

PROPOSALS TEXT AND PETITION LINK

[Pétition · Project for a New Foundation of International Institutions - Belgique · Change.org](#)

The NGOs in the 'New Foundation' working group, which began at UNESCO and now includes, among others, [Pax Christi International](#) with its antennas at the Council of Europe and in UN Geneva, [Pax Christi France](#), [Pax Christi Flanders](#), [Mouvement de la Paix](#), [Chrétiens de la Méditerranée](#), [MIAMSI](#), Collectif ANASTASIS, and Les Convivialistes, FIUC, [Mouvement de la Paix](#), Université Européenne de la Paix, UTOPIA and RJMP in DRC (and currently in discussion with Soroptimist and Greenpeace Afrique), has developed 13 critical proposals aiming to transform the United Nations into a more equitable and responsive global institution. These proposals address key challenges and advocate for changes that can better serve the world's evolving needs.

For your organization to appear as signatory, kindly write the name of the organization in the field 'first name' and 'last name'.

If your organization wants to get practically involved in the project, you can contact Ghislain Le Ray at ghislainleray.paxchristi@gmail.com.

Key Proposals Include:

- **Strengthening the role of the UN Secretary-General and General Assembly** to overcome Security Council deadlocks on critical international peace and security matters.
- **Reforming the UN Security Council's veto system**, with proposals to amend Article 27-3 of the UN Charter.
- **Improving the effectiveness of UN Security Council resolutions** by introducing measures like banning arms sales to non-compliant states.
- **Amplifying the voice and influence of NGOs within the UN**, ensuring civil society can play a more active role in shaping global decisions.
- **Enhancing environmental and social standards** through stronger global governance and legally binding commitments on issues like biodiversity, climate change, and world trade.

These proposals are part of a movement to ensure that the United Nations better reflects the realities of today's world and can respond effectively to the complex challenges of our time.

Join us in advocating for these reforms and ensure your NGO's voice is heard.

SIGN THIS PETITION NOW and Help Us Create a Fairer, More Effective United Nations!

Project presentation

The petition signatories align with the UN Secretary-General's desire to reform the UN under the UN80 Initiative. While necessary, this Initiative primarily addresses the UN's operational deficiencies. However, faced with multiple crises and deteriorating confidence in the effectiveness of its institutions, the UN struggles to assert itself as a leader for multilateralism. Nevertheless, the UN's specialized institutions (UNESCO, FAO, World Bank, ILO, WHO, UNDP...), as well as affiliated organizations (WTO...) play a crucial role in maintaining "human and collective security"[i], thus enabling the establishment of lasting peace. Indeed, the concept of human security, as it emerges from the 1994 UNDP Human Development Report, seeks to guarantee long-term peace by relying on the sustainable human development paradigm, with the aim to ensure human security through social, economic, cultural, and environmental development.

It is in this perspective that the "New Foundation" Group, which is part, through Pax Christi International, of the international "Article 109" movement on UN institutional reform, aims at reforming the international institutions. The New Foundation group's 13 Proposals, while supporting the UN80 rationalization work, fully embracing the desire to guarantee long-term peace through human and collective security, and requesting that NGOs be involved in this reflection, rethink the architecture of global governance in order to restore the UN's capacity to prevent and resolve conflicts and establish social peace on a global scale.

The Group therefore calls for:

A- Strengthening the roles of the UN Secretary-General and of the UN General Assembly

PROPOSAL 1: Give the Secretary-General the possibility of having a decision adopted by the General Assembly by a two-thirds majority to overcome deadlocks in the Security Council, particularly on crucial issues relating to maintaining international peace and security under Chapter 7 of the UN Charter.

B- Strengthening the responsibility of the Permanent Members of the UN Security Council and improving the representation of different regional blocks within it

PROPOSAL 2: Suspend the veto right[ii] of any permanent member of the Security Council that commits a 'mass atrocity', as determined by a UN General Assembly Resolution or the International Court of Justice, as the main judicial organ of the UN. An initial proposal has already emerged from a joint initiative by France and Mexico[iii] supported by around a hundred State Members. The term 'mass atrocities' refers to crimes committed on a large scale in an undisputed manner, without needing to wait for them to potentially be qualified and prosecuted as crimes of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity. In the long term, the idea is even to abolish the veto right.

PROPOSAL 3: Suspend the voting rights of any permanent member of the Security Council threatening or breaching international peace and security or committing an act of aggression (under Chapter VII, thus extending the scope of Article 27-3 of the Charter).

PROPOSAL 4: Introduce the following procedures for suspending the voting rights:

-Procedure 1: suspension of the voting rights following a 2/3 majority vote of the members of the UN Security Council.

-Procedure 2: suspension of the voting rights following a decision by the International Court of Justice after referral by the UN Secretary General or by a member of the UN Security Council.

PROPOSAL 5: Introduce better representativeness among the UN Security Council permanent members to reflect more fairly the geopolitical realities of today's world, thereby rendering the decisions taken more effective[iv].

C- Improving UN Security Council sanctions and prioritizing the deployment of peacekeepers

PROPOSAL 6: Prioritize the prohibition of arms sales by third-party states to any "aggressor" State that does not comply with a resolution directed at it, rather than economic sanctions that penalize the civilian population.

Strengthen the use of UN peacekeepers to address international conflicts and, in any case, prioritize diplomatic and judicial resolution of conflicts.

D- Strengthening the role of civil society through enhancing status of NGOs in the UN institutions, organs and agencies

PROPOSAL 7: Enhance the status of NGOs, particularly those collaborating with various UN missions, within the bodies where they are represented, in order to better amplify the civil society's demands. This would also place NGOs in a better position to exercise their roles of influence, advocacy, warning, and oversight for the common good, and even mediation to contribute to the pacification of international relations.

This could be achieved by establishing permanent NGO representation within the UN General Assembly, through the creation of a Liaison Committee[v] allowing permanent representation of the most influential NGOs worldwide[vi].

PROPOSAL 8: Institutionalize and sustain the Global NGO Forums[vii] organized by the United Nations in order to establish a permanent international organization integrated into the UN system, composed of civil society representatives.

For the two preceding proposals, ensure rigorous financial transparency among NGOs, requiring disclosure of funding sources to prevent any State or political interference.

E- Strengthening environmental and social standards by drawing on existing or new institutions

PROPOSAL 9: Fully implement the 1994 UNDP Human Development Report aimed at ensuring "human and collective security," drawing on UN bodies (particularly ECOSOC) and institutions (UNESCO, FAO, World Bank, ILO, WHO, UNDP...) according to their areas of competence as well as affiliated organizations (such as the WTO), in order to build long-term social peace, thus going beyond mere absence of war.

PROPOSAL 9': Strengthen institutions and standards providing for the sharing and protection of common goods (biodiversity, water, fisheries, air, etc.), with appropriate support from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

PROPOSAL 10: Introduce international social and environmental standards to govern world trade. Such reforms could be carried out with the support of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

PROPOSAL 11: Introduce a system for monitoring the application of these standards, through specific committees, in order to ensure their effectiveness in national legislations.

PROPOSAL 12: Establish a permanent global institution for the environment and climate, to address issues already raised by various international environmental and climate conventions, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Make the provisions of said Conventions legally binding through the creation of a treaty body responsible for ensuring proper implementation of these provisions[viii].

PROPOSAL 13: International regulation of digital technology and AI, including in military contexts, is necessary and must place human dignity at the heart of its actions, combining technological innovation with ethical principles, in line with humanist values.

Footnotes

- [i] Expression borrowed notably from Bertrand Badie, as developed in his work "L'art de la paix" (The Art of Peace), published in 2024 by Flammarion.
- [ii] Although the expression "veto power" does not appear in the UN Charter, we will use this shortened formula to refer to the requirement of an "affirmative vote of nine [...] members [of the Council] including the concurring votes of all the permanent members," as provided for in Article 27 of the Charter.
- [iii] Proposal recalled on November 11, 2024 before the UN General Assembly (seventy-ninth session, AG/12654).
- [iv] Reform suggestions could draw inspiration from the Better Order Project proposals of the Quincy Institute: https://quincyinst.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/09130301/Quincy_ShortForm_Report_Digital-1-1.pdf
- [v] Based on the model of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee.
- [vi] This would complement the role of NGOs represented at ECOSOC, whose mandate is limited to economic and social issues.
- [vii] Following on from the 2024 Nairobi United Nations Conference on Civil Society preparing for the September 2024 New York Summit of the Future.
- [viii] Based on the model of the Human Rights Council established by the ICCPR - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Soutenir maintenant

Merci ! Grâce à vous la pétition a une chance d'être entendue. Nous avons besoin de plus de signatures pour atteindre le prochain objectif - Pouvez-vous nous aider ?

[Passer à l'étape suivante !](#)



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