

## SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

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### Event title

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Multilateralism at a Crossroad: The Promise of a UN Summit of the Future at a time of global peril

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### Background and Rationale

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Multilateralism, and more specifically the role of the UN, is under threat. Considered a “once-in-a-generation opportunity” to address inequities in global governance and reset international cooperation, the Summit of the Future (SoF) will be a cornerstone among a series of high-level UN meetings in 2024. The Summit will be held on 22-23 September 2024 where member states will adopt ‘A Pact for the Future’. Based on the results of the SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future promises to bring concrete commitments for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

This side event will discuss the importance of the SoF for the Agenda 2030 and critically evaluate the zero draft of the Pact now being negotiated through the lens of policy recommendations and action plans proposed by global civil society, including those from Europe and North America, as reflected in the interim People's Pact produced by the Coalition for the UN We Need. The major focus of CSO recommendations will be on poverty eradication (SDG 1), Zero Hunger (SDG 2), reducing inequalities (SDG 10), climate justice (SDG 13), global peace (SDG 16) and global partnership (SDG 17).

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### Session objectives and expected outcomes

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In addition to an exchange of views and experiences among participants on how to strengthen multilateralism and how to achieve the above mentioned SDGs, this side event main outcome consists in addressing the following three issues from the UNECE perspective :

1. Support the ownership of the Summit of the Future by multiple interested actors of the UNECE region.
2. Assess and promote knowledge about the Summit of the Future and “Our Common Agenda” within civil society actors of the UNECE region.
3. Identify priorities, contributions, and UNECE regional approaches toward the Summit of the Future.

The results of this side event will be conveyed as an input to the UN Civil Society Conference to be held in Nairobi, 9-10 May, to the Co-Facilitators of the ongoing negotiations for the Pact of the Future, to the C4UN process for the People’s Pact of the Future, and any other relevant regional or global fora.

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## Organizers

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Lead organizers: The Coalition for the United Nations We Want (C4UN) was formed as a global network that brings together civil society organizations and experts from around the world to contribute to the process and support a successful Summit of the Future, including through the preparation of a “People’s Pact for the Future” that nourishes the “Pact for the Future” that the Summit must adopt.

Contributors: Greycells, Association of Former International Civil Servants for Development ([www.greycells.ch](http://www.greycells.ch)), other civil society and think tanks of the C4UN.

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## Agenda and Structure

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### Provisional agenda (3 :00 to 4 :30 CET)

Introduction by the Co-Chairs/Moderators of this side event : 5’ presentation on the status of the negotiations on the Pact of the Future by Ishaan Shah, UN Women National Gender Youth Advocate, and 5’ presentation on the status of the SDGs in the UNECE region, by Nelya Rakhimova, SDGs Specialist (TBC).

All participants will be invited to provide, in one or two sentences, max. 2 minutes, their short replies to the following 7 questions. After each question, the Moderators will open a round of comments and discussion (max. 5’ for each round) aimed at identifying concrete messages and proposals to be conveyed to the SoF negotiators and decision-makers involved in the SDGs implementation:

1. Identify up to a maximum of three issues that you consider a priority to be resolved to strengthen the effectiveness of multilateralism.
2. Among these SDGs, which are, in your view, the most urgent for the UNECE region, and why? (in one sentence): poverty eradication (SDG 1), Zero Hunger (SDG 2), reducing inequalities (SDG 10), climate justice (SDG 13), global peace (SDG 16) and global partnership (SDG 17).
3. What should be the primary demand of the countries of the UNECE region as a group at the Summit of the Future (in one sentence)?
4. What opportunities do you think the Summit of the Future process opens for the UNECE region (in one sentence)?
5. How much do you agree with the following statement? “Non-governmental actors of the UNECE region know and understand the Summit of the Future goals and process.”
  - A) Strongly agree.
  - B) Agree.
  - C) Neither agree nor disagree.
  - D) Disagree.
  - E) Strongly disagree.



6. How much do you agree with the following statement? “Non-governmental actors of the UNECE region know and understand the SoF goals and process.”

- A) Strongly agree.
- B) Agree.
- C) Neither agree nor disagree.
- D) Disagree.
- E) Strongly disagree.

7. The UNECE region includes key donors to ODA for developing countries. What are your views and / or proposals in this regard in the context of the SoF?

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List of Panellists

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**Moderators / Co-Chairs as mentioned above, TBC.**

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Panellists/ Commentators: Ishaan Shah and Nelya Rakhimova, as mentioned above, TBD.

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**Sign-up / Registration Link / QR code**

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**TO REGISTER:**

[https://bit.ly/UNECE\\_REGIONAL\\_FORUM\\_C4UN\\_GREYCELLS\\_SIDE\\_EVENT\\_2024](https://bit.ly/UNECE_REGIONAL_FORUM_C4UN_GREYCELLS_SIDE_EVENT_2024)

**TO JOIN:**

[https://bit.ly/GREYCELLS\\_MEETING](https://bit.ly/GREYCELLS_MEETING)

**Zoom meeting number: 4617638394**