

The Future We Want, The UN We Need: UN75 People's Forum – Draft Concept Note

As of 13 May 2020

Coordinated by UN2020¹ and Together First², the UN75 People's Forum for the UN We Need will bring together civil society and other stakeholders online to adopt a declaration on the occasion of the UN's 75th anniversary. The declaration will reflect their commitment to the principles expressed in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to the objectives set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which draws on several seminal declarations, treaties and programmes of work adopted in previous years.

Covid-19 is a stark reminder of the need for stronger cooperation across borders, sectors and generations. Ahead of the Forum, stakeholders will have engaged in an inclusive process to examine global risks and trends, develop a global plan of action to address them, and promote partnerships for climate action, peace and security, human rights, democracy, sustainable development and disarmament. The unifying theme will be advancing people-centered multilateralism, and the focus will be both on addressing global risks as well as revitalizing the United Nations. These discussions will be part of the UN75 global dialogues.

The output will be a People's Declaration and Plan for Global Action to be presented online to the President of the 74th UN General Assembly on May 14, 2020. This would build on the precedent set by the previous PGA, who accepted the UN civil society conference document in 2019. It would also send a powerful message about stakeholder engagement and support the PGA's priorities on youth, women and inclusion.

Program Outline

- **Title of event:** UN75 People's Forum for the UN We Need
- **Outcome:** UN75 Forum Declaration & People's Plan for Global Action
- **Objectives:** (1) Promote UN values, norms and principles embodied in the UN Charter, UDHR, SDGs and Building Cultures of Peace through Global Citizenship Education. (2) Address global risks, develop global plan of action and promote partnerships for peace, sustainable development, human rights, democracy, climate action and disarmament. (3) Advance people-centered multilateralism by developing proposals to revitalize the United Nations on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary in 2020.
- **Virtual Platform:** Zoom, interpretation & closed captioning available
- **Date:** 14 and 15 May 2020
- **Target Audiences:** NGOs, Civil Society, Schools & Universities, Private Sector, Member States
- **Comms:** UN2020 live-streaming & social media

¹ The UN2020 initiative is dedicated to using the 75th anniversary of the United Nations in 2020 as an opportunity to take stock and strengthen the UN system in partnership with civil society, governments, and the UN in support of a people-centered multilateralism. UN2020 is supported by a coordination group of civil society representatives from The Stimson Center, The Workable World Trust, the World Federalist Movement – Canada, UNA-UK, CIVICUS, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (New York), Soroptimist International, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, Baha'i International Community, and International Alliance of Women. It is supported by over 250 civil society organisations and coalitions in all regions.

² Together First is committed to making the best ideas for global governance a reality. We believe that by making the conversation on global governance accessible and inclusive, we will help create a more democratic, transparent and accountable system – one that is, ultimately, more effective too. It is a growing moment of over 700 organisations, drawn from civil society, business and academia.

Program Schedule

DAY 1 (May 14, 2020) – The UN we need: Civil Society Partnerships

- 9:00 – 9:15 AM *Welcome*
 - UN2020 Video: “The Future We Want ... The UN We Need”
 - Speakers:
 - Jeffery Huffines, UN2020 & Together First, Welcome Remarks
 - Daniel Perell, Baha’i International Community, Master of Ceremonies for the day
- 9:15 – 9:45 AM *Handover of People’s Declaration to the President of the General Assembly*

The moderator will introduce the main reason we are here, i.e. for the handover of the declaration. There will be a short intro via film/images reflecting the declaration, followed by acknowledgement to the PGA for accepting it and handing over to him for remarks.

 - Declaration Video
 - Speakers:
 - H.E. Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly, Remarks on the Declaration
 - Harshani Dharmadasa, Pathfinders, Moderator
- 9:45 -10:00 AM *Break – performance by Yagull: Kana Kamitsubo-Markovic (piano) and Sasha Markovic (guitar)*
- 10:00 – 11:00 AM *Keynote Address*

This panel will build on declaration handover, emphasizing civil society engagement.

 - Speakers:
 - Speaker [TBC]
 - Giovanna Kuele, Igarapé Institute and Together First, Moderator
- 11:00-11:15 AM *Break – performance by Rocky Dawuni*
- 11:15 – 12:45 PM *Partnership for the Goals: amplifying civil society space*

Based on Together First’s “To Do List,” this panel will advance the discussion on innovative proposals to promote civic space within the UN system.

- Speakers:
 - Gro Harlem Brundtland, The Elders
 - Angela Kane, Senior Fellow, Former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
 - Mandeep Tiwana, Chief Programmes Officer, CIVICUS
 - Michele Griffin, Senior Policy Adviser, UN Executive Office of the Secretary-General [TBC]
 - Enyseh Teimory, UNA-UK, Moderator
- 12:45 – 1:00 PM *Closing Remarks*
 - Speakers:
 - Fergus Watt, UN2020

Day 2 (May 15, 2020) – The Future We Want: Mobilizing to Address 21st Century Challenges

9:00 – 9:15 AM *Welcome & Overview of Day 1*

- UN2020 Video: “The Future We Want ... The UN We Need”
- Speakers:
 - Soon-Young Yoon, International Alliance of Women, Master of Ceremonies for the day
- 9:15 – 10:45 AM *UN75 Civil Society and Member States Dialogue*

This panel will reflect on innovative approaches to multi-stakeholder collaboration to address global challenges.

 - Speakers:
 - H.E. Ms. H. Elizabeth Thompson, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations [TBC]
 - H.E. Mr. Silvio Gonzato, Ambassador, Deputy Head of Delegation, Office of the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations
 - Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Former UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
 - Sharan Burrow, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation
 - Emilia Reyes, Program Director, Public Policies and Budgets for Equality and Sustainable Development, Equidad de Género: Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia
 - Mohammed Ali Loutfy, UN Representative, Disabled Peoples' International (DPI)
 - Volker Lehmann, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (NY), Moderator
- 10:45-11:00 AM *Break – performance by SaulPaul*
- 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM *UN75 Global Plan of Action & Mobilizing for Change*

This panel will discuss ways forward to take action on proposals to develop more effective multilateral arrangements through strengthened, people-centered, and values-driven global governance. Speakers will highlight successful campaigns mobilizing for change.

- Speakers:

- H.E. Mr. Cho Hyun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations
- Alicia Sanders-Zakre, Policy and Research Coordinator, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)
- Bridget Burns, Director, WEDO
- Riccardo Moro, Global Co-Chair, Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP)
- Liv Tórres, Director, Pathfinders for Peace, Just and Inclusive Societies
- Saji Prelis, Director, Children & Youth Programmes, Search for Common Ground and Co-Chair, Global Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security
- Cristina Petcu, Stimson Center, Moderator

- 12:30 – 1:00 PM *Wrap-up*

- Speakers:

- Fabrizio Hochschild, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Preparations for the Commemoration of the United Nations 75th anniversary
- Jocelyn Jayasooria, UN2020

12:55 – 1:00 PM *Closing Remarks*

- Soon-Young Yoon, International Alliance of Women, Master of Ceremonies for the day