

UPF Oslo, Norway Presents: The family - A Fundamental Unit Of Society

Steinar Murud

May 22, 2023



May. UPF Norway organized a program on the UN International Day of Families on Monday, 22. The theme for the evening was «Family and Society - how do family relations affect society?» The event took place in the Main Library in Oslo to an interested group of 16 participants.

The UPF Leader, Steinar Murud, presented *The family - a fundamental unit of society*.

Murud pointed out how good family relationships are a good resource for all family members. Experience shows that the family members' health, school results, happiness, and future development are strongly connected to good relations within the family. He also pointed out that family breakdowns represent a significant burden, not only for the families themselves but also for society. According to *The Marriage Foundation UK*, the cost is stipulated to be 50 billion £ a year.

Murud also mentioned that history studies could give us valuable lessons for organizing our societies. In a time where a critique of norms is a trend, it is worth remembering that the model of traditional monogamous marriages has been a success factor in most societies, according to research.

Finally, the book *The Fractured Republic* by Yuval Levin was quoted. The author speaks about how a family-based mode of relations can "spread outward to interpersonal relationships, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, religious communities," and even into the work of local governments, businesses, and professional affiliations.

A good dialogue followed the presentation. One of the participating scholars pointed out that his articles about these topics had been well received in the Arabic world and even quoted in Al Jazeera. The 2-hour long seminar closed with refreshments and social mingling.