



Together Finding  
Global Solutions for  
Global Problems  
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NEW YORK  
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## The Vision of United Civilizations UN DPI/NGO Conference, New York 22-23 August 2018



L-R: Iliana Schmatelka, Peter (Pece) Gorgievski, Lenora Billings-Harris, Uzma Naheed

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During the [67th UN NGO/DPI Conference](#), GDF representatives from Germany, Australia, U.S.A and India, presented a workshop on the vision of “United Civilizations - UC”. The initiative aims to serve as a major ‘global citizens assembly’, for organizing communities and creating a global inclusive society and culture of peace.

As the nucleus for this movement, the GDF global platform is currently lead by a team working in local communities across 22 countries and using dialogue as a tool for bringing people of different cultures together.

“Unity in Diversity provides a mechanism for people to meet each other in their local communities, become friends and should the conditions allow it, work together to support integration while each group maintains their individual cultural identity and heritage”, said GDF Chairman & CEO Peter (Pece) Gorgievski.

Professional speaker and GDF USA Director Lenora Billings-Harris, shared her inspiration for the vision of Unity in Diversity, and is bringing leaders of community together in North Carolina, USA, to build on these efforts. Lenora's vision is to build community platforms across USA to promote diversity and inclusion. As a leading speaker in the field, also the former President of National Speakers Association, USA and Global Speakers Federation, Lenora's brings a wealth of experience and vast network of business leaders, to the mounting efforts for spreading the message of Unity in Diversity around the world.

As a Muslim scholar and community leader working with over 30,000 women on empowerment in India, Uzma Naheed offered a snapshot of the developments of GDF and Unity in Diversity in India over the last 10 years. Uzma reinforced the importance of education in aligning youth to contribute to community development efforts.

GDF Deputy Director-General Iliana Schmatelka moderated the session.

The workshop explored what it means to be a champion of Unity in Diversity and methods through which the process can be developed. This includes setting up ongoing monthly meetings in each country, as a way to drive the process forward.

Workshop attendees responded well to engaging with GDF and the task of building Unity in Diversity within their communities. Many attendees had a chance to present their work briefly, engage in discussion and make connections for collaboration. But also, were able to gain a positive outlook on Unity in Diversity, for its contribution potential and support in their respective works.

The workshop complemented the conference theme of *"Together Finding Global Solutions for Global Problems,"* and offered GDF a great opportunity to expand its network and reach further into communities.



Conference Weblinks:

Home: <https://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/news.un.org/en/story/2018/08/1017622>

Programme: [https://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/sites/outreach.un.org/files/67th\\_un\\_dpi\\_ngo\\_conference\\_-\\_programme.pdf](https://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/sites/outreach.un.org/files/67th_un_dpi_ngo_conference_-_programme.pdf)

Workshop schedule:  
[https://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/sites/outreach.un.org/files/workshops\\_-\\_daily\\_schedule\\_with\\_workshop\\_summary.pdf](https://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/sites/outreach.un.org/files/workshops_-_daily_schedule_with_workshop_summary.pdf)

Outcome document: <https://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/content/outcome-document>

Youth declaration: <https://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/content/youth-declaration>

**[www.globaldialoguefoundation.org](http://www.globaldialoguefoundation.org)**

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