



A CALL TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY

The COVID-19 pandemic threatens more than the lives and the livelihoods of people throughout the world. It is also a political crisis that threatens the future of liberal democracy.

Authoritarian regimes, not surprisingly, are using the crisis to silence critics and tighten their political grip. But even some democratically elected governments are fighting the pandemic by amassing emergency powers that restrict human rights and enhance state surveillance without regard to legal constraints, parliamentary oversight, or timeframes for the restoration of constitutional order. Parliaments are being sidelined, journalists are being arrested and harassed, minorities are being scapegoated, and the most vulnerable sectors of the population face alarming new dangers as the economic lockdowns ravage the very fabric of societies everywhere.

Repression will not help to control the pandemic. Silencing free speech, jailing peaceful dissenters, suppressing legislative oversight, and indefinitely canceling elections all do nothing to protect public health. On the contrary, these assaults on freedom, transparency, and democracy will make it more difficult for societies to respond quickly and effectively to the crisis through both government and civic action.

It is not a coincidence that the current pandemic began in a country where the free flow of information is stifled and where the government punished those warning about the dangers of the virus—warnings that were seen as spreading rumors harmful to the prestige of the state. When voices of responsible citizens are suppressed, the results can be deadly, not for just one country but for the entire world.

Democracy is not just a cherished ideal. It is the system of government best suited to addressing a crisis of the magnitude and complexity of COVID-19. In contrast to the self-serving claims of authoritarian propaganda, credible and free flows of information, fact-based debate about policy options, the voluntary self-organization of civil society, and open engagement between government and society are all vital assets in combating the pandemic. And they are all key elements of liberal democracy.

It is only through democracy that societies can build the social trust that enables them to persevere in a crisis, maintain national resilience in the face of hardship, heal deep societal divisions through inclusive participation and dialogue, and retain confidence that sacrifice will be shared and the rights of all citizens respected.

It is only through democracy that independent civil society, including women and young people, can be empowered to partner with public institutions, to assist in the delivery of services, to help citizens stay informed and engaged, and to bolster social morale and a sense of common purpose.

It is only through democracy that free media can play their role of informing people so that they can make sound personal and family decisions, scrutinize government and public institutions, and counter disinformation that seeks to tear societies apart.

It is only through democracy that society can strike a sustainable balance between competing needs and priorities – between combatting the spread of the virus and protecting economic security; and between implementing an effective response to the crisis and protecting people’s civil and political rights in accordance with constitutional norms and guarantees.

It is only in democracies that the rule of law can protect individual liberties from state intrusion and constraint well beyond what is necessary to contain a pandemic.

It is only in democracies THAT SYSTEMS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY CAN MONITOR AND CIRCUMSCRIBE EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT POWERS, AND TERMINATE THEM WHEN THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED.

It is only in democracies that government data on the scope and health-impact of the pandemic can be believed.

Democracy does not guarantee competent leadership and effective governance. While democracies predominate among the countries that have acted most effectively to contain the virus, other democracies have functioned poorly in responding to the pandemic and have paid a very high price in human life and economic security. Democracies that perform poorly further weaken society and create openings for authoritarians.

But the greatest strength of democracy is its capacity for self-correction. The COVID-19 crisis is an alarming wake-up call, an urgent warning that the freedoms we cherish are at risk and that we must not take them for granted. Through democracy, citizens and their elected leaders can learn and grow. Never has it been more important for them to do that.

The current pandemic represents a formidable global challenge to democracy. Authoritarians around the world see the COVID-19 crisis as a new political battleground in their fight to stigmatize democracy as feeble and reverse its dramatic gains of the past few decades. Democracy is under threat, and people who care about it must summon the will, the discipline, and the solidarity to defend it. At stake are the freedom, health, and dignity of people everywhere.

A CALL TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY LETTER

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JUNE 2020

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CONFIRMED ORGANIZATIONS (70)

CONFIRMED ORGANIZATIONS		
Organization	Signatory	HQ Country
African Movement for Democracy	Ateki Caxton, Advisory Council Member	Cameroon
African Network of Constitutional Lawyers (ANCL)	Enyinna Nwauche, Chair	South Africa
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Al-Kawakibi Democracy Transition Center	Amine Ghali, Director	Tunisia
Alliance of Democracies Foundation	Jonas Parello-Plesner, Executive Director	Denmark
Asia Democracy Network	Ichal Supriadi, Secretary-General	South Korea
Asian Network For Free Elections (ANFREL)	Chandanie Watawala, Executive Director	Thailand
Association Béninoise de Droit Constitutionnel (ABDC)	Federic Joel Aivo, Chair	Benin
Association for Participatory Democracy (ADEPT)	Igor Botan, Executive Director	Moldova
Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE)	Andrew Wilson, Executive Director	USA
Coalition for Dialogue in Africa (CODA)	Souad Aden-Osman, Executive Director	Ethiopia
Colectivo Ciudadano Ecuador	Wilson Moreno, President	Ecuador
Council for Global Equality	Mark Bromley, Executive Director	USA
Council for the Development of Social Science Research in (CODESRIA)	Godwin Murunga, Executive Secretary	Senegal
Democracy International	Eric Bjornlund, President	USA
Democracy Reporting International (DRI)	Michael Meyer-Resende, Executive Director	Germany
European Endowment for Democracy	Jerzy Pomianowski, Executive Director	Belgium
European Network of Political Foundations (ENoP)	Mana Livardjani, Executive Director	Belgium

CONFIRMED ORGANIZATIONS		
Organization	Signatory	HQ Country
European Partnership for Democracy	Ken Godfrey, Executive Director	Belgium
Forum 2000	Jakub Klepal, Executive Director	Czech Republic
Freedom House	Michael Abramowitz, President	USA
Fundación Nuevas Generaciones	Julián Martín Obiglio, President	Argentina
Fundación Paraguaya de Cooperación y Desarrollo	Martin Burt, Executive Director	Paraguay
Fundación Salvadoreña para el Desarrollo Económico y Social (FUSADES)	Miguel Angel Simán, President	El Salvador
Human Rights Campaign	Jean Freedberg, Deputy Director	USA
Human Rights House Foundation	Maria Dahle, Director	Norway
Institute for Democratic Governance	Emmanuel Akwetey, Executive Director	Ghana
Institute for Multiparty Democracy (IMD Mozambique)	Hermenegildo Mulhovo	Mozambique
International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)	Douglas Rutzen, President and CEO	USA
International IDEA	Kevin Casas-Zamora, Secretary-General	Sweden
International Republican Institute	Daniel Twining, President	USA
JuventudLAC	Jatzel Roman, Executive Director	Dominican Republic
Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)	William Goiz, Regional Coordinator	Philippines
Kemitraan	Laode Muhammad Syarif, Executive Director	Indonesia
National Democratic Institute	Derek Mitchel, President	USA
National Endowment for Democracy	Carl Gershman, President	USA
Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD)	Thijs Berman, Executive Director	Netherlands
Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy El Salvador (NIMD El Salvador)	Juan Meléndez, Executive Director	El Salvador
Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy Guatemala (NIMD Guatemala)	Susan Batres, Executive Director	Guatemala
Olof Palme International Center	Anna Sundström, Secretary General	Sweden
Parliamentary Center of Canada	Thomas Cormier, CEO	Canada
PAX for Peace International	Anna Timmerman, General Director	Netherlands
PEN America	Suzanne Nossel, CEO	USA
Political Parties of Finland for Democracy – Demo Finland	Anu Juvonen, Executive Director	Finland
Prague Civil Society Centre	Rotislav Valvoda, Executive Director	Czech Republic
Program on Democratic Resilience and Development, IDC Herzliya	Amichai Magen, Director	Israel
Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights	Irwin Colter, Chair	Canada
Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe por la Democracia (REDLAD)	Gina Romero, Executive Director	Colombia
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2 List of Signatories – A Call to Defend Democracy Letter

The Foreign Policy Centre	Dame Audrey Glover, Chairman of the Board of Trustees	UK
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The George W. Bush Institute	Lindsay Lloyd, Bradford M. Freeman Director of the Human Freedom Initiative	USA
The Inter American Institute of Human Rights (IIDH)	Joseph Thompson, Executive Director	Costa Rica

CONFIRMED ORGANIZATIONS		
Organization	Signatory	HQ Country
The International Democrat Union (IDU)	Ray Novak (awaiting conf. from IRI)	Germany
The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)	Anthony Banbury, President and CEO	USA
The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Organization	Julia Ehrt, Program Director	Switzerland
The Jarl Hjalmarson Foundation	Eva Gustavsson, Managing Director	Sweden
The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)	Norbert Lammert, Chairman	Germany
The McCain Institute for International Leadership	Mark Green, Executive Director	USA
The Nadav Foundation	Leonid Nevzlin, Founder	Israel
The Oslo Center	Finn Jarle Rode, Executive Director	Norway
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Unión de Partidos Latinoamericanos (UPLA)	Óscar Ortiz, President	Chile
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West Africa Civil Society Institute	Ayodeji Fajemirokun, Chair	Ghana
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World Movement for Democracy	Ryota Jonen, Director	USA
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CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES (481)

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Farouk	Ahmad	Founder and Director, the Islamic Renaissance Front (IFR)	Malaysia
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Gatsha	Dumiso	Founder, Success Capital Organisation	Botswana
Gaviria	Cesar	Former President of Colombia	Colombia
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Gedmin	Jeffrey	Editor-in-Chief and CEO, The American Interest	USA

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Ghali	Amine	Director, Al Kawakibi Democracy Transition Center	Tunisia
Gigauri	Eka	Executive Director, Transparency International Georgia	Georgia
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Hřib	Zdeněk	Mayor of Prague	Czech Republic
Hurtado	Osvaldo	Former President of Ecuador	Ecuador
Hwangbo	Seung-hee	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Ibrahim	Jibrin	Senior Fellow, Center for Democracy and Development Abuja	Nigeria
Ichihara	Maiko	Associate Professor of International Relations, Hitotsubashi University	Japan
Iglesias	Hasler	Youth Coordinator, Voluntad Popular	Venezuela
Ilves	Toomas Henrik	Former President of Estonia	Estonia
Insulza	Jose Miguel	Member of the Senate of the Republic of Chile; Former Secretary-General, the Organization of American States	Chile
Isakovna Otunbayeva	Roza	Former President of Kyrgyzstan	Kyrgyzstan
Ismail	Gulalai	Founder and Chairperson, Aware Girl	Pakistan
Ismayilova	Khadija	Former Political Prisoner and Investigative Journalist	Azerbaijan
Itodo	Samson	Executive Director, YIAGA and Initiator of the Not Too Young to Run campaign	Nigeria
Jácome	Francine	Executive Director, Instituto Venezolano de Estudios Sociales y Políticos	Venezuela
Jahanbegloo	Ramin	Director, Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Peace, Jindal Global University	Iran
Jahjaga	Atifete	Former President of Kosovo	Kosovo
Jarquín	Edmundo	Former Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Nicaragua; Former Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidate of Nicaragua; Member, the Global Leadership Foundation	Nicaragua
Jarwolo	Eddie D.	Executive Director, Naymote Partners for Democratic Development	Liberia
Ji	Seong-ho	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea and North Korean defector	Republic of Korea
Jianli	Yang	Founder and President, Citizen Power Initiatives for China	China

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
John Shattuck	John	Former Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; President Emeritus, the Central European University	USA
Jones	Jerry	Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, ACXIOM; Advisor, the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid	USA
Joon	Oh	Former South Korean Ambassador to the United Nations	Republic of Korea
Josipovic	Ivo	Former President of Croatia	Croatia
Kaljurand	Marina	Member of the European Parliament; Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Estonia	Estonia
Kandić	Natasa	Founder, Humanitarian Law Center	Serbia
Kara-Murza	Vladimir	Chairman, Boris Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom	Russia
Karlson	Nils	President and CEO, the The Ratio Institute	Sweden
Karman	Tawakkol	Nobel Peace Laureate; Founder, Women Journalists Without Chains	Yemen
Kasparov	Garry	Chairman, Renew Democracy Initiative (RDI); Chairman, the Human Rights Foundation; Former World Chess Champion, Writer, and Political Activist	Russia
Kassem	Hisham	Political Commentator and Former Chairman, the Egyptian Organization for Human Rights	Egypt
Keum	Tae-Sup	Ranking Member of the Legislation and Judiciary Committee of the National Assembly	Republic of Korea
Khan	Zafarullah	CEO, Civic Concerns	Pakistan
Khodorkovsky	Mikhail	Former Political Prisoner and Opposition Leader	Russia
Kingsley	Jean-Pierre	Former Chief Electoral Officer of Elections Canada	Canada
Kitenge	Dismas	President, LOTUS Group	Republic of Congo
Kiu	Arnold Chung Chin	Founding Member, Demosisto	Hong-Kong
Kodmani	Bassma	Former Executive Director, the Arab Reform Initiative	Syria
Kolbe	Jim	Former Congressman; Senior Transatlantic Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States	USA
Koroma	Ernest Bai	Former President of Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone
Kovacevic	Milica	President, Center for Democratic Transition	Montenegro
Kramer	David J.	Former United States Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; Senior Fellow, Vaclav Havel Program on Human Rights and Diplomacy, Florida International University	USA
Krastev	Ivan	Chairman, the Centre for Liberal Strategies; Founder, the European Council on Foreign Relations	Bulgaria
Krauze	Enrique	Historian and Editor, Letras Libres	Mexico
Kreko	Peter	Director, Political Capital Institute, Europe's Futures Fellow, IWM/ERSTE Stiftung	Hungary
Kristol	William	Director, Defending Democracy Together	USA
Kubilius	Andrius	Member of the European Parliament; Former Prime Minister of Lithuania	Lithuania
Kurlantzick	Joshua	Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations	USA
Kwasniewski	Aleksander	Former President of Poland	Poland

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Lafer	Celso	Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil; Former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil to the World Trade Organization and the United Nations	Brazil
Lagumdzija	Zlatko	Former Prime Minister of Bosnia & Herzegovina	Bosnia & Herzegovina
Lambertz	Karl-Heinz	Speaker of the Parliament of the German-Speaking Community; Former President of the European Committee of the Regions; Former Minister-President of the German-Speaking Community of Belgium	Belgium
Lamounier	Bolivar	Director, Augurium Consultores and Advisor, the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid	Brazil
Lamsal	Pragya	Development professional and women's rights activist	Nepal
Landsbergis	Vytautas	Former President of Lithuania	Lithuania
Larok	Arthur	Director, Federation Development, ActionAid International	Uganda
Lebedev	Greg	Chairman, the Center for International Private Enterprise	USA
Lee	Cheuk-Yan	Former Member of the Legislative Council; Secretary-General, Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions	Hong-Kong
Lee	Martin	Founder, Democratic Party	Hong-Kong
Lee	Hong-koo	Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Lee	Sook Jong	President, East Asia Institute	Republic of Korea
Letta	Enrico	Former Prime Minister of Italy; Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po, Paris	Italy
Lévy	Bernard-Henri	Member, Jcall Advocacy Group	France
Liekis	Sarunas	Chair, The Vilnius Institute for Policy Analysis	Lithuania
Likhotal	Alexander	Professor, the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations; Advisor, the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid; Former President, Green Cross International	Russia
Lindberg	Tod	Senior Fellow, the Hudson Institute	USA
Liu	Xia	Artist and Widow of Nobel Laureate Liu Xiaobo	China
Lodici	Claudio	Coordinator, Biennial Conference on the State of Democracy, Loyola University Chicago	USA
Machel	Graca	Founder, Graca Machel Trust; Executive Chair, Mandele Institute for Development Studies in Johannesburg	South Africa
Macri	Mauricio	Former President of Argentina	Argentina
Madonsela	Thuli	Former Public Protector of South Africa; Founder, Thuma Foundation for Democracy Leadership and Literacy	South Africa
Magyar	Bálint	Former Minister of Education of Hungary	Hungary
Malcorra	Susana	Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina; Former Chef de Cabinet to the Executive Office at the United Nations	Argentina
Maliqi	Aagon	Program Director, Sbunker	Kosovo
Malmström	Cecilia	Former Member of the European Commission; Visiting Professor, the School of Business, Economics and Law at the University of Gothenburg	Sweden
Mammadli	Anar	Chairman, the Election Monitoring and Democracy Studies Center; Former Political Prisoner; Recipient of the Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize of the Parliamentary Center of the Council of Europe	Azerbaijan

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Manzano	Cristina	Director, esGlobal	Spain
Margvelashvili	Giorgi	Former President of Georgia	Georgia
Marques de Morais	Rafael	Founder, Maka Angola	Angola
Marshall	Catherine	Director, the Agora Research Center, CY Cergy Paris University	USA
Martinez	Mel	Former United States Senator	USA
Marynovych	Myroslav	Vice-rector, the Ukrainian Catholic University	Ukraine
Masbah	Mohammed	Director, Moroccan Institute for Policy Analysis	Morocco
Masmoudi	Radwan A.	Executive Director, the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy; Civil society activist	Tunisia
May	Cliff	President, the Foundation for Defense of Democracies	USA
Mbow	Penda	Historian and President, Mouvement Citoyen	Senegal
McCain	Cindy	Chair, Board of Trustees of the McCain Institute for International Leadership	USA
McFaul	Michael	Director, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies	USA
McKinnon	Don	Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand	New Zealand
Mecacci	Matteo	Former Member of Parliament; President, International Campaign for Tibet	Italy
Meckel	Markus	Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Member of the Bundestag	Germany
Meidani	Rexhep	Former President of Albania	Albania
Meister	Stefan	Director, South Caucasus Office, Heinrich Boell Foundation	Germany
Melia	Thomas	Washington Director, PEN America; Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor	USA
Menchú	Rigoberta	Nobel Peace Laureate	Guatemala
Meridor	Dan	Former Deputy Prime Minister of Israel and Minister of Finance	Israel
Merino	Beatriz	The President of the Council of Ministers of Peru and National Ombudswoman	Peru
Mesa	Carlos	Former President of Bolivia	Bolivia
Mikulski	Barbara	Former United States Senator	USA
Miletic	Goran	Director for Europe, Civil Rights Defenders	USA
Miller	Robert C.	President, the Hurford Foundation	USA
Mitov	Daniel	Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria	Bulgaria
Mondale	Walter	Former Vice President of the United States	USA
Montaner	Carlos Alberto	Writer and Journalist	Cuba
Montes	Leonidas	Director, Centro de Estudios Públicos	Chile
Moradian	Davood	General Director, Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies	Afghanistan
Morlino	Leonardo	President, the International Center on Democracy and Democratisation (ICEDD) and Emeritus Professor of Political Science, LUISS University in Rome	Italy
Muasher	Marwan	Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Jordan	Jordan
Muchaidze	Giorgi	Executive Director, Atlantic Council, Georgia	Georgia
Mudgal	Vipul	Director, Common Cause	India

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Mulcair	Thomas	Former Member of Parliament; Senior Fellow, Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights	Canada
Muna	Akere	Chair, International Anti-Corruption Conference Council	Cameroon
Mungiu-Pippidi	Alina	Democracy Chair, Hertie School of Governance	Romania
Munshi	Surendra	Sociologist	India
Muravchik	Josh	Author and Adjunct Professor, The Institute of World Politics	USA
Nafisi	Azar	Former Fellow, the Foreign Policy Institute of Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS); New York Times Best-Seller Author	Iran
Naim	Moises	Senior Fellow, the Carnegie Endowment for Peace	USA
Nanuashvili	Ucha	Director, Democracy Research Institute (DRI)	Georgia
Natsios	Andrew	Director, Scowcroft Institute of international affairs, Bush School of Government, Texas A&M University	USA
Nayyem	Mustafa	Former Member of Parliament	Ukraine
Nemtsova	Zhanna	Co-founder, Boris Nemtsov Foundation for Freedom; Journalist and Social Activist	Russia
Newman	Constance	Former Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs	USA
Ngombet	Andrea	Director, Anti-Kleptocracy Strategy of Sassoufit Collective	Republic of Congo
Nodia	Ghia	Chairman, Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy, and Development	Georgia
Norris	Pippa	Paul F. McGuire Lecturer in Comparative Politics at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University	United Kingdom
Nosov	Andrej	Founder, Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR)	Serbia
Nu	Wai Wai	Executive Director, Women's Peace Network; Rohingya Human Rights Activist	Burma
Nuland	Victoria	Former Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs	USA
Nwankwo	Clement	Founding Chairman, the Transition Monitoring Group	Nigeria
Obasanjo	Olusegun	Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria	Nigeria
Obe	Ayo	Legal Practitioner and Former Chairperson, Steering Committee of the World Movement for Democracy	Nigeria
Okail	Nancy	Former Director, the Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy	Egypt
Opiyo	Nicholas	Excutive Director, Chapter Four	Uganda
Pachano	Simón	Professor, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)	Ecuador
Palacio	Ana	Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain	Spain
Palous	Martin	Director, Vaclav Havel Program for Human Rights and Diplomacy, Florida International University	Czech Republic
Panek	Simon	Director, People in Need	Czech Republic
Pastrana	Andres	Former President of Colombia	Colombia
Patterson	P.J.	Former Prime Minister of Jamaica; Member, the Global Leadership Foundation; Former Chair of the United Nations Security Council	Jamaica
Pavilionis	Zygmantas	Deputy Chair, European Affairs Committee of the Parliament	Lithuania
Paya	Rosa Maria	President, the Latin American Youth Network for Democracy	Cuba

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Peeters	Kris	Member of the European Parliament; Former Minister-President of Flanders and Former Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium	Belgium
Piccone	Ted	Chief Engagement Officer, World Justice Project	USA
Pilip	Ivan	Former Minister of Finance of the Czech Republic; Former Vice President, the European Investment Bank	Czech Republic
Pinto-Duschinsky	Michael	Founder Governor, Westminster Foundation for Democracy	United Kingdom
Piontkovsky	Andrei	Writer and Visiting Fellow, the Hudson Institute	Russia
Piri	Kati	Member of the European Parliament	Netherlands
Plattner	Marc	Coeditor Emeritus, Journal of Democracy	USA
Plokhii	Serhii	Professor of History, Harvard University	USA
Ploumen	Lilianne	Member of Parliament; Former Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands	Netherlands
Pokharel	Bhoj Raj	Former Chief Election Commissioner of Nepal	Nepal
Pollak	Peter	Member of the European Parliament	Slovakia
Pradhan	Sanjay	CEO, Open Government Partnership (OGP)	India
Price	David E.	Member of the United States House of Representatives for North Carolina	USA
Przywara	Danuta	President, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights	Poland
Puddington	Arch	Distinguished Fellow for Democracy Studies and Former Editor, Survey of Freedom in the World, Freedom House; Writer with publications in Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Washington Post, National Interest, and Journal of Democracy	USA
Pusić	Vesna	Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Croatia	Croatia
Qiang	Xiao	Director, the Counter-Power Lab; Former Executive Director of Human Rights in China; Former Vice-chairman of the steering committee of the World Movement for Democracy	China
Qí'sai	Ahmad	Program Director for Democratic Justice Governance and Regionalization, Kemitraan	Indonesia
Quang A	Nguyen	Chairman, the Civil Society Forum	Vietnam
Quintos-Deles	Teresita	Chairperson, INCITEGov	Philippines
Quiroga	Jorge	Former President of Bolivia	Bolivia
Quraishi	S.Y.	Former Chief Election Commissioner of India	India
Radicova	Iveta	Former Prime Minister of Slovakia	Slovakia
Rae	Bob	Former Member of Parliament; Senior Fellow, Forum of Federations and Professor, University of Toronto	Canada
Ramos-Horta	Jose	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of East Timor	Timor Leste
Redmond	Fred	Vice President, United Steelworkers Union	USA
Ressa	Maria	CEO and Executive Editor, Rappler	Philippines
Rhodes	Benjamin	President, National Security Action; Former Deputy National Security Advisor	USA
Riabchuk	Mykola	Honorary President, Ukrainian PEN Center	Ukraine
Richardson	Bill	Former Governor of New Mexico; Former Ambassador to the United Nations	USA
Rifkind	Malcolm	Former Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs	United Kingdom
Rincón	Rafael	Director, Fundación Para el Progreso	Chile
Rivarola	Milda	Member of the Academia Paraguaya de la Historia	Paraguay

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Robertson	George	Lord and Former Secretary-General, NATO; Member, the Global Leadership Foundation	United Kingdom
Rodriguez	Miguel Ángel	Former President of Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Rojas-Aravena	Francisco	Rector, the University for Peace (UPEACE)	Chile
Roman	Petre	Former Prime Minister of Romania	Romania
Roznai	Yaniv	Professor of Law at the Radzyner School of Law, IDC Herzliya	Israel
Rubinstein	Elyakim	Former Attorney General of Israel and Deputy President of the Supreme Court	Israel
Rubio	Marco	Senior United States Senator for Florida	USA
Rudd	Kevin	Former Prime Minister of Australia; Member, the Global Leadership Foundation	Australia
Ruiz Massieu	Claudia	Former Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico	Mexico
Rupnik	Jacques	Professor, Center for International Studies at SciencesPo in Paris	France
Saif	Ibrahim	Former Minister of Energy and Minister of Planning of Jordan	Jordan
Salem	Walid	Palestinian Intellectual	Palestine
Sandu	Maia	Former Prime Minister of Moldova	Moldova
Sangay	Lobsang	President, Central Tibet Administration	Tibet
Santos	Juan Manuel	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of Colombia	Colombia
Sarlo	Beatriz	Journalist	Argentina
Saunders	Cheryl	Laureate Emeritus Professor, Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne; Former Vice Chair of International IDEA Board of Advisors	Australia
Säve-Söderbergh	Bengt	Former Secretary-General, International IDEA	Sweden
Scheunemann	Randy	Vice Chairman, Board of Directors, the International Republican Institute	USA
Schrayer	Liz	President and CEO, the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition	USA
Sebihogo	Gilbert	Executive Director, Network of African National Human Rights Institutions	Kenya
Segal	Hugh	Former Member of the Senate of Canada; Senior Fellow, Munk School of Global Affairs; Master of Massey College at the University of Toronto	Canada
Selimbegovic	Vildana	Editor-in-Chief, Oslobodjenje	Bosnia & Herzegovina
Serour	Fatiha	United Nations Deputy Special Representative for Somalia; Co-founder, Justice Impact Lab; Member, the Africa Group for Justice and Accountability	Algeria
Sewanyana	Livingstone	Executive Director, the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative; UN Independent Expert on Promoting a Democratic and Equitable International Order	Uganda
Se-Yeon	Kim	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Shahinian	Gulnara	Founder and Chair, Democracy Today	Armenia
Shamsulddin	Sarkawt	Member of Parliament	Iraq
Sharansky	Natan	Former Deputy Prime Minister of Israel and Minister of Housing and Construction	Israel
Shevtsova	Lilia	Richard von Weizsäcker Fellow, Robert Bosch Academy	Russia

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Shifter	Michael	President, the Inter-American Dialogue; Adjunct Professor of Latin American Studies, Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service	USA
Shin	Kak-Soo	Former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea; Fellow, Institute for Corean-American Studies; Former Ambassador; Former Deputy Permanent Representative at the Korean Mission to the United Nations	Republic of Korea
Shire	Hassan	Chairperson, Pan-African Human Rights Defenders Network	Somalia
Shuabi	Azmi	Former Member of Parliament	Palestine
Shuler	Liz	Secretary-Treasurer, the AFL-CIO	USA
Sierakowski	Sławomir	Director, Krytyka Polityczna	Poland
Sikorski	Radosław	Member of the European Parliament; Former Foreign Minister and Minister of Defence of Poland; Chairman, the EU-USA Delegation	Poland
Silverberg	Kristen	Former Assistant Secretary of State	USA
Skaggs	David	Former Congressman; ViceChair, the National Endowment for Democracy	USA
Snyder	Timothy	Professor of History, Yale University; Permanent Fellow, the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna	USA
Soliman	Nagwan	Affiliate Scholar, Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security	Egypt
Solís Rivera	Luis Guillermo	Former President of Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Sorman	Guy	President, France-Amerique	France
Soyinka	Wole	Nobel Laureate in Literature	Nigeria
Spasovski	Oliver	President of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia	North Macedonia
Stein	Eduardo	Former Vice President of Guatemala and Minister of Foreign Affairs	Guatemala
Sumanop	Serena	CEO, the Digicel PNG Foundation	Papua New Guinea
Syarif	Laode Muhammad	Executive Director, Kemitraan	Indonesia
Sysykova	Zamira	Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Res Publica; Recipient of the Courage in Journalism Award of the International Women's Media Foundation	Kyrgyzstan
Taekyung	Ha	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Takasu	Yukio	Chairman, Japan Center for International Exchange; Former Japanese Ambassador to the United Nations	Japan
Tang	Audrey	Member of the Executive Yuan Council of Taiwan as Digital Minister	Taiwan
Tarasjuk	Borys	Director, Institute for EuroAtlantic Cooperation	Ukraine
Taubina	Natalia	Director, Public Verdict Foundation	Russia
Tawiah	Esther	Founder and Executive Director, Gender Centre for Empowering Development (GenCED)	Ghana
Thae	Yong-ho	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Thomas-Greenfield	Linda	Former Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs	USA
Tinatin	Tinatin	Former Minister of Defense of Georgia; Chairperson, Civic IDEA	Georgia
Tsakhia	Elbegdorj	Former President of Mongolia	Mongolia
Tüttő	Kata	Deputy Mayor of Budapest	Hungary

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Ulibarri	Eduardo	Journalist	Costa Rica
Ungphakorn	Jon	Former Member of the Senate of Thailand	Thailand
Usman	Maryam Garba	Executive Director, Center for Advocacy in Gender and Social Inclusion CAGSI	Nigeria
Usupashvili	Davit	Former Speaker of Parliament of Georgia	Georgia
Uteem	Cassam	Former President of Mauritius; Vice President, the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid; Member, the Global Leadership Foundation	Mauritius
Van Baalen	Hans	President, the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe	Netherlands
Van Praagh	Peter	President, Halifax International Security Forum	USA
Vandenbeld	Anita	Member of Parliament	Canada
Vargas Llosa	Mario	Nobel Peace Laureate; President, The Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa	Peru
Vasquez	Gaddi	Former Ambassador and Former Permanent Representative to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture	USA
Verhofstadt	Guy	Member of the European Parliament and European Parliament Brexit Coordinator; Former Prime Minister of Belgium	Belgium
Verveer	Melanne	Former United States Ambassador for Global Women's Issues	USA
Vike-Freiberga	Vaira	Former President of Latvia; Founding Member, Club de Madrid	Latvia
Villalobos	Joaquín	Scholar	El Salvador
Villiger	Kaspar	Former President of the Swiss Confederation; Founding Member, the Global Leadership Foundation; Chairman, the UBS Foundation of Economics in Society	Switzerland
Vivanco	José Miguel	Director, Human Rights Watch Americas Division; Founder, the Center for Justice and International Law	Chile
Volker	Kurt	Former United States Ambassador to NATO and Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations	USA
Volski	Lavon	Musician and Activist	Belarus
Vondra	Alexander	Member of the European Parliament; Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic
Wałęsa	Lech	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of Poland	Poland
Wallström	Margot	Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden	Sweden
Weigel	George	William E. Simon Chair in Catholic Studies, the Ethics and Public Policy Center	USA
Wieseltier	Leon	Editor, Liberties	USA
Will	George	Writer and Columnist	USA
Wollack	Kenneth	Former President, the National Democratic Institute	USA
Wong	Joshua	Founder, Demosisto	Hong-Kong
Wu	Joseph	Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China	Taiwan
Yunus	Leyla	Director, the Institute for Peace and Democracy	Azerbaijan
Yunus	Muhammed	Nobel Laureate for Literature; Founder, Grameen Bank	Bangladesh
Zaev	Zoran	Former Prime Minister of North Macedonia	North Macedonia
Zakharov	Yevgeniy	Founder, Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group	Ukraine

CONFIRMED LIST OF SIGNATORIES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Zakheim	Roger	Director, Ronald Reagan Institute; Former Commissioner, the Commission on the National Defense Strategy of the United States; Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense	USA
Zakheim	Dov S.	Former Under Secretary of Defense	USA
Zalishchuk	Svitlana	Former Member of Parliament and Former Advisor to Prime Minister	Ukraine
Zambakhidze	Nino	Chairwoman, Georgian Farmers Association	Georgia
Zantovsky	Michael	Executive Director, Vaclav Havel Library	Czech Republic
Zedillo	Ernesto	Former President of Mexico	Mexico
Zhovtis	Yevgeniy	Director, the Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law	Kazakhstan
Zimbardo	Philip	Founder, the Heroic Imagination Project	USA
Zingeris	Emanuelis	Chairman, Subcommittee on Transatlantic Relations and Democracy Development, Parliament of Lithuania	Lithuania
Zoltán	Kész	Former Member of Parliament; Honorary President, Free Market Foundation of Hungary	Hungary

FORMER HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT (62)

FORMER HEADS OF STATE & GOVERNMENT			
Surname	Name	Position	Country
Arteaga Serrano	Rosalía	Former President of Ecuador	Ecuador
Balkenende	Jan Peter	Former Prime Minister of the Netherlands	Netherlands
Bildt	Carl	Former Prime Minister of Sweden	Sweden
Birkavs	Valdis	Former Prime Minister of Latvia	Latvia
Bolaños Geye	Enrique José	Former President of Nicaragua	Nicaragua
Bondevik	Kjell Magne	Former Prime Minister of Norway	Norway
Bruton	John	Former Prime Minister of Ireland	Ireland
Buzek	Jerzy	Former Prime Minister of Poland; Member of the European Parliament	Poland
Calmy-Rey	Micheline	Former President of the Swiss Confederation	Switzerland
Cardoso	Fernando Henrique	Former President of Brazil	Brazil
Chinchilla	Laura	Former President of Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Chissano	Joaquim Alberto	Former President of the Republic of Mozambique	Mozambique
Clark	Charles Joseph	Former Prime Minister of Canada	Canada
Clark	Helen	Former Prime Minister of New Zealand	New Zealand
Couchepin	Pascal	Former President of the Swiss Confederation	Switzerland
de Klerk	F.W.	Former President of South Africa and Nobel Peace Laureate	South Africa
Fernández	Leonel	Former President of the Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic
Fischer	Jan	Former Prime Minister of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic
Franco Gómez	Federico	Former President of Paraguay	Paraguay
Gaviria	Cesar	Former President of Colombia	Colombia

FORMER HEADS OF STATE & GOVERNMENT			
Surname	Name	Position	Country
Gbowee	Leymah R.	Former President of Costa Rica and Nobel Peace Laureate	Liberia
Gonzi	Lawrence	Former Prime Minister of Malta	Malta
Gusenbauer	Alfred	Former Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria	Austria
Harper	Stephe	Former Prime Minister of Canada	Canada
Hurtado	Osvaldo	Former President of Ecuador	Ecuador
Ilves	Toomas Henrik	Former President of Estonia	Estonia
Isakovna Otunbayeva	Roza	Former President of Kyrgyzstan	Kyrgyzstan
Jahjaga	Atifete	Former President of Kosovo	Kosovo
Josipovic	Ivo	Former President of Croatia	Croatia
Koroma	Ernest Bai	Former President of Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone
Kubilius	Andrius	Former Prime Minister of Lithuania; Member of the European Parliament	Lithuania
Kwasniewski	Aleksander	Former President of Poland	Poland
Lagumdzija	Zlatko	Former Prime Minister of Bosnia & Herzegovina	Bosnia & Herzegovina
Lambertz	Karl-Heinz	Former Minister-President of the German-Speaking Community of Belgium; Speaker of the Parliament of the German-Speaking Community	Belgium
Landsbergis	Vytautas	Former President of Lithuania	Lithuania
Lee	Hong-koo	Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Letta	Enrico	Former Prime Minister of Italy	Italy
Macri	Mauricio	Former President of Argentina	Argentina
Margvelashvili	Giorgi	Former President of Georgia	Georgia
Meidani	Rexhep	Former President of Albania	Albania
Mesa	Carlos	Former President of Bolivia	Bolivia
Obasanjo	Olusegun	Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria	Nigeria
Pastrana	Andres	Former President of Colombia	Colombia
Patterson	P.J.	Former Prime Minister of Jamaica	Jamaica
Peeters	Kris	Former Minister-President of Flanders and Former Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium; Member of the European Parliament	Belgium
Quiroga	Jorge	Former President of Bolivia	Bolivia
Radicova	Iveta	Former Prime Minister of Slovakia	Slovakia
Ramos-Horta	Jose	Former President of East Timor and Nobel Peace Laureate	Timor Leste
Rodriguez	Miguel Ángel	Former President of Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Roman	Petre	Former Prime Minister of Romania	Romania
Rudd	Kevin	Former Prime Minister of Australia	Australia
Sandu	Maia	Former Prime Minister of Moldova	Moldova
Santos	Juan Manuel	Former President of Colombia and Nobel Peace Laureate	Colombia
Solís Rivera	Luis Guillermo	Former President of Costa Rica	Costa Rica
Tsakhia	Elbegdorj	Former President of Mongolia	Mongolia
Uteem	Cassam	Former President of Mauritius	Mauritius
Verhofstadt	Guy	Former Prime Minister of Belgium; Member of the European Parliament and European Parliament Brexit Coordinator	Belgium

FORMER HEADS OF STATE & GOVERNMENT			
Surname	Name	Position	Country
Vike-Freiberga	Vaira	Former President of Latvia	Latvia
Villiger	Kaspar	Former President of the Swiss Confederation	Switzerland
Wałęsa	Lech	Former President of Poland and Nobel Peace Laureate	Poland
Zaev	Zoran	Former Prime Minister of North Macedonia	North Macedonia
Zedillo	Ernesto	Former President of Mexico	Mexico

NOBEL LAUREATES (13)

NOBEL LAUREATES			
Surname	Name	Affiliation	Country
Alexievich	Svetlana	Nobel Laureate in Literature	Belarus
Arias Sanchez	Oscar	Nobel Peace Laureate; Founder, Grameen Bank	Costa Rica
de Klerk	F.W.	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of South Africa	South Africa
Ebadi	Shirin	Nobel Peace Laureate; Founder, Defenders of Human Rights Center in Iran	Iran
Gbowee	Leymah R.	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of Costa Rica	Liberia
Karman	Tawakkol	Nobel Peace Laureate; Founder, Women Journalists Without Chains	Yemen
Menchú	Rigoberta	Nobel Peace Laureate	Guatemala
Ramos-Horta	Jose	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of East Timor	Timor Leste
Santos	Juan Manuel	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of Colombia	Colombia
Soyinka	Wole	Nobel Laureate in Literature	Nigeria
Vargas Llosa	Mario	Nobel Peace Laureate; President, The Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa	Peru
Wałęsa	Lech	Nobel Peace Laureate and Former President of Poland	Poland
Yunus	Muhammed	Nobel Laureate for Literature	Bangladesh

CURRENT PUBLIC OFFICIALS (43)

CURRENT PUBLIC OFFICIALS			
Surname	Name	Office	Country
Adomenas	Mantas	Member of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania	Lithuania
Adrian	Tamara	Member of National Assembly of Venezuela	Venezuela
Almagro	Luis	Secretary-General, Organization of American States	Uruguay
Bodnar	Adam	Commissioner for Human Rights of Poland	Poland
Buchanan	Vern	Member of the United States House of Representatives for Florida	USA
Buquicchio	Gianni	President, Venice Commission for Democracy	Italy
Buzek	Jerzy	Member of the European Parliament and Former Prime Minister of Poland	Poland
Cantón	Santiago	Secretary of Human Rights for the Province of Buenos Aires	Argentina

CURRENT PUBLIC OFFICIALS			
Surname	Name	Office	Country
Cseh	Katka	Member of the European Parliament	Hungary
Darmanovic	Srdjan	Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro	Montenegro
de Bethune	Sabine	Baroness and Member of the Senate of Belgium	Belgium
Dobrev	Klara	Vice President of the European Parliament	Hungary
Franssen	Cindy	Member of the European Parliament	Belgium
Gísladóttir	Ingibjörg Sólrún	Director, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights; Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland	Iceland
Hautala	Heidi	Vice President of the European Parliament; Former Minister of International Development of Finland	Finland
Hojsik	Martin	Member of the European Parliament	Slovakia
Hřib	Zdeněk	Mayor of Prague	Czech Republic
Hwangbo	Seung-hee	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Insulza	Jose Miguel	Member of the Senate of the Republic of Chile	Chile
Ji	Seong-ho	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Kaljurand	Marina	Member of the European Parliament	Estonia
Keum	Tae-Sup	Ranking Member of the Legislation and Judiciary Committee of the National Assembly	Republic of Korea
Kubilius	Andrius	Member of the European Parliament; Former Prime Minister of Lithuania	Lithuania
Lambertz	Karl-Heinz	Speaker of the Parliament of the German-Speaking Community; Former Minister-President of the German-Speaking Community of Belgium	Belgium
Pavilionis	Zygmantas	Deputy Chair, European Affairs Committee of the Parliament	Lithuania
Peeters	Kris	Member of the European Parliament; Former Minister-President of Flanders and Former Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium	Belgium
Piri	Kati	Member of the European Parliament	Netherlands
Ploumen	Lilianne	Member of Parliament	Netherlands
Pollak	Peter	Member of the European Parliament	Slovakia
Price	David E.	Member of the United States House of Representatives for North Carolina	USA
Rubio	Marco	Senior United States Senator for Florida	USA
Se-Yeon	Kim	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Shamsulddin	Sarkawt	Member of Parliament	Iraq
Sikorski	Radosław	Member of the European Parliament; Former Foreign Minister and Minister of Defence of Poland	Poland
Spasovski	Oliver	President of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia	North Macedonia
Taekyung	Ha	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Tang	Audrey	Member of the Executive Yuan Council of Taiwan as Digital Minister	Taiwan
Thae	Yong-ho	Member of National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea
Tüttö	Kata	Deputy Mayor of Budapest	Hungary
Vandenbeld	Anita	Member of Parliament	Canada
Verhofstadt	Guy	Member of the European Parliament and European Parliament Brexit Coordinator; Former Prime Minister of Belgium	Belgium
Vondra	Alexander	Member of the European Parliament; Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic	Czech Republic
Wu	Joseph	Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China	Taiwan