UN Secretary-General António Guterres’ call for networked and inclusive multilateralism is prompting a healthy and consequential rethink of global governance. Reforms in this area can help the UN system keep pace with a wide range of pressing international challenges.

QUITO/MADRID – Great-power competition, the troubling rise of xenophobic nationalism, existential environmental threats, and the ongoing COVID-19 onslaught present major global governance challenges. Against this backdrop, world leaders have tasked United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres with recommending steps to advance the far-reaching commitments contained in last year’s so-called UN75 Declaration, in which the General Assembly pledged to ensure “the future we want.”

The secretary-general’s much-anticipated report, Our Common Agenda, is due this September, and it would benefit from a follow-through vehicle to weigh the report’s recommendations and deliberate on and adopt his best ideas. We therefore support the proposal for a World Summit on Inclusive Global Governance involving a wide range of participants.

Since Guterres addressed the General Assembly’s 75th anniversary meeting last September, he has repeatedly emphasized the need for “networked multilateralism,” in which “the United Nations family, international financial institutions, regional organizations, trading blocs, and others work together more closely and more effectively.” And on April 24 this year, International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace, he called for “inclusive multilateralism that draws on civil society, business, local and regional authorities, and others, and shares power more broadly and fairly.”
MARÍA FERNANDA ESPINOSA
Writing for PS since 2021
4 Commentaries

Maria Fernanda Espinosa, a former president of the UN General Assembly, is a member of GWL Voices for Change and Inclusion and a fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy.

DANILO TÜRK
Writing for PS since 2021
2 Commentaries

Danilo Türk, a former president of Slovenia, is President of the Club de Madrid, an organization of more than a hundred former democratically elected presidents and prime ministers.
Reflects on the slain former prime minister's legacy and transformation of his country's foreign policy.

How Abe Changed Japan
BILL EMMOTT reflects on the slain former prime minister's legacy and transformation of his country's foreign policy.

An Inflation-Adjusted Social Contract for Europe
DANIEL GROS shows why, despite soaring energy costs, the eurozone is not facing a 1970s-style wage-price spiral.

Boris Johnson Leaves Behind a Sterling Mess
BARRY EICHENGREEN
Investors appear to view the British pound more like the currency of a troubled emerging market than of a stable advanced economy. And now, with Prime Minister Boris Johnson's resignation and the attendant political uncertainty, sterling is poised to sink further.

The End of Boris's Illusion
RAJ PERSAUD
By clinging on through scandal after scandal, UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson has certainly demonstrated the power of positive thinking. But the problem with "Prozac leadership," as some researchers call it, is that it can take a politician – and a country – only so far before reality reasserts itself.

The assassination of Abe Shinzō has deprived Japan of its greatest postwar leader, and Asia of a visionary who was leading the construction of a viable framework for regional peace. But no bullet can diminish Abe's impact on his country and the world, as his recent call for greater US clarity on Taiwan, his other commentaries for Project Syndicate, and Minxin Pei's and Bill Emmott's discussions of his seminal influence on Asia show.

Japan's Fallen Giant
The assassination of Abe Shinzō has deprived Japan of its greatest postwar leader, and Asia of a visionary who was leading the construction of a viable framework for regional peace. But no bullet can diminish Abe’s impact on his country and the world, as his recent call for greater US clarity on Taiwan, his other commentaries for Project Syndicate, and Minxin Pei’s and Bill Emmott’s discussions of his seminal influence on Asia show.

Inflation Dos and Don’ts
JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ & DEAN BAKER
Most commentators on both the left and the right believe that US interest rates should be increased, but not by more than is needed to achieve a soft landing. The primary disagreement is over whether rates are increasing "too much and too fast," and how preemptive we should be.

Are the BRICS Breaking Up?
SHASHI THAROOR explains India’s unease at the five-country bloc’s current direction and possible enlargement.

Is Taiwan the Next Ukraine?
KOICHI HAMADA considers whether US abandonment of strategic ambiguity is really the best way to deter a Chinese invasion.