First, I would like to send my warmest greetings to all friends and well-wishers of Korea,

Together we are celebrating the important 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Great Leader **KIM IL SUNG**, who liberated Korea not only from foreign empires and oppression but from the slavery of capitalism.

Even in a world still shocked by the pandemic, our Korean comrades celebrate this day as the most important holiday, and we join them through this e-seminar to pay our respect to the teacher we admire and learnt so much from.

His legacy was precious not only for Korea, but for all humankind in its quest for liberation.

One of the key points that President **KIM IL SUNG** clarified is the importance that each country has to find its own way to socialism and surely, we can learn from the experience of others but we should never be dogmatic.

President KIM IL SUNG said:

All ideological work must be subordinated to the interests of the Korean revolution. When we study the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the history of the Chinese revolution, or the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism, it is all for the purpose of correctly carrying out our own revolution.

In the world there are many conflicts between political ideologies or people who pretend to be the reincarnation of Marx or Stalin, but they all fail to understand that the world changes and their own societies have little to do with the Russia or Germany from 150 years ago.

Another phenomenon always recurring in our societies is the pressure from the big powers over the small nations and the subordination of those small to the instructions given by their masters. This is a disgrace for any country that aspires to be free and independent in the democratic decisions made by its citizens. Right now, there's a new war between Russia and Ukraine, and this is another example of the interference of the external powers. Such wars only benefit certain holdings for the cost of the lives of innocent people.

So, President **KIM IL SUNG** points out how the world could live in peace, by getting rid of the dependence from the empires and respecting others:

There are large and small countries in the world, but there cannot be major and minor countries; there are developed nations and less developed nations, but there cannot be nations destined to dominate other nations or those destined to be dominated. All countries and nations are equal members of the international community and as such have the right to independence and equality. No privilege and no arbitrariness should be tolerated in international relations; friendship and cooperation among countries must be fully developed on the principles of mutual respect, non-interference in the affairs of other countries, equality and mutual benefit.

Yesterday, today and tomorrow such words will have full validity. The teachings of our Great Leader President **KIM IL SUNG** will always shine as the most precious legacy.

Alejandro Cao de Benos

President of the Korean Friendship Association (KFA)