



Resolution on the Korean Peninsula

FOR INFORMATION

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During the 21st WMC in 2016, representatives from the Korean Methodist Church (KMC), United Methodist Church (UMC), and World Methodist Council (WMC) met to reaffirm their commitment to Korean Peninsula peace. Subsequent roundtables occurred in 2017 in Seoul, 2018 in Atlanta, and most recently in 2023 in Seoul, focusing on Methodist church's role in regional peacebuilding. At the 22nd WMC meeting in Gothenburg, Sweden, delegates and participants, including young people dedicated to peace, raised awareness of the Korean Peninsula situation and global peace at the Korea Peace Night, aiming to enhance Methodist engagement in promoting peace.

With this, we join with Christians in North and South Korea in their longstanding efforts for an end to the Korean War which replaces the 1953 Armistice Agreement and establish a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula. Without a peace agreement, the risk of war breaking out at any moment looms large.

WHEREAS, the situation around the Korean Peninsula has rapidly worsened, marked by increased confrontation and militarization, with the looming specter of military conflict. Some experts caution that the current state of affairs on the Korean Peninsula is the most perilous it has been since 1950.

WHEREAS, the legacy of the Cold War continues to define 79 years of division system that constantly reproduces injustices, oppression, and violence in both North and South Korea.

WHEREAS, concerns have arisen as South and North Korea recently unveiled new weapons, suggesting an intensification of the arms race and tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Therefore, the World Methodist Council resolves to:

- *Call* for member churches and agencies to actively support and accompany the Korean churches in their advocacy through the Ecumenical Forum for Peace, Reunification and Cooperation on the Korean Peninsula (EFK) and the Korea Peace Appeal Campaign – a campaign for ending the war and replacing the 1953 Armistice Agreement with a peace treaty. A lasting peace accord will be pivotal in the efforts to denuclearize the **Korean Peninsula, and Asia Pacific Region**, and enhance humanitarian conditions in both North and South Korea.
- *Pray* with the churches of Korea on the Sunday before August 15, observed as the “Sunday of Prayer for the Peaceful Reunification on the Korean Peninsula.”
- *Urge* the governments of the Republic of Korea and Democratic People's Republic of Korea to pursue peaceful reunification through dialogue and cooperation, and urge the international community, the United States of America, People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Russian Federation, to support these efforts with trust-building measures.

Adopted