



Aligning Visions for a **SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

The [Zero Draft of the Pact for the Future](#) received recommendations from [more than 170 child, youth, and futures-focused organizations on December 31, 2023](#). These recommendations demonstrate a significant collective effort to influence global governance and policy-making through the United Nations. The rich and diverse inputs offer a unique lens through which the UN and its member states can view and tackle current and future challenges of our time by working with and for children, young people, and future generations.

The recommendations align with the draft, emphasizing **intergenerational cooperation, acknowledging current inequities, and reinforcing the commitment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and enhanced financing mechanisms**. These alignments reflect a growing consensus on the need for inclusive, forward-looking, and equitable policies. It ensures that the voices of children and young people are instrumental in shaping policies that will affect their lives and those of future generations.

However, the **true value of these recommendations lies not only in their alignment with the existing draft but also in their potential to strengthen and enrich the next draft of the Pact**. They call for explicit inclusion of demographic projections, a focus on SDGs and future generations, global tax reforms, and a binding global pact on environmental commitments. These recommendations highlight the **urgency of addressing demographic shifts towards future majority regions like Africa and Asia**, the need for equitable financial flows and regulation, and the imperative for enforceable environmental commitments.

The concrete proposals and initiatives suggested by the organizations illustrate the depth of thought and innovation these organizations bring to the table. These actionable initiatives can have a real impact on the ground, directly addressing child poverty, supporting early childhood development, and ensuring that developing countries, particularly those with high youth populations, are supported in their development goals.

This analysis is crucial for future consultations, offering four concrete areas for collaboration:

1. **Global Engagement:** Leverage strategic communications to inform and influence diplomats and UN officials. Host expert panels and briefings to discuss the Pact for the Future and Declaration on Future Generations. Develop targeted content to inform policy discussions.
2. **Country Engagement:** Engage national and local governments through advocacy strategies and relationship building. Utilize grassroots mobilization to push for

concrete recommendations impacting children, young people and future generations. Host country dialogues and create content that highlights best practices.

- 3. Intergenerational Collaboration:** Facilitate inter-generational exchange of best practices. Mobilize grassroots support through youth and child networks. Train and support young leaders in their advocacy. Facilitate exchanges between youth, policymakers, and experts.
- 4. Public Champions and Mobilization:** Craft compelling narratives to highlight the urgency to fight for the future. Utilize digital storytelling to engage global audiences. Organize high-impact events and leverage the Engine Room for the Future to enable direct contributions from young people to policy discussions.

These areas of action offer a roadmap for harnessing collective insights and energy towards reimagining global governance so that it is truly inclusive, forward-thinking, and responsive to the needs of the 21st century. This analysis hopes to provide a helpful reference point for further consultations, ensuring that the path forward is co-created with children and young people who will live its realities, and lays the groundwork for a brighter future.

Readers' note: Paragraph references (¶) to the zero draft are included for ease of reading. It's important to note that this summary covers a broad spectrum of contributors, underscoring the depth and diversity of perspectives presented. While this summary strives for accuracy in representing these views, it's essential to recognize the complexity of aggregating such wide-ranging inputs. As such, interpretations or emphasis on certain recommendations may vary, and stakeholders are encouraged to consult the original submissions for a comprehensive understanding.



KEY DATES

21 February, 10am-1pm ET: Virtual civil society consultation to share feedback on the Zero Draft.

26 February: Member States submit written inputs for the Declaration on Future Generations.

5 March, 9-11 am ET: Engine Room for the Future Launch: Intergenerational platform to mobilize young people for the Summit of the Future

End of March: First Draft of the Declaration on Future Generations

16-18 April: ECOSOC Youth Forum

9-11 May: UN CSO Conference, Nairobi

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CHAPEAU

Where Recommendations Align with the Draft:

- **Emphasis on Youth and Future Generations:** Both the recommendations and the zero draft prioritize the needs and involvement of youth and future generations in shaping policies that directly affect their lives, emphasizing the importance of considering demographic shifts and ensuring inclusivity in policy design and delivery (Chapeau, ¶ 7-8).
- **Acknowledgement of Current Inequities:** The zero draft and the recommendations highlight the need to address systemic barriers and inequalities, ensuring support for countries in the Global South to empower young people and future generations with necessary tools and resources (¶ 3-4, 8).
- **Commitment to SDGs and Financing:** There's a clear commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the need for enhanced financing mechanisms to support their achievement, aligning with the recommendation for novel financial services and debt relief for developing countries Paragraph 11).

Recommendations to Strengthen the Next Draft:

- **Explicit Inclusion of Demographic Projections:** Including specific references to demographic projections, particularly the expected increase in youth populations in Africa and Asia, to underscore the urgency of tailoring policies to these future majority regions.
- **SDGs and Future Generations:** A clear mention of Rio+20 could reinforce the continuity and ambition behind the 2030 Agenda, emphasizing the intergenerational commitment to sustainable development.
- **Global Tax Reforms and Regulation of Financial Flows:** Incorporate specific proposals on global tax reforms, including a UN framework convention on international tax cooperation for progressive taxation systems, to ensure more equitable financial flows and better regulation.
- **Binding Global Pact on Environmental Commitments:** Propose a binding global pact with quantifiable targets for combating climate change, halting biodiversity loss, and reducing pollution, moving beyond aspirations to enforceable commitments.



CHAPTER 1: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Areas where the recommendations align with the draft:

- **Commitment to SDGs and Financing:** Both the zero draft and recommendations emphasize the importance of recommitting to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and enhancing financing mechanisms to support their achievement. Both specifically mention accelerating efforts to realize the 2030 Agenda and acknowledge the need for a significant increase in financing for development (¶ 38-44).
- **Inclusivity and Addressing Inequality:** The zero draft and recommendations share a common theme of inclusivity, addressing inequalities, and ensuring no one is left behind. Both highlight commitments to gender equality, youth engagement, and protecting the rights and well-being of future generations (¶ 8-10, 103-115).
- **Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability:** Both the zero draft and recommendations focus on addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental sustainability. Both call for accelerating efforts related to the environment and addressing adverse impacts of climate change through intergovernmental agreements (¶ 31-37).

2. Recommendations that could strengthen the next draft:

- **Concrete Measures for Debt Relief:** While the zero draft discusses the need for a comprehensive review of the sovereign debt architecture, recommendations suggest concrete steps for debt relief and restructuring for developing countries. Incorporating specific actions or mechanisms for debt relief could strengthen the draft.
- **Global Taxation System for Luxury Goods:** Recommendations propose establishing a global taxation system on international luxury goods to augment contributions to the UN. This specific proposal could add a novel financing mechanism to the draft.
- **Innovative Financing Models and Technology Transfer:** Recommendations emphasize the importance of innovative financing models, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries, and the mobilization of resources for science, technology, and innovation.

3. Concrete proposals or initiatives in the recommendations:

- **Establishment of a UN resident coordinator office in every country, irrespective of GDP,** to promote universality and ensure coordinated support for the SDGs across all nations.

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- **Launch of a Global Child Benefit Initiative** to provide benefits for all children and new mothers living in low-income countries, directly addressing child poverty and supporting early childhood development.
 - **Implement a Global Debt Landscape Correction:** Propose a one-time correction of the global debt landscape, including debt relief and restructuring with favorable terms for developing countries, particularly those with high youth populations.
 - **Tailor Multilateral Development Banks' Focus to Global Public Good:** Redirect the focus of multilateral development banks to prioritize services that benefit the global public good, especially targeting the needs of LDCs in Asia and Africa with high youth populations.
 - **Introduce a Binding Global Pact on Climate Commitments:** Propose enforceable global commitments to combat climate change, halt biodiversity loss, and reduce pollution with quantifiable targets.
 - **Create a Global Social Protection Fund:** Introduce a fund to finance social protection floors globally, emphasizing intergenerational solidarity and trust

CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

1. Alignments with the Draft:


- **Commitment to Peace and Security:** Both the zero draft and the recommendations emphasize the importance of recommitting to international peace, the UN Charter, and human rights as foundational elements for sustaining peace (¶ 46-47)
- **Youth and Gender Equality:** Both stress the importance of involving youth in peacebuilding processes and ensuring gender equality as central to peace and security. (¶ 58-60)
- **Focus on Addressing Root Causes of Conflict:** There is alignment in addressing underlying issues that lead to conflict, such as inequality, resource scarcity, and climate change impacts, highlighting a holistic approach to peace. (¶ 71-77)
- **Enhancing Disarmament and Non-Proliferation:** The zero draft and recommendations call for disarmament, regulating arms, and tackling the misuse of emerging technologies, aligning with calls to reduce military expenditures and promote arms control.(¶ 78-83)

2. Recommendations to Strengthen the Next Draft:

- **Legal Framework for Defense Companies:** Encourage the inclusion of a specific call for Member States to adopt legal frameworks for defense companies to conduct human rights due diligence, addressing arms trade's direct impact on peace. (¶ 91-92)
- **Financial Realignments for Peace:** Explicitly urging Member States to realign military spending towards public goods and the SDGs, addressing the disproportionate impact of military expenditure on global peace efforts. (¶ 93-94)
- **Protection for Civilians:** Strengthen language around the protection of civilians, refugees, and asylum seekers in conflict zones, particularly children and young people, emphasizing the need for international law compliance and shared global responsibility.

3. Concrete Proposals or Initiatives:

- **Joint UN General Assembly Resolution on AI:** Proposing a UN Convention on AI and a UN AI agency co-chaired by major powers to govern AI technologies, offering a tangible initiative for managing emerging technology risks.
- **Establish a UN Agency for AI Governance:** Formulate a convention to create a UN agency dedicated to the comprehensive governance of artificial intelligence, co-chaired by member states.
- **Legal Instruments on Autonomous Weapons and Law Enforcement Equipment:** Proposing new legally binding instruments to regulate autonomous weapons systems



and control the trade in law enforcement equipment, providing concrete measures for reducing harm and promoting human rights.

- **Youth Engagement and Protection:** Initiatives for increasing youth participation in peacebuilding and creating protective measures for youth involved in UN processes, suggesting mechanisms for more inclusive governance.
- **Education and Peace:** Calls for maintaining safe access to education during armed conflict and endorsing the Safe Schools Declaration, offering specific actions to protect education from attack and promote peace through education.

CHAPTER 3: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION AND DIGITAL COOPERATION

1. Alignments with the Draft:

- **Digital Cooperation Commitment:** Both the zero draft and recommendations emphasize enhancing digital cooperation and ensuring that new technologies benefit humanity equitably. The draft's acknowledgment of the need for an open, free, secure, inclusive, and human-centered digital future aligns with recommendations for inclusive technological development and equitable sharing of knowledge. (¶ 91-92)
- **Strengthening Participation:** The zero draft and recommendations both highlight the importance of diverse participation in scientific and technological innovation, reflecting a shared understanding of the value of inclusivity in digital development. (¶ 93-94).

2. Recommendations to Strengthen the Next Draft:

- **Global Digital Compact Focus:** Recommendations propose a greater focus on children's rights and the protection of individuals in digital spaces, which could strengthen the zero draft by ensuring digital cooperation frameworks prioritize vulnerable groups' rights and safety.
- **Addressing Economic Polarization:** Recommendations touching on the destabilizing effects of economic polarization and democracy backsliding could be integrated into the digital cooperation chapter to acknowledge how digital inequalities exacerbate these challenges.
- **AI Regulation:** Specific calls for international regulation of AI and large language models suggest the zero draft could more explicitly address the governance of emerging technologies to mitigate risks.

3. Concrete Proposals or Initiatives:

- **Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty:** This proposal could be integrated into discussions on technological innovation's role in addressing climate change, emphasizing the need for sustainable and environmentally friendly technologies.
- **Establishment of Collaborative Initiatives:** Recommendations for NASA-like R&D programs to combat global warming offer a tangible initiative that could be incorporated into the pact, highlighting the role of international partnerships in technological innovation for sustainability.
- **Global Commission on Just and Sustainable Digitalization:** The establishment of this commission could ensure that digital progress does not come at the expense of



rights and freedoms, providing a concrete framework for assessing digital innovation's social impact.

- **International Artificial Intelligence Agency (IA2):** Proposing an agency to govern AI development aligns with recommendations for AI regulation, offering a structured approach to ensure AI benefits humanity while minimizing risks.
- **Youth Engagement in Digital Governance:** Recommendations for global youth investment platforms and protocols for youth participation in digital decision-making processes provide concrete mechanisms to ensure the digital future is shaped by diverse voices, including the youth.

CHAPTER 4: YOUTH AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

1. Alignment with Draft Recommendations

- **Inclusion of Youth and Future Generations:** The zero draft's focus on including youth in future planning and decision-making aligns directly with recommendations for their meaningful involvement. This includes recognizing youth as valuable partners in shaping sustainable futures and advocating for their engagement in UN processes.(¶ 103-105).
- **Financing and Capacity Building Initiatives:** The zero draft's emphasis on increasing financing and support to provide youth with the necessary skills for the future corresponds with recommendations, underlining the importance of strengthening the skills, capabilities, and resilience of young people to think, plan, and act for the future. (¶ 106 -111, 114).
- **Youth Engagement in Policy Development:** Recommendations for the establishment of platforms for youth engagement in policy development find resonance in the zero draft's commitment to youth participation in UN forums and decision-making processes (¶ 112-113).
- **Quality Education:** The zero draft's commitment to quality education and social protection for youth resonates with the recommendation's focus on high-impact SDG investments (¶ 103-115).

2. Recommendations to Strengthen the Next Draft

- **Clarify relationship between youth and future generations.** Children and youth are closest in time to the coming generations. Hence, their perspectives, interests, and participation hold special weight in efforts to safeguard future generations. Moreover, the responsibility to safeguard future generations does not fall to children and youth alone. Rather, this responsibility rests primarily with the decision-makers who must safeguard present generations, including youth and children, as well as future generations.
- **Explicit Inclusion of Children's Rights:** Expanding the title to include "Children" explicitly alongside Youth and Future Generations addresses a gap, ensuring that the distinct rights and needs of children are recognized and addressed within the Pact.
- **Robust Engagement Platforms:** The creation of more defined and accessible platforms for youth and children's engagement could strengthen the zero draft by ensuring diverse and meaningful participation in the UN's work and beyond, including the proposed UN Youth Delegates programme expansion and the suggestion for an Intergenerational Town Hall



3. Concrete Proposals or Initiatives

- **Establishment of a Global Youth Investment Platform:** This proposal aligns with the Pact's emphasis on leveraging resources for youth empowerment and could serve as a concrete mechanism for directing investments toward youth-led solutions and innovations.
- **Creation of National Youth Consultative Bodies:** Encouraging Member States to form these bodies could institutionalize youth participation in governance, ensuring their voices are heard in national policy-making processes, a step towards realizing the draft's call for increased youth engagement in decision-making.
- **Appointment of a Special Envoy for Future Generations:** This role could act as a global advocate for the interests and rights of future generations, facilitating collaboration, sharing best practices, and supporting Member States in long-term thinking, thereby operationalizing the draft's commitment to future generations' well-being.
- **Forum for Future Generations.** Creation of a forum in the UN for countries to exchange best practice on domestic governance reforms to implement the principles in the Declaration on Future Generations
- **Youth-Focused Funding Mechanisms:** Developing dedicated funding streams for youth organizations and initiatives could empower youth-led action on a global scale, directly supporting the draft's recognition of the importance of youth in achieving sustainable development goals.
- **Inclusion and Accessibility Measures:** Addressing barriers to participation for marginalized youth, including those affected by conflict, and ensuring digital inclusion initiatives are critical for fulfilling the draft's commitment to inclusive and equitable engagement of all youth.
- **Formalize Future Generations in Global Governance:** Institutionalize future generations within the UN's governance structures, applying principles that consider long-term impacts and ensure fair policymaking.
- **Future Trends and Intergenerational Equity:** Introducing a Future Generations Report and an Intergenerational Commission could provide structured mechanisms for integrating long-term perspectives and trends into policy-making, ensuring that the needs of future generations are considered.

CHAPTER 5: TRANSFORMING GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

1. Areas Where the Recommendations Align with the Draft


- **Empowering Youth:** Recognizing the importance of youth engagement in decision-making processes and policy development. (¶ 121)
- **Strengthening Peacebuilding and Security:** A mutual commitment to peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and addressing the root causes of conflict, including the promotion of a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace. (¶ 124-126)
- **Strengthening Human Rights and Gender Equality:** A shared focus on promoting human rights, gender equality, and addressing discrimination. (¶ 128-130)
- **Enhancing Participation and Representation:** Both stress the need for greater participation of developing countries, women, and underrepresented groups in global governance. (¶ 139-141)
- **Addressing Global Inequities:** Both the zero draft and recommendations highlight the need to address global injustices and inequalities, emphasizing fairer representation and decision-making in global economic and financial institutions. (¶ 140-143)

2. Recommendations That Could Strengthen the Next Draft

- **Security Council Reform:** Explicitly incorporating the recommendations for reforming the Security Council to ensure it is more representative and effective.
- **Decentralization of Decision-Making:** Emphasizing the need for decentralizing decision-making to more local levels and ensuring more participatory approaches to governance.
- **Digital Transformation and Governance:** Including specific proposals for leveraging digital transformation for more inclusive governance and addressing digital divides.
- **Tangible Steps for Financial Reforms:** Detailing concrete steps for reforming the global financial architecture to be more equitable, including specific mechanisms for enhancing the representation and voice of developing countries in global financial institutions.

3. Concrete Proposals or Initiatives in the Recommendations

- **Establishing a Futures Council:** Proposing the creation of a high-level UN entity focused on representing future generations and enforcing foresight in policy-making.
- **Global Tax Reform:** Advocating for international tax reform to address tax evasion and ensure equitable distribution of resources.

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- **Mandate for the UN Executive Body:** Suggesting a mandate for the UN to enact measures without General Assembly votes on existential threats, with strict accountability measures.
 - **Decentralizing Governance:** Recommendations for decentralizing governance to empower local communities through participatory mechanisms and localized initiatives.
 - **UN Parliamentary Assembly:** Proposing the creation of a UN Parliamentary Assembly to enhance global democratic representation and participation.
 - **Local Leadership:** Granting formal participation status to cities and subnational governments within UN processes, acknowledging their crucial role in global governance, is a tangible initiative that aligns with the draft's vision for a more inclusive multilateral system.
 - **Intergenerational Cooperation:** Intergenerational Town Halls and strengthening the ECOSOC Youth Forum will provide concrete platforms for engaging young demographics and ensuring their voices are heard in UN processes.

SUBMISSIONS FROM CHILD, YOUTH, AND FUTURES FOCUSED ORGANIZATIONS

The list represents a collective of individual organizations, networks, and coalitions encompassing over 170 entities. These groups span various sectors focused on child, youth, and future generation advocacy, illustrating a broad alliance aimed at influencing policy and societal change on a global, national and local scale.

[100 Million](#)

[Action against Child Exploitation \(ACE\)](#)

[Afro4UN](#)

[Alana Institute](#)

[Alliance For the Future \(AFF\)](#)

[Alternative Planetary Futures Institute \(Ap-Fi\)](#)

[Amnesty International](#)

[Associação pela Saúde Emocional de Crianças \(ASEC\)](#)

[Association d'Aide à l'Education de l'Enfant Handicapé \(AAEEH\)](#)

[ASSOCIATION LES AMIS DES ENFANTS \(AAE\)](#)

[Bahá'í International Community](#)

[Blavatnik School of Government \(University of Oxford\), Future of Climate Cooperation, Simon Institute for Longterm Governance, Next Generation Fellows, Institute for Future Studies, Uppsala University, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies, International Chamber of Commerce, José Jaime](#)

[Brazilian Campaign for the Right to Education](#)

[Bridge 47](#)

[Child Rights Connect & Terre des hommes international Federation](#)

[Child-Focused Agencies \(Childfund Alliance, Plan International, Save the Children, SOS Children's Villages, and World Visio\)](#)

[CLUB DE MADRID](#)

[Coalition 2030](#)

[Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies](#)

[Czech Council of Children and Youth](#)

[Engajamundo Youth Association](#)

[Fábrica dos Sonhos and Right to Dream Movement](#)

[Foundations for Tomorrow](#)

[Future Generations Commissioner for Wales](#)

[Future Generations Global Ambassadors](#)



[Girls Not Brides \(comprises 124 organizations focused on ending child marriage globally\).](#)

[Global Call to Action Against Poverty \(GCAP\)](#)

[Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors](#)

[Global Futurist Initiative](#)

Global Partnership for Education (broken link)

[KNOWLEDGE MILL INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, NIGERIA](#)

[LDC Watch](#)

[Paris Peace Forum: Climate Overshoot Commission](#)

[Partnership for Future Generations in Africa](#)

[Plan International](#)

[Restless Development](#)

[Save the Children International](#)

[School of International Futures](#)

[SDG4 Youth and Students Network](#)

[Stimson Center / Global Governance Innovation Network](#)

[Teach the Future](#)

[The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#)

[The Global Youth Review](#)

[The Tomorrow](#)

[The Young Canadians Roundtable on Health \(YCRH\)](#)

[Unlock the Future Coalition](#) representing 24 of the world's largest child and youth-focused organizations: BRAC, CIVICUS, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, Girl Up, Global Partnership for Education, Global Student Forum, Global Shapers Community, Global Youth Coalition for Road Safety, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Kofi Annan Foundation, Mercy Corps, Plan International, Restless Development, Save the Children, The World Organization of the Scout Movement, Search for Common Ground, Southern Voice, Teach For All, UNA-USA, United Nations Foundation, World Association for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, World YMCA, and World YWCA

[War Child](#)

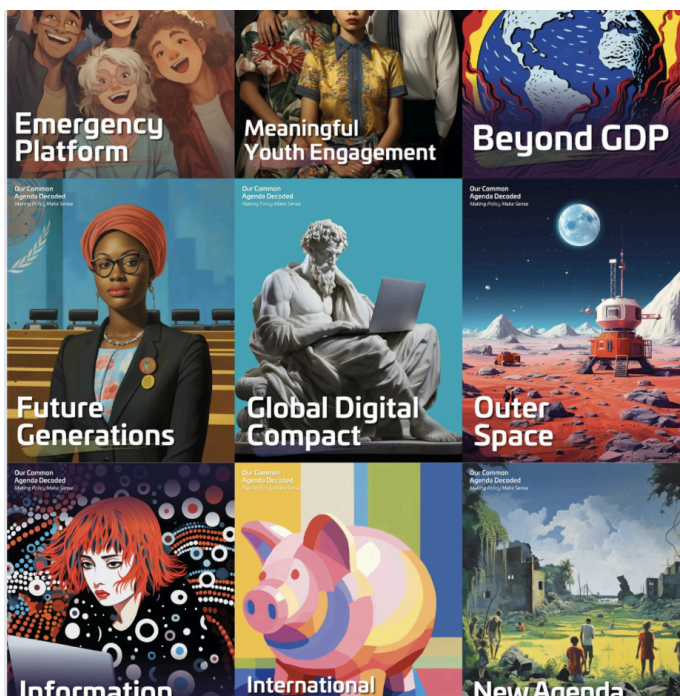
[Youth Empowerment Wave Global \(YEW Global\) Foundation](#)

[Youth for Change](#)

[YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board to the GRACE Initiative at the UNODC](#)

[Youths Enterprise Development & Innovation Society \(YEDIS\)](#)

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