



2023 World Youth Peace Pilgrimage to the DMZ

Organizer:



National Reconciliation Committee Archdiocese of Seoul

Sponsor:



Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism



Ministry of Unification

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01 Background and Purpose

As per His Holiness Pope Francis,

"Peace is a gift of God, but requires our efforts."

Following His efforts to build Peace, Solidarity, and Love for Life,

We have annually organized a 'World Peace Pilgrimage' for Youth,

Who are the Hope of our Future as well as *"the Now of God."*

Our Pilgrimage aims to bring the global Youth together,

With hopes that they will one day reconnect the worlds.

We teach our Youth virtues of Reconciliation and Forgiveness,

With hopes to shape Young Builders of Peace with Tolerance.

We invite all people suffering from conflict and division

To our Pilgrimage, who will initiate a global movement for Peace.

We welcome all people interested in Reconciliation and Love for Life

To the Korean Peninsula, which will become a Global Epicenter of Peace.

02 Event Overview

- Title: 2023 World Youth Peace Pilgrimage to the DMZ
- Date: August 7th to 11th, 2022 (5 days)
- Participants: 60 people (30 from Korea, 30 from abroad)
- Eligibility: Young people aged from 18 – 35 years & interested in Peace
- Pilgrim Route: Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in South Korea

*Pilgrim Route can be modified depending on weather conditions.

1) Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

The Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) is a no-man's land running across the Korean peninsula that demarcates the "Two Koreas." The DMZ follows latitude 38° N (the 38th parallel) and was originally created during the Korean War (1953) by pulling back all military forces 1.2 miles (2km) along each side of the line.

Hence, no man has ever entered the DMZ for 70 years, which created a unique nature reserve containing the last vestiges of Korea's natural heritage and biodiversity. Thus, being one of the most heavily-fortified border on Earth, the Korean DMZ is also one of the most fascinating and unique places to see in the entire world.

People from all over the globe flock to experience this mysterious destination, that offers a deep dive into a history of conflict, despair, and division as well as an ecological heaven of hope and peace. Our 'World Youth Peace Pilgrimage' (*Wind of Peace*) invites the global Youth to this mysteriously contrasting place, to share our common interests in and thoughts on peace. Every step of our young Pilgrims of Hope will initiate a global movement for Peace and Reconciliation.

03 Major Activities

- Hiking the DMZ area
- Open debate and education on 'Peace and Reconciliation'
- Enhancing global community and team spirit



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