

A Global Peace Conference to Build a New Global Society

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Hopes and expectations for change multiply when a new era arrives. In the changing, exciting times, the return of the cursed past is wished least. But, more often than not, little changes, and the unloved past returns in new clothes. Sometimes it returns with a vengeance.

Would the post-corona future also wither away one day as the futures after the two World Wars and the Cold War withered away, unsung? Or will it hold and mold the centre and the peripheries this time and write a new history of global society. It depends on how we look at the changes taking place, what lessons we derive, what energies we pool, what new initiatives we take, what plans we plan and how do we go about it. Enormous and historic opportunities are available today for qualitative political and social change at all levels. These shouldn't be squandered once again.

It is therefore suggested that a global peace conference is organized in a year or two. It may draw an entirely new, unprecedented and innovative agenda of peace research to transform the contemporary unruly crowd of warring states, quarrelling nations and stranger peoples into a new and truly bonding human society, an all caring and sharing society.

The agenda of such a conference has to be unconventional and innovative, possibly including the following items:

Banishing the Ideas of Mass Destruction: History of the world has been written with blood and tears under the influence of powerful destructive ideas like nationalism and national interest, acquisition of unlimited and unaccounted power, racism, religious, ethnic and tribal servitude, romance with weapons, wars, totalitarianism and hegemony of all sorts. These and many other mass-murdering ideas and ideologies should be replaced by humanistic visions and life-respecting ideas. How to do it?

De-Weaponizing Global Society: Trillions of dollars spent on arms and the armed forces of the world have failed to save the world from Corona virus. The virus has conquered all: territories, businesses, schools, colleges, universities, workplaces, homes, parks, beaches, museums, art galleries, theatres, media, roads, waterways and skies, sacred places and military establishments. The military could do nothing. The weapons could do nothing. There should be a global demand to cut at least 25 percent of defense expenditure of the world, and invest the savings into health, education, water and sanitation, infrastructural and agricultural development all over the world. In addition, new global, regional and national social, political, economic and security contracts should be adopted, and the security system based on the concept of perpetual struggle for power should be abandoned. How to do it?

Promoting Humanistic and not Hate-Based Education: Ways and means should to be found to ensure that the curriculum of not only civilian educational institutions, but those of military institutions are reviewed and changed regularly by the leading national experts in different fields and the new generations are encouraged to develop humanistic perspectives, replacing murderous obsession in the

name of love for the country, and savage competition in the schools and at work places the name of high achievement. How to do it?

Building a New UN: Whatever the reason, the United Nations (UN) has not been able to deliver for which it was established after the Second World War. It has failed to develop itself into a global organization for the peoples of the world. However, *a* UN is needed today, but a pro-active, humanistic, structurally reformed, a pro-people UN, an entirely renewed UN. How to do it?

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