



Written Submission for the Zero Draft for the Pact for the Future

LGBTI Stakeholder Group¹

<https://www.lgbtistakeholdergroup.org/>

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Chapeau

Against the backdrop of multiple ongoing crises – pandemics, a climate emergency, multiple armed conflicts – and at the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, we see stagnation and even regression towards the attainment of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Pact should not only address the immediate crises of our times but also lay down a resilient and equitable foundation for the future. It must be inclusive, effective, meaningful, visionary, transformative and sustainable. It will only achieve this if it recognizes, includes and addresses the perspectives of “We the People”: those ultimately affected by these crises.

Persons of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) including LGBTI persons², are amongst those of “We the People” that are disproportionately affected. The incorporation of our perspectives in the Pact therefore brings vital, solution-oriented perspectives born from our diverse and intersectional experiences. We see solutions that are born from our experiences not only as people of diverse SOGIESCs, but also people who live in all communities and are of all ages. We are workers, families, children and youth, persons of faith and no faith, indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of all colours and ethnic backgrounds. We therefore seek a Pact that works for all people and especially one that includes those who are too-often left behind. We are committed to actively participating in global decision-making processes and initiatives.

¹ [The LGBTI Stakeholder Group](#)

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

The rapid advancement in science, technology, and digital cooperation offers unprecedented opportunities for growth and development. Policies in these areas must be inclusive, considering the unique needs and rights of LGBTI individuals, and based on a foundation of human rights. By encouraging research and development that addresses specific challenges faced by LGBTI persons, we can foster innovation that benefits everyone. Promoting digital literacy and inclusion is crucial in bridging the digital divide and empowering these individuals through technology. At the same time, technology has been harnessed to abuse human rights, including by surveilling, tracking, and harassing people of diverse SOGIESC and LGBTI human rights defenders.

We therefore call:

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Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

The voices of youth, including LGBTI youth, are vital in shaping the future. Their active engagement in decision-making processes ensures that policies reflect their needs and aspirations. Educational programs that promote understanding and acceptance of diverse SOGIESC are essential in fostering an inclusive society. Additionally, creating robust support systems for LGBTI youth, including mental health services and anti-bullying initiatives, is crucial for their well-being and development. Future generations are affected by the decisions we make today. We must act in ways that will preserve the ability of future generations to enjoy their human rights and meet their needs in a healthy environment. Decisions we make today to preserve our planet ensure it is equal, inclusive, and non-discriminatory will provide future generations with a greater ability to thrive.

We therefore call:

- ” on member states to facilitate local mentorship programs for LGBTI youth, focusing on personal and professional development, and fostering individual empowerment.
- ” on member states to implement national campaigns in partnership with educational institutions to promote inclusivity and awareness of LGBTI issues among youth.
- ” on the UN to establish a UN-led global platform for youth dialogue, ensuring that LGBTI youth voices are represented in international policy-making processes.
- ” for the UN and member states to ensure meaningful engagement of diverse youth, including LGBTI youth, in decision-making processes at all levels. Meaningful engagement entails including diverse youth in formal policymaking spaces at all levels, requisite resourcing and capacity building, and clear monitoring and accountability frameworks to ensure follow up on commitments to include diverse youth voices.
- ” for the UN to strengthen the access and engagement of youth, including youth of diverse SOGIESC, in all UN processes, including the Security Council, General Assembly, and Economic and Social Council.
- ” on member states to create laws, policies and practices that will serve people alive today and generations yet to come, including through enacting measures to shrink inequalities, empower diverse populations, bolster human rights, and protect the planet.
- ” on States to consider innovative ways to use the concept of Trusteeship to safeguard the planet for future generations.

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

Global governance structures must rapidly adapt to be fit for purpose in a world where conflict is on the rise, the degradation of the environment presents an existential crisis, and social and global inequalities are exacerbated. We face threats that can only be overcome by working together as one human family, and yet the creation of the current global governance structure occurred in a different period and was led by colonial and/or imperial powers operating often with colonial, patronising or racist mindsets. We believe that the current international governance architecture must ultimately be restructured and be truly built on the principles that underlay the founding of the : to practise tolerance and for peoples to live together in peace with one another as good neighbours. Any change in global governance also brings risks. As power shifts, there is a danger that persons who are marginalised will only be further excluded in the process.

We therefore call:

- ” on States to ensure that our global governance structure reflects principles of trust, cooperation, decolonialism, transparency, accountability, interdependence and power distribution.
- ” on global governance bodies to increase civil society access, especially the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the UN General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the UN Security Council. This would include changing procedures to significantly strengthen the engagement of civil society.
- ” on States to deeply consider the proposals by Member States to truly revitalise UN processes, including especially a proposal to revitalise the Commission Status of Women. Any such proposed changes shludi a p (0.04e)10 (m).