



Halonen joins ex-leaders in call for global economic reform

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President Tarja Halonen at the Kultaranta Talks in Naantali on 17 June 2025. Photo: Roope Rekoma / Lehtikuva

Former Finnish President Tarja Halonen has joined 39 other former heads of state in a public letter urging world leaders to confront rising inequality and create a more equitable global order.

The letter, signed by former leaders from all continents, includes the names of Finland's former Prime Ministers **Sanna Marin** and **Mari Kiviniemi**.

It warns that while nearly half the world's population lives in poverty, the first trillionaires may soon emerge.

The signatories express concern over the crisis in global public goods funding, development aid, and multilateral cooperation.

They call for an overhaul of international structures, urging greater inclusion for countries in the global south and demanding a fairer global economic system.

The signatories propose measures to address these issues, including the creation of a new economic coalition dedicated to defending human rights and combating extreme inequality and poverty.

The letter also urges current leaders to resolve the debt crises facing low-income countries, increase funding for development cooperation, and adopt a global minimum tax for multinational corporations.

The statement is addressed to present-day world leaders and coordinated by the Club de Madrid, a forum of former democratic presidents and prime ministers.

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