

**Session 1. Peace Education**  
**Empowering the Future:**  
**Women's Peace Education in a Changing World**

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As lama, hello, AN-NYEONG-HA-SE-YO, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Lee Man-hee Lee, Chairman of HWPL, Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light.

I would also like to thank Ms. Hyun Sook Yoon, Chairwoman of IWPG, for her kind invitation to take part in the Commemoration of the 9th World Peace Summit. I congratulate you for organizing this high-level conference.

I'm from Tunisia, a small country in North Africa with an immensely rich 3,000-year history.

Tunisia is renowned to be one of the countries where women's human rights are respected. In fact, in 850 BC, Queen Dido or Alyssa founded Carthage, the first republic, and wrote the oldest constitution according to the philosopher Socrates.

In 735 of our era, it was once again a woman, the Muslim princess Aroua, the Kairouanese, who abolished polygamy and instituted the marriage contract known as the Kairouanese contract.

In 1956, the late Habib Bourguiba, founder of modern Tunisia, promulgated the Personal Status Code, which reorganized family relations, abolished polygamy and introduced judicial divorce. This code was amended several times. In 1992, article 23, which stipulated obedience to the husband, was replaced by the notion of mutual respect and gave mothers the right of guardianship, tending towards equality between men and women. Since then, a succession of amendments has been made, such as granting Tunisian mothers' children Tunisian nationality and repealing Circular 73 to allow Tunisian women to marry non-Muslims without having to convert to Islam.

In July 2017, Law 58 to fight violence against women was passed unanimously. Raising the age of sexual consent from 13 to 16 and introducing political violence were new challenges that were met. Mechanisms for applying the law, such as the green line, the observatory to combat violence, the shelters and the economic empowerment of women, have been created.

However, despite these efforts, there is still a long way to go to establish new behaviors and a new culture of respect for human dignity.

I believe that it is more intelligent to recognize the right of each culture and civilization to respect its values without prejudice, while having the universal values of human rights as a common denominator.

For his part, Claude Levi Strauss "considers the humanist relativism that places the fundamental needs of the human being above all beliefs and cultures, women's rights, children's rights and the absence of discrimination".

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We come from different backgrounds, but we share a common concern: "As women leaders, we should provide solutions to problems such as the lack of security and stability, pandemics, natural disasters and violence against women, children and the elderly - all these vulnerable groups who are used as weapons of war, as shields and forcibly recruited into armed conflicts that are eating away at our respective societies.

Addressing the issue of peace and security is at the very heart of all development and respect for human rights. There can be no human life without dignity. When women participate in peace negotiations, the resulting agreements have a 35% chance of lasting at least 15 years.

Spinoza considered that "peace is not the absence of war, it is a virtue, a state of mind, a will to benevolence, trust and justice".

Ladies and Gentlemen,

we will be celebrating the 23rd anniversary of Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, in October we will be marking the 16 days of activism to combat violence against women; and we are on the threshold of the celebration of International Human Rights Day. **These are moments to reflect on and take a step back from our daily lives and the lives of people suffering from exodus, famine, all kinds of wars, and stateless people wandering here and there without roots or wings.**

In addition to the various conferences and platforms, we are looking for new approaches to achieving greater gender equity, and so we find ourselves faced with feminist diplomacy, a concept that originated in Sweden with former foreign affairs minister Margot Wallstrom and is still in its infancy.

The global context supports this drive for peace and security in order to achieve the 2030 goals in connection with the AU 2063 agenda.

AU 2063 places a significant emphasis on achieving a peaceful and secure Africa and harnessing the potential of women. In particular, according to Goal 17, empowering women and girls and eradicating violence and discrimination against them should be prioritized, and full gender equality should be achieved in all aspects of life. Women's peace education is a crucial means to teach women and girls about their rights and how to protect them, providing them with the essential foundation to become integral members of society and leaders.

As mentioned earlier, much like Spinoza's definition of peace, peace emerges from within a person's heart, and to achieve it, the teaching of peace seeds in their hearts should take precedence.

Universal education in human rights requires the promotion of feminist diplomacy that fights against all forms of religious, cultural or political relativism, so we must accept and respect the diversity of histories and social practices.

My thoughts go out to the two Syrian brothers, athletes who were reunited after so many years apart at the 2021 Olympic Games in Tokyo. My thoughts are also with all the families separated on both sides of the demarcation line. I am also watching with great interest the resolution of the conflict between Egypt and Ethiopia, a country led by a woman.

My thoughts are with the children, the "comfort" women who are fighting to regain their dignity, the Yazidites held hostage by Daesh, the children in Palestine and elsewhere, the homeless children who wander around with no identity, no memories, no roots and no wings, no doubt, to fly.

I call on the universal conscience to speak with one voice, the voice of women and men who want a world based on love, respect and acceptance of others.

Together, we got out in peace against war. Thank you for your attention, Gam-Sa-Hap-N- Da-.