



Citizens for  
Global Solutions



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## Call for Papers and Expressions of Interest

Citizens for Global Solutions and World Federalist Movement-Canada invite proposals for an upcoming special edition of Mondial: An International Journal of World Federalists devoted to the subject of reforming the United Nations and what an upgraded UN Charter could deliver for humanity across a wide variety of subject areas.

Eighty years on from San Francisco, the Charter of the United Nations remains both indispensable and an unfinished project. As US President Truman noted when signing the Charter in 1945, it will “be expanded and improved as time goes on. Changing world conditions will require readjustments.” Understanding the Charter as an imperfect beginning and not an endpoint, the delegates wrote Article 109 into the Charter as the built-in mechanism by which succeeding generations could revisit, revise, and remake the UN to meet the challenges of their own time.

The magnitude of the many interconnected “problems without passports” of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, as former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan described them, demands more than what the 1945 UN architecture was designed to deliver. From the existential risks caused by nuclear and biological weapons, AI, and planetary ecosystem degradation; to pandemic and global health management, progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, and addressing unsustainable sovereign debt and historical injustices, the present structure of the UN has too often impeded meaningful progress and global policy development and action across these and many other international domains.

This special edition asks contributors to set aside the politics and structural limitations of today, to dream big and make the case for: **What could rewriting the UN Charter unlock in your area of international policy expertise?** What policies would you like to see an upgraded United Nations adopt and implement, that have not been achievable or enforceable through existing treaty processes, voluntary pledges, or piecemeal reforms? How would those policy changes improve the lives of peoples across the globe, improve our collective ability to handle the global challenges we face, or help lead to a more peaceful, just, and sustainable future for humanity?

We seek rigorous, creative, and succinct (700 to 2000 word) analysis of what an upgraded UN Charter could deliver across a wide variety of topic areas. We welcome submissions that explore the following proposed topics, or feel free to propose your own!

- **Planetary Boundaries and Improving Climate Governance**

- o How could a strengthened UN improve global environmental governance? What might Charter review do for the global commons and planetary stability that the Paris Climate Accords and Conference of the Parties process cannot? Contributions might explore the institutional implications of the ICJ advisory opinion on climate recently affirmed by the GA, address the case for a Global Commons Trusteeship or a Climate Council with binding authority, giving legal rights to nature, or embedding planetary boundary indicators or aspects of the Fossil Fuel Treaty directly into the UN's governance structures.
- **Existential and Catastrophic Risk Management, Disarmament**
  - o How should the UN Charter adapt to address existential or catastrophic risks? Possible topics include the regulation of artificial intelligence, nuclear weapons and disarmament, biosecurity, asteroid defense, ecosystem collapse, etc. Proposals might consider how the Charter review process could incorporate aspects of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, common sense AI safeguards agreed to in the Global Digital Compact and those recommended by the High-level Advisory Body on AI, or generally how the UN could better manage the gravest common risks to humanity.
- **Historical Injustice and Reparations**
  - o Could UN reform serve as part of a broader process of historical repair, as partial reparation of historical injustices, and/or as a vehicle for correcting the structural inequities embedded in post-1945 institutions? Proposals might consider the recent adoption of the UNGA resolution on Trafficking of Enslaved Africans, how the lengthy Charter review process aligns with and could help deliver results during the African Union's declared Decade on Reparations (2026-2036), or other ways a reimagined UN could help address colonialism, racial injustice, global South representation, etc.
- **Peace, Security, and Security Council Reform**
  - o Contributions might explore what a functioning, reimagined Security Council could do to prevent genocide, end wars, and promote positive peace around the world. They could consider policy options for ending impunity against aggressive states through universal, compulsory jurisdiction of international courts, or by abolishing or creating an override mechanism for the veto. Proposals might consider how the Charter review process itself might help end the more than 30 years of deadlocked intergovernmental negotiations on UNSC reform and expansion.
- **Why Charter Review *is* in the P5's Interest**
  - o Perhaps the most important case to be made is why an upgraded UN would be in the interest of the major powers and Permanent Members of the UNSC. Proposals could consider questions such as what does enlightened self-interest look like for major powers / the P5 in the

21st century? Contributions might argue that weighted voting, General Assembly revitalization, or a redesign of Council mechanics could help break the gridlock the P5 themselves bemoan. It could explore how moving towards a weighted voting system in the General Assembly would empower them to have much greater impact upon the key issues they care about, and strengthen their ability to act on global affairs, rather than block action. It could explore how different weighted voting proposals, such as the modified Schwartzberg model proposed in the Second Charter Project, could help resolve the tension caused by the one country, one vote system in which the voting power of the world's most populous states is diluted relative to small states.

- **Advancing Equitable Solutions for Finance and Development**

- o How could Charter review advance economic justice and sustainable development? Proposals might (re)consider the relationship between the UN and the international financial architectures, including by standardizing rates and risk premiums, centralizing funding mechanisms, or pooling or otherwise creatively restructuring unsustainable debts. They might consider how an upgraded UN system could help implement the ideas and goals outlined in the Seville Commitment, Bridgetown Initiative, Doha Declaration, etc.

- **Global Economic Stabilization**

- o How much growth could be unlocked globally if economic reforms were included as part of the UN Charter review process? What could a global economy and trading system regulated by an upgraded UN look like? Proposals could consider standardized, rather than capricious, tariff change regulations, stable and guaranteed rights of navigation of key waterways and trade routes, the creation of a global UN-backed currency, and/or how the UN could fund itself independently by taxing a tiny percentage of internationally regulated and exchanged capital, goods, or even carbon.

- **Global Health, Pandemic Preparedness**

- o What could Charter reform unlock for global health? COVID-19 revealed much about our ecological interconnectedness and the limits of current global health governance architecture. Proposals could explore what an upgraded UN and WHO/global health system could do for pandemic preparedness, equitable access to medicines and vaccines, disease eradication, global health financing, unrestricted humanitarian access, and improved emergency coordination and response.

- **The SDGs, The Pact for the Future, and the Post-2030 Agenda**

- o With the Sustainable Development Goals framework set to expire in 2030, a deadline that could arrive whilst the world is already engaged in the work of fundamentally reviewing the UN's Charter, what comes next? Could the newly elected UNSG use Charter review as her

vehicle for delivering the world's post-2030 agenda and achieving the goals agreed to in the Pact for the Future? Proposals might explore how Charter review could serve as a cross-cutting, multi-SDG acceleration process, how the SDGs could be institutionalized into an upgraded UN system, and/or how the 2030 Agenda could be enshrined directly into a "2030 Charter".

Please note this is only a partial list of proposed topics, and that proposals making this case from any subject area or perspective are welcome.

At its best, **Article 109 is much more than a legal mechanism. It is an invitation** to ask, with seriousness and imagination, what kind of United Nations humanity now requires. Mondial invites contributors to help answer that question.

### **Article Format:**

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- Each article will be allocated 2 to 4 large format magazine pages, containing between 700 and 2000 words.
- Each article will ideally address the following, though not necessarily in any formulaic order:
  - o Introducing the topic/case, and then identifying the existing structural flaw(s) or shortcomings of the UN Charter and/or broader global governance system, however you see and define them.
    - Examples: This could be as specific as pointing to the P5 veto provision in Article 27.3 of the Charter, highlighting the non-binding nature of a specific resolution or agreement, or the procedural mechanics of an existing process (such as requiring unanimity/consensus rather than 2/3 support etc.). Or it could be as general as pointing to the non-existence of a treaty, mechanism, court, organization, or shared value that you think should be part of the global governance architecture.
  - o Articles should then describe the problematic state behaviors and other symptoms or tensions that result from the structural cause they identified. These could manifest internationally or domestically or both.
    - Example: the persistence of the P5 veto allows certain states and their allies to act with impunity while other states can be subject to binding UNSC resolutions and sanctions for the exact same behavior. This structural inequality leads to a tension within the Charter and between Member States, as it is at odds with the principle of sovereign equality. That tension undermines and delegitimizes the UN to a certain extent, and the persistent threat of war leads to insecurity, possible nuclear proliferation, and the spending of scarce resources on militarization rather than social services, education, etc.
  - o After setting the stage in this way, the bulk of each article should then be devoted to exploring the creative solutions you're proposing to help address the identified structural issue(s) in the global

governance system and how it will help resolve the tensions, problematic state behaviors, or other symptoms and negative externalities. The strongest articles will be empirically grounded in the existing state of policy proposals in your field, able to demonstrate concretely that there is significant support for reform, but also imaginative and unconstrained by the current, often narrow, range of options in the present paradigm. Feel free to explore any of the following questions as you make your case, but be sure to connect your proposed solutions directly back to the identified structural flaw:

- What could rewriting the UN Charter unlock in your area of expertise?
  - What policies would you like to see an upgraded United Nations adopt and implement, that have not been achievable or enforceable through existing treaty processes, voluntary pledges, or piecemeal reforms?
  - How would those policy changes improve the lives of peoples across the globe, improve our collective ability to handle the global challenges we face, or help lead to a more peaceful, just, and sustainable future for humanity?
- Mondial follows the AP Style Guide, and submissions should be written for an educated, globally engaged audience. Mondial welcomes scholarly depth, but articles should avoid unnecessary jargon when possible and should be accessible to readers across a wide variety of fields and backgrounds.

## **Submission Process:**

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Please send Expressions of Interest or first drafts to the Editor, Dr. Justin Haner, at [JHaner@globalsolutions.org](mailto:JHaner@globalsolutions.org). Submissions should include:

1. A working title of the article, and the thematic track it most closely aligns with (if applicable).
2. Either a summary of the proposed article or the full-length first draft (700-2000 words).
3. A brief bio of the author, or link to their bio.

**Submissions are due by October 15, 2026**, first drafts are due by October 30, and the target publication date is projected for March 2027.

Proposals must be submitted in English, though we are happy to work with and provide editorial support for authors for whom English is not their first language.