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Director's Message

S.M. Sharei,
CUNCR Executive Director

“System Change NOT Climate Change” was being shouted, when I participated in the Brussels climate strike, earlier this year. The 30,000 demonstrators of all ages, but mostly youth had very specific demands, but when it came to what type of climate governance they wanted, they would pause and ponder. This is when we at the Center for UN Constitutional Research decided to take the challenge of our dysfunctional global governance, which is often incapable of dealing with global challenges, such as the climate crisis.

In addition to the academics, politicians, practitioners and experts in the field, that we typically invited for brainstorming to our previous seminars, this summer we invited at least two prominent youth activists from each continent as well as representatives from the sinking islands to our annual Summit, at the global village at the Epirus mountains in Greece.

The 9-day journey started in Brussels with teachings on the United Nations, international environmental law and the institutional requirements beyond states. On the latter, we concentrated on the federal models and the only union of states in existence—the European Union of 26 countries, and how they deal with transnational problems that know no borders.

With raised awareness, surrounded by the beautiful summits of the Epirus mountains, we found out that the neither UN, or UNFCCC have the mandate, nor is it the non-binding Paris Accords, that govern the climate. We learnt that there is no international legislation, no sustainable budget, no court system, and no enforcement, at the global level to deal with the climate crisis. If the monumental challenge of climate crisis essentially lacks governance at the international level, then what is to be done? What type of governmental and institutional reforms does it take to deliver?
With these questions in mind, the youth activists, with the support of a panel of experts, set out to solve the mystery at the hackathon sessions of the Summit.

In seeking answers, the complex governance problem was reduced to its simplest form and the basic component identified as missing, was the peoples direct or parliamentary representation. That the decisions were only made by states. Where the states are recognized as absolute sovereigns, denying their citizens from a world parliamentary representation, and often making decisions based on short-term self-interest, without any international accountability and no judicial oversight.

The fundamental principles derived at and enshrined at the Summit as the Epirus Declaration, are simple principles but yet pillars of good governance which have been ignored and suppressed by powerful states. Recognizing a global citizens right to a healthy and sustainable environment, a UN parliament that can represent us and be empowered to legislate and make co-decisions with states, and a court system to ensure and protect environmental justice are the conceptual requirements of the Declaration, which are always found in national democracies, but are lacking in the UN constitution. In short, the international youth activists, the panel of experts, and concerned world citizens representing 28 different countries in Epirus asked for CLIMATE DEMOCRACY.

As a director of a civil society organization, one of their achievements is to report who they partnered with on their annual report: their new allies, other NGOs, universities, political organizations and governments or even corporations that joined them. At CUNCR we are extremely proud of our partnerships with youth from every continent. Yes, these are youth activists who are becoming a formidable force, aware of good global governance and acting as ambassadors and agents of change.
This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. Now is a perfect time not only to celebrate the successes of the world organization, but to evaluate its shortcomings.

The founding fathers of the UN had in mind the creation of an organization which would put an end to war. They realized that this would be an enormous task and their initial attempt wouldn’t be a perfect answer to the problem that big, therefore they included provisions for a “charter review” after 10 years. (Article 109-3). It is likely that they would roll over in their graves if they were to find out that this important charter review has not yet happened.

Now it is the time for the peace-loving nations of the world to get together and insist on Charter Review in order to democratize and strengthen the organization, so we can end war as a means of settling conflicts.

A little over 3 years ago Dr. John Sutter and myself, seasoned world federalists from San Francisco, began discussions with Dr. Sharei regarding his research on the UN Charter and his vision to establish a think tank in Brussels. We were taken by the proposed name: “Center for UN Constitutional Research.” The name alone, we thought, could draw almost immediate attention and respect.
A review of the Charter, Dr. Sharei explained, remained a legal obligation of the United Nations. The main reason that the UN has been unable to deal effectively with global crises (war, nuclear threat, climate change, poverty, etc.) is because the Charter, the heart and soul of the world’s present geopolitical system, is fatally flawed.

Until CUNCR came along the hope for UN transformation seemed out of the question. Almost all NGOs, and the UN itself, are trying to fix global problems by working within the present UN Charter system, but are frustrated by an archaic Security Council P-5 who happen to be the world’s leading weapons dealers.

CUNCR stands out over other NGOs by focusing on the Charter. We call this strategy THE SAN FRANCISCO PROMISE which we believe can open the door to the UN General Assembly, the UN Secretary General, and to mainstream media.

CUNCR’s Youth Climate Ambassadors are pretty much the only environmental activists who carry the message of GLOBAL SYSTEM CHANGE. This means a revised, or new Charter. CUNCR is partnering with Democratic World Federalists, the World Constitution & Parliament Association, and Campaign for a UN Parliamentary Assembly while also establishing contacts with the European Parliament, national governments, and UN authorities.

CUNCR has the potential to make history. It has a smart and supportive Board of Directors. CUNCR’s leadership and staff are top of the line. Year 2020 has the potential to go beyond our expectations.
Message from Daniel Schaubacher
Founding/Board Member

The Charter of the United Nations Organisation begins with the words: “We, the peoples...”. However, the peoples are not (yet) directly represented; the executive powers or governments of nation states are. A call for reform of the UN, if not democratic legitimation of the world organisation, is increasingly heard in many lands, even though the victor states of World War Two which permanently sit at the helm of the UN Security Council have not yet agreed, in spite of Article 103c of the UN Charter, to call in a UN Reform Conference.

In 1938, Clarence Streit proposed in the USA, in a book Union Now! that a Federation of Democracies be formed. His thesis made a great number of adepts on both sides of the Atlantic and eventually gave birth to two independent organisations in America and in Britain, called Federal Union.

The invention of nuclear power caused great fears, given the discernible inefficiency of the UN system to control armaments of mass destruction. After the Second World War, the peoples of Asia and Europe were still greatly suffering of the disastrous consequences of the global conflict. Many doubts prevailed regarding the conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms of the UN Charter.

Soon after the war, a friend of Winston Churchill, Emery Reves, emphasized in his bestseller Anatomy of Peace the need to transfer to a World Federal Authority the control of armaments of mass destruction, by partially limiting the absolute nation state sovereignty. His call resulted in a peace philosophy or ethics, if not in a true universal patriotism, and caused the birth of movements, such as Crusade for World Government or the observance of a world government week.
From October 13 through 16, 1946, took place in Luxembourg a preparatory conference gathering 30 organisations from 14 countries, with the aim of establishing a Universal Movement for a World Government, which gave way, from August 17 to 24, 1947 in Montreux, Switzerland, to a conference which saw the birth to what is called today the World Federalist Movement. At the same time, European Federalists established the European Union. A popular French priest and parliamentarian, l’Abbé Pierre - known for his Emmaüs Companions charity, was at that time one of the celebrities who actively participated in the world federalist conference and soon afterwards became the movement’s executive president.

The participants in the Montreux world federalist conference were thrilled by a message received from Albert Einstein who hoped that world federation would contribute to effectively solve global problems. Already in 1945, together with the author Thomas Mann and twenty eminent Americans, he had called for a Federal Constitution for the entire world. Many politicians and intellectuals shared similar hopes. Workshops and conferences took place in several countries. In 1948, Swiss philosopher, author and federalism proponent, - Denis de Rougemont, was the rapporteur at The Hague Conference, presided over by Winston Churchill, which discussed the establishment of the United States of Europe.

In May 1948, a former US military pilot, actor Garry Davis, appalled by his participation in the bombing of Nazi Germany, gave up his US citizenship. In autumn of the same year, with active support of French intellectuals such as Albert Camus or l’Abbé Pierre, he demanded from the public bench in the Palais de Chaillot in Paris which then hosted the UN General Assembly, that a Peoples' & World Citizens’ General Assembly be established at the UN. He was convinced that the system opposing sovereign nation states could still become the cause of conflicts and damaging wars. Garry Davis’ world citizens’ movement gave birth to a Registry of World Citizens which nowadays still operates as an NGO in Paris, calling for symbolic elections of a Peoples Congress and coordinating activities of ‘mundialized’ townships which claim to be world territory.
On the occasion of a World Federalist conference in 1951 in Rome, Pope Pius XII received a delegation at the Vatican and stated: “Your movement seeks to realize an efficient political organisation for the world. Nothing could be more in conformity with the traditional doctrine of the Church...” In the encyclical Pacem in Terris, his successor, John XXIII, demanded “the constitution of a public, universally competent authority”. In 1951, delegates endeavoured to meet in a World Constitutional Assembly. At the same time, parliamentary groups began to form in different countries – the Parliamentarians for World Law, as they are still called today.


Prior to the outbreak of the Cold War which deeply divided nation states in the Eastern and Western world, there were reportedly 250,000 active or registered World Federalists throughout the world. Today, undoubtedly their numbers have decreased; however, their associations are actively present in several countries and from world headquarters in New York, they facilitate a coalition of over 1,000 NGO’s for global justice – the International Coalition for the International Criminal Court with representatives in the Hague and Brussels, working in parallel with another NGO human rights coalition on the UN Responsibility To Protect.

In June 2005, the European Parliament, in a resolution on UN Reform, proposed the creation of a World Parliament which in the beginning would function with a consultative status. Lately, a movie maker, Joel Mardsen, after an eight-year journey throughout the world, produced the World Vote Now documentary which illustrates election procedures and voting practices in 26 countries of all continents, and constituted, when screened in the European Parliament, a vivid record of citizens’ and even voting commissions’ aspirations for a world referendum on the planet Earth inhabitants’ life conditions.
The concept of the total sovereignty of the Nation State goes back to October 24, 1648 when the Treaty of Westphalia was signed to end the Thirty Years War and the 80 years’ battle for the Low Countries’ (today Netherlands) independence. The concept of human rights, of citizens’ and even minorities’ rights – a concept which defines each human being’s sacred rights as opposed to the City or to the State, goes back to the Antique times. Socratus proclaimed that he is a citizen, not of Athens, neither of Greece, but of the world. However, the principles ruling the relations between States as defined in the seventeenth century are still applicable today in matters of international law: in brief, Nations States are sovereign. Nation States which exert authority over their respective territories are competent to protect their citizens’ rights. Hugo Grotius (1583-1645) defined modes and ways for settling disputes and conflicts and safeguard peace between Nation States, namely through conferences, arbitration and lottery. Undoubtedly, these methods can mitigate conflictual situations. They, however, cannot be imposed or be binding on States. How could they be effective in the 21st century in a globalized, technical, digitized world in which distance has been annihilated to become a village. Living conditions of weaker elements and minorities on planet Earth are thus jeopardized. It is the same 17th century methods and procedures which today preside over inter-States and UN action. The European Union which within its Council resorts to inter-State procedures, succeeded to establish a social order of peace, prosperity and intercultural dialogue through the community process. In order to resolve world problems today, World Federalists and World Citizens propose that Nation States share a portion of their sovereignty with a global governance system consisting of a Parliament, a Court interpreting World Law and an Executive Government with real powers, albeit strictly limited to world problems alone. In the same vein as the 27 member States of the European Union have achieved on a continental level, through a community approach.
Today the United Nations organisation is a truly global organisation encompassing as good as all countries on the planet. The United Nations has now 193 member-states. When the United Nations was set up 75 years ago, after the end of World War II in 1945, there were 51 member-states. At the time, the victors of the second world war sought to find a new balance in the after-war world. In the course of time the world has changed and today there are other priorities.

The original noble purposes of the United Nations Charter are still valuable today, but the 75-year old structure of the organisation needs to be strengthened and democratised. The United Nations as it is today is not capable of solving today’s world problems, such as climate change and the endless spending of valuable money on weaponry. Also, the emerging call of world citizens for democratic participation must be answered. What the world needs is a restructured United Nations that can answer these challenges. We need a world constitution, based on citizens’ rights and caring for our Mother Earth and all life upon her.

The words “We the peoples” in the preamble of the Charter must be democratically consumed and the Rule of Law within the United Nations organisation needs to be built up. The Centre for United Nations Constitutional Research (CUNCR) offers solutions and blueprints for saving our planet and life upon it, by i.a. reminding the San Francisco Promise entailing a United Nations Charter Review Conference through article 109 (3) of the Charter. This way a World Court for the Environment and a World Parliament, based on a United Nations Citizens Constitution can become a reality.
At the start of 2019, our first priority was completing the work we had been commissioned to do for the Global Challenges Foundation, heading up one of six working groups to take a deeper look at finding a new shape of global governance - in our case, looking at the viability of the San Francisco Promise as a path to UN Charter Review. The working group, which included highly distinguished members from all over the world, conducted detailed research into which countries and regions would be most likely to support the triggering of Article 109(3) and UN reform. In addition to this data, our final report to GCF also included our plans for short- and long-term strategies to bring about Charter Review. Excerpts from our final report follow.
Introduction: GCF-CUNCR Synergy

In fighting global catastrophic risks and global governance of those risks, GCF planted many seeds in 2018. We think their support and cooperation with CUNCR is starting to flourish. The San Francisco Promise is starting to be noticed! The Center for United Nations Constitutional Research energized and synergized by Global Challenge Foundations had a remarkable first year. (…)

We at the Center believe that all the catastrophic risks facing the world today are man-made, and therefore political rather than technological or scientific. Any solution to these risks, with worldwide effects, requires good global governance, which must involve all the stakeholders, all sovereign states, and most importantly, letting we the people govern the world. As such, no single formula can be prescribed to govern the world, unless it is brewed at a legitimate convention as a dynamic and negotiated process. This was once done in San Francisco, but the UN Charter has been frozen, and the process has not been repeated with the change in times and challenges.

The United Nations founders, well aware of the changing times and changing challenges, therefore agreed on a change process. If you will, this can have the analogy in our domestic models of the election process. Under Article 109, the UN Charter can be reviewed periodically, and this review and renewal should happen at the latest after 10 years, as manifested in Article 109 (3).
CUNCR’s research shows that this legal and moral obligation has been breached and a Charter review has never been held. In other words, the right to elections and change in global governance at a legitimate and legal forum has been suppressed. This is the key understanding as to why our global challenges are unmet and reactionary, fragmented and isolated attempts don’t work. The Center’s proposal for a global solution, as not one solution, but a process solution, and as it was selected by GCF as a semi-finalist of New Shape Prize, has not changed. (…)

We are extremely grateful to the Global Challenges Foundation for initiating the San Francisco Promise working group. Your emphasis on truly global membership for the team, gender and global south balance, and your initiation of Hamburg brainstorming and partaking in Paris Peace Forum was amazing in our team building, proof of concept, and direction-setting.

We are grateful to Jens Orback for his visionary thoughts, Fredrik Karlsson for his effective execution, Kate Sullivan and Sarah Molaiepour, and the administrative team for their support. Last but not least, Laszlo Szombatfalvy for his vision and making all this possible.

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Dear good folks at GCF, I think we are onto something. The challenge will be met!

Shahr-yar M. Sharei
SFP Team Leader/Director, Center for United Nations Constitutional Research
Group Members:

- Shahr-yar M. Sharei - USA / Iran - PhD, Coordinator (Director, Center for UN Constitutional Research)
- Andreas Bummel – Germany - Author and Director of Democracy Without Borders and UNPA Campaign
- Sukehiro Hasegawa - Japan - Former Special Representative to the UN Secretary General, and President, Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan
- Huaru Kang - China - Lecturer, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, formerly with UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and CUNCR fellow
- Roger Kotila - USA - PhD, Psychologist, President, Democratic World Federalists
- Hans Leander - Sweden - Priest and Board member, Swedish branch of Democracy Without Borders
- Timothy Murithi - Kenya/South Africa - Professor and Head of Institute for Justice and Reconciliation
- Maria Ivone Soares - Mozambique - MP and Member of Pan African Parliament
- Francisco Plancarte - Mexico - Lawyer and Director, Centro Mexicano de Responsabilidad Global (CEMERG)
- Mais Qandeel - Palestine - PhD, Senior Lecturer in Legal Science at Örebro University, former CUNCR fellow
- Marjolijn Snippe - Netherlands - LLM, Executive Committee member, World Federalist Movement, Hague & New York
- Takehiko Uemura - Japan - Professor, Yokohama University
- Maria Vizdoaga - Moldova - LLM, Peace Fellow at Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn, former CUNCR Fellow and legal intern at the UN
- Kelci Wilford - Canada - LLM in Human Rights Law, Associate Program Manager at CUNCR
Theory of Change to Implement the San Francisco Promise

To successfully implement the San Francisco Promise of holding a review conference of the Charter towards UN transformation, the following 4 stages are envisioned.

**Stage-I Awareness and Advancing Globally: Advocacy, Champion States, and Legal Nexus Pillars**

To raise awareness and advance knowledge as well as action to implement the San Francisco Promise, the message and responsibility has to be taken directly to the people, schools and universities, churches, NGOs, and the politicians at each of the nations and their capitals.

At the state level, potential champion states will be targeted and persuaded to join the movement via track II citizens’ diplomacy. This will also be used at the UN level to target agencies which are currently underperforming due to failures in the UN system or the general dysfunction of the global governance system.

As for the people, NGOs, schools, and civil society pillar, we hope to engage in awareness-raising and mobilization by conducting seminars and model Charter reviews, soliciting research papers, forging coalitions with NGOs and CSOs, and obtaining endorsements from spiritual and religious leaders, artists and musicians, Nobel laureates and The Elders.

In order to mobilize politicians from the bottom up, we will lobby national and regional parliamentary assemblies. We will also introduce national initiatives and referendums such as the European Citizens’ Initiative (ECI) or the American ballot initiatives to try to oblige national legislators to take action.

As for the legal pillar, as it was outlined in our original proposal, holding the Charter review conference under Article 109 Paragraph 3 of the Charter is a legal obligation that has been breached. The legal recourse that can be taken to rectify this could include two or more of the following in parallel:
Stage-IV Meeting Unknown Global Challenges: Perpetual Change and Adaptation

The first Charter review conference will most likely not lead to a “constitutional moment” where the Charter would recognize global citizens as sovereigns, therefore allowing for representation, a world parliament and leading towards “we the peoples” governing the world. Nevertheless, the global conditions are ripe for tackling multiple challenges in the very first conference on Charter review and reform. Undoubtedly climate change would be one of them.

Since elimination of the veto or limit on its use would most likely be in the agenda of the first conference, if at the outcome it is also decided to replace the P5 veto on Charter amendments with a qualified majority, then that would unlock the frozen Charter. Subsequent Charter reviews would equip the organization to adapt itself easily and quickly to new and unknown global challenges. As for peoples’ fundamental right to self-government, based on the EU experience at the Maastricht Treaty, the US Constitutional experience at Philadelphia, or the Meiji Reformation of Japan, one of the future UN Charter conferences may indeed lead to a “constitutional moment”.

- Seeking an Advisory Opinion at the International Court of Justice (ICJ)
- Bringing a contentious case against the P5 at the ICJ
- Seeking an opinion of the European Court of Justice (ECJ)
- Seeking an opinion of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)
- Seeking an opinion at the African Court on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACTHR)
- Seeking an opinion at the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR)
- In the P5 states of USA, UK, and France, domestic court cases might be introduced for the purpose of raising awareness, even if they may lack jurisdiction. There is precedence for these type of cases in domestic courts on international issues.
Theory of Change to Implement the San Francisco Promise

Transformed UN governed by "we the peoples"

2029

Multiple Iterations of Charter Review

1-2 years of review + 2 years for ratification

- Human Rights
- Conflict Resolution
- Nuclear Disarmament
- Peace and Security

2025

Solutions

Critical Mass

Invoking Review and Seeking Solutions

2023

Coalition of States

- Champion States
- UN Specialized Agencies

People and NGOs

- Parliamentary Assemblies
- Peoples' Referendums and Initiatives
- Academic/Think Tanks
- NGOs, Civil Society and Religious Groups

Legal Engine

- ICJ
- Procedural GA/UNSC
- Regional Human Rights Courts
EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS
European Development Days

On the 18th and 19th of June, Dr. Sharei, Anne-Laure Baldacchino and Blanca Trepat were invited to attend the European Development Days (EDD) taking place in Brussels. EDD brings the development community together each year to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire new partnerships and innovative solutions to the world’s most pressing challenges. This year’s edition put the focus on gender equality through the development sector.

CUNCR had the honor of taking part in a panel organized by our partners ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific), which is an international governmental organisation that represents the 79 countries in the concerned region. “Addressing climate change inequalities in the global south” was the topic addressed in the panel. This was in the context of the IPCC Special Report, which stated that the negative impacts of climate change would be far more dangerous in the most vulnerable ACP countries. In many ACP countries, social and economic inequality has given rise to an increased level of poverty and low rates of social goods. These negative consequences contribute to increased climate change vulnerability in different sectors of society.
During the panel, Dr. Sharei linked the dysfunctional global governance of climate with the impact on poverty and equality. At the same time, he posed the big question: Who governs the climate? And How we can enforce it? He also emphasized the need for National Determined Contributions (NDCs) to be replaced with Internationally Determined Commitments (IDCs), which would be actually enforceable.

In general, the event was a good opportunity for CUNCER to share about our research on the need for governance in order to address climate inequalities. EDD was also a source of contacts from the Global South, and created the potential for closer cooperation with ACP in the future.
CUNCR has begun building a coalition of interested parties to organize a symposium on UN Security Council Reform. After the successful kickoff late last year, this year we have had several further meetings, discussing the best model for such a symposium, other potential partners to include in our efforts, as well as directly discussing specific ideas for how to enact Security Council Reform. Currently, conferences on this important topic are planned to be incorporated in our San Francisco summit of June 2021. A call for papers to be distributed amongst universities was also completed.

In addition to the above institutional members, we are honoured to be joined by:

Tadashi Inuzuka, Former Senator of Japan
Dr. Richard Samuel Deese, Senior Lecturer at Boston University
As CUNC staff began planning for our third annual Climate Justice Seminar in Epirus, Greece, we became aware of a burgeoning trend in the world of climate activism. Across the world, throughout Europe, and especially in Belgium, young people were going on strike from school to follow Greta Thunberg in demanding immediate climate action. In March, CUNC attended a day of action in the streets of Brussels, alongside approximately 30,000 young people demanding “system change, not climate change.” From this experience, we learned two things: the first was that it would not be possible to organize a relevant climate summit in 2019 that did not prominently feature youth voices. The second was that while many of these young people are extremely knowledgeable about the dangers of inaction when it comes to climate change, there was a distinct lack of knowledge about the international systems and policies that would need to change in order to have effective action.
We decided to seek out passionate and talented young people to come to the seminar in Greece, both to share their own experiences with climate activism, and to learn about the governance aspect of climate change. We committed to sponsoring 12 such young people, two from each continent plus the sinking islands in order to ensure global representation. These individuals would become our Youth Climate Ambassadors (YCAs), responsible for learning about the crisis in climate governance and then taking that information back to their home communities and applying it to their own activism.

Around the same time, we began to explore the idea of “Climate Democracy” as a complement to Climate Justice. First popularized by US Senator Ed Markey but still more rarely used, we saw it as a perfect way to articulate the need to ensure that “WE THE PEOPLE” are included in decisions about our global climate, and that meaningful climate action cannot come without the democratization of our global governance system. Therefore, we decided that the 2019 seminar would become the Climate Democracy and Justice Summit and Ambassador Training.

The call we put out for Youth Climate Ambassadors was met with a staggering response. We received about 250 applications, the vast majority of which were from highly qualified young people who already making waves with their activism and were eager to do more. We began the difficult task of finding the best-qualified among them, sifting through their resumes and video submissions to find the best of the best.

It was decided that those who wanted to become Youth Climate Ambassadors would attend not only the summit in Greece, but also an intensive two-day pre-training session at our office in Brussels, where they would learn the basics of Climate Governance in order to inform their discussions at the summit. The YCAs also had the opportunity to visit the EU institutions and gain a better understanding of how supranational governance and federalism can be instrumental in addressing global problems.
Similar to 2018, the summit itself began with one day at the Corfu Reading Society on the isle of Corfu, before moving to the Land Beyond conference center in the remote village of Vitsa nestled in the Epirus mountains. We were joined by experts and policymakers, including previous participants of our seminars as well as new faces. Highlights of the week also included a march for climate action through the historic streets of Corfu town, speeches from two Members of the European Parliament and Mozambique parliamentarian Maria Ivone Soares, a hackathon to come up with a unified declaration and action plan, and our traditional daylong trek through the Vikos Gorge. In total, we had participation of 72 people from 28 different countries.

We feel that this year’s summit was our most successful climate event to date, and we have made particular progress in introducing the next generation to the fundamental ideas of global governance, UN reform, and world federalism, all through the lens of climate action. This summit has laid the groundwork for the bulk of CUNCR’s activities in 2020, continuing to expand our network of youth volunteers and ambassadors and ensuring that climate governance is a key topic in future climate discussions at every level.

Please see the following pages to read the CDJ III outcome document, as well as the Epirus Declaration.
OUTCOME DOCUMENT

From July 19th to 27th, the Center for United Nations Constitutional Research held the Climate Democracy and Justice Summit. The third annual conference in its Climate Justice series, this year’s edition included training for Youth Climate Ambassadors, 21 young activists from around the world who were already leaders for climate action in their own communities, but now wanted to learn more about importance of global governance to achieving real system change, not climate change. The ambassadors underwent special training on international environmental law and global governance in Brussels before the start of the conference, and then joined the rest of the attendees in Corfu and Epirus, Greece, to come up with ideas on how to crack the global governance puzzle.

BRUSSELS

Day One, 19 July in Brussels, the ambassadors learned about the history and current status of international environmental law, and the links between the environment and human rights. They also learned about the principle of international law as a whole, and why state absolute sovereignty poses such a barrier to effectively addressing global problems. The discussion turned to environmental solutions that could work in this framework, including the proposal to add ecocide as a fifth crime prosecutable by the International Criminal Court, as well as further discussions of the relevance of International Criminal Law to environmental issues. The day ended with a visit to the European institutions to learn about how governance can go beyond the nation-state.
Day Two, 20 July of the Brussels training, the discussion of how to improve global governance overall continued, with consideration given to UN Charter Review, European Federalism, Omnilateralism, and the Earth Constitution.

CORFU

When the conference proper kicked off on Day One in Corfu, the focus was immediately put on the urgent need for change. Speakers spoke of the rapid deterioration of the environment while the UN did nothing, and of storms and other disasters that have been on the rise as the problems get worse. Some of the Climate Ambassadors also told their personal stories about facing climate change. The group also connected virtually with a parallel event that was set up in Yaoundé, Cameroon, hosted by the organization Amis de la Planète Cameroune. Participants in Greece had a chance to meet the 40 or so participants in Cameroon. That evening, there was a demonstration and march followed by a public rally for climate democracy, at which speakers shared their fears and hopes for future generations. All the climate ambassadors also spoke.
Speakers: (Morning Session)
- Dr. Sam Deese, Boston University (United States)
- Nnimmo Bassey, Climate Activist and Rafto Prize Winner (Nigeria)
- Daniel Schaubacher, CUNCR Board Member (Swiss/Belgium)
- Brando Benifei, MEP, European Parliament (Italy) - Pre-recorded Message
- Jean-Felix Ebo’o, Amis de la Planete Cameroune (Cameroon)

Speakers: (Rally)
- Nicos Giannis, EU Commission and Land Beyond (Greece)
- Maria Ivone Soares, Member of Parliament (Mozambique)
- Dr. Sam Deese, Boston University (United States)
- All Climate Ambassadors

EPIRUS

Day Two of the seminar took us to the Land Beyond in Vitsa, Epirus. This began a deeper look into how to crack the problem of global climate governance. Speakers presented research on the effectiveness of global efforts, the potential for national successes to be exported globally, and federalism was once again revisited.

Speakers:
- Dr. Jamie Sommer, University of South Florida (United States) – “The Great Green Transformation: Is it Working?”
- Dr. Otto Spijkers, Utrecht University (Netherlands)
- Shirileen Chin, Green Transparency, Ecological Defence Integrity and the Institute for Environmental Security (Malaysia/Netherlands)
- Sebastiano Putoto, Young European Federalists (Italy)
Day Three was conducted outdoors at the village square in Vitsa, where the search for solutions continued and became more global in scope, with discussions on the proposal for a UN Parliamentary Assembly and transnational deliberative and participatory democracy at a global level (proposal for a World Citizens’ Initiative on the model of the European Citizens’ Initiative). From there, however, it was up to the ambassadors to apply their knowledge and come up with their own solutions. The attendees broke into groups to brainstorm, working towards a unified document that summarized the values, intent, and demands of the group. There was some discussion about whether to call this document a “Declaration” or a “Manifesto” but after a close vote, it was determined that it would be called the “Epirus Declaration.” A further session that evening brought everyone back together to work out the details of the wording in this text, and what exactly the Climate Ambassadors were calling for. There was also a second conference call with the “Armies de la Planète” in Cameroon, who created their own outcome document and then answered questions about their plans for climate justice going forward.

Day Four began very early for some participants, who created a working group to finish the important work of drafting the Epirus Declaration. The main session started with the two more speakers who inspired the Youth Ambassadors with presentations about the importance of non-state actors and bottom-up activism in effective meaningful system change. In that spirit, the participants once again split up into groups to come up with an action plan with concrete steps to strengthen the climate democracy movement and spread the word about the importance of global climate governance.

Speakers:

- Dr. Thomas Muinzer, University of Dundee (UK) – “Legal Activism and Climate Justice from the Bottom Up – The UK Experience”
- Wolfgang Pape, lecturer on EU and Asian Affairs (Europe) – “Rules beyond national borders towards omnilateral governance”

Workshop: Brainstorming and hackathon of action items and implementation plan

Speakers:

- John Vlasto, Democracy Without Borders (UK) – "Introduction to UNPA"
- Michele Fiorillo, CIVICO Europa, CUNCR Fellow (Italy) – "Transnational Deliberative Democracy and World Citizens’ Initiative"
- Maria Ivone Soares, Member of Parliament (Mozambique)

Workshop: Brainstorming and hackathon on governance solutions
On the **final day, Day Five**, the focus shifted to appreciating the nature we are trying to protect, with a 17-kilometer hike through the Vikos Gorge, the deepest gorge in the world. It was an awe-inspiring and challenging experience for the ambassadors who took part. After the hike, the day ended with one final presentation from **Spanish MEP Domèneç Devesa**, who reiterated the important link between climate justice and world federalism, and spoke to how the European Union can help to bring about closer integration leading to effective global governance and real climate action through the Green New Deal.

**Speakers:**

- Domèneç Devesa, Member of European Parliament (Spain) – “Federalism and Climate Change”

Although after that, the Youth Climate Ambassadors, other attendees, speakers and panelists all parted ways, it was clear to all that this was only the beginning of what will be a very big movement. You are invited to read both the Epirus Declaration and the Action Plan to know more about what this extraordinary group of young people are working for, and how they plan to get it.
EXPLANATORY NOTES AND PRÉPARATOIRE ON THE EPIRUS DECLARATION

- The Declaration was inspired by a CUNCN research proposal delivered by Dr. Sharei.
- Later, there were change proposals made and it was decided that the proposal would be primarily decided by the youth climate ambassadors, who formed a taskforce. The substantive part of the declaration was adopted unanimously on 24 July, with a taskforce formed to finalize the text.
- A vote was conducted on whether to call the document “Declaration” or “Manifesto”. The majority voted for “Epirus Declaration”.
- A second vote was conducted on whether the Declaration should call for a UN Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA), or a UN Parliament (UNP). In the first scenario, a UNPA would be created as a subsidiary of General Assembly (Article 22), and have members either directly elected or, initially, appointed by states’ governments or parliaments, and at first, with an advisory only function. In the second scenario, a peoples’ parliament at the UN would be created under Article 109 Charter review, with direct elections, and environmental legislative powers. Both UNPA and UNP share the same goal of a World Parliament, the only difference being in how to get there - either directly (UNP, Article 109), or with an interim step (UNPA, Article 22). The two approaches should be complementary, and both should be supported. Since parliamentary assemblies do not always lead to a legislative parliament, the majority vote amongst the youth climate ambassadors was to include the more ambitious UNP in the Declaration, straight to a peoples UN parliament with legislative and binding powers.
- Military budgets, and specifically nuclear disarmament, to be diverted to climate finance, in CUNCN’s original proposal, was voted down. However, recognizing the military as the biggest, and mostly unregulated, polluter, the wording was changed to reflect diversion of funds from “national security” to “global security”.
- It was noted that no current UN international human rights conventions recognize the right to a healthy environment and climate, explicitly as human rights, therefore it was agreed that the text of the Declaration must include language to recognize global environmental rights and citizenship.
- On an international court system for the environment, both expansion of ICC competencies and the creation of a new court were discussed. The fundamental agreement was that the court’s decision must be universally binding and be enforceable.
Regarding an executive body to execute the UN Parliament’s decisions, financing, and administration and monitoring, it was recognized that an executive branch will be needed. Possible models discussed included the expansion of the Secretary General’s authorities and competencies, giving this task to the UN Trusteeship Council as the Trusteeship Council for the Environment, expanding UNEP’s role, and other options.

- The taskforce met on 24-25 July to agree on the proposal for adoption and virtually on 27 July, chaired by Litia Baleilevuka (Fiji) and adopted the final text that day.

- In general, it was agreed that the Declaration, similar to constitutions, must stick to its paramount principles and ideals. The implementation and interpretation of these principles would be left to the legitimate forums and institutions to carry on. Further, the Declaration in the future summits may be subject to amendments and further clarification.

**CARBON FOOTPRINT**

CUNCR plans to calculate and offset the carbon footprint of all the youth activists and staff air travel associated to the 9-day Summit by planting trees in at least one country in every continent. Planting trees being one of the best options to counter climate change, with the costs to be paid by CUNCR, Climate Ambassadors volunteered in recommending and implementing this decarbonization scheme.
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

(Climate Ambassadors, Speakers, Politicians, Academics, and other attendees)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andreas Marazis</td>
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<td>Anna Bryanchaninova</td>
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<td>Domenec Devesa</td>
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<td>Elsa Lagaron</td>
<td>France/Mexico</td>
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<td>Esmeralda Wirtz</td>
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<td>Fani Tsaroucha</td>
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<td>Gator Halpern</td>
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<td>Hanna Cordeiro</td>
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<td>Jean-Felix Ebo'o, an Amis de la</td>
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<td>Jamie Sommer</td>
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<td>Malika Valijon Qizi Kadirova</td>
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<td>Mamdouh Alqudsi</td>
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<td>Wolfgang Pape</td>
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<td>Yana Prokofyeva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yasmine Sharei</td>
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CLIMATE DEMOCRACY DECLARATION

On the 24th of July 2019 we planetary citizens, representing all the continents, have gathered to demand representation in global decision-making on challenges, such as the climate crisis, which affect us all. To achieve this we demand: the creation of a United Nations parliament representing everyone; an executive to complement this legislature; and, to ensure justice, the creation of a world court with the competency to prosecute environmental crimes, holding states, corporations, other non-state actors and individuals accountable with universal jurisdiction.

In a world of effective global governance, resources currently dedicated to national security must be redirected to global security, and in particular living sustainably on our planet. It should be a human right to enjoy a healthy environment, and it is our duty to protect the rights of the environment for the future generations.

As the legitimate forum to achieve these democratic ideals, we urgently demand that the San Francisco Promise be upheld to convene the United Nations Charter review and renewal process.

Let “we the peoples” govern the world!
Speakers at the Greece Conference:

- Brando Benefei, Italy
- Maria Ivone Soares, Mozambique
- Dr. Richard Samuel Deese, USA
- Dr. Jamie Sommer, USA
- Nnimmo Bassey, Nigeria
- Sebastiano Putoto, Italy
- Wolfgang Pape, Germany
- John Vlasto, UK
- Dr. Thomas Muinzer, UK
- Dr. Otto Spijkers, Netherlands
- Dr. Nicos Giannis
- Shirleen Chin, Malaysia/Netherlands
- Michele Fiorillo, Italy
- Domènec Ruiz Devesa, Spain
YOUTH CLIMATE AMBASSADORS – ACTIVITIES

The young people we connected with through the Climate Democracy and Justice Summit have turned out to be an incredible resource for CUNCR. We are extremely proud to have them representing us at different events, conferences, and meetings around the world. In this section, you can read about some of the remarkable work these young people have done on our behalf, just in the latter half of 2019.

Fridays for Future – Summer Meeting in Lausanne, Europe (SMILE) – August 5-9, 2019

Youth Climate Ambassador Mamdouh Alqudsi attended the #FridaysForFuture European Summit in Lausanne, Switzerland, and he represented CUNCR as a member of the press in the conference. Mamdouh interviewed 28 participants and created two YouTube features aiming to raise the youth voice, entitled Minute to the Planet and How Old Are You.

The Minute to the Planet series included 12 one-minute long clips with 12 different interviewees aged 14 - 21 years old. How Old Are You is a single 3-minute video comprised of 16 different interviews with participants aged 11-18. The interviews showed the openness these activists had and explained that these activists are aware of the crisis we are facing and understand the demands they make in their demonstrations. The videos also showed that age does not matter in activism, since these young activists were responsible for educating themselves and raising awareness and educating others about the climate crisis.
Regarding networking and future doors, Mamdouh put CUNCR in touch with Greta Thunberg and other significant actors in the climate movement, including the Vice-chair of the IPCC. After the successful attendance of this event, Mamdouh wrote an article about the summit, accompanied by a 7-minute video that depicts the atmosphere during the summit and the demonstration.

“Unite Europe, Save the Earth”

October 2019

On the 4th and 5th of October, the Union of European Federalists (UEF) organized the event “Unite Europe, Save the Earth: Our Common Challenge!” in Vilnius, Lithuania, where YCA Fani Tsaroucha attended as CUNCR representative. This was the very first meet-up of UEF on environmental and climate-related topics. The timing for this beginning could not have been better, when the entire world has their eyes on the global action for climate and the role of the EU in the Global Green New Deal.

The event was co-hosted by UEF, the European Federalists of Lithuania, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and Renew Europe Lithuania. The program brought together several Lithuanian politicians, Green politicians from several EU countries, EU Commission and Council representatives, members of EU parliament, a lot of representatives from civil society and plenty of “friends” of European federalism from across the EU. Among them were a climate scientist, an economist with experience in Climate Finance Negotiations, an activist, and the director of the renewable energy industry of Lithuania, all contributing with knowledge and facts on climate change science.

The awareness of civil society on the climate crisis was often identified as the most important driver behind climate action. The youth movement was of course in the spotlight as well, while at the same time there was some insight on a movement of the elderly, who acknowledge themselves as the ones responsible to ensure safe environment for the younger generations to inherit.

There were also some familiar faces such as Domènec Devesa, Member of the European Parliament and defender of the federalist movement, who was present as a speaker at our CJDIII.
It also was a great opportunity to network with youth and engage them in our Youth Climate Ambassador Program and Working Groups.

As a final and remarkable observation, the ideas of a Federal Global Governance formed by the UN and an international juridical system that acknowledges ecocide are still very novel terms and were approached with skepticism.

**Brazilian Conference on Climate Change**

**Youth and Climate International Meeting. 7th of November, Recife - Brazil – Report by Youth Climate Activist Joyce Najm Mendes**

Within the framework of the Brazilian conference on climate change (https://www.climabrasil.org.br) organized by several national organizations in order to work on the Brazilian agenda towards the Paris Agreement, the SDGs and the NDCs; I was invited to the youth and climate international meeting, a debate about the perspectives and challenges of empowering youth to the climate agenda https://www.dialogosfuturosustentavel.org/juventude). The meeting was organized by the Clima e Sociedade Institute iCS and the German Embassy in Brasilia.
Organizations like Fridays for Future Germany, Engajamundo (Brazil), the Youth Climate Leaders (Brazil) and the Climate Reality Project were invited. The following questions were debated:

- Why did you feel the call to act on climate issues? How do you engage in this agenda?
- How do you see the youth acting in the current climatic events?
- How do other social agendas like human rights and education influence the youth climate movements that you belong to?
- How has your country been dealing with climate issues?
- What are your perspectives regarding a sustainable future?

I had the opportunity to introduce the Young Climate Ambassadors and my story of how I went from studying astrobiology and looking for exoplanets that could host life, to start working in transboundary cooperation in the water-energy-food and climate nexus. It was an amazing opportunity to have an intercultural dialogue in the climate agenda, as part of the cultural inclusion and citizenship responsibility challenges. In how the climate decolonialism could take us for a fairer sustainable transition towards the Well Living /Sumak Kawsay paradigm. As part of the participants, Karenna Gore (daughter of Al Gore, ex Vice President of the US), director of the Center for Earth Ethics was very interested into cooperating Edith the YCA, as well as promoting our next trainings.
12th Annual Climate Conference, Sankt-Petersburg, Russia

Report by Youth Climate Activist Anna Bryanchaninova

On the 7th and 8th of November 2019 in the picturesque suburb of Sankt-Petersburg called Peterhof Russian Social and Environmental Union gathered the representatives of environmental NGOs, sustainability experts, scientists and youth activists for the 12th Annual Climate Conference to discuss environmental problems in Russia and in the world. Among the 115 attendees there were representatives of the Russian branches of Greenpeace, WWF, Fridays for Future, Friends of the Earth, as well as some experts from the Northern Europe and Germany (German Embassy, BUND, CUNCR Climate Ambassador).

On the first day of the conference, the global issues of climate change were discussed as well as ways to overcome climate crisis, both through the right high-level decisions in the international politics and in practice, with examples of climate actions in Russia on the national and local level. After a short presentation of global climate governance issues including ecocide cases by Anna, CUNCR Youth Climate Ambassador for Russia and Germany, the leaders of environmental organisations and activists developed together the official position paper from Russian NGOs to be presented at COP25 in Madrid.

Since the adoption of the new amendment to the law on waste management in Russia, there have been many contradictory decisions taken in attempt to solve this growing problem, which became the focal point of the agenda for the second day of the conference. The main pitfall of “the waste reform” and its implementation is the substitution of priorities in waste management, when instead of working on waste reduction, separation and recycling state funds are being directed towards creation of new landfills, pushing the waste of megalopolises to remote regions (the notorious „Shijes” project). Albeit all issues Germany through its traditional close ties with Russia is already seeing „the waste reform” as a business opportunity and cooperates with the Russian Government on solutions and technologies transfer.

The conference was in general a very good opportunity for CUNCR to establish useful connections in Russia, but also gain potential partners (German embassy) and supporters (Fridays for Future) for the Local COY event in Russia in 2020. At the joint networking event of the German trade chamber in Russia (AHK) and the Europe Business Association (EBA) Anna could assure some funding sources for the Youth Conference. Environmental topics are very hot in Russia at the moment and the uncertain position of the Russian Government in this matter provides opportunities for the right lobby of climate actions.
Carbon Offset Program: Youth for Forest

Report by Fani Tsaroucha, Youth Climate Ambassador and Resident Research Fellow

Climate Change science gives a harsh, loud and clear message: human-generated greenhouse gas emissions over the past century is the only significant factor behind the modern global warming we are facing right now. From the UNFCCC in 1992, and its continuation with Kyoto protocol in 1997, to the Bonn challenge of 2011 and the latest Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris agreement in 2015, countries reach consensus towards common political actions and goals. Despite the national and international intentions for reduction of greenhouse emissions, up to date, the global CO2 emissions are still increasing day by day.

Acknowledging the big share of responsibility that we bear and acting is the only one way forward to tackle Climate Change or adjust to its effects. In the same, the Center for the United Nations Constitutional Research (CUNCR), would like to further bear the responsibility of our own footprint with the establishment of our own Carbon Offset Programme (Youth for Forest). Our programme promotes Climate Action through Nature-based Solutions for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation. Particularly, tree-planting and regreening are the nature-based practices which we would like to promote. Technological innovations that work together with NBSs are also within the objectives of Youth for Forest.

The principle of the Youth for Forest initiative is plurality in terms of project region, type of regreening projects (rainforest, mangroves, desert plants etc.), project scale (local-regional) and socio-environmental benefit derived by the project (regreening for food, regreening for restoration, etc.)

Our approach will be initially tested and evaluated by our pilot projects. The Pilot Phase of Youth for Forest will include a small number of regreening projects where he carbon sequestration capacity, the economic feasibility and operational aspects of the overall project will be tested and monitored. The first area selected for our pilot phase is the university city of Soa, in the peri-urban area of Yaounde, the capital of Cameroon. The project will concern Urban foresting with direct ecosystem services of the trees to the locals and particularly the students of the city. Our project targets to offset 40 tons of Carbon Dioxide as emitted during the Climate Democracy and Justice Summit III, in Greece, in July 2019. The commencement ceremony will take place on December 4th, 2019.
Our team’s scientist and leader, Fani Tsaroucha, visited the pilot area our local partner Amis de la Planete du Cameroon (APC). During that field visit, the president of APC and Youth Climate Ambassador, Jean-Felix Ebo’o and the rest of the team, arranged an impressive agenda with important local actors of the area, which all welcomed our tree-planting project. More particularly, we met the mayor of the town, Mr Essama Embolo, who supported our programme with the signing of an MoU, the Minister of Regional Development and Decentralization of Cameroon, Mr. Serge Herve Ondoua and the sub-director of the direction of Conservation and Management of Natural Resources of the Ministry of Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development of Cameroon, Mr Temothee Kagonbe. Additionally, we met the local forestry authorities where we saw the nurseries of the indigenous trees that will be planted, and we further went to a prototype school and the Greenpeace of Central Africa, where we talked about the Youth Climate Actions and their recruitment to our tree-planting project.

The operational part of the Pilot Phase includes the staking, holing and planting of 10,000 trees in three targeted types of areas within Soa. The three types of areas determined are: University campus of Soa, main urban street of Soa and school areas in the rural land of Soa. Trees appropriate for urban forestry with prioritized preference towards indigenous species, endangered endemic species, fruit trees, medicinal trees. The decision on the tree species and the targeted land will be done upon the provision of technical support from the Chief of Forestry of Soa. The success of the project will be determined by the long-term commitment of the Municipality of Soa to support the sustainability of the project in the assigned areas for the coming decades, of the Center for the United Nations Constitutional Research to design, finance and monitor the project and of Amis de la Planete to support the project in liaising with suppliers, technical partners, and other stakeholders and to monitor the implementation of the project.
All the technical aspects of the project (tree species, specified land, financial requirements etc.) and the obligations of each party will be further specified upon the consultation of the Chief of Forestry of Soa and the consent of the Mayor, with a Convention among all parties.

In the close future (second quarter of 2020), once the pilot projects will evaluate the efficiency of the projects and once we increase our project network and our offsetting potential with re-greening and tree-planting, our programme will deliver as a platform for the systematic quantification of our emissions and of the carbon sequestration potentials from tree-planting projects. In that way, we would like to offer carbon offsetting services to highly emitting companies other NGOs or individuals with sensitive corporate responsibility towards environment.

**CUNCR Webinar**

On October 23rd, CUNCR hosted its very first webinar, which was directed by Mamdouh Alqudsi and Blanca Trepat. The webinar was divided into three parts: CUNCR’s field of work and mission, our Youth Climate Ambassador Program and the upcoming Model UN Charter Review (MUNCR).

After introducing CUNCR’s work, we focused on explaining our Youth programs (Youth Climate Ambassador Program and MUNCR) and how to get involved in them. Both caught the attention of the young participants and we quickly received a lot of emails and questions on how they could become Climate Ambassadors and how they could help us develop our plan of action.

Additionally, we were grateful for the intervention of Elise Buckle, Strategic Advisor to the UN SDG Lab. She first explained about the importance of Nature-Based Solutions in the updated UN agenda to mitigate climate change. At the same time, she focused on how important youth mobilization was and encourage everyone in the call to be part of it and do not give up. In relation to this, she urged all the participants in the call for volunteers to help CUNCR’s youth ambassador network grow and be active.
The final goal of the webinar was to expand our network of volunteers that have organized themselves in five working groups to deliver results in different fields: Networking, Social Media & Outreach, Fundraising, Key Concepts, and Education. The goal was clearly accomplished since we received 36 applications to become CUNCR volunteers and are currently expanding our youth network worldwide!

**List of certified YCAs**

- Litia Baleilevuka, Fiji
- Rassa Ebrahim, USA
- Laura Lock, Hungary/UK
- Manjot Kaur, Australia
- Malika Kadirova, Uzbekistan
- Miao Wang, China
- Joyce Mendes, Brazil/Paraguay
- Camila Lopez Badra, Argentina
- Jennifer Uchendu, Nigeria
- Ruby Sampson, South Africa
- Yana Prokofyeva, Russia/France
- Gator Halperrn, USA
- Mamdouh Alqudsi, Syria
- Jean Felix Ebo’o, Cameroon
- Anna Bryanchaninova, Russia/Germany
- Hanna Cordeiro, Brazil
- Fani Tsaroucha, Greece
- Anne-Laure Baldacchino, France
- Shabira Rogers, Belgium/Trinidad&Tobago
- Kristijan Gjorgjeski, Macedonia
- Kelci Wilford, Canada
- Blanca Trepat, Spain
Fellowships

CUNCR’s success with its fellowship research program continued into 2019. Last year ended off with a one-month fellowship with Dr. Antonios Kouroutakis from Greece, a constitutional law professor at IE University in Madrid. We also welcomed Dr. Margaret Ainley, sponsored by the Joe Schwartzberg Workable World Trust fellowship, whose work focused on governance in Africa, and Michele Fiorillo, sponsored by the John Sutter fellowship, who focuses on democracy and critical theory. Finally, one of our Youth Climate Ambassadors, Fani Tsaroucha from Greece, joined our fellowship program and will research carbon offsets through the lens of the 12 regions as set out by Professor Schwartzberg’s theory for a workable world.

Following up with our research fellows from 2018, we are eagerly awaiting final reports from Huaru Kang, Bosko Stankovski, and Saeed Bagheri.

Staff, Consultants, & Interns

In February 2019, CUNCR welcomed a new staff member, Blanca Trepat, to act as our Communications and External Relations Officer. A law graduate from Barcelona who received her Master’s degree in European Law with a specialization in Human Rights Law at Maastricht University, Netherlands, her main areas of interest are international environmental law and equality and anti-discrimination law. Before joining CUNCR, Blanca completed an internship at the Spanish Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva in the Human Rights Department where she drafted reports on a number of topics discussed during the Human Rights Council and conducted research. She also completed an internship at the Spanish Permanent Representation before the European Union in the Environment Department.

We also hosted several summer interns, who were particularly helpful with our Climate Ambassador program. These were Anne-Laure Baldacchino (France), Shabira Rogers (Belgium/Trinidad) and Mamdouh Alqudsi (Syria). Former Associate Program Manager Kelci Wilford transitioned into a consulting role, and we also received consulting assistance from Andreas Marazis. Finally, we received some further external assistance from Etienne Bowie (US) and Kristijan Gjorgjieski (North Macedonia).
Q4 Events & Programs

Reinvigorating the UN - Panel of Experts in Germany

University of Duisburg-Essen
Gerhard Mercator House, Duisburg
2-3/Sep/2019

Sponsored by: the Development and Peace Foundation (SEF) Foundation, and the Institute for Development and Peace (INEF). Die Stiftung Entwicklung und Frieden, is the German name of the foundation created by the imitative of the late, Chancellor Willy Brandt of Germany.

In 2020, the United Nations will celebrate its 75th anniversary, looking back on a turbulent history. 75 years after the end of WWII and 30 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the multilateral system with the UN at its heart is under pressure once again. But the current transition to a new world order also offers opportunities to reinvigorate the UN. As varied as the concepts for a future global architecture might be, apart from those advanced by hard core unilateralists, they all see a role for a world organisation. But this role might look very different.

The International SEF: Expert Workshop 2019 entitled on The Essential World Organisation: Reinvigorating the UN at 75 aims to gain a clearer picture of the general framework in which the UN operates today and in the near future, and to identify new strategies and alliances needed to empower the UN to live up to its Charter. In this context, Dr Sharei was hosted by SEF and made CUNCR’s presentation and the case, to the group of experts, for Constitutionalization of the United Nations.

Who is SEF:

The Development and Peace Foundation (SEF) is a cross-party, non-profit organisation, funded by the four German federal states Berlin, Brandenburg, North Rhine-Westphalia and the Free State of Saxony.

SEF: provides an independent and international high-level forum for creative thinking on urgent peace and development issues. The Foundation brings present and future political decision-makers, their advisors and academic experts, civil society and the business community in a constructive dialogue. The SEF: attaches special importance to bringing perspectives from the "Global South" into the political debate.
UN de-briefing session on the Climate Action Summit and developments on Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)

On the 9th of October 2019, UNEP invited NGOs and civil society to a “de-briefing session” on the Climate Action Summit and developments on Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). The session was led by the Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, Mario Boccucci and by the head of Environment and Development of UNEP, Veronika Hunt Šafránková.

The discussion focused on Nature-Based Solutions as a fundamental part of action for climate and biodiversity. NBS have proved to have the potential to make up one third of the entire climate change mitigation efforts. They are a vital complement to decarbonization, reducing climate change risks, and establishing resilient societies. Another topic that was discussed during the debrief, and also underlined during the New York Climate Action Summit, was the role of youth in creating a vocal movement of young and future voters.

After the meeting, we agreed with Ms. Hunt Šafránková and Alexa Froger, Outreach and Information Assistant at UNEP Brussels, to organize an event together in the first quarter of 2020. The topic will be Nature-Based Solutions, but attention will also be given to youth activists who will act as panelists at the conference.
Meetings with Members of the European Parliament

Meeting with Domènec Ruiz Devesa

On the 10th of October, Dr. Shahr-Yar Sharei and a small YCA committee (Blanca Trepap and Fani Tsaroucha) met with MEP Domènec Ruiz Devesa, at the premises of the European Parliament for an interesting dialogue which enriched CUNCR’s agenda for 2020, and which could eventually turn out as a milestone among CUNCR’s activities. Mr. Devesa is a Member of the European Parliament, a federal politician of the Spanish Worker’s Socialist party and a supportive friend of the CUNCR’s ideas for world federalism and for UN Charter reform.

Mr. Devesa supports UN reform through Charter Review, as well as the formation of a UN Parliamentary Assembly over the UN General Assembly as solutions beyond voluntary intergovernmental cooperation in order to address the climate crisis more effectively. His interest in the concept of the San Francisco Promise can make Mr. Devesa a powerful advocate of CUNCR’s ideas about global governance inside the European Union Parliament. To this end, Devesa and CUNCR will organize the first event on the EU annual resolution report on the UN in the European Union Parliament on the 5th and 6th of May 2020, and will introduce the idea of UN Charter reform. In the long -term, he is also interested in collaborating with the continuation of the “How to Assembly Parliamentary Assemblies” CUNCR seminar series, and will invite regional parties to join inter-regional integration acts towards global climate governance. Devesa puts this initiative into perspective by taking into account the mandate for the Commission to function as a model of regional democracy and further support inter-regional integration into the global arena.
Meeting with Brando Benefei

In November, Dr. Sharei, some YCAs, and CUNCR fellow Michele Fiorillo met with the Italian Member of the European Parliament Brando Benefei. He was very interested in our work on climate governance, and agreed to co-host with CUNCR a seminar on Global Governance of Climate focusing on youth. This seminar will take place at the European Parliament in June 2020.

Tokyo Peacebuilding Forum 2019

On November 2nd, the Global Peacebuilding Association of Japan, with the support of Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS), hosted the Tokyo Peacebuilding Forum 2019. This year’s forum was on the topic of “Peacebuilding and Global Governance in a Turbulent World” and was attended by a number of high-level officials and academics, including ambassadors from both France and Germany. CUNCR Executive Director Dr. Shahr-yar Sharei was invited to present on the topic of the “Possibility for Constitutional Reform of the United Nations Charter.”
Joined on this panel by long-time CUNCAR associate Dr. Sukehiro Hasegawa, Executive Director for Academic Exchange for the UN Association of Japan, Dr. Sharei introduced the San Francisco Promise reflected in Article 109 of the Charter and advocated a charter reform as the most viable method for reforming the UN. Further, based on Paragraph3 of Art. 109, he explained the legislative history of the opposition to the security council formation in 1945, and the legal adoption of Article 109(3), in 1955, based on GA Resolution 992(X) and its subsequent adoption at the Security Council despite negative vote of one of its P5 members. He further explained how the veto does not apply on convening of a review conference and based on precedence, how even at the ratification it might be overturned.
Sharei argued, that based on the successful adoption of Article 109(3), on legal grounds, that the P5 members of the Security Council by not upholding the “San Francisco Promise” are in breach of the UN Charter. He further argued that why substantive and effective UN and Security Council reforms should only be considered in the legitimate forum which the Charter has prescribed as constitutional and binding, which is that of the Review process.

Paris Peace Forum

On the 12th and 13th of November, our CUNCR team travelled to Paris to attend the second annual Paris Peace Forum. The team was composed by Dr. Sharei, Mamdouh Alquds, Blanca Trepat plus two of our Climate Ambassadors that we met there; Anne-Laure Baldacchino from France and Dalia Marquez from Venezuela.

The Paris Peace Forum is a global platform where this year more than 6,000 participants presented their initiatives and projects to reinvent cooperation for real change. The event brought together high-level policymakers with civil society organisations to focus on sovereignty, gender equality, development, arts, and – most relevant to CUNCR – global governance. Addressing the global challenges humanity is facing brought all these stakeholders together in one place to discuss.
The event was opened by the French President Emmanuel Macron, followed by Ursula Von Der Leyen, president of the EU Commission and other prominent politicians. Both Macron and Von der Leyen underlined the lack of efficiency of the current system and the need for more cooperation between countries. However, a United World still looks like a long-term project.

For CUNCR, this was a great opportunity to present our proposal for a UN reform as a way to better global governance, together with our Youth programs: the Youth Climate Ambassador program and the Model UN Charter Review. In order to do that, we organized two “braindates”, small group discussions on a topic decided by the host. We had one on UN Security Council Reform and one on “Who Governs the Climate?” In both cases participants were very involved and were constantly proposing ideas on how to achieve a more democratic UN or how climate governance can be implemented. However, there was some uncertainty among them on what the path should look like in order to get to those objectives done.

Our partners from South Africa, the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), also attended the PPF. Their booth was present during both days of the conference and they were advocating for a form of Security Council reform. They argued that the decreasing legitimacy of the United Nations and the UN Security Council are the key challenges in today’s interconnected world. Getting rid of the system of permanent members and their veto rights could allow countries to be elected to represent regions on the UN Security Council on a proportional basis.
The Forum was the perfect opportunity to find partners for our developing projects and specially to connect with potential funding sources such as the Qatar Foundation or UNESCO. Both showed especial interest in our Youth Climate Ambassador network and their mission in promoting climate governance. UNESCO was especially interested in our project of developing educational material in the field of climate governance and asked us to reach out to them later on. Other important contacts we made were with the Mo Ibrahim Foundation focused on African governance, and Microsoft, who is developing a tool for transparent democracy. We also took the opportunity to find partners for our Carbon Offset project, which we are planning to develop in all the continents starting with Africa.

In conclusion, the experience was intense and a continuous source of learning and networking. We are sure that our presence at the Forum will pay off with the launch of our projects and the support of our new contacts.
COY15 and COP25 participation

From the 29th of November to the 1st of December, the Conference of Youth (COY) will be taking place in Madrid. COY is an event addressing the youth that takes place in multiple cities every year before the COP. It serves as a preparation session for youth NGOs to develop position papers, network and meet new members, and hold strategic discussions on climate change solutions. COY is held prior to the dealings in COP to unify the opinion and experience of young people during the year and enforce them at that meeting.

The CUNCR team will be in Madrid during those days to hold an interactive event at COY. We will invite youth to participate in a “Climathon” dialogue on the current Global Climate governance systems, simulating a general assembly in a peace village. CUNCR will present three examples of global governance loopholes that are jeopardizing the application of democracy in climate emergencies. All participants will be joining all discussions at different tables in a “World Café” and learn about climate emergencies in Brazil, Mozambique, and the Pacific Islands. After completing the activity, participants will be invited to join our Youth Climate Ambassador training that will be held in Brussels.

Our initial plan was to host this event both in COY Chile (under the supervision of our Latin American YCAs) and COY Madrid. However, after cancelling COP in Chile because of the country’s instability, COY Chile has also been cancelled.

COP Madrid will take place from the 2nd to the 13th of December where CUNCR will also hold a side event within the “Blue Zone”, space provided for civil society organizations’ conferences. We will present in collaboration with two other organizations both based in Latin America, The Millennials Movement and América Solidaria. Due to the last-minute change of venue from Santiago to Madrid and the lack of space in the latter one, the organizational team had to merge the events of different organizations. Fortunately, when meeting with our side event partners, we quickly got along and came up with an event proposal that fit everyone’s interests. The topic will be “Youth: Action and Governance for the Climate” and will include a total of six youth climate activists the protagonists of the conference. They will share their experience, how they got involved, how they organize in the network they are part of etc. The objective is to give voice to the future generations in the COP, which this year will mostly focus only on the negotiations, reducing the importance of civil society participation.
NEW MEMBERS & ADVISORY BOARD
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New Members

Mehran Ramsey

1970 -1975 (Acquiring knowledge on Technology & Political activism)

Active Participation in Antiwar Movement of Vietnam era in California. Member of Confederation of Iranian Student Association. I was exposing Shah’s regime as a repressive dictatorship, through demonstrations and close cooperation with human-rights, legal, and student organizations.

I received my Bachelor of Science & Master’s degree from San Jose State University in Industrial & Systems Engineering.

1976 -1979(pre-revolution)

Hired as Computer Specialist in National Iranian Oil Company (1976)
Fired from the job for political activism (1977).
Intense activities against Dictatorial Regime of Shah (Pahlavi Dynasty) in Iran.
During this period I was imprisoned and exiled to north eastern part of Iran under army’s control for two years.

1986 to present (Living in a democratic society)

Establishing Unisoft Systems Inc. (1987 -2016)
Programing, data repair, Networking
Establishing “Canadians Against War” (2002)
Promoting progressive ideas through participation in demonstrations, political activities and peace movements in Vancouver
Active participation in Antiwar (in Iraq & Iran) Movements in Canada (2000 to 2008)
Shohreh Ramsey

1970-1979 (pre-revolution)
I received my Bachelor of Arts & Master’s degree in French Literature from Tehran University. Hired as Accounting Specialist. Political activities against Dictatorial Regime of Shah (Pahlavi Dynasty) in Iran.

1979-1986 (Iranian revolution and thereafter)
Political activism & propagating democratic values

1986 to present (Living in Canada)
Co-Founder of Unisoft Systems Inc. (1987-2016)
Accounting, Software Specialist
Member of “Canadians Against War” (2002) Promoting progressive ideas through participation in demonstrations, political activities and peace movements in Vancouver.
Active participation in Antiwar (in Iraq & Iran) Movements in Canada (2000 to 2008)

Sam Deese

Richard Samuel Deese grew up in Claremont, California, not far from Los Angeles. After earning his bachelor’s degree in history at the University of California at Berkeley, he traveled to East Asia, where he taught English Composition at Nanjing University in China. He first came to Boston University to study poetry and then returned to earn his PhD in History in 2007. Deese is the author of We Are Amphibians: Julian and Aldous Huxley on the Future of Our Species (2015), Surf Music (2017), and Climate Change and the Future of Democracy (2019). He currently teaches History at Boston University.
Princess Alegre

Princess Alegre is originally from the small town of Albay, Philippines, and she holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 2002 from Divine Word College of Legazpi, Legazpi City, Philippines. She was involved with several related groups in the past which have similar objectives to CUNCR when she was in college. She has done lots of volunteering work and extension services to those less fortunate in her country. She worked as an Assistant Secretary at the City Legal Office of Legazpi, then joined one of the subsidiaries of the leading Beverages Company in the Philippines as a Key Accounts Representative. After moving to Dubai, UAE in 2007, she learned the core foundations of administrative work and customer service while working as an Executive Secretary in a Foreign Exchange House. She now works as a Senior Sales Executive in Dubai, covering Middle East, Africa, and Central Asia, as well as helping CUNCR as a Client and Partner Relationship Analyst. She has a passion for justice and equality. Generally, she is interested to know more how NGOs like CUNCR can contribute globally in addressing poverty and equality among people.

Gino Debo

Since I was a young boy I am interested in what’s happening in Belgium and in the world, especially in politics.

I have master degrees in political sciences (university of Leuven, Belgium), European studies (university of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium), public administration (university of Leuven and university of Speyer (Germany) and information and library sciences (university of Antwerp, Belgium). I went twice to the London School of Economics to follow summer courses on “Development in the international political economy” and “Understanding the post-crisis world : money, knowledge and power in the global economy”.
I believe in rule-based multilateralism. The international community should further move towards it. However, many challenges lay ahead. One of the biggest is populism. Power, economics, law, science, innovation, among others, are key factors which determine how the international community evolves.

I fully support the mission of the Center for UN constitutional research. I work with the European Commission, in DG EuropeAid (DEVCO) which deals with international cooperation and development. My Unit coordinates DEVCO’s contacts with international organisations like the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

I like challenges, learning new things, cycling and reading. I am 52 years old and live in Leuven (Belgium).

Maria Ivone Soares

Born in Maputo, capital of Mozambique, on October 23, 1979.

She graduated in communication sciences at the Politecnica University in Maputo in 2005 and is following a Master in Public Administration.

Elected for her second term, in 2014, she is now Head of the Renamo parliamentary group, Member of the Standing Committee of the Assembly of the Republic, Head of the Mozambican National Group at the Pan-African Parliament. In the Pan African Parliament Soares is Vice-President of the Youth Caucus for the second time and Member of the Permanent Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

To bring peace to Mozambique, in 2014 she played an important role in the preparation of the high-level meeting between the Presidents Armando Guebuza (former Head of State) and Afonso Dhlakama, President of Renamo, which culminated with the signing of the Agreement for the cessation of military hostilities on September 5, 2014.

In the same year she was nominated by the Africa Report Magazine as one of the 50 emerging personality in Africa (“50 Rising Stars of Africa”), the only one from a Portuguese speaking country.
At the beginning of 2015 she was part of the group that prepared the two high-level meetings held between President of Mozambique Filipe Nyusi and Renamo President Afonso Dhlakama, after Renamo objected and challenged the results of the presidential, parliamentary and provincial assemblies and boycotted the swearing-in ceremony. These meetings led to the swearing in of the 89 MPs of Renamo.

She is also a human rights activist and active in various social causes, in favour of children, women and girls, the elderly and people with disabilities. Her political activity is focused on a number of priority issues, such as education, transparency, good governance, gender equality, fight against corruption, justice and environmental issues.

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Advisory Board

Dr. Otto Spijkers

Otto Spijkers is Lecturer of Public International Law at Utrecht University, Senior Research Associate with the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea (NILOS), and researcher with the Utrecht Centre for Water, Oceans and Sustainability Law (UCWOSL). He was a visiting lecturer inter alia at Xiamen University’s China International Water Law Programme (China), the China Institute for Boundary and Ocean Studies of Wuhan University (China), the Università degli Studi di Salerno (Italy), and the Université Catholique d’Afrique Centrale (Yaoundé, Cameroon). Previously, he was a PhD candidate and lecturer at the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies at the University of Leiden. His doctoral dissertation, entitled The United Nations, the Evolution of Global Values and International Law, was published with Intersentia in 2011. He worked as international consultant and coordinator for the United Nations International Law Fellowship Programme. Otto Spijkers studied international law at the University of Amsterdam and New York University School of Law. He studied philosophy at the University of Amsterdam and the University of Malta.
Lucio Levi

Lucio Levi is Professor of Political Science and Comparative Politics at the University of Torino, Italy. He is also Scientific Director of the International Democracy Watch promoted by the Centre for Studies on Federalism, and Member of the Federal Committee of the Union of European Federalists. He is a Former President of the European Federalist Movement in Italy (2009-2015). He edits the journal The Federalist Debate and is the author of 15 books on federalism, European integration, globalisation and international organisations.

Fritz Pointer

After teaching at Contra Costa College in San Pablo, California for 27 years, Fritz Pointer is now Professor Emeritus, Department of English and African American Studies. He received Masters in African History from UCLA and in African Literature from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Professor Pointer has published numerous scholarly and creative works and articles. During the 1960’s he was a political activist in Oakland, California: Director of the Pan African Cultural Center and a founding member of the Black Panther Party of Northern California. In those years he wrote polemical essays and poetry. His books include: A Passion to Liberate: La Guma’s South Africa – “Images of District Six” (2001) and, African Oral Epic Poetry: Praising the Deeds of a Mythic Hero (2013). He is also, the older brother of the internationally known singing group, The Pointer Sisters.
Dr. Antonios Kouroutakis

Dr. Antonios Kouroutakis is Assistant Professor at IE University in Madrid, Spain and he has taught a variety of law courses and conducted research at the City University of Hong Kong, the Free University of Berlin, FVG Sao Paolo, and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Kouroutakis received a DPhil in Law from University of Oxford and an LLM form UCLA School of Law. Dr. Kouroutakis’ research interests lie mainly in the field of constitutional engineering, public law and regulation.

In particular, Dr Kouroutakis is interested in the concept of separation of powers, rule of law, emergency legislation, and the regulation of new technologies; he has published widely on these topics in international and peer reviewed journals, and his work has been cited in numerous reports while his research on the constitutional value of sunset clauses was cited by the British Parliament.

Dr. Richard Samuel Deese

Richard Samuel Deese grew up in Claremont, California, not far from Los Angeles. After earning his bachelor’s degree in history at the University of California at Berkeley, he traveled to East Asia, where he taught English Composition at Nanjing University in China. He first came to Boston University to study poetry and then returned to earn his PhD in History in 2007. Deese is the author of We Are Amphibians: Julian and Aldous Huxley on the Future of Our Species (2015), Surf Music (2017), and Climate Change and the Future of Democracy (2019). He currently teaches History at Boston University.
Dr. Thomas Muinzer

Dr. Thomas L Muinzer is from Northern Ireland, and undertook his qualifying law degree and other legal qualifications at Queen’s University Belfast. He has been a friend/member of CUNCR for some time now, commencing collaboration with the group almost 3 years ago, and contributes to the group as an academic advisor. He is currently a Lecturer in Law at the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy at Dundee, Scotland. He has been involved in an advisory capacity with a broad range of energy, environmental and other actors, including NGOs, political representatives in the UK’s devolved governments, and others.

He has written two books, one of which is the first monograph on the world’s first case of a national Parliament implementing economy-wide legally binding long-term emissions reduction targets in national framework legislation order to combat climate change: https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783319946696

He is currently compiling the first edited collection on state-level climate framework legislation for Hart Publishing.

He is Co-editor of Freckle Magazine, the sustainability-themed magazine that celebrates people and place in Ireland and beyond, read widely in Ireland – http://www.frecklenorthernireland.org/subscribeandbuy/
Save our Planet

EDUCATION AND TRAINING
EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In 2020, CUNCR aims to build on the success of its Youth Climate Ambassador training by expanding the program and inviting more people from around the world to learn about climate governance, climate justice, and climate democracy. As such, we are offering a series of one-week "crash courses" on climate governance where students, young professionals, or anyone else interested in this topic can join us in Brussels to hear from experts, visits the European institutions, and take part in discussions to reform that leads to "system change, not climate change."

Introduction

The Crash Course on Climate Governance is a one-week program (5days Mon-Fri) targeted towards individuals who already have an interest in climate-related issues, but would like to know more about the impact that global governance has on the fight against climate change. The program will consist of three components:

- Presentations from experts, professors, and civil society representative
- Interactive discussions of case studies, debates, and workshops
- Visits to the European institutions
Audience

As this course aims to make the connection between climate issues and global governance, previous knowledge of politics, international law, etc. could be beneficial but is not required. Participants should have a previous interest and/or understanding of climate issues and activism, should be at least 18 years of age, and either have a degree or be enrolled in higher education.

Become a Climate Ambassador

This course is offered as part of the Center for United Nations Constitutional Research's Youth Climate Ambassador Program. In order to be recognized as a climate ambassador, participants must meet three requirements:

1. Have knowledge of climate governance issues (shown by taking part in a climate governance seminar or crash course)
2. Attend at least one Climate Democracy Summit and take part in the discussions and brainstorming sessions there
3. Take part in activism for climate democracy and better climate governance, globally and/or in your own community

Individuals who meet these requirements will be certified as Climate Ambassadors as recognized by the Center for United Nations Constitutional Research.

Curriculum

Participants will learn about fundamental principles of international law and how they apply in an environmental context. A history of international environmental law will be given, as well as an overview of the key international organizations and treaties that relate to climate change.

This course approaches climate governance from a critical perspective. Participants will learn about current proposals for global governance reform, and be given opportunities to brainstorm and debate governance-based solutions to the climate crisis.
Past Speakers include individuals from:

- Leiden University, Netherlands
- Utrecht University, Netherlands
- Stockholm University, Sweden
- University of Dundee, UK
- Boston University, United States
- Members of the European Parliament
- Young European Federalists
- Democracy Without Borders/UNPA Campaign

The first iteration of this course will take place in early March; further sessions will follow later in the year. We are also planning on hosting crash courses on global governance, which will look at the global governance systems more generally, without such an intense focus on climate issues. That course will be geared more towards professionals, and will include a visit to the international courts in the Hague in addition to the European institutions in Brussels.
FINANCIAL STATEMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND IT
FINANCIAL STATEMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND IT

Disclosure of Contributions of over 10 000 euros:

Individuals

- Shahr-Yar M. Sharei
- John Sutter

Organizations

- Global Challenges Foundation (Sweden)
- Workable World Trust (USA)

Please see audited financial statements attached to this report.