UNGA CONFERENCE 2019
unga-conference.org

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD
INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL

Wednesday
25 September 2019
New York

4W43 Conference Room
4 West 43rd Street New York, NY 10036
The Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF) is an international civil society organization dedicated to culture of peace, human rights, and sustainable development. The JWF promotes diversity and inclusion by creating forums for intellectual and social engagement, generates and shares knowledge with stakeholders, builds partnerships worldwide, and develops policy recommendations for positive social change.

NEW YORK - HEADQUARTERS

www.jwf.org

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CONCEPT NOTE

The Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF) is organizing its traditional annual UNGA Conference “Transforming our World: Inclusive Social Development for All” on Wednesday, 25 September 2019, in the margins of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The UNGA Conference 2019 will focus on the central themes of achieving inclusive social development, youth empowerment, and human rights for sustainable development.

Background

The United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 recognizes the important role of inclusive social development, in particular SDG Goal #16, by “promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.” The United Nations has recommended the governments, the private sector, and the civil society to join their efforts to develop, implement, and evaluate inclusive social development policies for sustainable development. In addition, the promotion of democratic values, protection of human rights, and ensuring rule of law and access to justice are essential indicators for sustainable development. Despite significant progress achieved by governments worldwide, some vulnerable people and marginalized groups suffer from conflicts, violence, and inequalities that prevent social and economic development at the national and regional levels.

The participation of the different stakeholders in the UNGA has a significant effect in achieving the sustainable development goals with higher levels of outcomes. The UNGA Conference encourages all stakeholders including the UN Members States, the private sector, the civil society, academics, and experts to take active participation with innovative ideas and practices.

The Conference aims at creating an open platform for all stakeholders to discuss pressing global issues about the UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development, offer innovate solutions to common challenges, promote best practices to advance tangible results in achieving the sustainable development goals with 17 goals and 169 targets. It is important to highlight that the Agenda 2030 requires a holistic approach rather than fragmented methods for concrete actions with measurable outcomes to ensure no one is left behind.

Goals and Objectives

The UNGA Conference seeks to create a platform for stakeholders from different backgrounds to debate on how to transform our world through inclusive social development, youth empowerment, and respect for human rights and the rule of law, based on the UN Global Agenda 2030. The Conference outputs will include the adoption of a high-level statement offering policy recommendations about how to address current issues concerning youth participation in decision-making, equal opportunity for education and employment, and access to public services for all citizens as part of the UN Agenda 2030. In addition, UNGA Conference 2019 will propose a framework for action plan to follow-up on outcomes of the conference and build global partnership and collaboration in field projects.
PANEL 1: INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ACHIEVING THE GLOBAL GOALS 2030

This session aims to convene the role of inclusive social development policies and practices that help the United Nations achieve the Global Goals 2030. The panelists and participants will discuss major issues concerning social inclusion and inequalities that play significant role in sustainable development and peace globally.

The panelists will focus on current challenges and potential opportunities around key aspects of social integration policies and access to basic public services. The session on inclusive social development will act as the overarching theme for the following debates.

- Social integration policies that promote access to basic public services
- Role of the culture of peace in social cohesion and inclusiveness
- Civil society participation to facilitate social development
- Importance of rule of law and democracy to reduce inequalities and implement social development policies

According to the World Summit for Social Development, inclusive society means “a society for all” that recognizes the rights and responsibilities of individuals and societies with active participation in social, economic, and political affairs at all levels. Governments have to develop a mechanism to ensure the promotion and protection of inclusive societies through striving towards the rule of law and access to justice, trust between public and private institutions, and social integration, communication, and sense of belonging among the members of the society. The principles of diversity, the culture of peace, mutual understanding, tolerance, and respect are important ingredients in building peaceful, inclusive, and resilient communities. The United Nations underlines the significance of active participation in decision-making, equal opportunity for education and employment, and access to public services for all citizens as part of the UN Agenda 2030. The promotion of these rights and responsibilities increases social and economic development whereas denial of these rights leads to conflicts and violence.

Globalization has also posed new challenges and opportunities for nations to cope with widened inequalities among nations. Negative effects of globalization impact vulnerable groups and societies in accessing basic resources, social services, and opportunities. It is imperative for decision makers and educational institutions to prepare the youth with the 21st century knowledge, competency skills, and abilities to address the needs of the global markets.
PANEL 2: ADVANCING YOUTH THROUGH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

This session will focus on current policies and practices in advancing youth through social and economic empowerment and how multi-stakeholders can work in collaboration to support youth-led initiatives and organizations. Specific issues to be addressed under this sub-topic include: youth empowerment, youth participation, volunteerism, education, and girls and young women.

- Key priorities and challenges in access to quality education
- Developing life and entrepreneurial skills to prepare the youth for the rapidly evolving labor market
- From consultation to collaboration: How to create a meaningful and sustained youth participation in the decision-making mechanisms?
- Youth as stakeholders in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals: Advocacy, awareness-raising, and capacity building

Youth represents 1/3 of the world population and we cannot talk about social and economic development without meaningful participation of the youth who are most affected by the outcomes of the Global Agenda 2030. Youth has always been considered as a major human resource for sustainable development by the United Nations. Young people are agents of social change, economic growth, and social development. Consequently, youth participation in the decision-making and implementation processes are critical for sustainable development. The UN General Assembly resolution 58/133 also reiterates the “importance of the full and effective participation of youth and youth organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels in promoting and implementing the World Programme of Action and in evaluating the progress achieved and the obstacles encountered in its implementation”.

Youth has a potential to contribute to the UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development. SDG Goal #4 aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” Inclusive and accessible quality education plays a crucial role in empowering youth who will transform our world with innovative and creative ideas in the 21st century.

The significance of quality education in youth empowerment is recognized by the public and private sector; however, there is a gap between the policies and the practices when it comes to the implementation of sustainable development goals. Public funds and investment in the education of youth are not sufficient enough for successful outcomes. Therefore, it is a collective effort that all stakeholders including governments, private sector, and civil society organizations to create opportunities for youth voices and youth-led initiatives.

Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth repeatedly underlined the importance of meaningful youth participation across the UN Development Agenda. The 2019 ECOSOC Youth Forum addressed the challenges, potentials, and need of the youth populations around three major themes ‘Empowerment, Inclusion, and Equality’ for meaningful youth participation. The most pressing challenges faced by the youth globally are identified as unemployment, poverty, and illiteracy. The UNGA Conference aims to follow up on the same agenda to address the Goal # 4 Quality Education, Goal #8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Goal #10 Reduced Inequalities, and Goal #16 Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.

As a fundamental right acknowledged by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the youth can play a crucial role in achieving the sustainable development through active and inclusive participation. Youth empowerment means helping young people to attain the 21st century knowledge, develop competency skills, become global citizens responsible for the people and the planet through communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. It is the responsibility of the state and non-state actors to create opportunities to youth to attain necessary information, skills, and tools to become independent, responsible, and productive citizens.
PANEL 3: PROTECTION OF SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

This session will deliberate on the commitment to protection of human rights and access of social services to leave no one behind. The speakers will offer multiple perspectives and practices on how human rights reduce inequalities, eliminate the causes of poverty, and prevent internal and global conflicts. This session will also highlight how realization of economic, social and cultural rights play an integral role in sustainable peace and conflict prevention.

Specific issues to be addressed under this subtopic include:

- Promotion of cultural rights in building peaceful societies
- Human rights-based approach to the UN Development Agenda
- Violation of human rights leading to social unrest: Country-based Analysis
- Early warning mechanisms of human rights to prevent conflicts (Ex: severe inequalities in access of social services, lack of democratic space of an active civil society, lack of media freedom)

According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), fundamental human rights, human dignity, equal rights are promoted and protected by all UN Member States as the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world. Respect to human rights, human dignity, and equal rights of women and men promotes social development and prosperous life for all regardless of diverse backgrounds. It is a mutual responsibility for individuals and societies to ensure equality (parity) and reduce inequality (disparity) in the enjoyment of fundamental rights, freedoms, and opportunities for education, employment, healthcare, and other resources for all for sustainable peace and development.

Public policies have to protect equality, equity and social justice by ensuring rule of law and access to justice, improving access to public services, providing equal opportunities for employment, establishing cooperatives and private institutions, ensuring easy access to healthcare, and enhancing access to quality education for boys and girls equally.
PIONEERS IN SDGS: CALL FOR PROJECTS

The United Nations has recommended the Member States, the private sector, and the civil society to join their efforts to develop, implement, and evaluate inclusive social development policies for sustainable development. The participation of different stakeholders in the UNGA has a significant effect in achieving the sustainable development goals with higher levels of outcomes.

Facilitating partnerships and sharing best-practices on the implementation of the SDGs is one of the expected outcomes of the UNGA Conference 2019. Therefore, we call on the civil society organizations to submit their best-practices which contributed to the implementation of any of the related SDG with tangible results in a particular location.

Format

• The PIONEERS IN SDGs will be presented at the last session of the UNGA Conference 2019 “Transforming Our World: Inclusive Social Development for All”
• We kindly request the applicant to submit a 3 minutes presentation video (in English) explaining the project (the video clip may be parts from the initiative/project being implemented and/or participants sharing their insights about joining the initiative/project)
• The organizer of the project OR the representative of the organization will have 7 minutes to brief the audience on the description, goals and achievements of the initiative/project explaining which specific SDGs are the outcomes target.
• JWF will then present an award to the organizer/representative of the organization to recognize their commitment to the SDGs.
• The conference will also have an initiative/project display area, where the organizers can present their projects (tri-fold cardboard display, fliers, brochures etc.)

Submit Your Initiative/Project

• Please fill out the questions below and send your 3 minutes video to c.ulker@jwf.org by September 1, 2019.
• The working language of the Conference is English. We kindly request the video in English along with the concept note of the initiative/project. (Please include English subtitles as well)
• You may visit https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org for more information on the 17 SDGs and 169 targets.

Application

• Title of the initiative/project
• Organizer (and partners) of the initiative/project
• Short description of the organizer (and partners)
• Which country/city is the initiative/project implemented
• Dates of the implementation
• Description of the initiative/project
• Implementation methodologies
• Achievement of the initiative/project

AWARDS

• 1st Place : 1,000 USD + Recognition Plaque
• 2nd Place : 750 USD + Recognition Plaque
• 3rd Place : 500 USD + Recognition Plaque
PROGRAM

09:00 – 09:30 AM  OPENING & WELCOME REMARKS
- Cemre Ulker, US Director & UN Representative | Journalists and Writers Foundation
- Mehmet Kilic, President, Journalists and Writers Foundation
- H.E. Adama Dieng, Under-Secretary-General | Special Adviser of the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

09:30 – 11:00 AM  PANEL 1: INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ACHIEVING THE GLOBAL GOALS 2030

Keynote
- Hon. Mark Botomani, Minister of Information, Civic Education and Communications Technology, REPUBLIC of MALAWI

Moderator
- Dr. Macharia Munene, Professor, United States International University, KENYA

Panelists
- Tushar A. Gandhi, President & Founder, Gandhi Foundation, INDIA
  Role of the culture of peace in social cohesion and inclusiveness
- Flavie Fuentes, Legal Manager, North America, Thomson Reuters Foundation, USA
  Importance of rule of law and democracy to reduce inequalities and implement social development policies
- Dr. Han Entzinger, Professor and Author, University Rotterdam, NETHERLANDS
  Social integration policies that promote access to basic public services
- Silvia Alejandra Perazzo, President, ANU-AR, ARGENTINA
  Civil society participation to facilitate social development

Discussant
- Moneeza Burney, Writer at Dawn Newspaper; Falak Sufi Scholar 2018, PAKISTAN
  The role of youth in creating inclusive social societies

UNGA 2019 AWARDS CEREMONY

Culture of Peace & Non-Violence Award 2019
Tushar Gandhi | President & Founder | Mahatma Gandhi Foundation

Culture of Peace Award 2019
Sello Hatang | CEO | Nelson Mandela Foundation

Youth Empowerment Award 2019
Enes Kanter | NBA Player, Boston Celtics | Enes Kanter Foundation
11:00 – 11:15 AM COFFEE BREAK

11:15 – 12:45 PM PANEL 2: ADVANCING YOUTH THROUGH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Moderator
- Emmanuel N.B. Flomo, Founder & Executive Director, Inspire Liberia Project, LIBERIA

Panelists
- Jadayah Spencer, Member, UN DPI NGO Youth Representative Steering Committee, USA
  *Youth as stakeholders in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals: Advocacy, awareness-raising, and capacity building*
- Sasha E. Butler, Executive Director, Changing Destinations: Journey to Excellence, Inc., USA
  *Key priorities and challenges in access to quality education*
- Alyson Neel, Policy and Advocacy Strategist, UN Foundation, USA
  *UNA-USA Youth member participation in human rights mechanisms and UN Summits*

Discussants
- Nick Hatzoglou, Head of Community Projects, Football Victoria, AUSTRALIA
  *The role of sports for the social and personal development of youth*
- Kit Miller, Director, M.K. Gandhi Institute, USA
  *Importance of non-violence education and culture of peace for social empowerment of youth*
- Maria Cruz Rodriguez Del Cerro, Former Vice President, UNESCO Center of Getafe-Madrid, SPAIN
  *Education as a tool to create peaceful and inclusive societies*

12:45 – 02:00 PM LUNCH BREAK

02:00 – 03:30 PM PANEL 3: PROTECTION OF SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Keynote
- Craig Foster, Football broadcaster; Author; Ambassador for Human Rights, AUSTRALIA

Moderator
- Jose Igreja Matos, President, European Association of Judges, PORTUGAL

Panelists
- Isaque Chande, Ombudsman, MOZAMBIQUE
  *Early warning mechanisms of human rights to prevent conflicts: severe inequalities in access of social services*
- James C. Harrington, Founder & Director Emeritus, Texas Civil Rights Project, USA
  *Promotion of social, economic and cultural rights in building peaceful societies*
• Antonio Alberto do Vale Cerqueira, Court of Ethics and Disciplinary at the Brazilian Bar Association - District Federal Section, BRAZIL

  *Violation of human rights leading to social unrest: Country-based Analysis*

Discussant

• Ekaterina Shebalina, Executive Assistant to the Vice-Rector, Institute for International Studies, Research Fellow, RUSSIA

  *Protection of Social, Economic and Cultural Rights*

03:30 – 03:45 PM COFFEE BREAK

03:45 – 4:45 PM PIONEERS IN SDGS AWARD CEREMONY

1st Place: Zambia Bio Project | Japan Organic Farming Association | JAPAN, ZAMBIA

2nd Place: CANOPS for Africa | Consortium Bamboo-Equator & Golden Climate | KENYA

2nd Place: Young Peace Builders | TCC Brooklyn & Kings Bay Y | USA

3rd Place: Women Against Violent Extremism | Women in Int’l Security-Horn of Africa | KENYA

**Innovation Award:** Storytelling for Fundraising | RWANDA, CHAD, USA

**Stakeholders Award:** A Concert for Refugees 2019 | Turquoise Harmony Institute | SOUTH AFRICA

**Scope Award:** UN Model & Simulation Games | UNA-ARGENTINA | ARGENTINA

**Impact Award:** Keep a Child in School | Safe Future Uganda | UGANDA

**Change Maker Award:** Concert of Three Cultures | ARCO Forum, UNESCO Centre Getafe Madrid | SPAIN

**Change Maker Award:** Washing for Cars | Nile Dialogue Platform, Nile Humanitarian Development Agency | UGANDA

**Change Maker Award:** International Meeting of Intellectuals | MIRNAS | RUSSIA

5:00 PM CLOSING REMARKS:

Family Photo with Speakers and Global Partners
OPENING SESSION

H.E. ADAMA DIENG
Under-Secretary-General
UN Secretary-General’s Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide

Adama Dieng is the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. As a legal and human rights expert, Mr. Dieng has a distinguished career in contributing to the strengthening of rule of law, fighting impunity and promoting capacity-building in the area of judicial and democratic institutions. Further, he contributed to the establishment of several non-governmental organizations in Africa. Mr. Dieng began his career as Registrar of the Regional and Labour Courts in Senegal, and served as Registrar of the Supreme Court of Senegal for six years. He joined the International Commission of Jurists in 1982, serving the organization in different capacities, including as Legal Officer for Africa and Executive Secretary till 1990. He served a further 10 years as its Secretary-General, a period during which he was appointed as the United Nations Independent Expert for Haiti (1995-2000).

In addition to his accomplishments behind the establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights as well as the draft of the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption, Mr. Dieng has lectured on international law and human rights and acted as a consultant for many organizations, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Ford Foundation and the African Union.

PANEL 1: INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ACHIEVING THE GLOBAL GOALS 2030

Keynote: HON. MARK BOTOMANI
Minister of Information, Civic Education and Communications Technology, REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

Honorable Mr. Mark Botomani is the Minister of Information, Civic Education and Communications Technology of the Republic of Malawi. Hon. Mark Botomani also acts as the official spokesperson for the Malawi Government. Before appointed as the Minister in June 2019, Hon. Botomani was the Member of Parliament for Zomba-Chisi region from the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). Zomba-Chisi constituency has never had someone holding a ministerial position before him. Hon. Botomani is dedicated to bring about diversity to the government agendas that the Ministry of Information empowers all citizens with social and economic development and prosperity.

The Ministry of Information, Civic Education and Communications Technology has a mandate to provide policy direction and guidance in the production and dissemination of public information; coordinate and manage ICT development and services. The main objective of the Ministry is to provide an enabling environment for the development and usage of information, civic, education and communication technologies.

Moderator: DR. MACHARIA MUNENE
Professor
United States International University, KENYA

Dr. Macharia Munene is a professor of History and International Relations at the United States International University in Nairobi, obtained his doctorate in Diplomatic History in 1985 from Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. Dr. Munene has served as Collaborating International Faculty, Universitat Jaume-I, Castellon, and Professorial Affiliate of the National Defence College, Karen, Nairobi, Kenya. He also taught at the University of Nairobi, where he was Chairman of the Department, Kenyatta University, Moi University, The Ohio State University, Kentucky State University, and Ohio University. Dr. Munene has also served as an External Examiner at the University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Masinde Muliro University, and Egerton University.

Dr. Munene is recognized as a public intellectual and resource person. He has received the United Nations recognition as an Expert on Decolonisation. He is also rated among the Top 100 CCTV-4 commentators in the world. And, appears in Kenyan and global media and public forums as an observer, analyst, and columnist. Dr. Munene also serves as an Advisor to the Harmony Institute in Nairobi, Kenya.

TUSHAR A. GANDHI
President
Mahatma Gandhi Foundation, INDIA

Mr. Tushar A. Gandhi is the President and Founder of the Mahatma Gandhi Foundation established in India in 1997. Mr. Gandhi is the great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and son of Journalist Arun Manilal Gandhi. The Foundation works to continue the legacy of equality, empowerment, and justice for the “have nothing” constituents of our society. Mr. Gandhi is associated with organizations like Lok Seva Trust, Australia India Rural Development Foundation, and the Gandhi Research Foundation.
He is a peace and human rights activist and strives for a world without violence. Mr. Tushar writes and speaks on peace, nonviolence, justice and compassion and liberal ideals and stands against extremism and bigotry. His first book, “Let’s Kill Gandhi!”, a chronicle of the conspiracy and murder of Mahatma Gandhi published in 2007.

**FLAVIE FUENTES**  
Legal Manager, North America  
Thomson Reuters Foundation, USA

Ms. Flavie Fuente is a dual-qualified lawyer in France and England & Wales and holds a Master’s Degree in Human Rights from the Universite Paris X. In August 2018, she joined the Thomson Reuters Foundation as the Legal Manager for North America and the Caribbean. She oversees the network of TrustLaw’s members and handles legal pro bono requests from non-profit organizations and social enterprises. Ms. Flavie identifies strategic human rights issues, scopes, and manages the development and publication of legal research for the social sector. Ms. Flavie and her team regularly host legal workshops and events in collaboration with law firms and corporate partners.

Before joining the Foundation, Ms. Fuente worked in London for Advocates for International Development (“A4ID”), a UK charity that empowers lawyers to eradicate poverty, as the Deputy Head of Partnerships and Legal Services. She worked extensively in collaboration with several UN agencies, primarily through the lens of the Sustainable Development Goals. Ms. Fuente also has experience working in Geneva with International Social Service, a non-profit dedicated to promoting children’s rights in the context of international adoption, and immigration and family lawyer in France.

**HAN ENTZINGER**  
Professor and Author  
University Rotterdam, NETHERLANDS

Dr. Han Entzinger is Emeritus Professor of Migration and Integration Studies at Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands. Earlier, Dr. Entzinger held a chair in general social sciences at Utrecht University. He also worked at the Scientific Council for Government Policy, a government think tank close to the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, as well as at the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva. Entzinger studied sociology with economics at the Universities of Leiden, Rotterdam, and Strasbourg, and obtained his doctorate at Leiden University. He has advised several European governments on the introduction of civic integration courses for immigrants and has also acted as a consultant to the European Union and the Council of Europe on migration-related issues. From 2013-2018 he chaired the Scientific Committee of the EU’s Fundamental Rights Agency in Vienna. Social Service, a non-profit dedicated to promoting children’s rights in the context of international adoption, and immigration and family lawyer in France.

**SILVIA ALEJANDRA PERAZZO**  
President, ANU-AR, ARGENTINA

Silvia Perazzo is a historian specialized in the history of contemporary Africa and a lecturer at various universities from Argentina (Universidad Austral, Universidad del Salvador, Universidad Nacional de la Defensa, Universidad Nacional de La Matanza). Serving as the President of the United Nations Association from Argentina Republic (UNA-AR), Silvia continues to strengthen her professional career as a speaker at different multilateral civil society forums in topics related to education, such as Istanbul Summit, C20, 67 United Nations Civil Society Conference. “We, The People”, Foro de Participación Ciudadana de UNASUR.

**MONEEZA BURNEY**  
Writer at Dawn Newspaper  
Falak Sufi Scholar 2018, NYU, PAKISTAN

Moneeza Burney is associated with several social projects in Pakistan related to youth empowerment and poverty alleviation through education and creative content development. Working as a script writer, a freelance journalist, and leading youth programs of her own, Moneeza has served as a Director of the Lahore Students Union (LSU), a platform for youth community service and social leadership, which has placed over 1,000 students across a network of 75+ partner NGOs, social projects and civil society initiatives since 2014.

In the summer of 2019, she has visited Beirut, Lebanon to share ideas with local NGOs about youth engagement for conflict resolution and empowerment through creative methods. Moneeza continues to write for DAWN newspaper in Pakistan, for whom she has worked as a feature writer since 2013.

Moneeza is currently a graduate student at New York University in the Near Eastern Studies program as a Falak Sufi Scholar 2018, and holds a BA (Hons) degree from Sheffield Hallam University, UK, in Business Economics.
PANEL 2: ADVANCING YOUTH THROUGH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

EMMANUEL N.B. FLOMO
Founder & Executive Director
Inspire Liberia Project, LIBERIA

Mr. Emmanuel N. B. Flomo has an MBA in Public Finance and is the 2015 Winner of the Future Africa Award Prize for Youth in Public Service, Lagos, Nigeria. He has contributed to youth development work in Liberia and Africa for over 15 years. Mr. Flomo was elected as Vice President for Liberia National Student Union (LINSU), which serves as the umbrella organization for all students in Liberia.

In 2013, he was also selected to the Technical Youth Team of Former Liberian President, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Program called the President’s Young Professional Program. Mr. Flomo is the Founder & Executive Director of The Inspire Liberia Project, an institution in Liberia working to promote youth empowerment through community civic engagement, community empowerment, and to increase indigenous participation in decision making in Liberia.

JADAYAH SPENCER
Executive Director
International Youth Leadership Institute, USA

Ms. Jadayah Spencer started her undergraduate education at age 16 as a Dean’s Scholar at New York University, where she majored in anthropology and double-minored in Social Entrepreneurship and Mandarin Chinese. Ms. Spencer is a born-and-raised Brooklynite, and recipient of several fellowships including StartingBloc, and has been recognized as one of 40 Under 40 Rising Stars in the NYC Non-Profit Sector by New York Nonprofit Media.

She is currently the Executive Director of the International Youth Leadership Institute and an advocate for improving access to opportunities that enhance the lives of youth, people of African descent, and indigenous people worldwide. Ms. Spencer is also a proud IYLI alumna, became an IYLI fellow in 2010, and traveled on the 2011 Summer Fellowship Program to Tanzania. She serves on several international and local boards, including her work as Co-Chair of the UN DPI/NGO Youth Representative Steering Committee. And, on the New York City Young Women’s Advisory Council, which addresses the policy issues that directly affect young women of color in New York City.

SASHA E. BUTLER
Executive Director
Changing Destinations: Journey to Excellence, Inc., USA

Ms. Sasha E. Butler is the Executive Director of Changing Destinations: Journey To Excellence, Inc., located in Columbia, Maryland. She leads critical global education initiatives for school-community partnerships and the implementation of leadership, socio-emotional learning, community service, and global citizenship education programs. Previously, Ms. Butler held various leadership positions in New York within higher education institutions, community-based organizations, and the business industry.

Ms. Butler also serves as an International Education Consultant and Strategist for InXcellence Consulting: Training & Coaching Solutions (1997). She provides professional development resources to educators in the United States, Uganda, and Nigeria. Ms. Butler is a member of the Harvard University GSE Think Tank on Global Education: Empowering Global Citizens equipping teachers and administrators to foster global competence in schools by co-constructing curriculum and devising strategies for systemic change. She is also a member of the World Council on Intercultural and Global Competence to promote intercultural understanding for a more peaceful and sustainable world.

ALYSON NEEL
Policy and Advocacy Strategist
UN Foundation, USA

Alyson Neel serves as Policy and Advocacy Strategist for the UN Foundation’s Global Policy team, with journalism, policy design, and advocacy experience in Turkey, the United States, and most recently Myanmar. Neel has worked to shed light on and address many manifestations of gender inequity, including gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and the gender wage gap, with The Washington Post, UN Women, and the Offices of Louisiana Senator “JP” Morrell and U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin.

Neel recently returned to New York after spending 18 months in Yangon, Myanmar, where she supported a local women’s organization and authored a bilingual children’s book, Girl Power in Myanmar, about women rocking their communities across the country. Neel holds an MPA from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School, and a BA in political communication from Louisiana State University.
NICK HATZOGLOU

Head of Community Projects, AUSTRALIA

Mr. Nick Hatzoglou has a Post Graduate Certificate in Event Management from Victoria University. He is the Head of Community Projects with Football Victoria and has overall responsibility for the Indigenous, Multicultural, LGBTI+, and Disability projects. He ensures football clubs are safe, welcoming, and better reflective of all Australians. He is Australian-born with Greek heritage and has a passion for cultural diversity and sport. Mr. Hatzoglou combines experience gained within the multicultural sector, local government, Australian Football League, and Cricket Australia with his appreciation of the positive role sport plays in a vibrant contemporary Australia. He acknowledges the role sport contributes to nurturing community interaction, social harmony, and believes football can facilitate an essential role in developing people's understanding of each other at a local, national, and international level.

Previously, Nick has played a significant role in developing the Sunshine Heights Cricket Club, the most culturally diverse cricket club in the world, the AFL Peace Team, which brings together Palestinians and Israeli’s into one team, Sunshine Heights Western Tigers Football Club, and created the AFL Multicultural Program from scratch.

KIT MILLER

Director
M.K. Gandhi Institute, USA

Ms. Kit Miller has a Masters in Social Innovation and Sustainability from Goddard College. She served as the director of the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence in Rochester, New York since 2009.

Prior to that, she worked as the director/celebrator of Bay Area Nonviolent Communication in Oakland, California. Ms. Miller has been learning about nonviolence and organizing on its behalf for the past 26 years. She draws on Gandhian and Kingian nonviolence, as well as Nonviolent Communication and permaculture, for direction and daily practice. Ms. Miller sees herself as an educator/practitioner hybrid. In addition to using the Institute itself as a learning laboratory for principled nonviolence, she teaches and works on community projects related to restorative justice, sustainability, and anti-racism in Rochester and elsewhere. She also has taught hundreds of groups worldwide and has spoken at the United Nations twice (in 2017 and 2018) sharing nonviolence with youth in the 21st century.

MARIA CRUZ RODRIGUEZ DEL CERRO

Former Vice President
UNESCO Center of Getafe-Madrid, SPAIN

Maria Cruz Rodríguez del Cerro is an author of over 50 scientific and review articles published in high-impact international journals. From 2009 to 2019, Maria Cruz Rodríguez del Cerro served as Vice President of the UNESCO Center of Getafe (Madrid, Spain) and as Director of the Cabinet of the President of the Economic and Social Council of the King of Spain from the years of 2002-2006. Further, she was the principal investigator and co-principal investigator in 17 national and international research projects, as well as the organizer of national and international Congresses of Psychobiology and Behavioral Neuroscience.

As a visiting professor, Maria Cruz Rodríguez del Cerro lectures at Rutgers-The State University of New Jersey and University of California, Irvine. She holds a PhD in Psychobiology from Psychology School of National University of Distance Education (Madrid, Spain).
PANEL 3: PROTECTION OF SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Keynote: CRAIG FOSTER
Former Athlete,
Human Rights Activist, AUSTRALIA

Craig Foster is one of Australia’s most respected former athletes with an award-winning career in broadcasting, athlete activism, social justice and human rights. As Australia’s 40th National Football Team Captain, Craig’s broadcast career spans five male and female FIFA World Cups with three national broadcast awards: Olympic Games and European, South American and domestic professional football competitions.

An author and columnist, Craig developed the successful ‘Harmony Game’ with the Department of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, Australian Government and Special Broadcasting Service, Australia’s multicultural broadcaster to further cooperation, understanding and acceptance of diversity among school children throughout Australia.

A Life Member, former CEO & Chairman of Professional Footballers Australia, the exclusive representative body of Australia’s professional players, he is a leading proponent of human rights as a Refugee Ambassador with Amnesty Australia, Australia Committee member of Human Rights Watch, Advisory Council of the Human Rights Institute, University of New South Wales (UNSW) and advocates strongly for sport to fulfill its social responsibility to create a better world.

Craig led a successful global campaign across a broad range of Governments, NGO’s, human rights organisations, sporting bodies and athletes in early 2019 to free a young Bahraini refugee and footballer, Hakeem al-Araibi from a Thai prison.

Moderator: JOSÉ IGREJA MATOS
President of European Association of Judges
First Vice President of International Association of Judges, PORTUGAL

As a judge for around 30 years from September 1989 to the present day, JOSE IGREJA MATOS was elected as the President of European Association of Judges in 2016 for a two years mandate and re-elected for a second term in 2018. Mr. Matos also has been serving as a Member of the Advisory Board of the Global Judicial Integrity Network of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) since April 2018.

In addition to his professional career as a judge, he is also an Associate Researcher of the Centre for Social Studies of the University of Coimbra and a Member of Portuguese’s High Judicial Council Cabinet - 2011/2013. Mr. Matos also lectures in meetings of the judiciary in several dozens of countries in four continents and has written several books, articles and studies in different topics including Human Rights protection and Rule of Law affirmation.

ISAQUE CHANDE
Ombudsman of the Mozambique, MOZAMBIQUE

As a lawyer, Isaque Chande serves as the Chair of the Constitutional Council of the Mozambican Bar Association since May 2013. Chande participated in various international and regional conferences on energy. Further, since 1996, he is a Member of the Bar Association of Mozambique. In terms of his notable experiences in the legal field, he was a legal advisor at National AirLine-LAM from 1996-1999, and to the Dean of Pedagogical University from 1999-2000. Chande also participated in a team of Consultants for resizing of working force of Mozambique Railways Company (CFM) and into the Working Group for the Revision of the Energy Sector Law from 2000-2005.

JAMES C. HARRINGTON
Founder and Director Emeritus
Texas Civil Rights Project, USA

Jim Harrington, a human rights attorney of forty-five years, is the founder and director emeritus of the Texas Civil Rights Project. He graduated from the University of Detroit Law School in 1973, from where he also holds a master’s in philosophy. He was an adjunct professor at the University of Texas Law School for 27 years and also taught undergraduate writing courses in civil liberties.

In 1990, Mr. Harrington founded the Texas Civil Rights Project, a statewide non-profit foundation that promotes social, racial, and economic justice and civil liberty, through the legal system and public education, for low income and poor people. By the time of his retirement in March 2016, he had built the Project to a staff of 40 people with offices in Austin, El Paso, South Texas, Houston, Dallas, and Odessa.
In addition to his professional career in handling a wide array of civil rights cases, he is also the author of The Texas Bill of Rights: A Commentary and Wrestling with Free Speech, Religious Freedom, and Democracy in Turkey: The Political Trials and Times of Fethullah Gülen and co-author of Three Mystics Walk into a Tavern: A Once and Future Meeting of Rumi, Meister Eckhart, and Moses de León in Medieval Venice.

Since his retirement, Mr. Harrington has established Proyecto Santiago at St. James’ Episcopal Church in east Austin, which advocates for the Latino community. He has helped to organize a program for two east Austin elementary schools that provide volunteer Reading Buddies for 150 children. He is completing studies for the priesthood.

**ANTONIO ALBERTO DO VALE CERQUEIRA**
Court of Ethics and Disciplinary at the Brazilian Bar Association - District Federal Section, BRAZIL

Antonio Alberto do Vale Cerqueira is the Founding Partner of Catta Preta and Vale Cerqueira Advogados on 04/1998 (since 2015 Cerqueira and Dantas Advogados).

Graduated in Law at the Federal District Unified Teaching Association (AEUDF) in 1998. Post graduated in Civil Procedural Law at ICAT master / AEUDF (2002). Professor for over ten years at UNICEUB, IESB and UNIEURO. Mr. Cerqueira was chairperson of the Brazilian Bar Association Selection Committee - Distrito Federal Section, during the three-year period 2010/2012, when he served as Section Director.

He is a lecturer frequently consulted by media outlets of the Federal District and Brazil to give their opinion on relevant legal issues. Currently, Mr. Cerqueira is counselor of the Brazilian Bar Association for the three-year period 2019/2021 and is President of the OAB / DF Court of Ethics and Discipline, responsible for overseeing the ethical conduct of more than 60,000 registered lawyers. Lawyer for 21 years, has been active in legal cases of high complexity, including the Superior Courts, especially STJ and STF.

**EKATERINA SHEBALINA**
Institute for International Studies, Research Fellow
Executive Assistant to the Vice-Rector, RUSSIA

Ekaterina Shebalina is a Research fellow at MGIMO-University. She earned her PhD in International Relations and had three internships at the MFA of Russia. She represents MGIMO at international conferences.
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President, US-INDIA Investment Forum (India)

H.E. LAMBERT KOTY
Fr. Minister of Public Works and Transport (Benin)
# UNGA High-Level Reception - Past Honorees

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>H.E. Hillary R. Clinton</td>
<td>67th United States Secretary of State</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<td>H.E. Djibrill Yipene Bassole</td>
<td>Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
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<td>H.E. Moussa Ouattara</td>
<td>Minister of Higher Education</td>
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<td>H.E. Phandu T. C. Skeleman</td>
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<td>H.E. Osman Kassim Issak</td>
<td>Minister of Health</td>
<td>Djibouti</td>
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<td>H.E. Osman Mohammed Saleh</td>
<td>Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>Eritrea</td>
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<td>H.E. Abubakar O. Suleiman</td>
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<td>H.E. Kirsten Gillibrand</td>
<td>United States Senator</td>
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<td>Bob Casey</td>
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<td>H.E. Jean Baptiste-Natama</td>
<td>Chief of Staff</td>
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<td>H.E. Wayne Swan</td>
<td>Fr. Deputy Prime Minister</td>
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<td>H.E. George Chaponda</td>
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<td>H.E. Aboul Rashid Pelpuo</td>
<td>Member of Parliament</td>
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