



Conference
of NGOs
in Consultative
Relationship
with the
United Nations



Conférence des
ONG ayant des
Relations
Consultative
avec les
Nations Unies

A Call to Global Community and Action for A Just, Peaceable, Inclusive, and Sustainable World

*(A Consensus Declaration of the ICCGC-CoNGO Collaborative Conference
in View of the 2024 UN Summit of the Future)*

The collaborative conference on “Global Citizens Pursuing A Just, Peaceable, Inclusive, and Sustainable World,” co-hosted by the Interfaith Coalition Conference for Global Citizens ([ICCGC](#)) and the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations ([CoNGO](#)), took place at the Church Center for the United Nations in New York on August 26-27, 2024. Participants from many parts of the world reflected together on the intersections of religious imagination and responsible governmental and multilateral leadership in light of current wars, intractable conflicts, and polycrisis, including ecological catastrophes and climate change. Recognizing that all people have a stake in the future and cognizant of the specific ethical dimensions that must inform our reflections, we issue this consensus declaration in the hope of contributing to shaping the future and the world we want.

Participants acknowledged the need to equip religious and spiritual leaders with new tools and skills for meaningful participation in multifaith and multilateral platforms, contributing to global visions of peace, justice, human rights, and ecological integrity. We believe a deep, future-oriented spirituality, rooted in the past and actively engaged in the present, is essential for nurturing global citizenship.

We commit ourselves to developing a new generation of leaders able to integrate religious values and global ethics with local and international efforts to achieve the [UN Agenda 2030](#) on Sustainable Development and the [UN Summit of the Future](#) in September 2024, including its expected outcomes—the Pact for the Future, the Global Digital Compact, and the Declaration on Future Generations.

As spiritual and social leaders united by a shared vision, we stand at a critical juncture in human history. The profound challenges we face—climate crises, growing inequality, conflict, and widespread spiritual and social division—demand an urgent response grounded in the highest principles of our shared global ethics. With participation from diverse organizations, the conference drew upon a collective exchange of wisdom and strategic action, highlighting the transformative power of interfaith collaboration and engagement with civil society.

1. Embracing Inclusivity and Respect for Diversity

We celebrate the richness of our ethnicities, cultures, and religions as sources of wisdom and resilience. We recognize that these differences have been exploited in the past to sow division and conflict, and they remain sources of tension in many contexts today. We commit ourselves to the freedom of all religions and beliefs, to the equal participation and involvement of people of all genders and ages in social, economic, cultural, and political arenas, and to the flourishing of all humans in harmony with the community of life on this planet.

2. Advancing a Global Ethic of Peace and Justice

True peace is a state where the dignity of every human being is honored, and their inherent rights are protected. Our world has seen inordinate violence and untold suffering from historic and systemic injustices, including poverty, slavery, colonialism, racism, sexism, political divisions, and economic inequalities within and among countries and regions.

We endorse a global ethic calling for active participation in peacekeeping, peacemaking, and peacebuilding in our local communities and international initiatives. We commit to an ethic of nonviolence and the right of everyone to life, liberty, and personal security. For this global ethic to flourish, we commit ourselves to

protecting civic spaces, ensuring the promotion of the freedom of assembly and expression, and all elements of democratic and participatory discourse.

3. Protecting the Planet: Our Sacred Duty to Future Generations

We honor our planet and the entire community of life as invaluable treasures. We lament the current threats to life in all their forms and call for respect for the cosmic common good. Education plays a crucial role in cultivating global citizens who understand and address transnational challenges like climate change, forced migration, social and health pandemics, and threats to biodiversity.

We commit to promoting and protecting the human rights of all to a healthy environment and the rights of nature and the entire ecosystem to be viable and sustainable. This commitment comes with the recognition that our current generation has responsibilities to future generations, including ensuring the right of all people and communities to peace and development. This responsibility urges us to imagine and act for human and planetary security, which, as common public goods, deserve and require public support in policy and funding.

4. Empowering Future Generations Through Ethical Education and Civic Engagement

Education is essential for cultivating self-respect and strong communities. To address intractable and pressing global challenges like climate change, forced migration, global hunger and poverty, and armed conflicts, we prioritize [global citizenship education](#) that broadens perspectives and equips individuals with a multidimensional, action-oriented mindset rooted in local and global awareness. Together with Indigenous communities, we acknowledge our responsibility for intergenerational solidarity in caring for the future of our ecosystems and planet.

We recognize today's pervasive use of information, communication, and digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, in all areas of personal and collective life. We commit to calling attention to the ethical dimensions of these technologies, especially equitable access to their benefits, and addressing the abuses and excesses in their development and applications.

5. Strengthening Interfaith Collaboration for Global Unity

Interfaith dialogue is a noble pursuit and an invaluable, skillful means of fostering a just, peaceable, inclusive, gender-just, and sustainable world. To these ends, interfaith dialogue is vital in promoting mutual respect, understanding, intergenerational justice, and youth empowerment and participation.

The challenges are immense, but our determination and commitment to positive change are even more vital. The wisdom shared and the actions taken today will shape the world that future generations will inherit. By integrating the ethical teachings of various religious, cultural, faith, and ethical traditions, we can build a global community grounded in peace, justice, harmony, compassion, and mutual understanding.

We recognize the indispensable role of the United Nations, including its convening and norm-setting functions. Therefore, we urge everyone to engage the themes, processes, and outcome documents related to the UN Summit of the Future and make this multilateral and multifaceted effort successful and its goals beneficial to people's lives and relations.

A profound and transformative spirituality is urgently needed in today's world—one that religious institutions and civil society have both the duty and capacity to develop and nurture. Prioritizing children's and youth's rights and empowering their active participation in society is essential, as their perspectives and unique needs are fundamental to securing a sustainable future. Our commitment to this cause is not just for the present but for our countless future generations who will live in the world we create today.

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For more information on this declaration and conference, visit www.iccgc.kr or email ICCGC at wonintl@won.or.kr or CoNGO at president@ngocongo.org