



Institute for Environmental Diplomacy and Security (IEDS), University of Vermont, USA

<http://www.uvm.edu/ieds>

Dr. Asim Zia, Professor of Public Policy & Computer Science, Director of IEDS, [Asim.Zia@uvm.edu](mailto:Asim.Zia@uvm.edu)

## Chapeau

*For enabling global governance to be more democratic, coherent and just, we must immediately act to decolonize global governance by reforming United Nations (UN). Transforming to a sustainable and resilient planet will require following fundamental changes in the structure of the UN:*

- 1) Institutionalize a new “World Parliament” representing elected members from all communities of the world;*
- 2) Empower “World Parliament” to reconfigure administrative structure and functions of the UN, including but not limited to the UN Security Council, UN General Assembly and all UN agencies and organizations;*
- 3) Co-develop a new UN Constitution for ensuring global democratic governance and enabling equitable and just development that is also sustainable and resilient;*
- 4) Ensure policy coherence, transparency and inter-agency coordination as a fundamental tenet of UN administrative & functional agencies, whose actions and outcomes must also be held accountable to the “World Parliament” and its constitutional committees.*

## Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

- 1) Treating global environmental commons (e.g., atmosphere, oceans, land, biodiversity) as a shared responsibility of all human civilizations, the social, economic and environmental damage caused to the global commons must be systematically quantified and translated into global financial mechanisms by restructuring financial debt that accounts for social-ecological debt.*
- 2) Innovative community based financial instruments, e.g., social impact bonds, public banking, community block grants etc., must be incentivized by UN agencies to enable local, community scale transformation of planet towards sustainability and resilience.*

## Chapter II. International peace and security

- 1) Nation state as a unit of analysis for preserving global order has failed and resists transformation. Reformed United Nations must make systematic efforts to sustain global networks of security and judiciary organizations accountable to local communities and the world parliament.*
- 2) International Court of Justice must be empowered to be able to enforce its rulings globally.*

- 3) *Nations states must be divested of their ability to offer citizenships and privileged status to some people while denying basic human rights to many others. All people of the world must hold “planetary citizenship” and be able to travel, work and live anywhere in the world without any fear or discrimination.*

### **Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation**

- 1) *Science and technology have often been used as a weapon by few to control and govern many people and their habitats. An urgent reform is required to democratize science and provision of knowledge to all people on this planet while recognizing that indigenous knowledge may be at odds with scientific knowledge in complex science-policy interfaces.*
- 2) *Global policies must be institutionalized to ensure responsible governance of digital technologies such as Artificial Intelligence.*

### **Chapter IV. Youth and future generations**

- 1) *While future generations have no voice in the present, the humanity must expand the notion of future generations from social beings to both social and ecological beings and ensure that the decisions made by present generations account for the consequences of their decisions for at least seven future social and ecological generations.*
- 2) *United Nations must add a new agency for welfare of youth and future generations and ensure that youth have critical role in governing the functions and affairs of this new agency.*

### **Chapter V. Transforming global governance**

- 1) *A reformed UN must Institutionalize a new “World Parliament” representing elected members from all communities of the world. The legislative boundaries for elections to the World Parliament must defy “nation state” boundaries as these boundaries represent global order constituted under hundreds of years of colonization and resource exploitation. Instead, each legislative district could representing area under every degree of longitude and latitude in a global grid.*
- 2) *A reformed UN must empower “World Parliament” to reconfigure administrative structure and functions of the UN, including but not limited to the UN Security Council, UN General Assembly and all UN agencies and organizations.*
- 3) *Working with the current UN system, global communities must co-develop a new UN Constitution for ensuring global democratic governance and enabling equitable and just development that is also sustainable and resilient.*
- 4) *A reformed UN must ensure policy coherence, transparency and inter-agency coordination as a fundamental tenet of UN administrative & functional agencies, whose actions and outcomes must also be held accountable to the “World Parliament” and its constitutional committees. It’s time for the world to bid farewell to fragmented global governance and usher in a new era of transformed global governance that is democratic, transparent, accountable and coherent for nurturing both present and future social ecological generations of our common planet.*