

## Call for Expressions of Interest for Discussing a Global Governance Innovation

### Is there a need for a 'Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding'?

There is an important role for **philanthropy sector** to play in **addressing global challenges** and in **building capacity** for **global societal change** towards more **sustainability** and promotion of **global citizenship** and **philanthropy innovations**. In order for such positive involvement of philanthropy sector in **global governance** to function in a **coherent** way, a **shared vision** of a range of **stakeholders** is needed as well as there are needed **new structures and processes** for **global cross-sectoral coordination**. EFC has put forward with **"European Forum on Philanthropy and Research Funding"** (EFPRF) a very valuable cross-sectoral international **multi-stakeholder platform** for improving the **effectiveness and impact** of philanthropy sector in the field of **research funding in Europe**. With the breakfast discussion on a **potential need** for a **'Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding'** we would like to provide a **point of crystallization** for those grant makers who are interested in a **structured dialogue** with **UN system** and **global civil society** on **capacity building related to global challenges**. One point of discussion will be the question whether **Earth Charter** [www.earthcharterinaction.org](http://www.earthcharterinaction.org) and **Article 29 of Universal Declaration on Human Rights** (which says that **everyone has duties towards his/her community**) could serve as a potential practically operational ([www.wevalue.org/](http://www.wevalue.org/)) **ethical foundation for global civil society reform** towards **broad mobilization of philanthropic engagement globally**. Experience of **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change** in linking its capacity building efforts [http://www.ipcc.ch/ipcc-scholarship-programme/ipcc\\_scholarshipprogramme.shtml](http://www.ipcc.ch/ipcc-scholarship-programme/ipcc_scholarshipprogramme.shtml) with the work of grant makers will be presented as an example for discussing coordination needs. The breakfast discussion is put forward as some kind of **starting point of a shared vision building process** regarding the role of **philanthropy in global governance** with a focus on capacity building in the context of **sustainable development** and a special view towards **UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio 2012**.

#### Breakfast Round Table Discussion at WINGS Forum 2010

(Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support –  
the global network of networks in philanthropy)

Saturday 20 November 2010, 7.30 – 8.45,  
Grand Hotel Como/Italy

"Is there a need for a 'Global Forum on  
Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding'?"



[http://www.wingsweb.org/programmes/wingsforum\\_main.cfm](http://www.wingsweb.org/programmes/wingsforum_main.cfm)



- Marcos Kasil, Institute for the Development of Social Investment, Sao Paolo, Brazil
- Paula Jancso Fabiani, Fundacao Maria Cecilia Souto Vidigal, Brazil
- M. Polzer Centre for Social Innovation, Vienna & IAAI Vienna-Ljubljana
- Hanna Surmatz, European Foundation Center, Brussels
- Roberto Calingo, chief executive, Asia Pacific Philanthropy Consortium

**WINGS** – as the global network of networks in philanthropy – **addressed at its 2010 Forum prominently global challenges, global philanthropy** etc. (see the conference objectives below).

Philanthropy is working in an environment where the challenges the world is facing are age-old. What is different is that they are more complex and evolve at a faster pace; they are intertwined, interconnected, interdependent and global/moving across borders.

With the current status of global philanthropy, three primary areas are important for the future of philanthropy:

- Improving the legal and enabling environment for global philanthropy,
- Developing models for more effective philanthropic collaborations to address global challenges, and
- Engaging philanthropy more strategically with policymakers and multilateral organizations.

WINGS Forum 2010 is planned to address these three key areas, hearing case studies, sharing promising practices, and learning from content experts on how grantmaker associations can support global philanthropy's future.

[http://www.wingsweb.org/programmes/wingsforum\\_main.cfm](http://www.wingsweb.org/programmes/wingsforum_main.cfm)

Very valuable work is being done by **global philanthropy initiatives** like e.g. **Global Philanthropy Leadership Initiative** <http://www.efc.be/Networking/InterestGroupsAndFora/Global/Pages/GPLM.aspx> but there are **great additional potentials** for increasing effectiveness of philanthropy sector in **addressing global challenges** by strengthening **coordination mechanisms** with **United Nations system** (like e.g. UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, capacity building for global environmental change research, ...)!

Some **questions** regarding the role of UN system in a potential **'Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding'** are:

- **What can UN system feed into such a coordination effort?**
- **Can UN system facilitate development of a favorable legal and general environment for cross-border giving?**
- **Is there momentum in global research and education systems towards global societal change in the direction of sustainable development which can be more effectively addressed by philanthropy sector in cooperation with UN system (Rio 2012) ?**



Informal discussion of the need for more strategic links between philanthropy sector and UN system at WINGS 2010 Forum gala dinner: **Barry D. Gaberman** - WINGS chair emeritus, former senior vice president of Ford foundation and vice chair of Oxfam America, **M. Polzer**, **Helena Monteiro** - incoming Executive director of WINGS, **Bradford K. Smith** - president of Foundation center, New York [www.foundationcenter.org](http://www.foundationcenter.org)



**Contact:** Miroslav Polzer

Centre for Social Innovation, Vienna – head of Austrian Science Office Ljubljana [www.aso.zsi.at](http://www.aso.zsi.at) and Secretary general of **International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges** [www.glocha.info](http://www.glocha.info), member of Academic Council on the UN System [www.acuns.org](http://www.acuns.org)

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## Related past activities/events:

	International conference “ <b>Global Philanthropists: Partners for a Knowledge Based Response to Climate Change</b> ” organized by <b>Centre for Social Innovation Vienna– Austrian Science Office Ljubljana</b> <a href="http://www.aso.zsi.at">www.aso.zsi.at</a> in cooperation with <b>European Foundation Center</b> <a href="http://www.efc.be">www.efc.be</a> , <b>Slovenian Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology</b> and other partners June 2008 in Portorož/Slovenia - <a href="http://www.glocha.info/conferenceindex.html">http://www.glocha.info/conferenceindex.html</a>
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Outline of a “ <b>UN Alliance of Civilizations Global Citizenship Ethics Youth Disaster Relief Initiative</b> ” developed in the context of United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Summer School in Aveiro/Portugal August 2010 with following components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- "Pakistan Aid Youth Song World Cup"</li><li>- "Pakistan Aid Youth Fund Raising World Cup"</li><li>- "Pakistan Aid Social Innovation World Cup"</li></ul> <a href="http://www.glocha.info/iaai/index.php/component/content/article/71-unaocsummerschool">http://www.glocha.info/iaai/index.php/component/content/article/71-unaocsummerschool</a>	
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International Conference “ <b>Earth Charter - Ethical Framework for a Sustainable World</b> ” Ahmedabad/India, November 2010 Workshop “ <i>Global Challenges and Global Governance</i> ” Paper Miroslav Polzer “ <b>Global Citizenship Ethics for Effective Global Governance – From Ideas to Action</b> ” 	<b>Suggestion 1:</b> Thematic Debate on “ <b>Ethics and Global Governance</b> ” (with a special session on “Philanthropy”) at 66th session of <b>UN General Assembly</b> , autumn 2010 <b>Suggestion 2:</b> Linking <b>Earth Charter/Philanthropy</b> with UN normative framework via standard setting work related to <b>Article 29 of Universal Declaration on Human Rights</b> (anchoring global philanthropy in <b>Global Citizenship Ethics</b> and “Human duties in the context of global challenges”) <b>Suggestion 3:</b> “ <b>Global Civil Society Compact</b> ” event at Rio +20 conference (in analogy to UN Global Compact for the business sector); possible content: self regulation and verifiability based quality standards of civil society organizations <b>Suggestion 4:</b> “ <b>Global Citizenship Philanthropy Initiative</b> ” with Indian billionaires as first phase promoters – one element: ‘ <b>Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding</b> ’
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	November 4th meeting of M. Polzer with <b>Ms. Sukhman Randhawa (Office of the Advisor to the Prime Minister of India on Public Information Infrastructure and Innovations Mr. Sam Pitroda) @ Planning Commission of India</b> in New Delhi presenting the idea of a <b>Global Citizenship Philanthropy Initiative</b> with Indian billionaires as first phase promoters; received very <b>friendly and positively</b> ; I have been assured that the presented <b>ideas and concepts will be studied and discussed further</b> and general cooperation on innovation issues has been envisaged
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November 17 2010 – email to **UNESCO Assistant Director General** (for strategic planning) **Hans d’Orville** asking for a statement related to UNESCO and the idea of a ‘**Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding**’ as UNESCO plays a crucial role in education for sustainable development and in global RTD coordination and there have been launched a “UNESCO Extrabudgetary Resource Mobilization Strategic Plan” which provides a number of contact points.

## Planned activities/events

- November 22-25 2010, Barcelona/Spain, informal discussion of the idea of a ‘**Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding**’ at 5th Barcelona Conference on Higher Education of **Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI)** <http://www.guni-rmies.net/conference2010/new.php?lang=2&id=36> and UN Inter-Agency Committee of the **Decade on Education for Sustainable Development** <http://www.guni-rmies.net/conference2010/page.php?lang=2&id=47>
- 7-8 December, Stuttgart, participation in Annual conference of **European Forum on Philanthropy and Research Funding**
- February 7 2011, New York, meeting M. Polzer with **United Nations Assistant Secretary General for Policy Coordination and Interagency Affairs Mr. Thomas Stelzer** (responsible also for United Nations Office for Partnerships <http://www.un.org/partnerships/>) to discuss the idea of a ‘**Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding**’ on a UN systemic level.
- Efforts will be made to organize a **UNU Midday Forum** <http://www.ony.unu.edu/events-forums/MDForums/> on the issue of a potential “**Global Forum on Philanthropy and Research/Education Funding**” as a coordination and cooperation platform of **UN system and philanthropy sector** in 7<sup>th</sup> calendar week of 2011 in New York to discuss the idea with global governance experts and UN practitioners (*to be confirmed*)
- February 2011, envisaged meeting with representatives of “**The Giving Pledge**” <http://givingpledge.org/> and the “**The Global Knowledge Initiative**” [www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org](http://www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org) at the fringes of **Annual Meeting 2011 of American Association for the Advancement of Science AAAS** [www.aaas.org/meetings/2011/](http://www.aaas.org/meetings/2011/) in Washington D.C. (*to be confirmed*)
- March 2011, Ljubljana: International workshop on “**Worst case Climate Change Scenarios and their Ethical Implications**” organized by Austrian Science and Research Liaison Office (ASO) Ljubljana – **Centre for Social Innovation Vienna** [www.zsi.at](http://www.zsi.at) in cooperation with Slovenian Association, Croatian Association and European Support Centre of the **Club of Rome** [www.clubofrome.at/](http://www.clubofrome.at/), **UNESCO Ethics in Science and Technology division** <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/ethics-of-science-and-technology/science-and-technology/climate-change/> et al.