

Organization with Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

## Special Newsletter

10th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights  
An anniversary celebrated at the United Nations in Geneva, organized by the Friends of the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights and Union Nations Federation



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On May 13, 2025, numerous experts, NGOs, institutions, local authorities, civil society representatives, and committed individuals gathered at the United Nations in Geneva to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights (DDHu). It was a powerful moment of dialogue, commitment, and mobilization for a more ethical and sustainable future. This significant event, organized by the Friends of the Declaration Association and the UNF, provided an opportunity to review the past ten years, discuss major issues addressed by the Declaration, share concrete initiatives inspired by it, and outline ambitious prospects for action in the coming years. A large number of people closely followed the event: over 400 attendees participated in person, and more than 4,000 watched the live broadcast on the UNFTV channel. Throughout the day, the conference was marked by outstanding contributions from inspiring individuals and actors from civil society, institutions, politics, and business, all committed to promoting the values and principles of the Declaration.

## **Opening**



The conference began with a solemn opening sequence. Christophe Giovannetti, Secretary General of the Friends of the Declaration Association and President of the Union Nations Federation (UNF), opened the conference with a welcome speech and words of thanks to all those who contributed to the event. Corinne Lepage, President of the DDHu and the initiator of the Declaration, then delivered a powerful and visionary speech highlighting the growing importance of this text.



The day was hosted by Guila Clara Kessous, UNESCO Peace Ambassador, who gracefully fulfilled her role as master of ceremonies.

## First Round Table

### Leaders and the DDHu: What Do They Think? Moderator: Corinne Lepage



This first round table brought together an exceptional panel of political leaders around a key question: How do leaders and local authorities perceive the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights and integrate its principles into their actions?



Notable speakers included Bruno Fuchs, President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French National Assembly; Chantal Chambu Mwavita, Minister of Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Maty Diouf, Deputy Mayor of Nice; Patrice Trovoada, former Prime Minister of São Tomé and Príncipe; Marianne Berete, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire; and Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris.

## Second Round Table

### Young Generations, Sports, Environment, and the Rights of Humankind Moderator: Driss Guerraoui



Moderated by Driss Guerraoui, President of the International Youth Network for the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights, this round table explored sport as a tool for education, peace, and environmental engagement, aligned with the Declaration's values.

Speakers included Jean Jérôme Perrin-Mortier, Director General of Peace and Sport; Marlène Harnois, Peace and Sport Ambassador and Olympic medalist; and Cheick Cissé Sallah Junior, Olympic taekwondo champion.



### Third Round Table

#### **The DDHu and International Law** **Moderator: Christian Huglo**

Led by Christian Huglo, lawyer and PhD in law specializing in public and environmental law, this session brought together prominent legal scholars to discuss the rights and duties of the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights in light of international legal frameworks.



Contributors included: Dominique Bourg, philosopher and professor in Lausanne; Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, professor at the University of Geneva; Philippe Sands (video intervention), lawyer and professor in London; Nicolas de Saadeler, professor at the Université Libre de Bruxelles; and a message from Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi.



The session also featured a performance by China Moses and Guila Clara Kessous, presenting an exclusive song supported by Rolling Stone France.

### **Fourth Round Table**

#### **Health, Security, Education, and the Rights of Humankind**



This session highlighted the connections between human rights and public health challenges.



Panelists included Isabelle Wachsmuth from WHO's Art Impact for Health and SDGs initiative; Kareem Ali, UNF Health Ambassador; Rémy Barbe, Head of the Hospitalization Unit at HUG's SPEA; Taher Mahmoud from the London Osteoporosis Clinic; and Adam Perlman, expert in integrative medicine and Chief Medical Officer at Pendulum Therapeutics (video contribution).



### **Local Authorities and Institutions**

**Moderator: Maddy Gilbert**

Moderated by Maddy Gilbert, National Secretary of CFE-CGC, this session emphasized the critical role of local governments, unions, and institutions in promoting and applying the principles of the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights.

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Speakers included Sergio Piazzì, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (video intervention); Bruno Fuchs; Dominique Attias, Vice President of the Paris Bar; and Jean Aniké, founder of the World Youth Parliament.

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## Sixth Round Table

### NGOs and Companies for Sustainable and Equitable Development Moderator: Ricardo Espinosa



Chaired by Ricardo Espinosa, Director of the NGO IAHRAG, this round table illustrated how NGOs and economic actors are tackling sustainable development challenges.



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Speakers included Sam Abu Ahmad, President of Sam Precious Metal; Sébastien Jan, Secretary General of Africa 21; Yannick Monget, environmental futurist; Jean Claude Fontanive, President of the European Higher Institute for Lobbying; Henri Nidecker, Founder of D'Equip and CEO of the Nidecker Group; and Hicham Kasraoui, who delivered an outstanding presentation on the Young Ambassadors of the DDHu.

## **Closing Remarks**

**“DDHu: more relevant than ever!”**



Bettina Laville, Honorary State Councillor, Honorary President of Committee 21 and President of the Paris Institute for Advanced Studies, concluded the conference by emphasizing how the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights is more relevant than ever in the face of today's ecological, social, and geopolitical challenges. She called for a collective mobilization to uphold the values and principles of the DDHu.

## **Signature of the DDHU**

The remarkable quality of the panel discussions throughout this symbolic day significantly contributed to its success. Thanks to the commitment of all involved, over 100 new signatures were collected in support of the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights — a strong signal for the future and a testament to its growing global resonance.

This 10th anniversary marks a new milestone in promoting human and environmental rights. The proposals discussed during the conference will help shape future reflections and actions.



Special thanks to our Young Ambassadors for their invaluable presence and contributions, highlighting the crucial importance of youth voices in addressing current challenges and shaping future visions..



Ambassador titles of the DDHu were awarded to: Bruno Fuchs, President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French National Assembly; Sam Abu Ahmad, President of Sam Precious Metal; Jumana Abu Baker, President of the Foundation for Environmental Development and Protection; Cheick Cisse Salah; and Patrice Trovoada, former Prime Minister of São Tomé and Príncipe.

On this occasion, Corinne Lepage and Christophe Giovannetti also presented the UNF Peace Medal to Mr. Michel Innocent Peya for his work on the Congo Basin and his efforts to preserve this second lung of the planet.



For those who could not attend the live event or wish to revisit certain moments, the full replay is available here: [\[YouTube Replay\]](#)

You can also relive key highlights of the day in our online gallery: [\[Dropbox Photo Album\]](#)

We hope you will continue to bring this Declaration to life by sharing, promoting, and encouraging others to sign it. Together, we can build a humanity conscious of its responsibilities toward present and future generations.

Continue to support the Declaration by signing it online and sharing the link: [www.ddhu.org](http://www.ddhu.org)

As President of the UNF, I would like to thank all our Ambassadors and Vice Presidents who came from Egypt, London, Switzerland, the Emirates, and Monaco to make this event an exceptional gathering for all.



Special thanks to those supporting our humanitarian programs, especially our partner SHID and Aline Menin for "No Mercy for Malaria," a bold and unique anti-malaria initiative supported by our ambassador Karim Ali. This program raises awareness and provides Forever protection devices by Aerashield to the most affected regions in Africa.



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Thanks also to Leon Sala for his work with the Carlos Takam Academy, an initiative led by the world boxing champion that supports youth through sports, education, and the transmission of universal values, offering young people hope and a caring environment.

Thanks to Guillaume Delahaye for his vision of the University of Traditional Medicine, tied to his Pyralide method, offering an innovative approach to integrating complementary and ancestral medicine into public health policy, aligned with modern medicine and aimed at dialogue, prevention, and holistic well-being.

Dr. Andrea Zaki Stephanous, President of the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS), leads a nonprofit Egyptian civil society organization. CEOSS Vision: Since its founding in 1961, it has worked to uplift humanity, promote justice and equality, spread a culture of enlightened thought, and uphold ethical principles and shared human values. CEOSS Mission: To promote the sacredness, equity, and harmony of life. The organization aims to contribute to societal transformation by fostering moral and spiritual awareness, strengthening the sense of belonging, encouraging respect for diversity, addressing conflicts, and advancing social justice for individuals and communities.



Finally, I wish to thank all those not mentioned here, especially Pierre Kantoury, Ronald Jappont, Sandrine Brunel, Alexandre Giovannetti, Zakaria Iddi, Stéphane Schittekk, and Pierre Michel Virot for their invaluable support.