

# UN 2020

Preparing the UN 2020 Summit



The year 2020 will mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations. It will also be the occasion for several multi-year reviews of major treaties and processes, and a time to take stock of the UN's role in the world. Support is growing for using the occasion of the UN's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary to develop potential synergies among these high-level reviews, and to develop progressive improvements to global institutions and policy.

**There is a need to establish an effective United Nations preparatory process leading to renewal of the United Nations system in 2020.**

Beyond an examination of what has worked well (or less so) in the past, the UN2020 Initiative aims to:

1. Allow key governments, UN officials and civil society representatives to come together and signal that a well-organized anniversary and re-dedication is desirable;
2. Generate discussion of the political and organizational requirements for a 2020 preparatory process, including the development and engagement of key stakeholder networks; communications and outreach; and elements of a General Assembly decision to frame and launch a formal intergovernmental process.

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*The UN2020 Project is initiated by a coordinating group of civil society representatives including CIVICUS, The Stimson Center, The Workable World Trust, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (New York) and the World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy. The group is consulting actively with government representatives, UN officials and other stakeholders.*



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The UN2020 Initiative is canvassing the views of various stakeholders, regarding (a) the desirable structure and scope of an inclusive and effective 2020 preparatory process; and (b) how such a process can be formally initiated, while also reinforcing ongoing agendas, including the Secretary-General's reforms.

A draft resolution of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (AHWG) includes a preambular paragraph *that notes* “**the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in 2020, and recognizing therein the opportunity to strengthen the Organization and improve its work,**” as well as an operative paragraph that “*calls for timely preparations for the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.*”

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An inclusive preparatory process for the proposed Summit is essential. A civil society Call to Action aims to demonstrate that the 2020 process carries the support of civil society.

The key statement that an organization supports when signing on to the **Global Call to Action** is as follows:

***We therefore call for effective and inclusive preparatory processes for a UN2020 summit that will be a catalyst for the renewal and strengthening of the United Nations. We call for national, regional and global processes across all sectors, involving all stakeholders and relevant international organizations, leading to a United Nations system that will be capable of addressing the global challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.***

*Please consider how your organization can support the Call to Action, and contribute over the months ahead to the essential discussions regarding the shape and content of a renewed United Nations system, in the run-up to a 2020 Summit.*

*To endorse this Call to Action on behalf of your organization,  
please visit: [UN2020.org/call-to-action-for-reform/](https://UN2020.org/call-to-action-for-reform/)*

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To stay updated about upcoming opportunities for engagement with the UN2020 Project, please subscribe to our mailing list at [UN2020.org/updates](https://UN2020.org/updates) or contact [ferguswatt@worldfederalistscanada.org](mailto:ferguswatt@worldfederalistscanada.org).