

RECLAIMING MULTILATERALISM THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT

RESOLUTION

The 44th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations,

Recalling Article 71 of the Charter of the United Nations, which empowers the Economic and Social Council to make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations, establishing the constitutional basis for civil society engagement with the United Nations system,

Reaffirming Article 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which guarantee the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association,

Also recalling the 2004 report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on United Nations-Civil Society Relations, “We the Peoples: Civil Society, the United Nations and Global Governance” (A/58/817), which laid an early foundation for strengthened UN-civil society partnership,

Recognizing Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, which establishes the existing framework for consultative arrangements between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations,

Further recalling the adoption of the Pact for the Future (A/RES/79/1) at the 2024 Summit of the Future, which sets out a shared vision for strengthening global cooperation, revitalizing trust in institutions, accelerating sustainable development, advancing digital governance, and ensuring inclusive, accountable multilateralism,

Also recognizing the Global Digital Compact (Annex I to A/RES/79/1) as a framework for equitable digital cooperation, human rights online, responsible artificial intelligence, and universal connectivity,

Affirming the Declaration on Future Generations (Annex II to A/RES/79/1), which emphasizes long-term responsibility, intergenerational equity, and the duty of present institutions to safeguard the well-being of future generations,

Noting General Assembly resolution 76/6 (2021), which welcomed the Secretary-General's report Our Common Agenda and its call for renewed multilateralism, strengthened global governance, expanded civic space, and meaningful engagement of civil society, youth, academia, and local communities,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 79/318 (2025), which launched the UN80 Initiative on the reform and renewal of the United Nations system, and General Assembly resolution 80/251 (2026), adopted during the eightieth session, on mandate creation, implementation and review for an efficient and effective United Nations, both reaffirming that meaningful UN reform depends on partnership with civil society as a key stakeholder,



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Also recalling the UN75 Declaration (A/RES/75/1), which underscores the need for inclusive and effective multilateralism, global solidarity, and whole-of-society participation in addressing global challenges,

Further recognizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1) as the universal framework for achieving sustainable development through partnerships among governments, civil society, youth, academia, and the private sector,

Acknowledging the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit (A/RES/78/1, 2023), which calls for accelerated action, strengthened accountability, and enhanced participation of civil society in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Also noting United Nations Human Rights Council resolutions on civil society space, which highlight the role of civil society organizations in promoting transparency, accountability, and human rights, while recognizing that Member States hold differing perspectives on their implementation,

Welcoming the role of United Nations Associations worldwide in advancing UN values and strengthening public understanding of global issues, consistent with their respective national contexts,

1. Affirms that reclaiming multilateralism benefits from active, structured, and sustained engagement from civil society organizations, including United Nations Associations, youth networks, academic institutions, and community partners, in accordance with national legal frameworks;
 2. Also affirms that civil society has a role in helping to ensure that commitments made in the Pact for the Future translate into visible, measurable action at national and local levels;
 3. Calls upon civil society organizations to develop public education initiatives — including community forums, university partnerships, cultural programming, and digital outreach — to explain how multilateralism directly benefits local communities;
 4. Encourages collaboration with academic institutions, youth organizations, and local partners to expand multilateralism literacy and civic engagement;
 5. Also encourages Member States to continue efforts toward the commitments made in the Pact for the Future, including strengthening peace and security frameworks, accelerating SDG implementation, and ensuring inclusive digital governance, in accordance with national priorities and circumstances;
 6. Requests that WFUNA and national United Nations Associations establish voluntary channels for sharing good practice on Pact implementation, including periodic civil society reports and consultations, in accordance with national legal frameworks;
 7. Further encourages civil society to engage with national governments, parliaments, and relevant stakeholders, in accordance with national legal frameworks and democratic processes, to promote transparency, accountability, and alignment with global commitments;
 8. Supports youth-led initiatives aligned with the Declaration on Future Generations, recognizing young people as agents of positive change in peacebuilding, sustainable development, and human rights;
 9. Encourages Member States to consider avenues for youth participation in WFUNA processes and relevant national consultations, consistent with national practice;
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10. Also encourages civil society organizations to engage with the Global Digital Compact by promoting digital literacy and equitable access to digital technologies, consistent with national legal and regulatory frameworks;
 11. Also requests WFUNA to facilitate voluntary civil society dialogues on digital literacy and ethical technology use, open to diverse national perspectives on digital governance;
 12. Further affirms the Pact's call for nationally led, whole-of-society approaches to sustaining peace, climate action, and sustainable development;
 13. Further encourages civil society to collaborate with local governments, private sector partners, and community organizations to advance SDG implementation and climate resilience;
 14. Further requests WFUNA to convene an annual Civil Society Multilateralism Forum to share best practices and strengthen global civil society coordination;
 15. Encourages WFUNA to support national United Nations Associations in developing advocacy toolkits, training modules, and community engagement strategies aligned with the Pact for the Future;
 16. Also encourages WFUNA members to consider integrating Pact for the Future priorities into their national advocacy strategies, as appropriate;
 17. Further encourages Member States to recognize civil society as a partner in Pact implementation, in accordance with national frameworks for civil society participation.
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