



World Citizens Association of Australia

THE BULLETIN

World Citizens Association (Australia)
Coalition for a World Security Community (WSC)

<http://www.wcaa.org.au>

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Contacts:

<i>President:</i>	<i>Chris Hamer, C.Hamer@unsw.edu.au</i>
<i>Vice-President(Aid Project):</i>	<i>Wali Islam, islam.wali6@gmail.com</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Luiz Bispo, luizfbispo03@gmail.com</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Nil Aktan, nilaktan98@gmail.com</i>
<i>Director of Education:</i>	<i>Daryl Le Cornu, djlecornu@hotmail.com</i>





President's Column – Dangerous Times

The geopolitical scene continues to get ever darker. President Trump has given up on his ambitions for the Nobel Peace Prize, and is now attacking other states with total disregard for international law and order, putting himself in the same basket as the autocrats. President Xi has announced in public that China will be ready to invade Taiwan by next year, 2027, and I am really fearful that this may bring on World War III. We must do all we can to deter China from this course, I believe – see the report below from the Coalition for a World Security Community.

On the home front, we have to mourn the passing of Keith Suter. Keith was a major figure within our Australian arm of the World Federalist Movement over the past forty years. He was President of the World Federalist Association of Australia, the predecessor organization to our present World Citizens Association of Australia, until 2004. In that year I was encouraged by Liliane Metz-Krencker (who was Secretary of the Association of World Citizens in France at the time) to lead the newly renamed organization.

A number of our present members transferred with me, including Keith himself, Don Maclurcan, Michelle Cavanagh, Stella Cornelius, Austen Mackell, Michael de Mol, Doug Everingham, Lyndon Storey, Julna Zhao, Wali Islam, Michael Ellis, Hadrian Judge, Jim Page, Richard Mochelle, Sarah Brenan, Alastair Hamer and Andrew Greig, who have been among our most stalwart supporters ever since!

Keith was previously Warden of Wesley College in the University of Sydney, and Vice-President of the International Commission of Jurists (NSW). He was awarded the Australian Government's Peace Medal in 1986, the International Year of Peace. He is the author of "A New International Order" (1981), and "Reshaping the Global Agenda" (1986), among other titles. In later years, he became an 'influencer' on social media, with his podcast 'Global Truths' on Spotify.

He was always kind and friendly. His thoughtful and wise advice on current issues was very useful. We shall all miss him enormously.

Chris Hamer



Tribute to Dr Keith Suter AM (1948- 2025) – Luiz Bispo

Keith was a truly special person - someone very hard to forget. He was approachable, kind-hearted, and, on top of that, possessed an extraordinary depth of knowledge in international affairs. I write this with tears in my eyes. May you rest in peace, Keith. He was loved by many people around the world.

Read testimonials: <https://www.wcaa.org.au/news>



Source: Global Directions

Presentations at the Australian National University – Crawford School of Public Policy – Luiz Bispo

We have successfully conducted two presentations on the 16th of January 2026:

CREATING A GLOBAL DEMOCRACY FOR A PEACEFUL, JUST AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD

By Bob Flax

In today's world, our major problems have gone global; environmental crises, economic calamities, pandemics, our human-made systems are global as well. However, the one significant thing that has not gone global is democracy. This stimulating presentation described an alternative way to govern our world, where "We the people" are in charge.



Many scholars and laypeople agree that only a global democracy can meet today's toughest challenges. Bob gave an impressive video presentation recounting movement that grew out of it, the paths to getting there, and how it might work. He discussed its successes and its current campaigns. This was a lively discussion.

**CREATING A GLOBAL DEMOCRACY
FOR A PEACEFUL, JUST
AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD
COMMUNITY**

SPECIAL SPEAKER - Dr Bob Flax

**BARTON THEATRE,
ANU (CANBERRA)**

**16 JANUARY
11:00 AM - 3:30 PM**
(Including panel discussion)

**WORLD CITIZENS
AUSTRALIA**

Professor, Saybrook University
(California) & Board Member, WFM-IGP

CREATING A WORLD SECURITY COMMUNITY AS THE PATHWAY TO A GLOBAL DEMOCRACY

By Chris Hamer

Chris Hamer discussed one pathway for global integration, namely to copy the regional integration strategy of Jean Monnet and his 'Action Committee for the United States of Europe' in 1950. That is, start with a small core of member states to form a Community with limited aims, and evolve and grow from there through a series of further Treaties.





Photo Credit: Luiz Bispo

The basic principles of any world federation must include universality, if it is to deal with global problems, and democracy, to prevent any possibility of the formation of a world tyranny or autocracy. But those two principles are incompatible at the moment, since about half the world's countries are autocracies. This is the fundamental reason why no world federation is possible at this moment. It also means the core members of our initial Community must be democracies, following Bob's option of Uniting the Democracies.

Watch the recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xzWFOPXI-4>

Read the full report:

https://www.wcaa.org.au/files/ugd/0cec56_270b2096f4c246e298582982dc549e23.pdf



World Citizens Webinar Series

On the 11th of April 2026, we hosted the webinar titled “Role of Security in Democracy”. The webinar was hosted by Luiz Bispo. It gathered three speakers: Caleb Wanga (Kenya), Dora Bender (Israel) and Keith Best (United Kingdom).

The webinar explored the complex relationship between national and regional security and democratic governance. It examined how security entities operate within democratic frameworks while upholding civil liberties, human rights, and the rule of law.



**ROLE OF SECURITY
IN DEMOCRACY**

© LUIZ BISPO

11 April 2026

8:30 AM (UTC)

FREE AND ONLINE

**WORLD CITIZENS
AUSTRALIA**

Confirmed Speaker
Dora Bender (Israel)
- Executive Director, Democracy & Federalism Hub

Confirmed Speaker
Caleb Wanga (Kenya)
- National Coordinator, Usalama Reforms Forum

Confirmed Speaker
Keith Best (UK)
- Former MP and Chair of WFM/IGP



Coalition for a World Security Community

The Need for a Global Security Community

By Chris Hamer

The geopolitical outlook at present is extremely dark, and bears some alarming similarities with the prelude to World War II. A contest between democracy and autocracy has been going on, with autocracy advancing and democracy going slowly backwards for the past 19 years, according to Freedom House (2025). There have been threats made by the autocracies in Russia and China against the democracies in Ukraine and Taiwan, respectively. President Putin of Russia vowed to retake Ukraine (Guardian 2022), claiming it was an integral part of the former Russian Empire. Russia has recently launched an actual invasion of Ukraine, which has shocked the entire world, and evoked memories of Hitler's invasion of the Sudetenland in 1938. The West has been galvanized into action to support Ukraine in its brave resistance, supplying them with arms and ammunition through the new 'Coalition of the Willing' group. Sweden and Finland have recently joined NATO, and the EU has been discussing ways to beef up its communal defence and security forces.

At the same time, President Xi Jinping of China has vowed in public to incorporate Taiwan with mainland China by 2049, using force if necessary (Council on Foreign Relations 2021). China is presently building up its armed forces and the facilities necessary to invade Taiwan as fast as they can go (BBC report 2022). It seems very likely that they will try the invasion much earlier than 2049 – Mark Milley, a former US Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has estimated that they will be ready to go by 2027 (Milley 2021). This has since been confirmed as an official 2027 Centennial Goal of the Chinese Communist Party leadership in their 15th 5-year plan.

Japan has promised to help defend Taiwan, and the USA will feel bound to do the same, despite their public posture of 'strategic ambiguity' (Hegseth 2025). Thus we will quite possibly see World War III break out within a very few years over Xi Jinping's invasion of Taiwan – this would be an unprecedented global catastrophe, dwarfing the terrible destruction in Ukraine. The statesman Henry Kissinger gave a stark warning of this possibility just before his recent death (Kissinger 2023).

There is general agreement that we must do everything possible to **deter** China from embarking on such a disastrous enterprise. See for instance the latest National Defense Strategy document from the US Department of War (NDS 2026): "*We will deter China in the Indo-Pacific through strength, not confrontation.*" The best and strongest deterrent would be a **global alliance of democracies**, which we propose should take the form of a **World Security Community** of democratic nations.



Our Proposal

Our proposal for a World Security Community (WSC 2026) of democratic nations then consists of the following basic elements:

- (1) The Community would be a defense alliance (“an attack on one is an attack on all”) and its primary mission would be to guarantee the security and freedom of all its members. Its secondary mission would be to act as their peacebuilding and peacekeeping arm in the wider world, under the aegis of the United Nations. It should ideally include or embrace existing defense alliances among democracies, such as NATO, AUKUS and the Quad.
- (2) The Community would be a global organization with its membership open to all states committed to democracy, human rights and international law.

For a more complete description of our proposal, please see the website of our Coalition for a World Security Community (CWSC).

Implementation of the proposal

Proposals such as these have a long history. Even before World War II, the journalist Clarence Streit in 1939 proposed a ***Union of Democracies*** to combat the Fascist aggression of Mussolini and Hitler (Streit 1939). His ideas are still carried forward by civil society organizations such as the Streit Council and Federal Union.

Who should be the starting members of our proposed Community?

The ‘Coalition of the Willing’?

Very recently a prime possibility has presented itself, in the form of the ‘**Coalition of the Willing**’ (COW 2025), officially announced by UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and French President Emmanuel Macron on March 2, 2025, at the London Summit on Ukraine. At the London Summit, British and French leadership coordinated a gathering of over 30 democracies, including all major EU and NATO states, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and several others to provide security guarantees and coordinated support for Ukraine. The coalition aims to deter further Russian aggression, offer support during peace negotiations, and, potentially, deploy a multinational peacekeeping force upon a Ukraine-Russia ceasefire agreement. According to SkyNews, it was agreed that the group would establish a multinational operational headquarters at the “three-star” level in Paris, which would be led by the United Kingdom and France, where France would oversee all tactical and operational matters of assistance to Ukraine.

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 Community? Member countries are: 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.

It includes Japan, Australia, New Zealand in the Indo-Pacific, but not South Korea; it includes 25 EU members, but not Hungary, Malta, Slovakia; it includes the UK, Norway and Canada and 23 more NATO members, but not the US, Albania, Hungary, Montenegro, North Macedonia, or Slovakia. The United States has not been directly involved, reflecting ongoing debates on transatlantic security guarantees

This makes up a *global security grouping* forming initially a '*supply chain*' of democratic powers in support of Ukraine. This is quite similar to our concept of a World Security Community of democratic nations! They have no fixed structure as yet, and they might well be very receptive to our arguments for a more formal structure or alliance to form a realistic deterrent against any further aggression by the autocracies.

We are beginning a new campaign along these lines, writing letters to the political leaders of the COW states.

Looking to a Brighter Future

In summary, the new Community would bring many benefits. It would produce a powerful new global security community, which acting in tandem with the UN Security Council would be a strong force for peace and freedom in the world. It would also provide a powerful deterrent against any further military aggression by the autocracies in Russia and China.

Spokesmen on both sides of politics in the US have put forward similar schemes in the past, so there is a good chance that a plan of this sort should eventually be acceptable to the USA. The Europeans would most likely be happy to agree, and so the proposal should have a good chance of being implemented.

As noted previously, this scheme is envisaged as only the first stage in a process of global integration. If the Community is open to new members, subject to suitable criteria of democracy and peaceful relations with their neighbours, then one can envisage many new members joining up, attracted by the assurance of guaranteed security, together with the prospect of new structural adjustment funds coming their way. The membership could soon include the majority of the world's nations, as more countries become democratic. Eventually, one may hope that membership in the Community would become universal.

The European Union provides a useful template for this process. The EU has devoted a large fraction of its budget to 'structural development' funds, aiming to help the less developed member states to catch up with the rest under the principle of 'solidarity'. We would hope the new Community would spend an increasing fraction of its total budget in this way, and thus follow the Biblical injunction of 'beating their swords into ploughshares'!



One possibility is that the OECD could be folded into the new Community to undertake this role. In its earlier glory days following World War II, this organization played a similar role in managing the Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of Europe. In the long run, over several decades, a genuine, universal and democratic world federation could emerge, capable of managing effectively and overcoming the serious global challenges which confront all of us in common, as advocated by the World Federalist Movement WFM-IGP. It would open up a whole new and bright future for humanity, as prophesied long ago by H.G. Wells in his great work *The Outline of History*:

“There can be little question that the attainment of a federation of all humanity, together with a sufficient measure of social justice, to ensure health, education and a rough measure of equality of opportunity to most of the children born into the world, would mean such a release and increase of human energy as to open a new phase in human history.” (Wells1922).

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Chris Hamer

Bangladesh Aid Project: A Small Clinic, A Lifeline for Thousands

Dear Friends and Colleagues,
Warm greetings,

In some of the most vulnerable regions of rural Bangladesh, a small community clinic stands as a fragile yet essential lifeline for thousands of displaced and disadvantaged families. In areas such as Sonatola (Bogura) and Shaghata (Gaibandha), recurrent river erosion, flooding, and natural disasters have left communities struggling to rebuild their lives with little or no access to basic healthcare. As a result, nearly 20,000 families face untreated illnesses, worsening chronic conditions, and serious risks to maternal and child health - simply because care remains out of reach.

This urgent humanitarian initiative, led by World Citizens Association Australia (WCA) in partnership with WNA Foundation Bangladesh and local organisations, aims to strengthen and expand community-based healthcare over the next five years. With a modest budget of AUD 30,000–50,000, the project will enhance an existing clinic, establish an additional facility, deliver outreach and satellite services, provide essential medicines, and connect patients with volunteer doctors through telehealth.

Your support - through donations, expertise, or sharing this appeal—can help transform this small clinic into a powerful source of care, dignity, and hope for thousands in need.

Current conditions of the clinic

Mr. Hannan Mondal, the appointed village doctor, provides regular clinical consultations, delivers essential treatment, and offers practical lifestyle and preventive health guidance to patients.





Photo credit: Wali Islam's archives





World Citizens Association of Australia acknowledges Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Nations of this continent and recognises their custodianship and continuing connection to its land, waters and community.

We pay our respects to the Elders past and present and future, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of Indigenous peoples across the nation.

