



SIGNIS
WORLD CONGRESS 2022
Peace in the Digital World
16-19 August #SIGNISWC2022 | **SEOUL**

SIGNIS World Congress 2022 Seoul

2022 서울 시그니스 세계총회


SIGNIS



Peace in the Digital World

A message of peace from Korea to the Catholics around the world! As the only divided nation in the world, peace is fiercely sought after by Koreans. Members will gather in Korea, an IT powerhouse, to explore ways to achieve peace in the digital world.

Design | Jeong Eun-sook (Former Design Director at MBC)

Using Taegeuk – a symbol of Korea – as the design base, she created the digital world closely connected to each other through the internet.



Meaning of SIGNIS

SIGNIS is a combination of the word 'sign', referring to media and message, and 'ignis (ignite)' meaning to light a fire.

World Catholic Association for Communication



SIGNIS (World Catholic Association for Communication) is a Vatican-accredited organization where Catholic lay journalists (communicators) from around the globe working in the fields of TV, radio, film, journalism, internet, and media education come together. It is headquartered in Brussels and Rome, with continental and national organizations.

SIGNIS Korea members are composed of some 400 current and former professionals including priests, religious people and professors, related scholars, those who have worked in broadcasting, print media, film, and advertising, centering on broadcasting stations such as KBS, MBC, SBS, EBS, and CPBC, major daily newspapers such as the Kyunghyang Shinmun, the Dong-A Ilbo, the Seoul Shinmun, and the Hankyoreh, news agency such as Yonhap News Agency.

SIGNIS Partners

interfilm
international interchurch
film organisation



Pontifical Mission Societies
International Secretariats



Helen Osman
President of SIGNIS

I am delighted to invite you to the World Congress for SIGNIS, the World Catholic Association for Communication. Together, I hope we will benefit from exploring the World Congress' theme, Peace in the Digital World.

I yearn for an internet as Pope Francis describes, one which allows us to express empathy and concern, to support and encourage, to liberate and “to protect a communion of people who are free.” That is an internet of peace!

We are being joined by SIGNIS members from more than 90 countries. I pray we will learn from one another as we listen with open hearts and minds to our colleagues' experiences as communicators, both on the professional level and on the personal level. Thank you.



Daniel HAN Seung-soo
President of Organizing Committee SIGNIS World Congress 2022

SIGNIS World Congress, held every four years, is set to take place in Korea in 2022. This year's theme is 'Peace in the Digital World'.

Our world is currently undergoing a digital revolution at a rapid pace. The main agenda of this World Congress will be searching for ways to secure and expand peace in the digital world.

I believe Catholics, more than anyone, should take the lead in realizing this peace in the digital age we are living in. Also, I strongly believe that SIGNIS members engaged in the media sector must stand at the forefront to guide other Catholics in creating a beautiful, livable, and conflict-free world.

I ask for your prayers.



Cardinal Andrew YEOM Soo-jung
Joint Honorary Chairman
SIGNIS World Congress
2022

I would like to congratulate everyone for SWC 2022 taking place in August in Korea. I also express my gratitude and encouragement to SIGNIS officials who have worked hard in planning and preparing for this World Congress.

Befitting the theme 'Peace in the Digital World', I believe it is an appropriate topic for us to contemplate in this era when non-face-to-face relationships have emerged, and digitalization is accelerating. This congress will prove to be a meaningful for Catholic communicators around the world to unite and seek alternatives.

Referring to the message by His Holiness Pope Francis on World Communications Day, I also welcome SIGNIS members from all around the world by saying “Come and see”.



Archbishop Alfred Xuereb
Apostolic Nuncio to Korea

On behalf of His Holiness Pope Francis, I express the sentiments of deep appreciation for the endeavour of SIGNIS World to organize such a significant event overcoming many obstacles because of the pandemic situation. My congratulations for choosing the theme, “Peace in the Digital World”, aiming at reflecting on the vital mission of all those working in the media and in the communication sectors in the peacemaking process in our society.

I sincerely wish that through the sharing of experiences you may rediscover the value of your important role in offering alternative solutions amid the escalation of conflicts and violence which threaten even more today's world.

I pray for the success of the Congress, and I gladly convey the paternal Blessing of His Holiness to all of you!



**Archbishop Peter
CHUNG Soon-Taick**

O.C.D., D.D.

Joint Honorary Chairman
SIGNIS World Congress
2022

† Peter Chung, O.C.D.

This year's Congress which is taking place under the theme, "Peace in the Digital World", will be held as a 'hybrid' congress where in-person conferences will take place alongside non-face-to-face meetings via YouTube and metaverse. This will be an innovative solution for responding to our current changes. In particular, I hope that including the metaverse platform as a part of this Congress will provide opportunities for more youth around the world to access the Catholic religion and to showcase Korea's technological capabilities as a digital powerhouse.

Also, taking this opportunity of hosting SIGNIS World Congress in Seoul, I ask that all communicators, not only those of the Catholic faith, take the lead even more vigorously in spreading the good values of the Church through the media.



**Bishop Simon
OK Hyun-jin**

President of Committee for
Social Communications
Catholic Bishops'
Conference of Korea

Simon OK

I would like to express my sincere congratulations for SIGNIS World Congress taking place in Seoul. Even though the whole world is suffering from the pandemic, we confirmed through the mass media that we belong to the global village, and we are now experiencing the reasons for solidarity.

Furthermore, we are obliged to reflect on whether we are sharing the right information on the same network and sharing meaningful communication that promotes mutual growth. We need the media to take interest in and communicate for the marginalized and the poor of the world and form healthy alliances for them.

I hope that SIGNIS World Congress 2022 will act as such a venue, and ask all media specialists to take the lead in realizing global justice, peace, and people-centered world.



**Fr. Luke
SIM Jong-hyeok, S.J.**

President of Sogang
University

심종혁 S.J.

I would like to congratulate everyone for holding SIGNIS World Congress, an international congress of Catholic journalists, at Sogang University, and welcome all participants.

Sogang University is a prestigious Catholic university established in Korea by the Jesuit fathers in 1960. We provide convergence education to prepare for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, and we also strive to nurture future leaders who possess not only academic excellence, but who are conscientious and honorable. The theme of this congress, 'Peace in the Digital World', is in line with the values pursued by our university, making it even more significant for us.

With SWC 2022 being held on Sogang campus, I pray that it will act as an opportunity to spread the will of the Lord to the world by uniting the spirit of SIGNIS and the spirit of Sogang. Thank you.



**Fr. Simon
CHO Jung-rae**

President of Catholic Peace
Broadcasting Corporation

주봉래

I would like to express my gratitude and support to all those working hard to spread the gospel of Christ in various places. For the past 33 years, CPBC has also strived more energetically to take the greater initiative for delivering the good news to the world. In particular, we confirmed our identity more decisively while carrying out the mission required for those whose difficult lives were aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic that began in 2020 and those experiencing difficulties continuing their religious life. As a result, the necessity of moving forward in solidarity and hand in hand with people who have similar aims were engraved deeply in our hearts. This is the reason why we are participating as the host broadcaster of SIGNIS World Congress 2022 being held in Korea. We will make sure that the good news of Christ will spread to all corners of the world through countless media specialists, and we will also work together to make this congress a success. Thank you.



SWC 2017 Quebec



SWC 2014 Rome



SWC 2009 Chiang Mai



SWC 2000 Rome

SIGNIS World Congress

It is a worldwide congress of Catholic communicators, held every four years. Some 200~300 members from overseas, including the Vatican, USA, Brazil, and India, and 50~100 members from the host country will participate in conferences, seminars, exhibitions, general meetings, and special masses for 5 days and 4 nights.

Past Congress

- 2017 SIGNIS World Congress – Quebec, Canada
- 2014 SIGNIS World Congress – Rome, Italy
- 2009 SIGNIS World Congress – Chiang Mai, Thailand
- 2005 SIGNIS World Congress – Lyon, France
- 2000 SIGNIS World Congress – Rome, Italy

Key Attendees

- Media experts & journalists from around the world
- Fathers & Sisters active in church media
- Bishops and Fathers from the Vatican and around the world
- SIGNIS members in each country
- People engaged in activities related to the theme of the congress

Prayer for SIGNIS World Congress 2022

O God, by your Word, You have created the universe and sent us Our Savior.

We thank You, God, for summoning us in spreading the good news through mass communication.

O God, as we embark on this endeavor under the theme 'Peace in the Digital World,' we ask that You lead the SIGNIS World Congress 2022 so that it may send the message of peace to the world.

Also, let the light shine upon us as we prepare for the Congress, and we ask that You provide us with those who may offer their prayers, services, and generous contributions.

Let all those engaged in the media industry become communicators of culture promoting peace and help all those around the world.

We pray that all communications on Earth may help reveal Your glory and sow the gift of peace. Amen.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace,

Pray for us.

Saint Oscar Romero

Pray for us.

Saint Andreas Kim Taegon and all the Martyr Saints of Korea

Pray for us.

SIGNIS World Congress 2022 Seoul is

- A hybrid conference of face-to-face meetings and virtual conferences
- A metaverse platform opening in a cyber world
- A media-mixed conference to be transmitted via YouTube, Zoom, metaverse and TV
- **Dates:** Aug. 15-18
(Aug. 15 Day of Cultural Visits; Aug. 16-18 Study Days; Aug. 17 SIGNIS World Board of Directors Meeting)
- **Venue:** International Conference Room, Jeong Hasang Hall, Sogang University
- **Schedule:**

	Time	8/14	8/15	8/16	8/17	8/18	8/19	
PM	07:00-08:00		Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Departure	
	08:00-09:00		Breakfast & Free Time					
	09:00-10:00	Arrival and Registration	Culture Trip DMZ Gyeongbok Palace Seosomun Shrine	Opening Performance	Korean Culture & Korean Catholic	Session 3 Protection of Our Common Home		
	10:00-11:00			Opening Ceremony				
	11:00-12:00			Session 1 Hyper-Connected Yet Alone	Session 2 Fake News and Loss of Trust			Closing Ceremony
	12:00-13:00			Lunch & Free Time				
	13:00-14:00			Special Performance				
	14:00-15:00			International Journalist Forum	Interantional Youth Forum	Visiting KBS City Tour		
	15:00-16:00			Introduction to Delegates	Free Time			
	16:00-17:00			Free Time	SIGNIS World Board of Directors Meeting			Closing Mass
	17:00-18:00			Welcome Mass				
	18:00-19:00			Free Time	Welcome Party	Farewell Dinner Party		
	19:00-20:00							
	20:00-21:00							
	21:00-22:00	Happy Hour						
	22:00-23:00	Happy Hour						
	23:00-	Happy Hour						

SIGNIS World Congress Seoul goes with Hallyu



The SIGNIS World Congress 2022 Seoul will provide foreign participants with chances of enjoying the unique Korean culture, dubbed 'Hallyu' or the Korean Wave. Congratulatory performance and a Small Concert will show Korean 'music Hallyu' while the participants will experience the 'food Hallyu' in the welcome dinner and farewell luncheon. A special lecture by Korean cultural contents creator will introduce the essence of the Korean cultural wave which has been enhanced by the movie "Parasite" winner of four Academy Awards in 2020.

Congratulatory performances, Korean cultural attraction

The Congratulatory performances will be opened with Korean traditional music and dance, a Honam-woodo-nongak Pan gut and Vinari show. World-renowned musician Ha Rim will sing songs of consolation and hope. Top Korean classical singers, musicians and the Juvenile Chorus of CPBC, and Jeong-Ga group AHRI, will perform in Small Concert. A Focolare singing team will boast their extraordinary harmony.



Study Days *Seeking peace in the digital world*



World experts like journalists, scholars, professors and clergymen will share their expertise, experiences and insight on various topics of the theme “Peace in the Digital World.” In each session, one keynote speaker will give presentation, two panelists will introduce current situation and another two panelists will give outlooks and recommendations for the future.

A plenary discussion by all participants will follow. The first-day topic will be “Hyper-connected yet alone” which will be followed by “Fake news and loss of trust” on the second day, and by “Protection of our common home” on the third and last Study Day.



Topic 1. Hyper-connected yet alone



We live in a world where everyone is connected through the internet, where everyone can interact with others beyond the limits of time and space. Technological breakthroughs are now changing this notion of connectivity and extending our physical spaces to virtual worlds, called the Metaverse. We are thus entering a new world where boundaries between reality and fiction are blurred. However, does this extended connectivity also enlarge one’s soul and true self? In this world of hyper connectivity, do our lives and interactions become richer and fuller? In this session titled ‘Hyper-connected yet alone’, we investigate the issues of loneliness, isolation, and the gradual breakdown of communities, observed in the virtual space symbolizing connectivity and mixed reality.



Topic 2. Fake news and loss of trust

Fake news distorts public opinion and decision-making processes, exerting huge influence especially over election outcomes. Divisions caused by fake news are widely perceived as a serious social issue that brings frictions and conflicts within society. The cost borne by society is enormous. Healthy, rational public discussions are undermined at the risk of individual and societal benefits. The media’s capacity as a public forum is reduced, causing it to lose public trust. Public opinions become polarized, communities break down, and various voices remain unheard, thereby amplifying social conflicts. In the second session, the issues of fake news and lost of trust are discussed, focusing on the negative impacts on individuals and society and possible solutions to the problem.



Topic 3. Protection of our common home



We cannot emphasize enough the importance of the environment. Through COVID-19, we confirmed the association between infectious diseases and climate change, heightening the urgency of responding to the climate crisis. The environment is a quintessential element for both the survival and sustainable development of humankind. Accordingly, the world is ushering in a new era of a ‘Zero-Carbon Lifestyle’ to promote environmentally-friendly, decarbonized green growth. Decarbonization, eradication of poverty, addressing climate change, preserving biodiversity, and resource circulation are all current challenges faced by humanity for a sustainable future. Under the theme of ‘the protection of our common home’, we explore the roles digital technology can play to create harmony between humans and the planet Earth, our only home.

World Journalist Forum to discuss the Roles and Tasks of Media in Digital



In order to expand the discussion of "Peace in the Digital World," world's top journalists will be invited to an international forum. In the World Journalist Forum, participants will exchange views on the roles and tasks of the world's journalists and media organizations for peace, a most urgent and universal issue. The forum will provide an opportunity to sincerely think about the common goodness which every communication activity should seek.



International Youth Forum to be in tune with world youths



The COVID-19 pandemic has put severe restrictions in face-to-face meetings but also opened an era of noncontact meetings through new media like zoom and metaverse. Under such circumstances, how can we push forward with new shape of evangelization? International Youth Forum will look into religious life of young people and suggest them directions for the future.



Evangelization Strategy utilizing New Media based on the publicity of K-Pop

Publicity through social media took a vital role in successful spread of K-Pop. How can we apply the success experience of K-Pop in evangelization? Sogang University students will present results of a survey on the "publicity strategy of Hallyu through social media," and screen a documentary "K-Pop and Social Media" created on the basis of the survey results. Participants will seek ways of evangelization during the session.



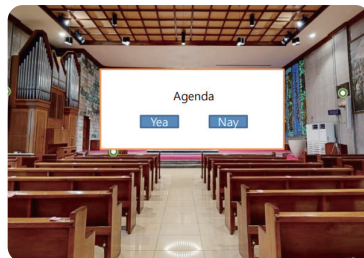
SIGNIS World Congress on Metaverse,

With God in Cyber World,



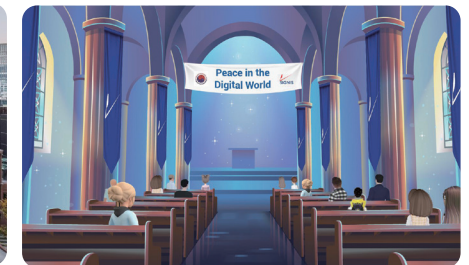
Due to the restrictions on movements and gatherings caused by COVID-19 pandemic, the SIGNIS World Congress, with the theme of "Peace in the Digital World," will be held both online and offline using the Metaverse platform.

This World Congress on metaverse will provide a gateway where not only 1.3 billion Catholics around the world but 5 billion MZ generation a Korean term referring to millennials and Generation Z, familiar with digital technologies and contents such as Metaverse interact and communicate with each other beyond time and space. It will also offer a unique and meaningful opportunity for participants to enhance their understanding on Catholicism and its mission to contribute to world peace by allowing them to enjoy and participate in various programs and activities.



1. Venue for the SWC 2022

- Participants can choose and observe a program from various activities and programs of the SIGNIS World Congress 2022.
- Efficient support for holding general meetings as well as various programs such as opening ceremony and conferences, meeting rooms of each division, promotion of SIGNIS, and K-wave culture theater, spaces for national and regional SIGNIS, the 6 Desks of SIGNIS to showcase their content, Exhibitions of Catholic Media, etc.



2. Virtual Pilgrimage to the Korea's major Catholic Shrines

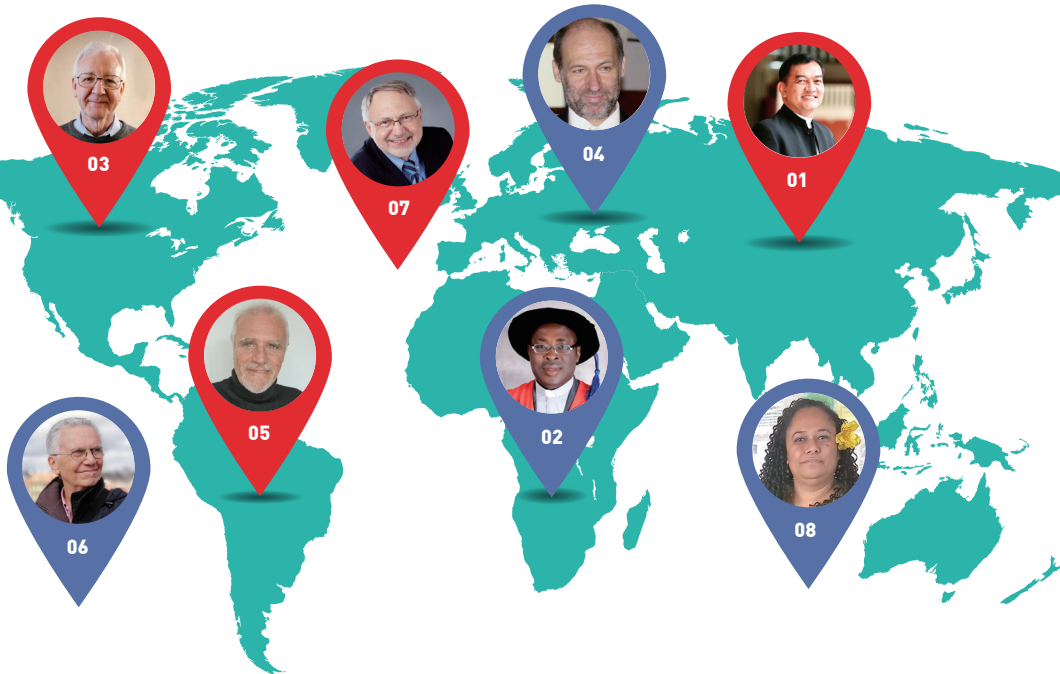
- Participants can take a 3D tour to the Korea's major Catholic Shrines to experience and understand the history and the meaning of Catholicism and the sites.
- Developing programs with realistic experience and providing various educational contents, such as the meaning and history of the sites and an overall understanding of Catholicism.



3. WORLD PEACE Charity Galleries

- Establishing a consensus and raising awareness on the contribution to ensuring world peace through Catholicism, particularly in the regions where people suffer from wars, climate changes and etc.
- Fundraising in association with NGOs.

Congratulations! Thank you. See you soon.



01 President, SIGNIS Asia

Fr. Joseph Anucha

Fr. Joseph Anucha

You are invited to preserve our SIGNIS determination to engage with media professionals, support Catholic Communicators, and help transform our cultures in the light of the Gospel by promoting Human Dignity, Justice, and Reconciliation. Looking forward to meeting you at the SIGNIS World Congress 2022, an event of friendship for journalists. We will be warmly welcomed not only by Korea but also by all of us from SIGNIS Asia.

02 President, SIGNIS Africa

Fr. Walter C. Ihejirika

Fr. Walter C. Ihejirika

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected adversely our social interactions leading to the postponement of the Congress from 2021 to 2022. We are encouraged by your renewed zeal to organize a memorable event. We hope to savour the best of Asian hospitality and know better the Korean people and their culture. We are sure there will be rich exchange of ideas to forge pathways to peace in the digital age. We look forward to a wonderful and successful Congress.

03 President, SIGNIS North America

Frank Frost

Frank Frost

We know SIGNIS Korea will have the full support of all the other nations in SIGNIS Asia, which we consider to be a strong model for Catholic media encountering society and supporting the Church. So we will come anticipating a robust community experience that will further inspire us in our activities here on the other side of the world when we return home.

04 President, SIGNIS Europe

Akas LÁZÁR KOVÁCS

Akas Lázár Kovács

In the name of your colleagues and friends from Europe and the Middle-East, I wish us a successful SIGNIS World Congress to the delight of the big SIGNIS family in the hopes of its future progression.

05 President, SIGNIS Latin America

Carlos Ferraro

Carlos Ferraro

Asia and Latin America have many things in common despite the cultural diversity and ways of living spirituality. Intercultural dialogue is a great challenge especially for young people. It is our hope that the meeting will achieve true and full communication between ours. Seoul SIGNIS World Congress 2022 will be a celebration for a world with a new reality.

06 SIGNIS Ecclesiastical Assistant.

Fr. Luis García Orso, S.J.

Fr. Luis García Orso, S.J.

As Catholic communicators, we are witnesses and neighbors, not just spectators or data machines; we are witnesses in situations where others do not go or do not want to go; witnesses to the many understandings of life that we find and share in our journey; committed witnesses at the service of truth, justice, and peace.

07 President, SIGNIS International Members

Dr. Terence Ascott

Dr. Terence Ascott

SWC 2022 will be my first visit to South Korea since the 1990's and my first such congress and I am looking forward to it with much expectation, the hope of learning much and of meeting new friends in Christ!

08 President, SIGNIS Pacific

Agatha Ferei Furivai

Agatha Ferei Furivai

Noa'ia e mauri! Greetings from SIGNIS Pacific. I wish to thank SIGNIS Korea for its willingness to host the World Congress 2022, especially during these challenging times. The Congress will be a good avenue to meet once again with friends and partners to share and learn from each other, along with common themes of media. My well wishes and prayers to the organizers and their working teams.

Attractions in Seoul, *an ultra-modern city with the breath of history*



Seoul, a high-tech city steeped in history, leans against the mountains and embraces the river

- ❶ COEX Byeolmadang Library
- ❷ Lotte Tower
- ❸ Namsan Tower and Hanyangdoseong Fortress Wall
- ❹ Bukhansan Mountain
- ❺ Changdeokgung Palace
- ❻ Gyeongbokgung Palace

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Shrines in Korea, *the land of martyrs*



The land of the martyrs, Shrines for Korean Catholics

- ❶ Myeongdong Cathedral
- ❷ Jeoldusan Martyrs' Shrine
- ❸ Seosomun Shrine History Museum
- ❹ Saenamteo Martyrs' Shrines
- ❺ Haemi International Sanctuary
- ❻ Solmoe Shrine

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CPBC, Host Broadcaster of SIGNIS World Congress



“
*Establishing newspapers and
 broadcasting stations are
 like building intangible churches*
 ”

Cardinal Stephen Kim Sou-hwan
 [Catholic Weekly Bulletin, Seoul; February 28, 1988]

With the establishment of Peace News on May 15, 1988, followed by FM Radio on April 15, 1990, and a TV channel on March 1, 1995, the intangible churches are gradually developing into a haven for all people and a cradle for faith.

Currently, CPBC operates Catholic Peace Newspaper (including American edition), CPBC-FM (including 4 regional offices), CPBC-TV (cable TV, IPTV, Skylife, Wavve, etc.), YouTube channels (TV, News, Radio, Catholic Korea, Studio Paul...), etc., and has established itself as Korea's only comprehensive Catholic media. In addition, through close exchanges with the world's leading Catholic media such as EWTN (USA), KTO (France), CRTN (Germany), and TV2000 (Italy), it is expanding its encounters with Catholics around the world.



<http://m.cpbc.co.kr/>

Sogang University, venue of SIGNIS World Congress



It is a prestigious private school established by the Jesuit fathers in 1960. Located 3.7 km from Jeoldusan Martyrs' Shrine, it is in the middle of Sinchon, where Korea's elite universities are concentrated, and is close to 'Hongdae Entrance' station, known as the street of youth.

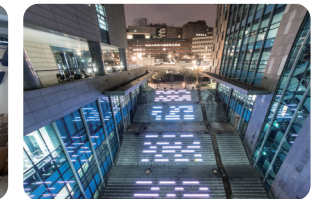
<http://www.sogang.ac.kr/>



Venue: Jeong Hasang Hall



Inside Jeong Hasang Hall International Conference Room



1st Fl. Lobby, Jeong Hasang Hall



Farewell Mass: St. Ignatius Chapel



Congratulatory Performance: Sogang University Stadium



Accommodations: Gonzaga Hall

**SIGNIS
 KOREA**

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/signiskorea>

YouTube



SIGNIS World Congress 2022 Seoul

Dates: August 16~19, 2022 Venue: Jeong Hasang Hall, Sogang University

Host



Organizers



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한국천주교 평신도사도직단체협의회
Catholic Lay Apostolate Council of Korea



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