

# THE BULLETIN

**World Citizens Association (Australia) Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Governance (IGPSG)** Coalition for a World Security Community (CWSC)

> http://www.wcaa.org.au https://igpsg.com/ https://coalitionforawsc.org/

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## President's Column

The dominant news topic recently has been the inauguration of President Trump for his second term, and the way he and Elon Musk have been upending the status quo both in Washington and in international affairs. It is impossible to predict how this will all play out, but already some very major damage has been done, notably to the international aid programs of USAid.

One area of critical concern is Trump's peace proposal for the Ukraine war, which so far seems to amount to Ukraine surrendering the invaded territory to Russia, and giving up resources to the US in compensation for previous US aid and armaments. The Europeans have already rejected these ideas, and Russia's grasping for even more advantage might even turn Trump against them in the future. We'll just have to wait and see. Back home, Things are looking brighter. On November 11<sup>th</sup> last year, I attended the renewed **Model Global Parliament** in the New South Wales Parliament House, organized by Zeny Edwards, Mai Ni Pham and their team at our associate organization, the IGPSG. It was a well-attended and lively event, and I enjoyed myself very much. A more detailed description appears later in the Bulletin.

Luiz Bispo has been organizing a series of webinars on topics relating to world federalism. The first one occurred on October 25<sup>th</sup> last year, and included short contributions from Jim Page, John Hegarty, Michael de Mol, Nadia Toumi and Liliane Metz-Krencker on the topic "How can we build up a sense of world citizenship within people's hearts and minds?".

The second has just occurred, and included short talks by Our Daryl Le Cornu and Richard Mochelle along with Maja Goff and Peter Davidse on "Ways to achieve World Peace". Again, you can find more later in the Bulletin.

We learnt to our distress recently that Keith Suter has suffered a heart attack, and is currently in rehab. Keith was President of our predecessor organization, the World Federalist Association of Australia, and is one of our life members. We wish him all the best and a speedy recovery.

Finally, we note with regret the resignation as Treasurer of Nadia Toumi, pleading too great a burden of domestic issues. We thank Nadia for her very useful, though brief, period of service. On March 20<sup>th</sup>, we held a special meeting of the WCAA Council to formally install Nil Aktan as our new Treasurer, see below. Welcome, Nil!

Chris Hamer

## **Survey on Attitudes to Democratic World Government**

We referred in the last Bulletin to this important international survey of 42,000 people in 17 countries around the world, authored by Farsan Ghassim and Markus Pauli. It found that in general around two-thirds of the people surveyed supported the idea of a democratic world government to deal with pressing global issues like climate change. One of the authors, Dr. Farsan Ghassim at Oxford, was a founding member of our Coalition for a World Security Community of democratic nations in 2018.

This time, we would like to note that a breakdown of the figures by country shows that even in Russia, support for this proposition stood at 56%. The one country which did not approve the proposition was the United States, where support only amounted to 45%. This is a major worry, when combined with the recent election of Donald Trump. The US was the home of many of the most famous proponents of world federalism after World War II,from Albert Einstein on down, but now a new mood of 'isolationism' seems to be taking hold there.

You can read an article on the survey at the website of the Australian Institute of International Affairs here:

https://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/citizens-worldwide-including-australia-support-a-democratic-world-government-focused-on-global-issues/

#### **Webinar - Ways to Achieve World Peace**

Our world is in crisis, our system is in crisis. More than ever, people need to stay together to tackle global challenges. A sense of world citizenship within people's heart and mind can be key to solving global problems such as war, poverty and climate change.

In light of this, on October 24th, 2024, we organized an event titled 'Ways to Achieve World Peace,' designed to serve as an additional platform for engaging with enthusiasts and experts on the concept of world citizenship.



The recording of the webinar is available on Youtube via <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPzpYLFYJBw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPzpYLFYJBw</a>
Also, through our website: <a href="https://www.wcaa.org.au/events">https://www.wcaa.org.au/events</a>

## World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy (WFM/IGP)

Our umbrella organization continues to prioritize the initiatives "Mobilizing an Earth Governance Alliance (MEGA)" and "LAW not War." We have remained actively engaged in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament efforts, working in collaboration with partner organizations such as the Basel Peace Office and Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND).

However, one of the most significant ongoing challenges for WFM is funding. With limited capacity and resources, we are continually exploring new avenues for fundraising to ensure the continued effectiveness and sustainability of our programs and operations. You can explore WFM's programs via the following link: <a href="https://wfm-igp.earthgovernance.org/programs/">https://wfm-igp.earthgovernance.org/programs/</a>

Luiz Bispo



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## Report on the Sydney Model Global Parliament 2024

The 2024 Model Global Parliament took place on Monday November 11<sup>th</sup> in the Legislative Chamber of the NSW Parliament House in Sydney, continuing the annual series of events which started in 2013 (apart from the Covid interruption in 2023). Ten teams presented motions, including teams from the University of New South Wales UN Society, the University of Sydney UN Society, and school teams from Hurlstone Agricultural High School (3), Malek Fahd Hoxton Park High School (2), Unity Grammar (2), and Irfan College.

The event was organized by an energetic team representing the Institute for Global Peace and Responsible Governance (IGPSG), led by Zeny Edwards and including Mai Ni Pham, Chris Hamer, David Delos Reyes, Jason Lijuwardi, Alex Zhuang, Joiji Wara and Maria Adriano, plus school advisors Dario Hawat, Sam Cavallaro, Eyal Mayroz and Aqsaa Khan. Caleb Alexander, a year 8 student from Hurlstone, did a sterling job at operating the TV screen, and Mayeem Azad and Artia Mayamin, year 9 and year 8 Hurlstone students respectively, excelled as rapporteurs.

Proceedings were opened with a welcome by Matt Cross, MP for Davidson, who emphasized the need to support democracy in these troubled times. He was followed by Keith Suter, who commented on the victory of Donald Trump in the US elections, and then Chris Hamer, who briefly summarized the history of our MGP, and commented on two possible pathways to a real global parliament, namely transforming the UN, or uniting the democracies. After that, the debates began.

In the event, the MGP was a big success! The debates were vigorous from the start, made lively in particular by the extravagant oratorical flourishes of Anthony Ma from UNSW. Catcalls and unparliamentary language had to be restrained at times by the Speaker, but in the end a very good time was had by all. A list of the motions passed at the MGP will appear separately on our websites.

Chris Hamer

# **Coalition for a World Security Community – Chris Hamer**



Members will recall that the Coalition is a transnational working group advocating the formation of a *World Security Community* embracing all the world's major democracies, as the first step towards a democratic world federation following the template of Jean Monnet et al at the beginning of the EU. The problem is to find the best grouping of states to start from.

## **End of the 'D10' Campaign**

We have been pushing for some years for the 'D10' idea, consisting of the G7 group extended to include Indo-Pacific members Australia and South Korea and (possibly) India, with no success so far.

The recent G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada will be remembered not for agreements, but for discord. For the first time in recent history, the G7 failed to produce a joint communiqué. Deepening splits between member states over trade policies, support for Ukraine, and responses to escalating Middle East tensions left even routine consensus out of reach.

Dramatic scenes included US President Trump's early departure amidst mounting crises and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's decision to cancel the traditional post-summit statement after private talks proved fruitless. In the end, Trump has trampled on the whole process. After giving a speech in which he bemoaned the fact that Putin's Russia was no longer a member (!), he left a day early, with the result that no major conclusions could be agreed. This campaign of ours must be abandoned for the time being, at least.

## A new strategy: Building on the 'Coalition of the Willing'

This new development has opened an exciting new possibility for action by our group. On March 2, 2025, during the 2025 London Summit on Ukraine, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and French President Macron announced the formation of a new "Coalition of the Willing."

#### Their goals:

- Provide robust new security guarantees for Ukraine
- Coordinate peacekeeping deployments and economic aid
- Demonstrate unity among democratic states in the face of aggression and authoritarian threatsMr Macron and Mr Starmer agreed the headquarters would be in Paris and led by Britain and France to oversee all tactical and operational arrangements. The HQ will then rotate to London after the first 12 months.

The Coalition of the Willing is a group of 31 countries that have pledged reinforced support for Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression.

It is reported that this structure will allow partners to contribute military forces flexibly and send teams for various operational tasks. It is further stated that "once Coalition forces are deployed on the ground, a coordination cell will also be established in Kiev, which will be headed by a British two-star officer."

Could this also be a possible basis for our World Security Community? Member countries:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

#### Points in favour:

- The Coalition is already a security grouping of states, forming a 'supply chain' for Ukraine. The members are already interlinked by various alliances and security arrangements, viz. NATO, AUKUS and the Quad;
- The Coalition is already **global**, it includes Japan, Australia, New Zealand in the Indo-Pacific (but not South Korea);
- It includes 25 EU members, but not Hungary, Malta, Slovakia. Hungary and Slovakia are pro-Russian, and would have been likely to **veto** any moves against Russia.
- It includes the UK, Norway and Canada and 23 more NATO members, but not the US, Albania, Hungary, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Slovakia. The US under the Trump administration would have been unlikely to agree to any institutional architecture such as we are proposing.

It does Include Turkey, which might be a problem.



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We are embarking on a new campaign to persuade leaders of the COW to set up a Commission, empowered to draft a new Treaty to formally establish a worldwide alliance/community of democratic nations, in order to deter China from attacking Taiwan, and to defend democracy against assaults from autocracies globally.

#### Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Governance - IGPSG

Members will recall that after Zeny Edwards became President of the IGPSG, she moved to make it a more separate organization from the WCAA, and added a new program of Schools Model Global Parliaments based largely in Western Sydney which has been extremely successful, besides organizing a number of community events. Her IGPSG committee was largely responsible for organizing our last MGP in the NSW Parliament, and 80% of the participants were school students.

Unfortunately ill-health has forced Zeny to resign her position as President of the IGPSG. After making a final munificent donation, she has transferred responsibility for the organization to members of her committee, namely David Delos Reyes as President, and Jason Liyuwardi as Vice-President.

We must hope Zeny achieves a full recovery from her illness, and wish David and Jason all success in their efforts.

#### Chris Hamer

## Bangladesh Aid Project: Building Hope in Char Khabulia

For more than 15 years, the World Citizens Association of Australia (WCAA) has been delivering education to children in Char Khabulia, a remote and flood-affected village in northern Bangladesh. Despite losing the original school to devastating river erosion, nearly 300 children continue their studies today across two temporary locations. Many have progressed to high school—an extraordinary achievement in the face of such adversity.

The next step is clear: these young people need skills and vocational training to secure meaningful jobs, generate income, and lead their communities toward long-term resilience and self-reliance.

To address this, WCAA is working to establish an Occupational and Skill Development Training Centre in Char Khabulia. This centre will provide practical training, sustainable opportunities, and genuine hope for a stronger future.

We call on friends, partners, and supporters to join us in this mission. Together, we can build resilience through education and skills—turning challenges into opportunities and creating pathways to dignity and empowerment. Let us unite to realise the vision: Resilience through Education and Skills.

#### Wali Islam



## **REGISTRATION FORM**

(Australia) Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: Subscription Rates: Full \$40 Juniors, seniors, unwaged \$10 Funds transferred: Subscription **Donation to World Citizens Aid Project** Total Please complete this form and send together with your cheque made out to 'World Citizens Association (Australia)' to: Nadia Toumi, Treasurer, World Citizens Association (Australia), 4 Fern Creek Rd., Warriewood NSW 2102 nadiatoumi56@gmail.com

I would like to join/renew my membership in the World Citizens Association

## Alternative methods of payment: (please still send in the form)

Online via <a href="http://www.wcaa.org.au">http://www.wcaa.org.au</a>, hit the 'Member Login' button at the top of the page, and then either the 'Join Us' or the 'Donate' button (no password necessary).

Or use direct electronic funds transfer to

BSB: 633000, account: 122927916