

DONATE NOW —————> SUPPORT PASSBLUE



PassBlue
INDEPENDENT COVERAGE OF THE UN

SEARCH...

**Take Your Career Further with a
Graduate Degree in International Affairs**

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY | SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS >>

WORLDVIEWS

Making the Most of the 2023 UN Summit of the Future

April 20, 2022 by María Fernanda Espinosa and Danilo Turk



United Nations member states are considering a rare chance to review and improve global tools for managing such huge problems as the pandemic, climate change and conflicts at a Summit of the Future in September 2023, the essayists write, but work needs to begin now on the agenda. A majority of countries, above, successfully voting in the General Assembly to oust Russia from the Human Rights Council, April 7, 2022. JOHN PENNEY/PASSBLUE

Combined with the growing fears of irreversible climate change and emerging new Covid-19 variants and subvariants, stands an ominous “third C”: conflict between Russia and



wreak human suffering and environmental damage.

Yet a once-in-a-generation opportunity to review and dramatically improve global tools for managing such enormous challenges — a Summit of the Future — is under serious consideration for September 2023 by the United Nations' 193 member states. As recommended last September by UN Secretary-General António Guterres in his groundbreaking report, [Our Common Agenda](#), the summit offers a unique opportunity to address the three Cs and related global challenges head-on.

The summit's timely, ambitious agenda could, for starters, update the UN's original, pioneering Agenda for Peace from 1992; recommend a global digital compact and a repurposed Trusteeship Council; and propose a special envoy and declaration on future generations, as well as a new head of a state-level UN-G20-World Bank-IMF platform for global economic governance. It could also redouble financing for development efforts by recommitting to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

[Thematic consultations on Our Common Agenda](#), convened earlier this year by the president of the General Assembly, Abdulla Shahid, demonstrated varying degrees of support from UN member states for each of these potentially far-reaching recommendations. For such ideas to be ready for possible adoption at the September 2023 summit, work needs to begin now on all the agreed strategic priorities. There is simply no time to lose, especially given the deepening cracks across the international security landscape.

The president of the General Assembly could organize consultations with civil society and other nongovernmental parties to discuss new and related proposals on inclusive, networked multilateralism and to share these suggestions with UN member states. The consultations would provide innovative recommendations to better adapt the UN to current challenges. The ideas proposed would be effectively complemented by the research and deliberations of the secretary-general's new [High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism](#).

The consultations with civil society representatives will inform and support the preparatory work during the 18 months remaining until the 2023 Summit, even if, as expected, the formal negotiations on its outcome document do not begin until early next year. This will be further reinforced by current efforts within the UN Secretariat to develop options for the new Agenda for Peace and the global digital compact.

You might be interested in these posts.

- [Windfall Tax on Covid Profits Could Ease 'Catastrophic' Food Crisis, Oxfam Says](#)
- [Trending UN News: Week Ending June 24](#)
- [15 Months to Go: Will the World Make Something of the UN Summit of the Future?](#)

Building on the active participation of experts from all regions in the thematic consultations, maximum transparency and full engagement of diverse voices will be critical to a successful summit. This entails ensuring that the intergovernmental negotiations welcome and deliberate on substantive inputs provided by nongovernmental organizations; opening formal negotiations to public observation; supporting national, regional and global forums in the run-up to the summit; and encouraging the involvement of civil society in the national delegations preparing for the summit.

Meaningful civil society engagement can reassure all stakeholders that decisions taken next year are well-informed, enjoy broad social ownership and generate a sense of co-responsibility in supporting their implementation. They can also help to dampen the current tense geopolitical climate and to overcome deep-seated differences between countries.

As a contribution to the September 2023 summit preparations, we were pleased to speak at the recent event, “Global Policy Dialogue on Global Governance Innovation: Beyond UN75 & Our Common Agenda,” which was organized by the Stimson Center, Academic Council on the UN System, Plataforma CIPÓ, Leiden University, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Global Challenges Foundation, Club de Madrid and Institute for Economics and Peace. And we shaped its [forward-looking recommendations](#). Alongside other nongovernmental partners and like-minded countries, we hope to contribute to a high-ambition coalition for the summit.

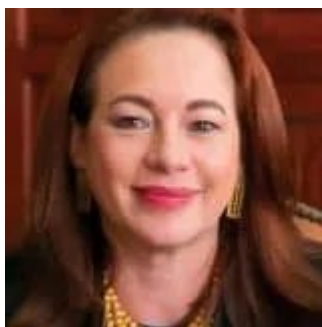
Among Guterres’s most significant concepts in Our Common Agenda are his calls for a new social contract, the second World Social Summit and a new global deal. Representing a vision for rethinking relations between states and their citizens, the social contract brings universal human rights to the fore in articulating the duty of state institutions to protect and empower a country’s citizens.

The second World Social Summit and the new global deal will help to realize this vision by providing a framework for accelerating the success of the Sustainable Development Goals and other actions for a broad, green and just transition from the pandemic. These conceptual breakthroughs reflect an emerging agenda based on moral and ethical values and merit serious attention at the 2023 summit of the future.

Coping better with the three Cs and other global challenges will require new conceptual

tools, policy frameworks and institutional reforms to adapt our aging but essential United Nations organization to the current crises. The Summit of the Future offers an opportunity to renew global governance and face the collective moral and practical imperatives of our time.

By designing a dynamic, inclusive process that brings together the ideas, networks and capabilities of a wide range of people and institutions — governments, civil society, the private sector and international organizations — the pact for the future will meet today’s most urgent needs and aspirations and leave both a livable and a peaceful planet to future generations.



María Fernanda Espinosa

mariafernandaespinosa.com

María Fernanda Espinosa, from Ecuador, was President of the 73rd General Assembly of the United Nations. She is co-chair of the Coalition for the UN We Need Steering Committee, member of the Group of Women Leaders: Voices for Change and Inclusion and Fellow at the Bosch Academy.



Danilo Turk

Danilo Turk, former President of Slovenia and UN Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, is President of Club de Madrid and a member of the High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism.

Categories [Climate Change](#), [General Assembly](#), [WORLDVIEWS](#)

3 thoughts on “Making the Most of the 2023 UN Summit of the Future”



Dr Faysal Mohamed

April 23, 2022 at 8:08 pm

This is a timely initiative which long been awaited. Yes there is a need to rethink the whole international order, it is not to invent a new international order but to review what went wrong on the obsolete international order ... is caused by the international system, is the reforms of the international system does not work and why .. The SDGs are excellent framework to work on further adjustments / include their indicators , while global in their own rights, but to accelerate their achievements, Paris and Addis Ababa commitments need to be adjusted to the regional/ subregionalized goals and targets. The défendriions of régions and subregions should be further visited along a non-conventional criteria, and only geographic, nor income or economic growth levels / rates .. etc. An innovative nonconventional approach to achieve the SDGs need to be addressed .. Nature, climate and other factors are faster in wibbing humans than ever .. Let us not wait. We might find that there are many left behind before we reach 2030

[Reply](#)



Marianne

May 1, 2022 at 10:50 pm

Thank you for this article. But please, please, PassBlue, call the war in Ukraine for what it really is – a “war”. I understand it doesn’t fit into the “three C” narrative neatly. But words do really matter.

[Reply](#)



KHALED MENCHAOUI

May 31, 2022 at 1:01 pm

FOR NEW HORIZONS SPACE FOR PEACE AND COOPERATION :

<https://filmfreeway.com/projects/2476826>

[Reply](#)

Leave a Comment

Name *

Email *

Website

Post Comment

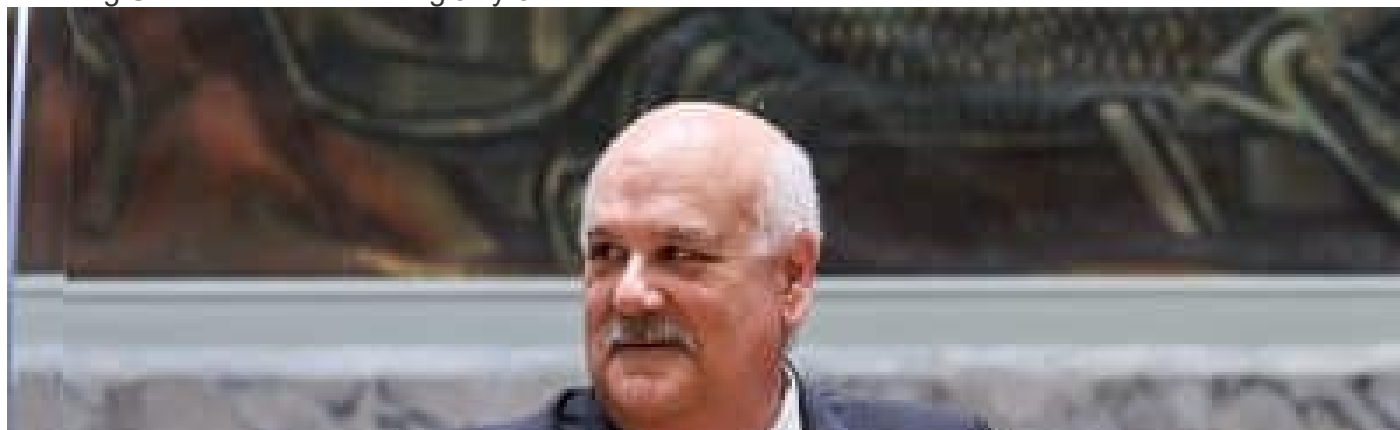
This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. [Learn how your comment data is processed.](#)

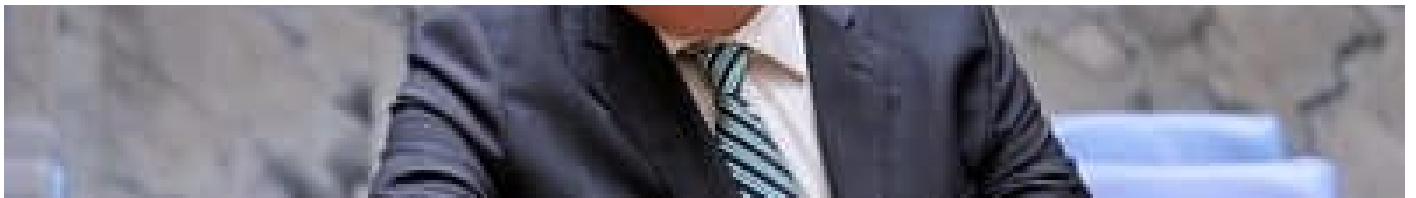
Related Posts



THIS WEEK @UN

Trending UN News: Week Ending July 8





SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENCY

Softening the Pain of the World's Food Disaster: Brazil's Ambitions in July



Serious Troop Rotation Blockages Could Ease Soon for the UN Mission in Mali



THIS WEEK @UN

Trending UN News: Week Ending July 1



Windfall Tax on Covid Profits Could Ease 'Catastrophic' Food Crisis, Oxfam Says



Britain Sets a Precedent That Worries the UN Refugee Agency

Search...





2023-2024
UN Security Council newbies
QUIZ! TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE
ABOUT THESE FIVE
FUTURE MEMBERS



**Take Your Career
Further with a
Graduate Degree in
International Affairs**
LEARN MORE >>



SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

THIS WEEK @UN

Trending UN News: Week Ending July 8

Damilola Banjo

Serious Troop Rotation Blockages Could Ease Soon for the UN Mission in Mali

Clair MacDougall and Maggie Dwyer

TOPIC: WOMEN

The Women, Peace and Security Agenda Is Not Yielding Results, Diplomats Say

Damilola Banjo

SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENCY

Softening the Pain of the World's Food Disaster: Brazil's Ambitions in July

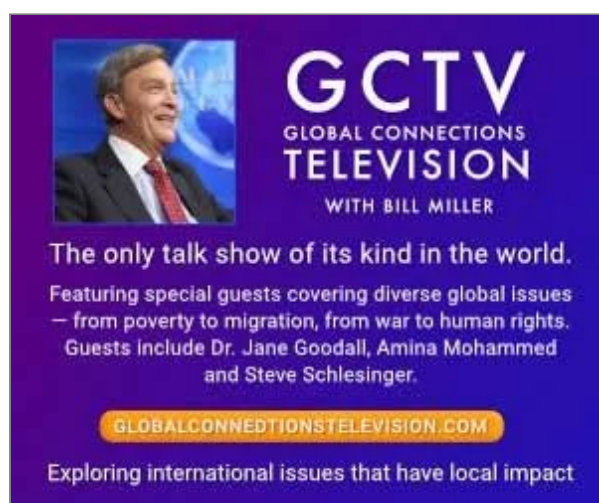
Damilola Banjo

WORLDVIEWS

Making the Most of the 2023 UN Summit of the Future

María Fernanda Espinosa and Danilo Turk

UN-SCRIPTED, PASSBLUE'S UN PODCAST SERIES



[HOME](#) » [WORLDVIEWS](#)

PassBlue needs your support to stay strong:

DONATE NOW



PassBlue is a nonprofit, independent women-led media company that covers foreign affairs and the United Nations with a focus on women's issues and the impact of major world powers on ordinary citizens. We are strongly committed to high-quality original reporting, and our team strives to ensure that these powers are accountable for their actions and decisions.

About Us

[About Us](#)

[Our Team](#)

[Donors](#)

[Advertise With Us](#)

[Interns](#)

[About Our Policies](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Praise for PassBlue](#)

[Home](#)

[High-Level Topics](#)

[UN-Scripted Podcast](#)

[Browse Posts](#)

[Features](#)

[Donate](#)

[UN Eats – Restaurant Reviews](#)

Don't miss a story, subscribe to PassBlue

Enter your email here

SIGN UP NOW

THE NEW SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS

PASSBLUE IS A PARTNER WITH THE NEW SCHOOL – JULIEN J. STUDLEY GRADUATE PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

© 2022 – PassBlue

