

NEW HUMANITY
www.new-humanity.org

NGO in General Consultative Status
with the United Nations **ECOSOC**

UNESCO Official Partner

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REINVENTING PEACE

UNESCO, Paris, 15 november 2016

On the 20th anniversary of the Prize for Peace Education awarded to Chiara Lubich

DECLARATION

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The unprecedented events at the beginning of the third millennium dramatically highlight the struggles of many peoples and nations that are without peace, access to justice, security, and sustainable development.

We wish to join forces with all who aspire to “re-invent” peace. In the United Nations Charter, peace means “to develop friendly relations among nations” (Article 1). These relations should reach the point of establishing among States and between their people, a genuine fraternity which forms a solid basis for a world community.

We wish to support UNESCO’s mission to help people “in their understanding of one another.” We recognize that acknowledging our shared global citizenship, as well as cultivating “respect for the

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diversity of cultures, tolerance, dialogue and co-operation, in a climate of mutual trust and understanding, are among the best guarantees of international peace and security” (UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, 2 November 2001).

We wish to nurture the capacity of people to live together peacefully that we call “the art of living together in fraternity.” In these times of globalization, this capability could not be more crucial. It is *the art of dialogue with everyone, of taking the first step towards reconciliation even with our enemies, of being open towards others to the point of making their situation our own, and of*

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*weaving together and continually renewing constructive relationships*¹. In short, it is the art of forming an authentic community that values both unity and individuality as vital elements.

With a renewed commitment to work for peace, we invite others to join us in calling for UNESCO to promote the extraordinary plan proposed below. The proposal recognizes the potential represented by the younger generations who have committed themselves to working for the project of a united world,

We call on UNESCO to:

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- Encourage member states to **contribute to a worldwide educational project on the art of living together in fraternity** adapted to their own culture. Urge them to include this objective in school curricula and put monitoring mechanisms in place to ensure consistent implementation.
- Offer member states **in-service training for teachers** on the art of living together in fraternity both to raise awareness and provide new skills. The training covers subject matter within specific disciplines and from interdisciplinary and intercultural perspectives. Through this training, teachers learn how to help students recognize that **seeking the truth gives them an opportunity to initiate dialogue, reconciliation, and co-operation;**
- In line with SDG 11 of the 2030 Agenda, support economic, urban, social, and cultural policies that promote **communities and cities where the goal of sustainability includes a focus on the art**

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of living together in fraternity. Promote cities as spaces where the values of a new humanity prevail, where each human being is called to be open to and to learn from the cultures of the world as a “world person,” as a “global citizen.”

By offering these proposals, we hope that co-operation for peace among New Humanity and other partner NGOs may be increasingly dynamic and effective as we work alongside the UNESCO.

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