



Renewing the
UN Charter

About
us

News

Resources

Events

Get
involved

Search

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Former world leaders call for invoking Article 109 in Madrid



In June, the Club de Madrid gathered for its annual policy dialogue. The forum of former Heads of State and government called for a UN Charter review conference to take place to “rebalance power” and help international organisations “raise resources”.

The Article 109 Coalition attended the policy dialogue in Madrid. On the sidelines of the gathering, Article 109 also met with Spanish parliamentarians as well as the government.

Advancing UN Charter review with former leaders

The Club de Madrid – a member of the Article 109 Coalition – is a forum of over 100 former Heads of State and government.

Their annual policy dialogue focused on global public goods in a fragmented world. It was attended by a number of former leaders, including **Laura Chinchilla**, former President of Costa Rica; **José María Aznar**, former Prime Minister of Spain; **Mokgweetsi Masisi**, former President of Botswana; **Stefan Löfven**, former Prime Minister of Sweden; and **Han Seung-Soo**, former President of the Republic of Korea. The King of Spain, **Felipe VI**, delivered the meeting's opening remarks.

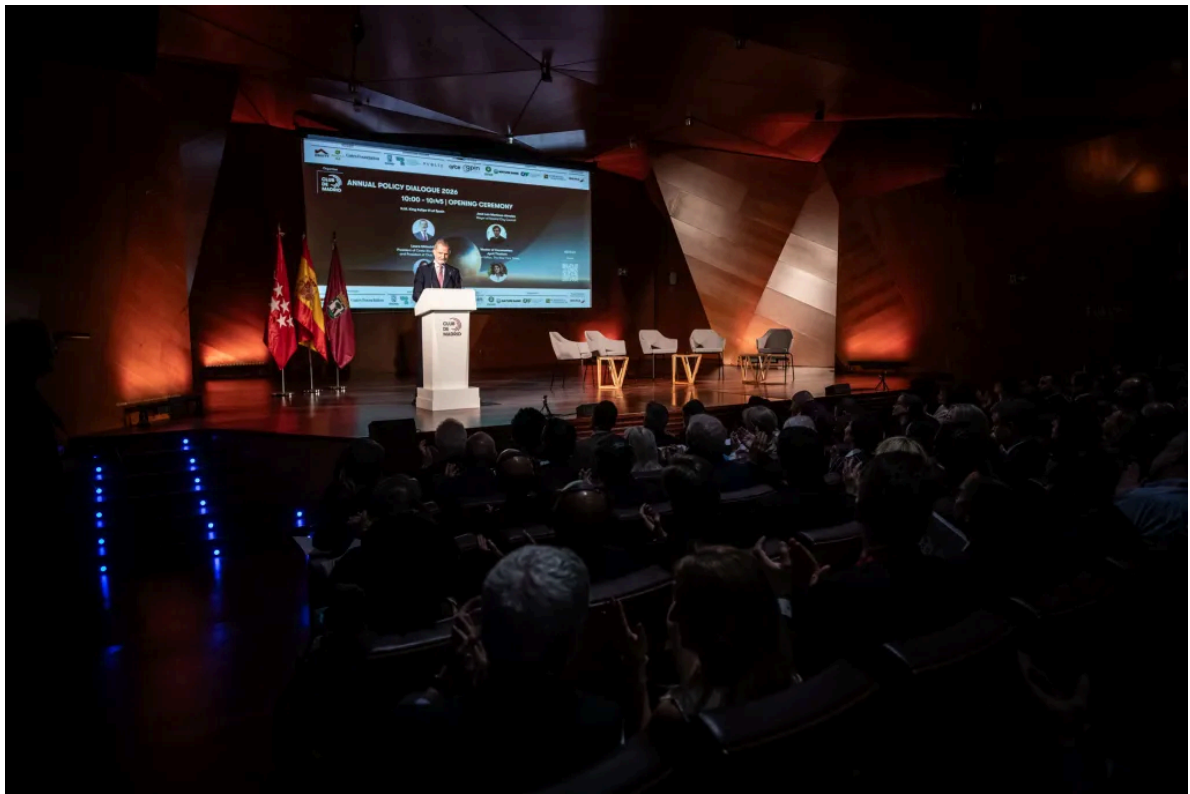
Article 109's **Sofía García García**, Director of Advocacy and Partnerships, and **Olav Kjørven**, Senior Adviser, were also in attendance, and presented UN Charter review as a means to deliver public goods in a new era of international relations.

The forum of Heads of State and government endorse reviewing the UN Charter via its Article 109, with their [policy brief on public goods](#) explicitly doing so as an actionable recommendation:

An Article 109 conference should be called to reform the multilateral global governance system, to (a) Rebalance the power between the Global South and advanced economies; (b) Endow global and regional institutions of greater regulatory power and capacity to raise resources.

The brief also outlines the need for fundamental UN reform:

A long-term foundational and wide-ranging reform is desirable; and needs to be radical. A new “San Francisco moment”, to redefine the rules of political cooperation, or a “Bretton Woods moment”, to revive economic cooperation, could be achieved by invoking Article 109 of the United Nations Charter or otherwise.



The King of Spain addresses the policy dialogue

Spanish government and parliament

Spain's Prime Minister, Pedro Sánchez, has been outspoken on the need to reform the *multilateral* system. In June, [he stated](#):

"I also say REFORM in capital letters, because the world has clearly changed. The players were different 80 years ago, and our institutions need to adapt too. This is not a matter of idealism; it is a matter of pragmatism."

In Madrid, Sofia met with Spanish officials and parliamentarians to show how UN Charter review is the means to deliver pragmatic reforms.

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