



Dear Friends,

GSI is proud that the UN elected [Ecuador Foreign Minister Maria Fernanda Espinosa](#) to be the incoming President of the UN General Assembly. She will become the 73rd person, and the fourth woman ever, to hold the UNGA presidency.



UN Photo/Loey Felipe | Foreign Minister María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés of Ecuador, newly-elected President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, addresses Member States.

Sra Espinosa is a former Defense Minister, Ambassador to the UN in Geneva and an accomplished poet, having published five volumes of poetry and receiving the Ecuadorian National Poetry Prize in 1990.

Sra Espinosa has also been a long-time advocate for peace, human rights, nuclear disarmament and environmental protection. She serves as a [Council Member of the influential World Future Council](#), and has partnered in a number of events and initiatives with key international peace and disarmament organisations including Abolition 2000, Basel Peace Office, UNFOLD Zero, and GSI's Parliamentarians for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament.

During her term as Ecuador Ambassador to the UN in Geneva, for example, she co-hosted a number of nuclear disarmament events with these NGOs at the UN, including some of the annual commemoration events for the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

At the 2015 commemoration event for the International Day, Sra Espinosa presented "[A Nuclear-Weapon-Free World: Our Common Good](#)," a joint statement of religious leaders, mayors and parliamentarians to the United Nations.

Ms. Espinosa has also been the Coordinator of the project "Political Dialogues for Sustainable Development in Latin America;" served as Environmental Adviser for UNICEF on environmental and girls' education in Niger; worked as Liaison Officer on forest-related indigenous knowledge; and focused on intellectual property rights at the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests at the United Nations.

In addition to being a poet, Sra. Espinosa is an accomplished academic, having published more than 30 academic articles on the Amazon River, culture, heritage, development, climate change, intellectual property, foreign policy, integration, defence and security.

GSI extends our sincerest congratulations to Sra Espinosa for her election and wishes her success during her term in this important global position.



[Presentation of the Joint statement on Nuclear Disarmament to Marco Kalbusch, Head of the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs in Geneva](#)

Active Public Engagement: GSI in the NEWS Real Leaders' Recognition of Jonathan Granoff

GSI is further thrilled to announce that Real Leaders, a prominent magazine, has recognized Jonathan Granoff, President of GSI, as one of the top 100 visionary leaders in the world.



In choosing its 100 Visionary Leaders the magazine stated: "We discovered a common characteristic too: Real leaders are not restricted to excellence in business alone, but have a burning desire to create opportunities for others at a global scale. Their insight into major problems that affect our planet and their simple yet powerful solutions have contributed to a world that increasingly realizes that we need more people like them if our species is to thrive -- as we add several billion more humans to our planet in need of resources." Real Leaders is available at Whole Foods and major book stores such as Barnes and Noble. GSI is deeply honored to have its President recognized with such illustrious inspiring woman and men.



Seán MacBride Peace Prize 2018: Honoring Douglas Roche



GSI wishes to congratulate our esteemed adviser and friend, The Honorable Douglas Roche O.C. for being awarded the Sean MacBride Peace Prizes ([Continued](#))

Nobel Peace Prize Laureates and Jonathan Granoff Visit Bahrain



Certainly in the world of politics and politicians, magnanimity is very seldom seen.

His Royal Highness, the Prime Minister of Bahrain received several Nobel Peace Prize laureates and had a very philosophical discussion with his honorable guests, each of whom has enormous experience in the world of realpolitik.

They included: former South African President Frederik de Klerk; former Polish President Lech Walesa; former President of East Timor, Jose Ramos-Horta, Indian human rights activist Kailash Satyarthi; and Under-Secretary General and former Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Anna Tabijuka, and President of the Global Security Institute, Jonathan Granoff. ([Watch Video](#))

International Day of Peace



On the occasion of the UN International Day of Peace (September 21, 2018), Jonathan Granoff and his close friend, Dr. Jane Goodall, underscored their commitments to peace. Additionally, Jonathan Granoff shared his views on peace at an interfaith event at the UN Church Center ([Listen to his conversation](#)).

PNND in the News: PNND at the 12th Annual International Conference on Overseas Development Aid



'Imagine if nuclear weapons were used on the Korean Peninsula, either by the DPRK or the United States. The devastation to humans, infrastructure and the environment would likely be catastrophic even if it were only one or two nukes detonated,' said Alyn Ware, keynote speaker at the 12th Seoul International Conference on Overseas Development Aid, which was cohosted by the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

The conference was opened by CHO Hyun, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and presided over by LEE Mikyung, President of KOICA and former PNND Co-President. Jeffrey Sachs, Special adviser on SDGs to the UN Secretary-General, was one of the other international speakers. Alyn Ware, Global Coordinator of PNND, delivered the keynote address.

'Peace is one of the five key principles - the five Ps - of the Sustainable Development Goals,' said LEE Mikyung in her opening remarks, 'the other four being economic Prosperity, protecting the Planet, putting People at the centre of policy, and ensuring inclusion and Partnership of all stakeholders.'[\(Continued\)](#)

[International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons: World Future Council's Youth Ambassador Addresses the UN](#)



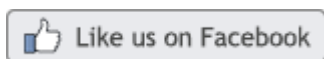
On September 26, the United Nations Assembly held a High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament to commemorate the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

The World Future Council's Youth Ambassador and environmental activist Kehkashan Basu got elected to speak to the UN High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament ([Continued](#))

Sincerely,

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