

Emmaus International

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Chapeau

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapeau)

This summit is an opportunity to reiterate that poverty is not inevitable, but the result of political choices. The United Nations must firmly remind States of their duties, of the need to govern with the interests of all in mind and to take political decisions that do not create further inequality and poverty. We have a collective responsibility to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The Summit of the Future (SOTF) Zero Draft should be anchored in the promotion of human rights and the eradication of poverty, which are key in achieving the 2030 agenda. In this context, the issue of global governance and involving the most excluded in the discussion and decision-making processes must be better addressed.

We need to move beyond exclusively inter-state relations and rely more on civil society and people experiencing poverty to better achieve SDGs.

But above all, if this summit is looking to the future, we must demand policies to combat climate change that are equal to the challenges we face, and that go hand in hand with the eradication of poverty.

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 1)

The United Nations must make it clear that in the face of today's global social and climate challenges, governments must deviate more radically from the current economic model.

To achieve real sustainable development, we need to build a different economy, an economy that serves human beings and their environment. If we want to do so, it is crucial to recognise ethical and solidarity economy stakeholders and give them priority, particularly in order to promote solidarity-based responses and active citizenship. Emmaus International is therefore proposing

legal recognition for ethical and solidarity-based economy stakeholders, as they work primarily to achieve the sustainable development goals.

On 18th April 2023, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution for the international recognition of a social and solidarity economy, considering that a social and solidarity economy can contribute to achieving the SDGs.

Through this resolution, the United Nations must encourage member States to promote and implement national, regional, and local public policies to give weight to the social and solidarity economy, including through new legislation. These policies must be co-constructed with social and solidarity economy stakeholders.

Another way of ensuring more sustainable development in our societies is to better regulate the impact of the activities of transnational corporations on human rights and the environment, which are responsible for a large proportion of global greenhouse gas emissions. Emmaus International supports the work already underway to establish a binding treaty for transnational corporations.

Chapter II. International peace and security

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 2)

Let's not forget that the primary cause of insecurity is economic imbalance. Emmaus has always defended the idea that conflicts are largely rooted in the unequal distribution of wealth and social injustice. Poverty contributes to the rise of extremism; the fact that resources and wealth of poor countries are in the hands of stakeholders from rich countries contributes to conflicts. Combatting poverty and its causes must therefore be a fundamental priority.

Furthermore, the issues of peace, migration and movement are intrinsically linked. Faced with the increase in conflicts and the disastrous consequences of the climate crisis, particularly for the poorest populations, Emmaus International is calling for the right to mobility to be recognised for everyone, not just the richest populations.

Emmaus International advocates a global working alliance between welcoming local authorities and civil society organisations. The aim of this alliance is to promote, from the local level and from a global perspective, a different form of governance for migration that includes the views and expertise of local authorities, civil society organisations and migrant people, and to implement migration policies that guarantee unconditional welcome and respect for the fundamental rights of exiled persons.

Creating a network of welcoming cities around the world to enable the spread of good practices indirectly contributes to peace and security for all.

We propose to remedy the incomplete wording of article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognises the right to leave one's country but says nothing about the possibility of settling elsewhere. The recognition of an international right of residence or the drafting of an additional protocol could be a relevant avenue to explore.

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 3)

Unequal access to knowledge and technology is a major factor in poverty and exclusion. The United Nations should work on additional mechanisms to ensure technology and digital tools do not create exclusion and are at the service of the common good and public interest. Priority must be given to fighting the digital divide, and to democratising access to knowledge and technology in the poorest countries.

With the aim of guaranteeing equitable access to digital knowledge and, through it, to science and technology, the United Nations must promote the development and strengthening of education for critical use of the Internet and social networks, to enable effective appropriation of the digital world by as many people as possible.

We must strengthen global connectivity to increase:

- education to raise awareness
- education for global citizenship

In addition, the United Nations must put in place a binding agreement enabling states to monitor and sanction the activities of global operators who distribute content and knowledge via digital platforms (social networks, artificial intelligence, etc.).

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 4)

To guarantee a sustainable future for future generations, we need to protect certain rights, such as water, education and housing, more effectively from the market and profit sector which, over the last few decades, has not been able to significantly improve access to these resources for the greatest number of people and make an effective contribution to achieving the SDGs. In this respect, it is relevant to work on a better collective management of the commons in order to guarantee fundamental rights and to engage an international movement for the recognition of the rights of nature to better protect the planet and our natural resources. The management of these commons must be as participatory as possible, within the framework of democratic governance.

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

(Add your organization's concise, concrete, and action-oriented recommendations for Chapter 5)