

Unity in Diversity - World Civil Society Featured at the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations: Towards a Planetary Citizen's Assembly

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The 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations. It brought together international civil society organizations, NGO stakeholders, and campaigns to the United Nations.

Presentations were given by many prominent UN figures, including; H.E. Mogens Lykketoft of Denmark - Incoming President of the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly, who said, “We need your support (Civil Society) to revitalize the UN. We must share more equally. We have an urgent need to make fundamental changes on consumption patterns and energy system.”

Ms. Lakshmi Puri - Assistant UN Secretary-General & Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, took the floor with a compelling message, “That it’s time for action.”

From civil society, discussions were lead by; Bruce Knotts - Chair of the NGO / DPI Executive Committee, Jeffrey Huffines - Chief UN Representative Civicus, Dr. Xiangang Guo - President, World Academy of Development Sciences, Dr. Georgette F. Bennett, Founder & President Multifaith Alliance for Syrian Refugees, Peter (Pece) Gorgievski, Director-General & CEO Global Dialogue Foundation, among many many more.

For full program details, [click here](#).

To acknowledge the work of bringing civil society forward at the UN, the Conference honored Queen Mother of Harlem, Dr. Blakely (By U.S. Congressman Charles Rangel), Sister Joan Kirby (By Bruce Knotts), Amir Dossal (By Laura Turner), and Peggy Kerry (By U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry).

The call for a strong partnership between civil society and the UN echoed throughout the conference as a pre-requisite for making the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development a reality and new opportunities for NGO representation at the UN were discussed and explored.

Parallel workshops helped to align minds and future actions, as did the session on “Unity in Diversity - World Civil Society”, which focussed on “Imagining the Future and Inspiring Possibilities, through capturing the voice of young children in their views on the world they want. The Unity in Diversity session explored getting organized in communities around the world as a transition into a brighter planet which holds values of love, compassion, human kindness, open honest communication in a framework of truth and light.

GDF’s CEO, Peter (Pece) Gorgievski presented Unity in Diversity-World Civil Society at the Roundtable III, during which he emphasized “It is timely now to move further forward with establishing a planetary Citizens Assembly connected with the United Nations, as the mechanism to facilitate the continuous collaboration required among civil society and the UN, going forward.”

On behalf of all at GDF, we wish to acknowledge the tireless work of Conference Director Mr. Patrick Sciarratta and his entire team, for presenting the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations and extending this unique opportunity for civil society and the UN.