



ICCGC 2023

"Shaping Our Future Together: Engaged Spirituality in the Era of Crisis"

August 21-23, 2023 (KST, GMT+9)

BACKGROUND

Over the last few decades, globalization has fostered interconnectedness between nations, enabling the global community to advance material civilization through collaborative efforts and alliances. These endeavors have paved the way for enhanced prosperity in human society compared to previous times. Unfortunately, the current state of global inequality, stemming from unjust and imbalanced economic growth, has resulted in political, economic, and sociocultural conflicts around the world. Consequently, many people worldwide continue to endure the repercussions of these disparities.

Covid-19 has further accelerated social disruption. This pandemic has revealed the underlying vulnerabilities within social structures, which were hidden by the rapid development of material civilization, and the loss of human values. Consequently, there has been a rise in spiritual impoverishment and ignorance, leading to a world grappling with challenges such as security threats, livelihood concerns, climate emergencies, nuclear weapons proliferation, and the loss of humanity. It is imperative to restore humanity by reestablishing moral values and fostering a harmonious existence between spiritual civilization and material civilization.

Throughout history, religions have played a significant role in promoting human peace and progress. However, religions have also left stains upon the record through their hostility and confrontation, which emerged from differences in beliefs, ideologies, and actions. It is now important for all religions to take action, opening their doors and coming together in a shared space to engage in discussions, training, and partnerships that promote mutual understanding and cooperation. In order to build a truly peaceful world, a strong global solidarity founded on the principles of common humanity, known as global citizenship, is essential. This global citizenship is necessary to effectively address the pressing global crises that pose threats to human society.

The Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens (ICCGC) aims to promote the spread of global citizenship, developing global citizenship education through ethics, diversity, global issues, and sustainability and operating global-civic exchange programs to strengthen mutual trust and enhance cultural diversity. Additionally, the ICCGC is a platform that opens dialogue among global citizens through which morality and science, spirit and matter, and religion and politics join forces and advance together.

Event: The conference will be held in Seoul and Iksan from August 21-23, 2023. Won Buddhism will host the conference, and it will be co-organized by the Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens, the Research Center of Religions at the Wonkwang University, the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies, the Won Buddhism UN Office, and the Interreligious Dialogue Team of the Focolare Movement Korea.

Theme: "Shaping Our Future Together: Engaged Spirituality in the Era of Crisis."

Format: Hybrid Conference

Venue: August 21(Sotaesan Memorial Hall), August 22(Mondrian Seoul Itaewon Hotel)

Rationale: ICCGC was launched in 2020 to advocate Global Education First Initiative (GEFI) and to promote global citizenship education (GCED) in religious communities. This interfaith coalition lies in the religious peace movement towards 'One World, One Family.'

Purpose: The main objective of ICCGC 2023 is to foster dialogue on global citizenship in the religious sector and to build global solidarity for global citizens with religious NGOs (RNGOs) and faith-based Organizations (FBOs) to build a peaceful and harmonious world.

Participants: About 200 delegates representing various sectors, both domestic and overseas will participate in the conference. They will include representatives from government entities, UN agencies, academia, civil society, religions, and youth group.

Information

Registration: [click here](#) or [website](#)

Language: English, Japanese, Korean

Zoom ID: 876 6103 6635

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Hosted by

Won Buddhism

Co-organized by

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

In Collaboration with

Korean Conference of Religions for Peace
World Fellowship of Buddhists
World Fellowship of Buddhists Youth
World Buddhist University
Corps. PEACE

Sponsored by

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Korea
Iksan City
United Religions Foundation
Won Buddhism Broadcasting System
Onenews
Hanulannews



Keynote Speech

“Global Citizenship Now: Expanding Cosmopolitanism & Building Co-existence in Harmony World”



Mr. Ban Ki-moon is a South Korean diplomat who was the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations (UNSG) from January 2007 to December 2016. Before becoming UNSG, Mr. Ban was a career diplomat in South Korea’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in the United Nations. As the eighth UNSG, Ban Ki-moon’s priorities were to mobilize world leaders around a set of new global challenges, from climate change and economic upheaval to pandemics and increasing pressures involving food, energy, and water. He led the efforts for the landmark Paris Climate Agreement, and, under his leadership, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda were created.

Mr. Ban Ki-moon currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens which seeks to empower youth and women to become active global citizens in creating a sustainable future for all. In addition, he currently holds over 20 positions, including the Presidency and the Chairmanship of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and Chairmanships of the Global Commission on Adaptation, the Ethics Commission of the International Olympic Committee, and the BOAO Forum in Asia.

Special Address I

“Global Citizenship Education, UNESCO, and South Korea”



Dr. LIM Hyun-mook is currently the Director of the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU), a UNESCO Centre based in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Prior to assuming this position, he worked as Assistant Secretary General for Education at the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, where he had started his professional career in 1992. He has taught at Sungkyunkwan University as a visiting professor. He received a Ph.D. in Political Thought from Sogang University, Republic of Korea and M.A. in International Studies from the University of Denver, Colorado, USA.

Special Address II

“When Peace Comes: The Role of Religion in a Fragmented World”



Rev. Dr. Leo D. Lefebure is a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago and is the inaugural holder of the Matteo Ricci, S.J., Chair of Theology at Georgetown University. He is the author of seven books, including Transforming Interreligious Relations: Catholic Responses to Religious Pluralism in the United States, which received the Catholic Media Association 2021 first prize award in the category of Ecumenism and Interreligious Relations; he is also the author of True and Holy: Christian Scripture and Other Religions, which received the Catholic Press Association 2015 first prize award in the category of Academic Books on Scripture. He is the co-author of The Path of Wisdom: A Christian Commentary on the Dhammapada. He is President of the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies, Research Fellow of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Trustee Emeritus of the Council for a Parliament of the World’s Religions.



Contact Information

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Session Descriptions

Keynote Speech

(Topic) "Global Citizenship Now: Expanding Cosmopolitanism & Building Co-existence in Harmony World"

Today, amid a global pandemic, the world faces a moment with massive technological, demographic, environmental, and geopolitical shifts redefining the global order. On the other hand, however, the risk of conflict and tension still threatens international peace and security. Moreover, the pandemic has kept attacking our communities with hate speech and violence directed at racial, national, ethnic, and religious minorities. We ask a world leader, Mr. BAN Ki-moon about how we can overcome these global challenges.

Special Address

The ICCGC 2023 offers two special lectures about Global Citizenship Education and World Peace.

Special Address I: "Global Citizenship Education, UNESCO, and South Korea"

Special Address II: "When Peace Comes: The Role of Religion in a Fragmented World"

Interfaith Dialogue

(Topic) "Engaged Spirituality in Peacebuilding: Global Ethics, Human Rights and Sustainable Earth"

Engaged spirituality refers to religious or spiritual people who actively engage in the world to transform it in positive ways while finding nurturance, inspiration, and guidance in their spiritual beliefs and practices. From a peacebuilding perspective, religious leaders should bring their moral and spiritual authority to build solidarity and cooperation among peoples and nations. Global ethics and human rights discussed after the pandemic are the heart of sustainable earth, which is now an unavoidable mission for all of us.

Peace Dialogue

(Topic) "Religion in the Age of Super Crisis: Finding a Way of World Peace through Co-existence and Co-prosperity"

The world has stopped. The world is changing dramatically. The time of world seems to return to world wars, and the global challenges that threaten humanity are menacing day by day. We can all survive this super crisis. All of us, in one way or another, must solve the accumulated global problems and participate in constructing a new world. Religion has long played an essential role in solving global issues. But today, the role of religion is being questioned. To bring world peace, now is the time for religious leaders to share their wisdom and act together.

Dinner Lecture

(Topic) "One Earth, One Family, One Future"

The topic was a theme of the G20 Leaders' Summit. First, one family means solidarity and protecting the vulnerable. Second, one earth means protecting our planet, our home. Lastly, one future means ensuring everyone can prosper. The topic also spotlights LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), with its associated, environmentally sustainable, and responsible choices, both at the level of individual lifestyles as well as national development, leading to globally transformative actions resulting in a cleaner, greener, and bluer future.

Session 1. Religion and Global Citizenship

(Topic) "The Age of Uneasy Peace: Global Citizenship and the Path to Peace"

Today's era is a mixture of all three of these. It is marked by a conflict of political systems and ideology between two superpowers, as in the Cold War, by a post-financial crisis decline of confidence in democratic politics and market economics as well as by the rise of populism, nationalism, and authoritarianism, as in the 1930s, and, most significantly, by a dramatic shift in relative economic power, with the rise of China, as with the US before 1914. History does not repeat itself, but it often rhymes. Could global citizenship be an alternative to prevent the repetition of history in an era of uneasy peace?

Session 2. Peaceful Coexistence

(Topic) "Transforming Education for Harmonious Society: Religion, Culture, and Diversity"

The world seems to be losing faith in multiculturalism. The pandemic has exacerbated global inequality even further, resulting in increased racism and discrimination against minorities. A concept of harmonious society became imagined

metaphor in our mind. It can be said that the policies and methods of peace education have failed so far. However, if we can innovate education with aspiration to change the world, there is hope for all of us. We will discuss on transforming education with religious teachings and enlightenment.

Session 3. Global Citizenship Education

(Topic) "Global Citizenship Education in Religion: Not Whether, but How?"

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. We will discuss on ways to develop and spread global citizenship education in religion.

Session 4. Overall Discussion

(Topic) "Cooperation for Global Citizenship Movement"

In this session, we will discuss the promotion of the global citizen movement for world peace and its action plans.

Special Session. Youth Action Now

(Topic) "Nurturing Faith as a Global Citizen: Reimagining Religious Education"

Youth group discussion from various religion.

Program Agenda



ICCGC 2023

Interfaith Coalition Conference for
Global Citizenship 2023

ICCGC 2023's Theme

"Shaping Our Future Together: Engaged Spirituality in the Era of Crisis "

[Day 1] August 21, 2023 (Venue: Sotaesan Memorial Hall)

10:00-11:30	Meditation Program (Won Buddhism Wonnam Temple)
11:30-12:30	Lunch
12:30-13:30	Registration
13:30-14:45	Interfaith Dialogue "Engaged Spirituality in Peace: Global Ethics, Human Rights, and Sustainable Earth" Dr. Mark UNNO (President, Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies) / Moderator Mr. Montian THANANART (Honorary Secretary General, World Fellowship of Buddhist) Rev. Kyoichi SUGINO (President, Gakurin Seminary) Dr. Roberto CATALANO (Associate Professor, Sophia University Institute)

- 14:45-15:00 **Networking Coffee & Tea**
- 15:00-16:15 **Peace Dialogue**
 “Religion in the Age of Super Crisis: Finding a Way of World Peace through Co-existence and Co-prosperity”
 Rev. Dr. Leo LEFEBURE (Former President, Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies) / Moderator
 Dr. Azza KARAM (Former Secretary General, Religions for Peace International) / Video Speech
 Rev. Dr. Yoshinori SHINOHARA (Secretary General, Religions for Peace Asia)
 Rev. KIM Tae-sung (Secretary General, Korean Conference of Religions for Peace)
- 16:15-16:45 **Networking Coffee & Tea**
- 16:45-18:00 **Opening Session**
 Opening Video
 Opening Ceremony Performance: Percussion. Performance. Group. AKWI
 Moment of Silence
 Opening Declaration
 Introduction of the Guest of Honor
 Opening Remarks: Rev. Dr. Leo LEFEBURE (Co-chair, ICCGC 2023)
 Welcoming Remarks: Rev. NA Sang-ho (President, Won Buddhism)
 Congratulatory Address: Mr. LEE Kai-ho (Member, National Assembly of the Republic of Korea)
 Peace Message: Mr. Phallop THAIARRY (President, World Fellowship of Buddhist)
 Keynote Speech
 “Global Citizenship Now: Expanding Cosmopolitanism & Building Co-existence in harmony World”
 Mr. BAN Ki-moon (8th Secretary General, United Nations)
 Prayer for Peace: Mannam Quarter
 Group Photo
- 18:30-20:00 **Welcome Dinner** (Grand Ballroom, Mondrian Seoul Itaewon Hotel)
 Welcome Speech: Dr. KIM Sung-gon (President, ICCGC)
 Dinner Speech: Mr. CHOI Eun-sang (Chairman, United Religions Foundation)
 Dinner Lecture:
 “One Earth, One Family, One Future”
 Mr. KIM Won-soo (Board Member, Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens)
 Networking Introduction
 Congratulatory Performance: Mannam Quarter
 Closing Remarks: Dr. PARK Sung-tae (President, Wonkwang University)

[Day 2] August 22, 2023 (Venue: Mondrian Seoul Itaewon Hotel)

- 09:00-09:30 **Special Address I**
 “Global Citizenship Education, UNESCO, and South Korea”
 Dr. LIM Hyun-mook (Director, UNESCO Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding)
- 09:30-09:45 **Networking Coffee & Tea**
- 09:45-11:00 **Session 1. Religion and Global Citizenship**
 “The Age of Uneasy Peace: Global Citizenship and the Path to Peace”
 Dr. Kunihiro TERASAWA (Associate Professor, Wartburg College) / Moderator
 Dr. Mark UNNO (Professor, University of Oregon)
 Dr. Kathy MATSUI (Professor, Seisen University)
 Dr. Carolyn MEDINE (Professor, University of Georgia)
- 11:00-11:15 **Networking Coffee & Tea**

- 11:15-12:30 **Session 2. Peaceful Coexistence**
 “Transforming Education for Harmonious Society: Religion, Culture and Diversity”
 Dr. CHUNG U-tak (Senior Advisor, Global Partnership for Education) / Moderator
 Rev. Dr. Liberato BAUTISTA (President, CoNGO)
 Rev. PARK Do-yeon (Co-chair, Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations)
 Dr. Mohammad Hassan MOZAFARI (Research Professor, Busan University of Foreign Studies)
- 12:30-14:00 **Networking Lunch**
- 14:00-14:30 **Special Address II**
 “When Peace Comes: The Role of Religion in a Fragmented World”
 Rev. Dr. Leo LEFEBURE (Professor, Georgetown University)
- 14:30-14:45 **Networking Coffee & Tea**
- 14:45-16:00 **Session 3. Global Citizenship Education (Discussion)**
 “Global Citizenship Education in Religion: Not Whether, but How?”
 Rev. Dr. PARK Kwang-soo (Emeritus Professor, Wonkwang University) / Moderator
- 16:00-16:15 **Networking Coffee & Tea**
- 16:15-17:30 **Session 4. Overall Discussion**
 “Cooperation for Global Citizenship Movement”
 Ms. Christina Lee (Inter-religious Dialogue Advisor, Focolare Movement) / Moderator
 Rev. Dr. Grace SONG (Professor, Won Institute of Graduate Studies) / Moderator

Youth Program

- 10:00-12:00 **Special Session. Youth Action Now**
 “Nurturing Faith as a Global Citizen: Reimagining Religious Education”
 Youth group discussion from various religions

[Day 3] August 23, 2023 (Iksan)

- 09:00-20:00 **Interfaith Tour in Iksan**
 Visit to Religious Sites
 Courtesy Visit to Won-Buddhism’s Head Dharma Master: Ven. Jeonsan
 Closing Session with Dinner
 Return to Seoul late in the evening