

RECOGNITION OF *JUS GAIA* (WORLD CITIZENSHIP)¹

The Council of



Whereas all human beings are equal, interdependent and entitled to a dignified and peaceful life free from discrimination, poverty, deprivation, human rights violations, and oppression;

Affirming that all persons are entitled to all human rights and that these human rights are universal, indivisible, and inalienable;

Whereas the unprecedented challenges of the twenty-first century transcend the territorial boundaries and institutional capacities of individual nation-states and can only be effectively resolved through international cooperation and the maintenance of and support to local, regional, and global institutions in which considerations of national interest yield to the pressing needs and shared responsibilities of humanity and the preservation of life and the well-being of the planet;

Whereas the maintenance of existing and construction of future institutions requires, as a cornerstone of international peace, human rights and security, the active cooperation of every jurisdiction in (i) recognising the legal status of world citizenship for their residents and (ii) availing world citizenship identity information for everyone residing within their respective territories, thereby ensuring their participation in emerging structures of global democracy;

Guided by the principles of equality and non-discrimination, the full enjoyment of all human rights, mutual respect and responsibility, universal justice, ecological sustainability, and an equitably shared planet on which everyone depends for sustenance and life itself;

¹ We encourage every local government in every country to favourably consider unanimously approving the present resolution. This text is a generic version of a local government resolution (or motion or other term) officially recognizing the new legal doctrine of *jus gaia* (world citizenship) and the steps to be taken at the local level to make this as widely accessible as possible to all legal residents of the local government area approving the resolution. For additional information, see: www.onenessworld.org.

Recalling the many pre-existing city-to-city alliances, urban partnerships, and generally close relations between our cities, leaders and residents and that these are solid foundations on which to build an ever-closer union of all people of Earth;

Cognizant that a unified humanity living within a system of global democracy and a democratically elected global government guided by the full electoral participation of everyone, everywhere provides the best foundation for the continued existence of humanity on our bountiful but fragile and finite planet;

Convinced further that the major global issues now facing humanity cannot and will not be solved by national governments acting alone or in partial association with one another.

The [REDACTED] Council hereby declares that:

1. Every person residing within the territorial jurisdiction of [REDACTED] (both citizens and non-citizen legal residents including those awaiting formal recognition and the grant of legal status) has the right to enjoy the status of world citizen based on the legal principles of *jus gaia* ² as a unique or supplemental citizenship status conferred on the basis of *jus soli* ³, *jus sanguinis* ⁴, *jus nexi* ⁵ and other legal citizenship doctrines.
2. We commit to integrating human rights principles, including world citizenship and the legal doctrine of *jus gaia*, into all our local policies, services, procurement, and decision-making.
3. We further commit to supporting innovation at all levels that ensures meaningful public engagement and democratic participation and, in this regard, will develop and implement local laws, policies and procedures to confer world citizenship status on residents within the territories under our jurisdiction.⁶
4. We commit in a reciprocal manner to recognize through the issuance of a universal certificate of recognition the world citizenship status of all other local government areas anywhere in the world that have conferred the same status on those residents within their territories of jurisdiction.⁷
5. We commit to formally entering into cooperation agreements with as many municipal councils as possible in other political jurisdictions that agree to join a new world citizenship alliance.⁸
6. We hereby endorse and adhere to the imperative of constructing global institutions specifically mandated to confront and resolve those challenges and problems that, by reason of their magnitude, scope, and cross-border impact, can only be addressed through decision-making that places the interests of humanity as a whole above narrower local, regional, or national considerations, including an elected World Parliamentary Assembly subject to the democratic electoral wishes of the entire human race.⁹

2 The term *jus gaia* refers to establishing a new legal doctrine conferring citizenship on people based on their membership of the human race as opposed to their birth, residency, naturalization or family heritage as the legal rationale behind their citizenship status. See, for instance: Scott Leckie and Pablo Rueda, *One Earth, One Politics: Building Our Shared Path Toward World Citizenship* with my co-author Pablo Rueda (Ethics Press, 2024), Chapter 2, pp. 15-43.

3 *Jus soli* is the right of anyone born in the territory of a state to nationality or citizenship.

4 *Jus sanguinis* is where citizenship is inherited from parents.

5 *Jus nexi* is a proposed principle for citizenship acquisition that emphasizes rootedness and deep ties to a country through long-term residence, social participation, and integration into the community.

6 Local governments will pursue the adoption of legal and other measures establishing methods and procedures for formally conferring the legal status of world citizenship.

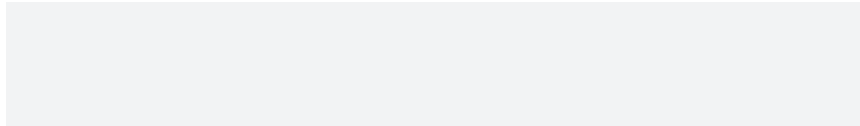
7 Mutual recognition is a basic principle of international law and will be applied in the context of this resolution as well.

8 Such cooperation agreements will outline precise areas of cooperation and reaffirm the commitment of each local government authority to become part of a future global alliance of democracies.

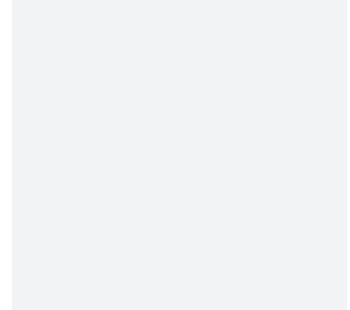
9 See, for instance: Torbjörn Tännsjö, *From Despotism to Democracy: How a World Government Can Save Humanity*, Springer, 2023.

7. We support as a matter of priority the establishment of a forward and future looking planet-wide voting system on matters under the jurisdiction of the United Nations General Assembly, and the still to be established World Parliamentary Assembly comprised of members directly elected by the global polity, and Chamber of Cities comprised of all the world's most populous 1,000 cities.¹⁰
8. We commit to immediately and actively pursue the establishment of a Chamber of Cities comprised of representatives from each of the world's most populated 1,000 cities. For the purposes of equitable representation, each participating city will incorporate the surrounding semi-rural and rural populations to ensure the inclusion of the entire human population.
9. We commit to accessing and allocating the maximum of available resources, both financial and physical, towards the full achievement of the aims of this resolution, including support for a global 1% annual tax levy on the world's wealthiest 25 nation states and 10,000 world's wealthiest individuals.¹¹
10. We commit to establishing within our local government administrative structures a secretariat and programme of action to implement and monitor compliance and implementation of the present resolution.
11. A official signed and water-sealed copy of this resolution will be sent to and held in perpetuity by a body established by the World Parliamentary Assembly.

Signed,



[Mayor/Signing Authority of local government area and Official Seal]



10 The size of the membership of a future World Parliament would be determined on the basis of a single representative representing a determined number of constituents, ultimately ranging in size between 1,000 to 8,000 members.

11 All local governments supporting this resolution will agree to establish specific budget lines devoted to implementing the contents of this resolution and identify any other resources that will be dedicated towards these ends.