia) Rev. Hakuga Murayama (President, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth) Mr. Petro Pak (President, ASADAL) Rev. Do-yeon Park (Co-chair, The Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations) Rev. Young-in Sa (Director, Won Buddhism UN Office & Co-chairs, ICCGC 2022) Dr. Kunihiko Terasawa (Associate Professor, Wartburg College) Dr. Mark Unno (Professor, University of Oregon & President, SBCS) Mr. Mooi Chee Onn (Vice-president, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth) Cedric Tan (Member, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth) Tee Ke Hui (Member, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth)

Poh Wee Fah (Member, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth)

Day 1

8 October 2022, 10:00-17:00 (KST, GMT+9)

10:00-11:30	Opening Session
	Theme Video
	Opening Player & One Minute of Silence
	Rev. Je-kyung Chung (Won Buddhism)
	Welcome Remarks
	Rev. Dr. Leo Lefebure (Professor, Georgetown University & Co-chairs, ICCGC 2022)
	Congratulatory Address
	Mr. Eun-sang Choi (Chairperson, United Religions Foundation)
	Peace Message
	Dr. Sung-gon Kim (Honorary President, Asian Conference of Religions of Peace)
	Keynote Speech (25 min)
	Topic: "Religions and Civilizations: Social Justice and Healing for All"
	(Speaker) Dr. Mark Unno (Professor, University of Oregon & President, SBCS)
	Special Dialogue (45 min)
	Topic: "How Buddhism can help re-shape a better Post-COVID World?"
	(Moderator) Dr. Kunihiko Terasawa (Associate Professor, Wartburg College)
	(Discussion) Dr. Mark Unno (Professor, University of Oregon & President, SBCS)
	Rev. Hakuga Murayama (President, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth)
	Peace Music
	Gen Verde, "WE CHOOSE PEACE"
11:30-11:45	Break
11:45-13:00	Session 1. Peace Dialogue
	Topic: "End Racism. Building Peace"
	(Moderator) Rev. Dr. Leo Lefebure (Professor, Georgetown University)
	(Discussion) Dr. Carloyn Jones Medine (Professor, University of Georgia)
	Dr. Julius-Kei Kato (Associate Professor, King's College-Western University)
	Dr. Kunihiko Terasawa (Associate Professor, Wartburg College)
13:00-14:00	Break
14:00-15:15	Session 2. Social Justice Dialogue
	Topic: "Faith and Spiritual Leadership to Combat Stigma and Conflict during Pandemic Recovery"
	(Moderator) Rev. Ji-hae Jang (Editor in Chief, Wonnews)
	(Discussion) Rev. Tae-sung Kim (Secretary-General, Korean Conference for Religions for Peace)
	Dr. Chigia Castillo (Director, School of Dialogue with Oriental Religions in Tagaytay)
	Dr. Joon-suk Lee (Executive Director, Corps. PEACE)
15:15-15:30	Break
15:30-17:00	Session 3. Understanding Religion
	Topic: "Spiritual Outreach through Music"
	Mr. Mooi Chee Onn (Vice-president, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth)

Cedric Tan (Member, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth) Tee Ke Hui (Member, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth) Poh Wee Fah (Member, World Fellowship of Buddhist Youth)

Day 2

9 October 2022, 13:00-17:00 (KST, GMT+9)

Session 4. Religion and Peace Dialogue
Topic: "Religion and Relief: A Case for Inter-religious Cooperation in Ukraine"
(Moderator) Rev. Young-hoon Han (Won Buddhism)
(Presentation) Mr. Petro Pak (President, ASADAL)
(Discussion) Rev. Young-joo Kim (Chairperson, Korea Peace Foundation)
Rev. Won-hyoung Cho (Executive Secretary, World BongGong Foundation)
Session 5. Knowledge Dialogue (ICCGC Talks 1)
Topic: "Trend Reviews: Transformative Education for Global Citizenship"
Dr. U-tak Chung (Senior Advisor, Global Partnership for Education in Korea)
Rev. Dr. Seok Heo (Associate Professor, Wonkwang University)
Break
Session 6. High-level Dialogue (ICCGC Talks 2)
Topic: "The Crisis of Civilization and Religions: Global Challenges and Religious Responses"
Dr. Azza Karam (Secretary-General, Religions for Peace International)
Rev. Do-yeon Park (Co-chair, Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations)
Closing Session
Overall Discussion with Closing Remarks
Topic: "Interfaith Coalition for Peace: Focolare Movement and United Religions Movement for the Next"
(Moderator) Rev. Kyoung-won Cho (Editor in Chief, Hanulannews)
(Discussion) Rev. Young-in Sa (Director, Won Buddhism UN Office & Co-chairs, ICCGC 2022)
Ms. Christina Lee (Inter-religious Dialogue Advisor, Focolare Movement)

Zoom Webinar: <u>844 0931 4133</u> Zoom URL: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84409314133</u> Contact: wonintl@won.or.kr

