

A Youth Pilgrimage Walking Together in Harmony

2026 UN World Interfaith Harmony Week Report

Event:

“A Youth Pilgrimage: Walking Together in Harmony,” held in response to the United Nations’ World Interfaith Harmony Week 2026.

Date:

February 4, 2026

Venue:

Museum of World Religions (https://www.mwr.org.tw/mwr_en)

Organizer:

Museum of World Religions

Co-Host:

Commission for Interreligious Dialogue and Ecumenical Cooperation Chinese Regional Bishops’ Conference (<https://cirpcu.catholic.org.tw/main.htm>)

Participants:

The event brought together **83 participants**, including representatives from **11 religious** and **72 young devotees**, from which **10 youth representatives** were selected to deliver public pledges for peace and harmony.

Purpose:

This youth pilgrimage aimed to encourage **interfaith dialogue, mutual respect, and shared spiritual reflection among young believers and religious leaders in Taiwan**. The event also formed part of the **25th anniversary celebration** of the Museum of World Religions, which has served and continue to serve as a platform for interreligious dialogue since its opening in 2001.

Event Highlights

The pilgrimage took place within the museum and followed a symbolic journey through three locations: **Pilgrims’ Way**, the **Golden Lobby**, and the **Great Hall of World Religions**.

At the beginning of the event, religious leaders each held a **candle**, symbolizing the light of faith, while young participants carried **paper doves** representing hope for peace. Guided by the religious

leaders, pilgrims walked silently along Pilgrims' Way, reflecting on the meaning of life and the shared spiritual values among different faith traditions.

At the **Golden Lobby**, participants passing through between two pillars inscribed with the message: *"Love is our shared truth", "Peace is our eternal hope."*

These words invited participants to reflect on the universal values that unite humanity and faith traditions.

The pilgrimage then continued to the **Great Hall of World Religions**, where displays in represent ten major religious traditions: Christianity, Judaism, Ancient Egypt, Islam, Buddhism, Taoism, Shinto, Indigenous Religions Maya, Sikhism, and Hinduism.

In the Hall, **ten selected youth representatives** proclaimed for peace and they pledge for harmony in their own words they speak out. Their voices resonated across the space, symbolizing the shared responsibility of the younger generation to promote understanding and cooperation among religions.

Religious leaders then offered **blessings and prayers** according to their respective traditions. Through sacred chants, drumming, and spoken prayers, participants experienced the diversity and beauty of different spiritual practices while strengthening their own faith and commitment to compassion.

The event concluded with an **a cappella performance of the Cantic of the Sun** by Francis of Assisi. Each participant placed their paper dove upon a **wood-crafted globe**, symbolizing prayers and hopes for peace rising for the whole world.

Conclusion

The 90-minute pilgrimage created a powerful atmosphere of unity, bringing together sacred words, music, and shared reflection among 11 religions. The event demonstrated how **young people and religious leaders bring hope and bridged differences**. While people walked together, they shared and experienced the common good that religions value is love and is harmony. It's fostering interfaith friendship and reaffirming that all humanity belongs to one global family.