



The

GOI

Peace

FOUNDATION



Goi Peace
Foundation



CREATING A NEW CIVILIZATION

Creating a New Civilization is a global initiative launched in 2005 by the Goi Peace Foundation together with its partners. The initiative brings together people and organizations that see the pressing need to respond to the environmental, social, and economic crises confronting us today. The aim of the initiative is to connect innovative activities and changemakers, and to inspire global citizens to employ new ways of thinking and acting in order to co-create a sustainable and peaceful planetary civilization.

Building a Critical Mass for Change

We believe that the crises we face today also offer an unprecedented opportunity for a major leap forward in human evolution. Such a radical shift in our way of being requires a fundamental change in our consciousness and value system. The initiative aspires to reach out and engage a critical mass of awakened citizens that will facilitate the transformation of our cultures and bring about the necessary paradigm shift.

Now more than ever, each of us is called upon to become a proactive agent for positive change. Working collectively, we can reverse the current trends toward breakdown and collapse. We can co-create a sustainable and harmonious new civilization based on spiritual values, respect for our diversity, and reverence for all life on Earth.

Sustainability

Environmental, social and economic problems—including global warming, resource depletion, wealth disparity and cross-cultural conflicts—are all interconnected global issues caused by human activities. We must recognize that we are at a bifurcation point, where we either continue on the present path toward destruction or choose the path to a sustainable future for the Earth and all life on it.

Systems

Humanity is a part of the Earth's natural living systems. Therefore, we must harmonize our man-made systems, including our economic and political systems, with the principles of nature and ecology. Our current institutions have become outdated and unsustainable, and need to be redesigned, so that humanity walks a path not of destruction, but of interdependence and co-evolution with the Earth.

The 4-S Concept

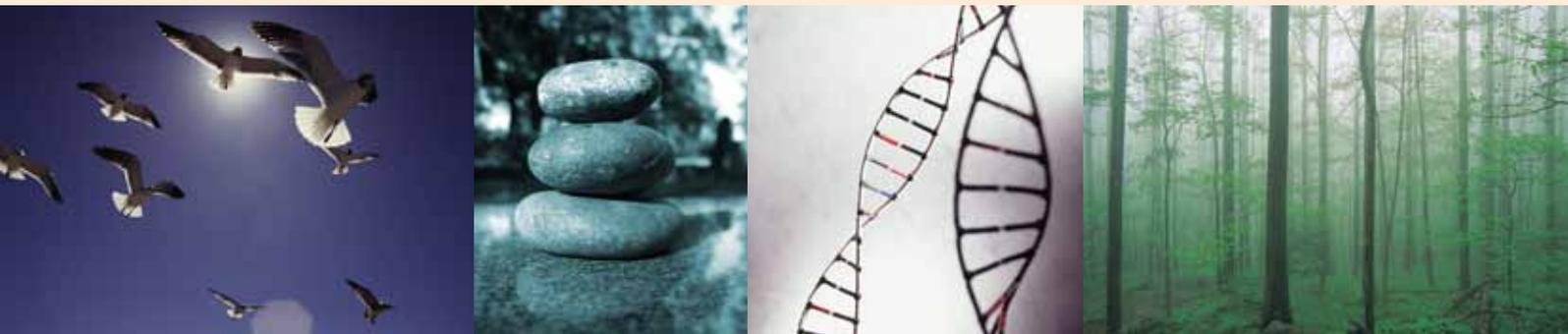
The '4-S Concept' proposes four foundational components for building a new civilization

Science

At the cutting edge of the sciences—including physics, cosmology, the life sciences, and consciousness research—new worldviews are emerging together with a deeper understanding of life. These new sciences could bring about a paradigm shift and provide key inspiration and foundation for building a new civilization.

Spirituality

The inner awakening and the empowered creativity of individuals are the real forces that will shape our collective future. Our behaviors and priorities will drastically change as we evolve our consciousness to a higher level and experience the interconnectedness of all life. We must ensure that all human activities in our future global society—political, economic, and social—are founded on spiritual values.



FORUM 2005: CREATING A NEW CIVILIZATION

The *Creating a New Civilization* Initiative was launched on November 12, 2005 at an event in Tokyo co-sponsored by 14 like-minded organizations working in fields such as the environment, peace, economics, science and the media. Leaders and visionaries from different disciplines joined more than 4,000 concerned citizens to share their insights into the nature of the global transition that many believe we are currently undergoing, and to develop a compelling vision of a new civilization.



We need effective global systems in an interdependent world, where everything is globalized including finance, resources and trade. Without vision and political will to build a new world order, nothing will change, and without a positive push from civil society, politics will not change.

– Mikhail Gorbachev, Former President of the Soviet Union

It is surprising that at the pinnacle of human scientific achievement, there exists a spiritual void, which like a black hole sucks everything into oblivion. The human spirit can be revived as a global spirit if there is selfless hope for freedom, equality and justice.

– Prince El Hassan bin Talal of Jordan



It is not necessary to keep having the GNP grow. What you want to see is the quality of life improve, including health, education, human rights, the environment and all the other dimensions of life.

– Hazel Henderson, evolutionary economist

The new scientific story shows that the evolutionary process that made hostile, competitive ancient bacteria evolve into peaceful collaboration to produce huge new cells is the same process that is driving us to shift from competitive nations to a global family.

– Elisabet Sahtouris, evolution biologist

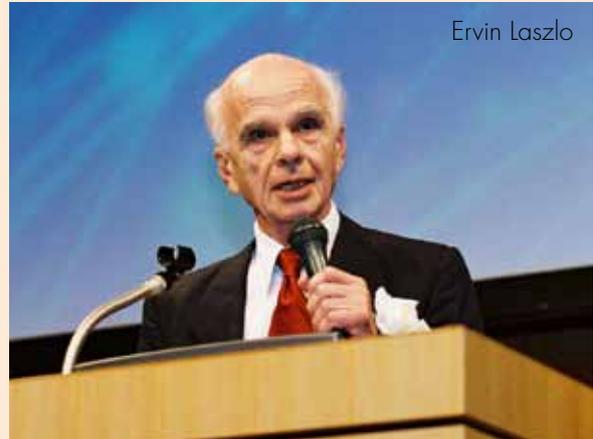
Hazel Henderson and
Elisabet Sahtouris



James O'Dea



Ervin Laszlo



An accumulation of scientific research from multiple fields indicates that human capacity is much greater than we are letting ourselves believe. Why do we dampen those powerful intuitions that constantly remind us that we are spacious cosmic beings and endlessly creative beings?

– James O'Dea, Institute of Noetic Sciences

The dynamic of development that will apply to our future is the non-linear chaos dynamic of complex-system evolution. The crisis we are currently experiencing will not be overcome by tried and tested measures, carried out step by step. The way beyond it lies in profound and radical transformation.

– Ervin Laszlo, systems philosopher





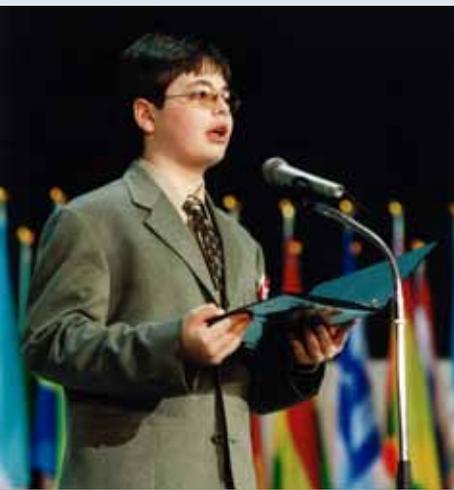
PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Our educational programs for young people are designed to nurture inner peace, respect for life and global awareness, emphasizing the leading role they can play in fostering world peace and sustainable development.

INTERNATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The International Essay Contest for Young People is organized annually with the aim of motivating young people to actively contribute to building a better world. The annual contest, which started in 2000, has been a joint program of UNESCO and the Goi Peace Foundation since 2007. More than 4,000 entries are received from over 130 countries each year on a theme relevant to promoting a culture of peace and sustainable development. First prize winners in the children's category (ages up to 14) and the youth category (ages 15-25) are invited to Japan to receive the Minister of Education Award.

This program is endorsed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation, Nikkei Inc., and the Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education.



essay contest winners 2000-2009

International Essay Contest Themes

- 2000 Vision of peace for the 21st century
- 2001 Respect for life
- 2002 Harmony
- 2003 My vision for the future
- 2004 Making the most of my qualities
- 2005 Caring for our planet
- 2006 Learning to live together: promoting tolerance and diversity in globalized societies
- 2007 The role of media and information and communication technologies in building a peaceful world
- 2008 My project to create positive change in my environment. How can I foster sustainable development in my community?
- 2009 The role of science in building a better world



PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

School Lectures by Diplomats

The Goi Peace Foundation coordinates lectures by diplomats in elementary and secondary schools to offer students a “global learning” experience. Through direct interaction with a nation’s representative, children broaden their perspective to appreciate different cultures, traditions and customs, and at the same time, deepen their understanding of their own country from a comparative viewpoint. The program enjoys the cooperation of 95 foreign embassies in Japan.



Earth Kids Space Program

First developed as a program commissioned by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Earth Kids Space offers a safe place for children to gather after school and on weekends, where they can learn about peace and harmony, and respect for all life and the environment through games, stories and interactive workshops. The program currently has 28 centers across Japan and in five other Asian countries, all run by volunteers.



PROGRAMS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

“Cultural Diversity in a Globalized World”

Lecture Series by Ambassadors at the Gunma Prefectural Women’s University

Respecting and understanding other cultures is an essential precondition for any constructive dialogue between peoples. Since 2005, the Foundation has been cosponsoring a course at the Faculty of International Communication at the Gunma Prefectural Women’s University, inviting ambassadors of different countries as guest lecturers to address topics such as effective communication in diplomacy and approaches to peace building in the globalized world.

The Goi Peace Chair on Peace and Conflict Science, Munich School for Political Science in Germany

This chair was sponsored by the Goi Peace Foundation from 2004 to 2006.



PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATORS

We work with educators around the world to develop innovative and effective teaching programs, activities and methodologies, and support them in advancing peace education in their respective countries and communities.

“Creating a Culture of Peace through Education”

Asian Educators Symposium and Exchange Program

Held in Tokyo in February 2008, this symposium brought together teachers from eight Asian countries for seven days of exchange and learning. Workshop sessions covered topics such as teaching tolerance for different religions, overcoming violence in classrooms, character building and moral education, and environmental education. The international participants also visited local schools and community classrooms to observe various educational efforts being made in Japan.

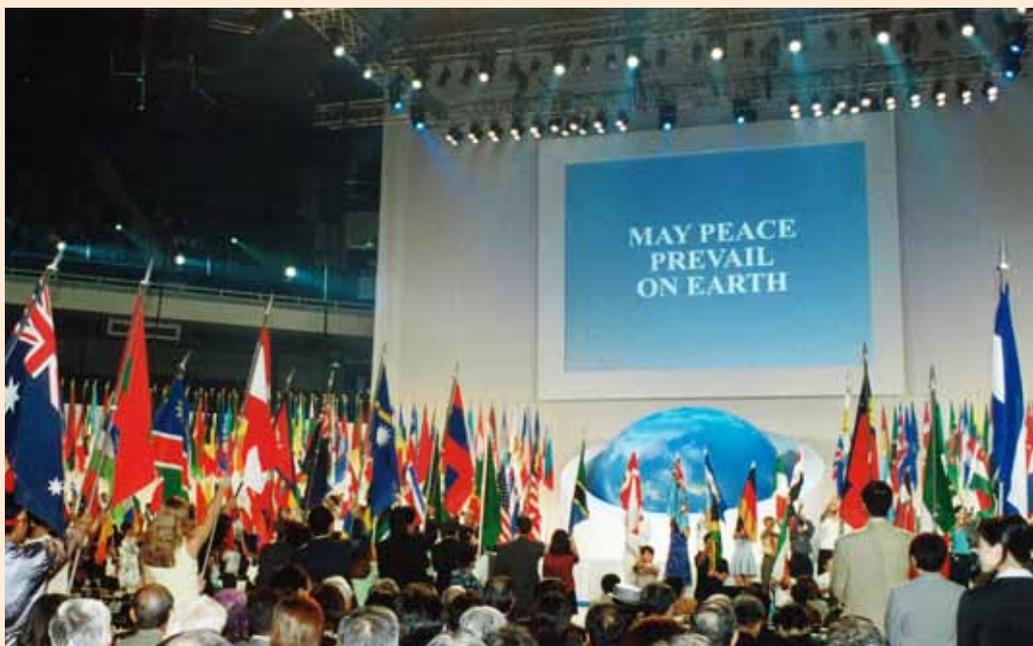


INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION & NETWORKING

Through exchanges and joint programs, the Foundation collaborates with organizations and partners worldwide to promote global dialogue and outreach for advancing the cause of peace.

COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

The Goi Peace Foundation maintains a Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and official relations with UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization). We cooperate with United Nations bodies and special agencies as well as other international and regional organizations to further our shared objectives.



Creating a Culture of Peace – World Peace Celebration 2000 was held at the Nippon Budokan in Tokyo in September 2000, supported by UNESCO, the United Nations University, and the Japanese Ministries of Education and Foreign Affairs. This major multicultural event was designated by UNESCO as a Flagship Event for the International Year for the Culture of Peace, and drew more than 10,000 participants, including members of the Japanese imperial family and ambassadors and representatives from 90 countries.

The Symposium and Exhibition Commemorating the International Year of Ecotourism was cosponsored by the Foundation and the United Nations Information Centre at the UN House in Tokyo in July 2002, in conjunction with a photo exhibition on ecotourism.

The Symposium Commemorating the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development was organized at the UN House in Tokyo in July 2005, supported by UNIC Tokyo and the Japan Council on the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. Along with promoting the Culture of Peace, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) has been a focus of the Foundation’s education programs.



UNESCO Asian Youth Forum



Ecotourism exhibition

The ‘International Day of Peace’ Educational Program was organized in collaboration with UNIC Tokyo to encourage schools throughout Japan to observe the International Day of Peace on September 21. During the 3-year campaign from 2003-2005, a total of over 98,000 students from 235 schools participated in the program by celebrating peace and learning about the work of the United Nations including the Millennium Development Goals.

The 1st UNESCO Asian Youth Forum on “Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogue to Ensure Peace” was held in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea in June 2007 as one of the six regional youth forums organized by UNESCO. As an ongoing partner of the Youth, Sport and Physical Education Section at UNESCO, the Foundation co-sponsored the Forum and sent a youth representative.

Clockwise from top left: League of Arab States; World Health Organization; World Bank Group; World Trade Organization; Commonwealth of Independent States; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Opposite page, left to right: International Atomic Energy Agency and Association of South East Asian Nations.

peace pole dedications



In affirmation of a partnership for peace, the Goi Peace Foundation has co-organized Peace Pole dedication ceremonies with the following international and regional organizations (in chronological order):

United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON)

International Organisation of the Francophonie (OIF), Paris

UN Department of Public Information, New York

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Secretariat, Vienna

Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Jakarta

Organization of American States (OAS), Washington, DC

League of Arab States, Cairo

The World Bank Group, Washington, DC

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly, Bucharest

Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Minsk

Pacific Islands Forum, Suva

World Trade Organization (WTO), Geneva

Office of the President of the United Nations General Assembly, New York

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Kathmandu

International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington, DC

Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Vienna

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna

World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Geneva

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Geneva

The Andean Community, Lima

The Organization of The Islamic Conference, Jeddah

International Labour Organization (ILO), Geneva

* Peace Poles are monuments inscribed with the message *May Peace Prevail on Earth* in different languages. The Peace Pole Project is a grassroots activity promoted by the World Peace Prayer Society. There are now more than 200,000 Peace Poles dedicated around the world.

