

UNA·NZ News 2018

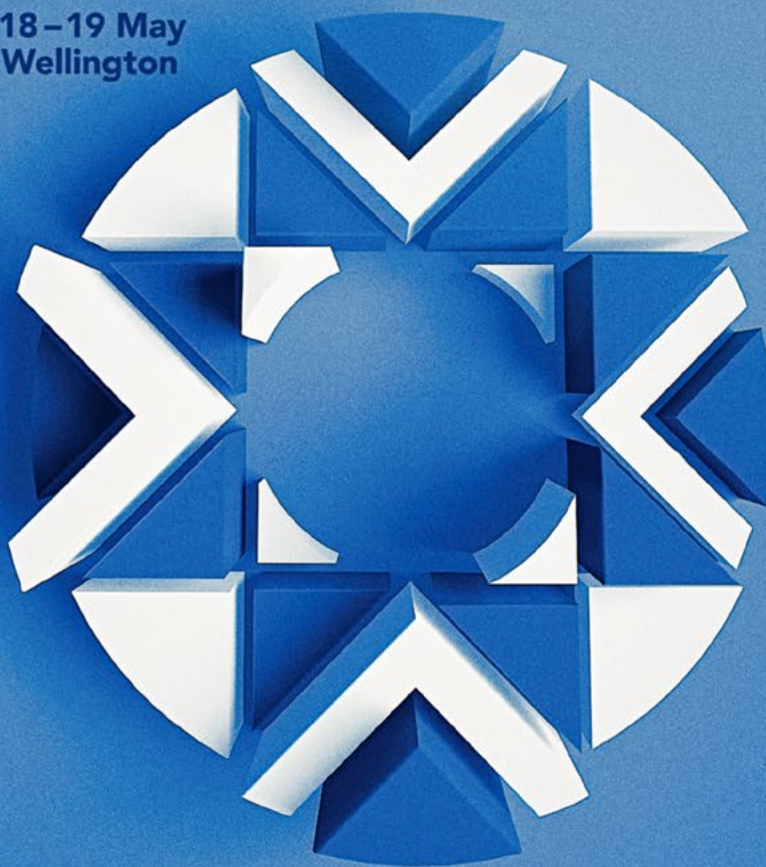
# UNA·NZ NEWS

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND  
TE ROOPU WHAKAKOTAHĪ WHENUA O AOTEAROA

## Global Summitry

A world of order  
and disorder?

18–19 May  
Wellington



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2018 National Conference of  
Te Roopu Whakakotahi Whenua o Aotearoa  
The United Nations Association of New Zealand

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Dame Laurie Salas  
Memorial Lecture

Māori Tourism and Manaakitanga  
Gender and SDGs

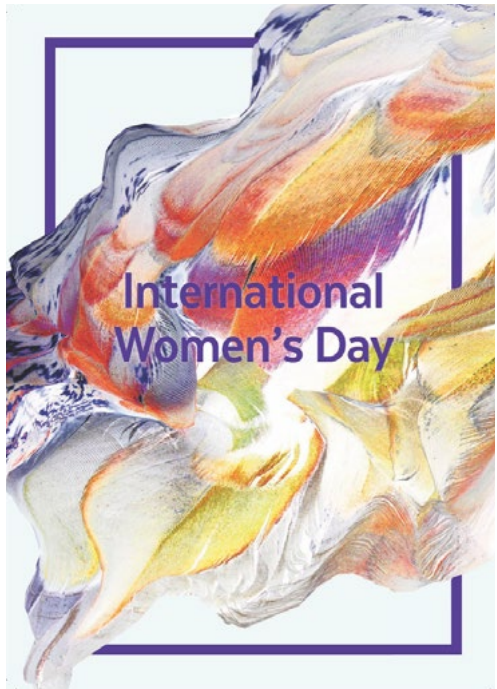
2018 National  
Conference







In March 2018, UNA NZ collaborated with Exhibition Coexistence, under the leadership of Jill Oakley, and QT Hotel to host an International Women's Day lunch and guided tour of the international outdoor art exhibition. The exhibition was displayed at Waitangi Park in Wellington for two weeks and promoted the message of peace and tolerance with people round the world. Photo @Éva Kaprinay



#### About the UNA NZ News

The UNA NZ News is the annual printed publication of the United Nations Association of New Zealand. UNA NZ welcomes articles, short letters, and images from outside sources for our e-newsletters and other publications. If you would like to submit something for consideration, please send it to the newsletter editor at [office@unanz.org.nz](mailto:office@unanz.org.nz)



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Cover photograph: UNA NZ National Conference advertising in Wellington 2018

## Thanks to our contributors for this issue

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## A moment for friends

### Mary and Vincent Gray

It is with sadness that we report that United Nations Association of New Zealand Life Member Mary Gray has passed away, shortly after her husband Vincent Gray passed away.

Mary made a profound contribution to the United Nations and other worthy causes. She was present in Paris at the signing of the Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 and was very active in promoting understanding with China. She produced and published several educational books to encourage bilingualism. All of this and being a formidable advocate means she will leave a memorable and lasting impression on those who knew her and those who were influenced by her good works. Vincent had an amazing life as a scientist, used his remarkable intelligence talent determinedly, was an astute musician and was a very active member of civil society. We salute his contribution, and indeed that of Mary, over the decades.

Rest in peace Mary and Vincent.

Ka hinga te tōtara i Te Waonui a Tāne.  
A tōtara has fallen in the great forest of Tāne.



Mary Gray (right), with Dame Laurie Salas (left)

### Ivan Densem

We are truly sorry to hear of the loss of Ivan Densem and wish to express our most heartfelt sympathies to his family and friends. Ivan was an honorary life member of the United Nations Association of New Zealand and made a long-lasting positive contribution to the Association and the Canterbury Branch especially. His foresight and efforts to establish the Canterbury Branch United Nations Association of New Zealand Charitable Trust will be permanently recalled in our records and branch history.



Ivan Densem at the UNA Conference in May 2005. Ivan gave a very spirited speech, calling on UN Youth and UNA NZ to come together.

## Promoting engagement with the United Nations



UNA NZ President Peter Nichols, with immediate past President Joy Dunsheath, laying the ANZAC wreath on 25 April 2018 ANZAC Day

### Ka nui te mihi kia koutou katoa

It is my pleasure to introduce and commend this United Nations Association of New Zealand (UNA NZ) Magazine to you. I acknowledge Ronja levers, our National Administrator, for her hard work in compiling the articles, coordinating with authors nationwide and for the considerable time and effort she has put into its production, all ably supported by UNA NZ immediate past President Joy Dunsheath.

The goal of UNA NZ is to help New Zealanders understand the United Nations and to promote engagement with it. This

magazine goes a long way to achieving that goal. It describes the plethora of activities conducted by volunteers in many capacities.

These includes the leadership provided by branch presidents in promoting the United Nations in their region ably supported by various other office holders. With branches in Auckland, Tauranga, Waikato, Wanganui, Wellington and Canterbury, we have a nationwide footprint and structures in place. But these can't be taken for granted; they require motivated volunteers to pursue the many laudable goals the UN aspires to—peace and security, development, poverty alleviation, to mention but a few.

These laudable goals are no better articulated than in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which have been our theme for 2017 and 2018. They are the core work of the UN, and UNA NZ has a Special Officer SDGs to promote discussion on them. We also have a number of other special officers who are our subject matter experts to address topics such as Climate Change and the Environment, Peace and Security, and Tangata Whenua/ indigenous issues. There is much to do, but much has been achieved. As we reflect over the past 12 months UNA NZ has held a number of events to promote engagement with the UN.

Notably Dr Rod Alley gave the Dame Laurie Salas Memorial Lecture and our National Conference featured Fletcher Tabuteau MP as our keynote speaker. Perhaps the highlight of the National Conference was the high school speech competition with the topic *How should we balance climate change issues versus economic growth in New Zealand? Are they mutually exclusive?* The standard was very high, which made determining the winner challenging. This year's winner was Matthew Sutcliffe from Wellington College.

Not only were these youths impressive, but I must express my admiration for the work of Bokyoung Mun and her highly motivated team leading the UN Youth programme. When attending their National Council, I was surprised by the scale and depth of activities in promoting the UN's work in New Zealand, and similarly, at their model UN opening ceremony at Parliament, which reflected wide engagement across the diplomatic corps



who presented awards for various UN Youth activities. Planning four overseas trips this year for up to five weeks and with 3,000 students on their books reflects admirably on their activities to enthuse others in exploring the UN and how to make the world a better place.

Other articles in this magazine cover global UN news, including the startling revelation that the United States of America is withdrawing from the United Nations Human Rights Council.

We have welcomed and supported several interns, including Stanislas Gros from France and Giulia Pancotta from Italy.

Our AGM in May 2018 accepted our strategic plan, which defines the key pieces of work and timeline over the next few years. The document provides a framework to prioritise our work and is a ‘living’ document, being formally reported on quarterly through the National Executive. It is good to have clarity about what we have to do, when we are going to do it and who is responsible. The ‘why’ is addressed in the cover page, which discusses context, risk and dependencies, and defines success.

We look forward to planning the next National Council meeting to enable local engagement to enhance the Council meeting. Planning is also underway for notable UN days.



UNA NZ Patrons, Her Excellency The Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy GNZM QSO and The Rt Hon Helen Clark ONZ, at the Suffrage 125 launch held at Government House on 7 March 2018 Photo @Government House

Much done; much to do! More fun to be had! Enjoy your UN in 2018–19.

Ngā mihi nui,

Peter Nichols  
National President

Upcoming events

- 21 September United Nations International Peace Day
- 24 October United Nations Day celebration
- 10 December United Nations Human Rights Day



70 YEARS

UNIVERSAL  
DECLARATION OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS

#STANDUP4HUMANRIGHTS

# Facts Report on the US withdrawal from the UN Human Rights Council

*prepared by the UNA NZ Special Officer for Human Rights*

On June 19, United States Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley announced the Trump administration’s withdrawal from the UN Human Rights Council (HRC). The reasons for this decision are twofold. On the one hand, the United States considers that the HRC has a disproportionate focus on allegations of human rights abuses committed by Israel, alleging an entrenched bias against its ally. On the other hand, the United States has a problem with the make-up of the council membership, claiming that the HCR allows notorious human rights abusers as members, citing Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, China and Venezuela as examples.

The HRC is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe, as well as investigating alleged human rights violations. Established in 2006, the HRC also conducts the Universal Periodic Review of all UN member states, bringing accusations of human rights violations in member states to the attention of the UN. Recent examples include a fact-finding mission to Myanmar to investigate abuses against the mostly Muslim Rohingya minority, establishing a commission to look into abuses taking place in Syria and sending a probe to investigate the killing of Palestinian protesters by the Israeli army.

The United States withdrawal from the HRC has caused an international outcry for what is perceived as a worrisome lack of commitment to the defence and promotion of human rights, by discrediting the role of the HRC in this mission. Coupled with this recent decision, the Trump administration has made a number of announcements that signal a disregard for international agreements and human rights protections. Examples include withdrawing from the Iran nuclear deal and from the Paris agreement to combat climate change. More recently, as part of the “zero tolerance” policy on illegal crossings at the Mexican border, more than 2000 children have been separated from their parents, rather than keeping them together in detention centres. Causing an international backlash, the United States administration has reversed this policy signalling that families will be put back together again and ensure

that migrants’ children will not remain in U.S. foster care thousands of miles from their deported parents. However, details on how this will take place have not been provided.

An even more pervasive concern regarding Trump’s administration is the increasing levels of poverty, inequality and criminalisation faced by Americans, which has been considered a threat to human rights. The UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Professor Philip Alston, criticised US Ambassador Nikki Haley for leaving the HRC just days before he presented a damning report into how Donald Trump’s administration is failing to tackle poverty across America. Alston visited the United States from 1 to 15 December 2017 to examine government efforts to eradicate poverty in the country, and how they relate to US obligations under international human rights law. In this visit, he documented the “dramatic change of direction in US policies relating to inequality and extreme poverty”. The findings of the Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights on his mission to the United States of America depicts a harrowing picture of the systematic failure in the protection of human rights including the criminalisation of the poor, lack of access to health care, the disenfranchisement of society and acute levels of inequality.

The HRC is one of the few international bodies with systems in place to review the United States’ treatment of human rights. By withdrawing from the council, the United States gets to deviate from its commitment to fully engage in the protection of vulnerable and marginalised communities in the country and abroad.

In New Zealand, former Prime Minister Helen Clark said that while the US’s issues about authoritarian regimes are valid “it also needs to be conscious of the rights of small children being ripped away from their parents”. She also wondered whether the US could withdraw from the United Nations altogether.

Nāku noa, nā

Paula Pereda-Perez

UNA NZ Special Officer for Human Rights



# Secretary-General's remarks at the closing of High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

**[as delivered] 18 July 2018** – The eight days of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development have been a time to recommit to the transformative vision of the 2030 Agenda and to assess where we are.

I believe your discussions – along with the Voluntary National Reviews of 46 countries – have helped show the resolve to implementing the Agenda.

They demonstrated also the commitment at other levels of your governments, namely at local and regional authorities.

They reflect the growing and increasingly crucial efforts of civil society, the private sector, academia and others.

And, indeed, we see important progress in a number of areas around the world – reducing maternal and child mortality, expanding basic education, improving access to electricity and much more.

But your discussions have also made clear that we are lagging or even backtracking in other areas that are fundamental to our shared pledge to leave no one behind.

For the first time in a decade, the number of people who are undernourished has

increased, mainly due to conflict, drought and disasters linked to climate change.

Gender inequality continues to hold women back and deprive them of basic rights and opportunities.

And investment in critical sustainable infrastructure remains entirely inadequate.

At the same time, we face mounting challenges. Runaway climate change. A growing number of conflicts and inequality. An erosion of human rights. An unprecedented global humanitarian crisis and persistent pockets of poverty and hunger.

The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals are our collective response to building a fair globalization.

They are a recognition of the need to address the gaps in the extraordinary expansion of the global economy over the last decades.

We need to embed the essence of the 2030 Agenda into everything that we do.

How do we get there? Let me point to several essential pathways.

**First**, we must mobilize the transformative

power of the world's young people. In September, we will launch the UN's strategy to support and engage young people.

Education is essential – as a critical tool for empowerment, for advancing gender equality and decent work for all, and for changing the way we produce, consume and live.

**Second**, we need to get greenhouse gas emissions under control.

Climate change is moving faster than we are. Yet we see insufficient political will to meet commitments.

The foundation for climate action is the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Its main goal is to limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius, and as close as possible to 1.5 degrees.

But we must acknowledge that Paris is not enough.

The economic and social transformation needed to stay well below 2 degrees, requires nothing short of an industrial and energy revolution and we are not yet there.

In September 2019, I will convene a



Secretary-General António Guterres greets residents of Mopti after his visit to the Grand Mosque. At left side is Mahamat Saleh Annadif, Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). 30 May 2018 Photo @UNPhoto

Climate Summit to galvanize greater climate ambition.

I count on you to pave the way for bold climate leadership and innovative action.

**Third**, funding gaps for SDG investments are vast and urgent. We must unlock the large levels of financing necessary to implement the 2030 Agenda, particularly in vulnerable countries.

Countries must do everything to mobilize internal resources. But the international community must do all it can to make sure they support countries in this effort by fighting illicit flows of capital money laundering and tax evasion.

In September, I will convene a High-level Meeting on Financing the 2030 Agenda.

**Fourth**, technology has great potential to help deliver the SDGs. But it can also be at the root of exclusion and inequality.

We need to harness the benefits of advanced technologies for all. Last week I announced a new High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation that will focus on this challenge.

**Finally**, we must further strengthen institutions. This was apparent both in the Goals reviewed this year, and in the Voluntary National Reviews.

For peaceful and inclusive societies, we need justice, effectiveness, transparency, accountability, and participation – principles that institutions should follow to deliver the 2030 Agenda, to realize all human rights and to strengthen the trust on which social cohesion is built.

In today's globalized world, we cannot look at development simply as a conflict prevention tool. Development also plays a very important role in creating the conditions for resilient societies and a peaceful world. But development is an end in itself and it must be a central objective of the action of the UN.

Every government, every human being can rally behind the 2030 Agenda as an agenda for prosperity and peace on a healthy planet. Let us leave this Forum with a fresh commitment to work together, to share innovative solutions and live up to the Agenda we set for ourselves.

We must address the drivers of conflict and support the long-term capacities and institutions that are required for sustaining peace and sustainable development.

Multilateralism is the only way to tackle the complex, inter-connected and long-term challenges we are facing.

The recent conclusion of consultations on the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees is extremely encouraging – addressing issues that are central to realizing the Sustainable Development Goals, where comprehensive and robust international cooperation is essential.

I am also pleased that Member States have embraced reform of the UN Development System so that we are better equipped to help Governments respond to the 2030 Agenda.

Operationalizing the Resident Coordinator system is an essential next step and I am grateful to those countries that have already indicated their willingness to help fund that system during the transition in 2019.

Every government, every human being can rally behind the 2030 Agenda as an agenda for prosperity and peace on a healthy planet.

Let us leave this Forum with a fresh commitment to work together, to share innovative solutions and live up to the Agenda we set for ourselves.

Let us demonstrate through decisive actions that the transformation demanded by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is well and truly underway.

Thank you very much for your commitment.

# Getting it Right – 25 years of the Children’s Convention in Aotearoa

**Judge Andrew Becroft, Children’s Commissioner**

Before I took up this role, I thought I knew the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (the Children's Convention) fairly well, thanks to my time in the Youth Court. But even then, I had a lurking and growing suspicion that I was not getting the best out of the Convention or applying it as fully as I could for young offenders.

However, I must confess that it was not until I started in this role that I sat down and read the Convention in complete detail from beginning to end. Knowing that a key statutory obligation for the Children’s Commissioner is to raise awareness and understanding of the Convention and to advance and monitor the application of the Convention by the Departments of State and other instruments of the Crown,<sup>1</sup> I read the Convention three times in a row! So began my real understanding of the significance of the Convention and its promises for our children.

It is an exciting document - even 28 years after its adoption by the United Nations, and 25 years after New Zealand’s ratification, it still speaks powerfully. In fact, it is a charter of guaranteed entitlements for children that, when faithfully applied and upheld, will ensure that our children flourish, prosper and thrive.

The Convention defines the universal basic rights of all people under 18 years old. It recognises that children are people in their own right and have the same rights as everyone else, but it also recognises that they need extra support from adults. In signing the Convention, our Government agreed to promote, respect, protect and fulfill the rights of all children to things such as health, education, safety and the opportunity to participate.

In New Zealand, we have a unique context with Te Tiriti o Waitangi to apply the Children’s Convention for all children. As a country, I think we need to be much more enthusiastic and positive about child rights – rooted in the context of their family, whānau, hapū, iwi and community. In my view, over the last thirty years at least, we have dropped the ball in terms of child



Lavana Seuola (l) and the New Zealand Prime Minister Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (r), taken at Parliament at the event to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Convention Photo @Office of the Children's Commissioner

focused policies. Despite significant national economic growth, too many of our children have missed out.

## 25 years on... how are New Zealand’s children faring?

We know that most of our children do well, and some do outstandingly well. But as a rough generalisation 20% are struggling, and 10% do as bad if not worse, than most comparable OECD countries. All our children would benefit significantly if New Zealand were fully applying the Convention, but especially the 30% whose needs are not being met.

In recent years, we have seen some progress in addressing children’s rights in line with recommendations from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. For example, raising the age of youth justice, extending the age of state care and providing more support for transition out of care, and a wider understanding of and commitment to listening to children’s voices.

The explicit inclusion of and reference to the Children’s Convention in amendments to the Oranga Tamariki Act is a

1 Section 12(1)(d) and (f) of Children's Commissioner Act 2003



landmark step for New Zealand. New obligations to improve outcomes for Māori children, including stronger provisions to whakamana and to support Māori children, and their whānau, hapū and iwi, who are affected by the care and protection and/or youth justice systems, is another positive example. The child poverty reduction legislation before Parliament, and the proposed child well-being strategy, represent significant progress.

But there is still so much to do. In 2016, the UN Committee made some urgent recommendations that need to be addressed for New Zealand children, and in particular the 30% who are dealing with varying levels of disadvantage. For example, we need to do much better for tamariki Māori, ensure that education is inclusive of all children – especially those with disabilities, and curb the persistently high rates of violence, abuse and neglect experienced by children.

In April this year, the Children's Convention Monitoring Group which I convene – and which includes the Human Rights Commission, Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa (ACYA), Save the Children New Zealand and the United Nations Children's Fund New Zealand (UNICEF NZ) – published a report to mark the 25th anniversary of the Children's Convention in New Zealand called *Getting It Right: Building Blocks*<sup>2</sup>. The report is part of a series that highlights where New Zealand is making progress in upholding children's rights and where action is still needed.

Some of the basic building blocks – and part of the general measures required first before the Convention can be implemented – identified in this year's report as needing attention include: supporting children's participation in decisions that affect them; taking children and their views into account when new policies are developed; making sure that children's privacy and best interests are considered when collecting information about them; and using the Children's Convention to develop a plan for children and their wellbeing.

If we don't get these fundamental building blocks in place, there is little chance of the Convention ever being comprehensively put into effect in New Zealand. Twenty-five years after we have ratified it, let's take the steps we need to fully embed the Children's Convention in our laws and policies as well as in a national strategy for all children.

We welcome the Government's focus on children's issues. It signals a commitment to putting the rights and wellbeing of children at the centre of government action. It also heralds an opportunity to listen more to children's voices and put the fundamental principles of children's rights into practice.

We have a once in a generation opportunity to fundamentally improve the well being of all our children. We will never have a better time to turn the Convention, and the vision that it encapsulates, into a reality for all New Zealand children.

*Children's Commissioner Judge Andrew Becroft represents the 1.1 million people in Aotearoa New Zealand under the age of 18. They make up 23% of the total population. The Children's Commissioner is independent from the Government, committed to honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi and advocating for meaningful engagement with Māori as tangata whenua. The Office of the Children's Commissioner wants Aotearoa New Zealand to be a place where all children thrive. The Children's Commissioner has a broad role, including advocating for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.*

*The Office advocates for the interests, rights and wellbeing of New Zealand children and monitors the services provided under the Oranga Tamariki Act. The Office also develops means of consulting with children and listens to and is informed by children's voices.*

*The Office of the Children's Commission's goal is for New Zealand to be the best place in the world to be a child, where New Zealand's children experience neither poverty nor disadvantage, where families, whānau, hapū, iwi and wider communities are supported and resourced to provide their children and young people with safe, loving homes and create the best possible platform for a good life.*



Judge Andrew Becroft, Children's Commissioner, Photo @Office of the Children's Commissioner

# Global Citizenship Education Award

*an excerpt of the introductory speech given by Robyn Baker, Chair of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO*

**The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO launched its inaugural Global Citizenship Education Award late last year – here is an excerpt of the Commission Chair's introductory speech given at the awards ceremony held at Parliament on 24 April 2018.**

Tēnā koutou katoa.

As Chair of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO – the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation – it's my great pleasure to welcome you to the inaugural prize giving for our Award in Global Citizenship Education.

We're delighted you were able to take time out of your day to attend this event, and it's especially pleasing that representatives from each of our winning projects have been able to come, even those that have had to travel to be with us. I'd like to extend our special thanks to Hon Jenny Salesa, Associate Minister of Education, for hosting us this afternoon.

Many of you might not know this, but New Zealand was the second nation to sign UNESCO's constitution. UNESCO was established after World War II, with one ultimate goal in mind – that such a war should never happen again. UNESCO's core belief is that 'since wars begin in the minds of men (and women), it is in the minds of people that the defences of peace must be constructed'. We seek to lay the foundations for lasting peace and sustainable development by encouraging people to talk to each

other constructively, share knowledge, and take collective action.

To support these aspirations, UNESCO coordinates international cooperation in education, science, social science, culture and communication. We work to strengthen the ties between nations and societies, and mobilise the wider public to ensure:

- everyone has access to quality education;
- everyone may grow and live in a cultural environment rich in diversity and dialogue, where heritage serves as a bridge between generations and peoples;
- everyone can fully benefit from scientific advances; and
- everyone can enjoy full freedom of expression, which is the basis of democracy, development and human dignity.

Many of today's issues are global concerns that affect us all. Issues such as climate change, the ever-challenging impact of emerging new technologies, the safeguarding of humanity's shared cultural heritage, disaster mitigation, education for sustainable development and threats to freedom of expression, fall directly under UNESCO's mandate.

In this context, co-operation in education, the natural and social sciences, culture, communication and information has never been more important. Neither has sharing and building knowledge and undertaking collective activities that make a difference to people and the planet.

The National Commission has set a range of strategic priorities that we feel are most relevant to New Zealand, and a focus on Global Citizenship Education is one of these priorities. We want to encourage New Zealanders of all ages to be innovative and responsible global citizens; who are open to learning and sharing, and who are proactive in seeking opportunities to contribute to important local, national and global issues.

This was of course our motivation for establishing our annual Global Citizenship Education Award. We want to raise awareness about global citizenship within the education and community sectors by highlighting the great work being done across the country by people who are working together on projects that are having a positive impact on individuals and their communities. We want to do this to acknowledge the achievements, but just as important, we want the recognition given through the awards to: inspire others; give ideas that can be borrowed and adapted for other contexts; and overall to strengthen the national work in this important area.

There's always a risk when you set up an award. Will anybody enter? Will the entries hit the mark? Fortunately, we received a healthy number of entries from all around New Zealand, from the Bay of Islands to Invercargill. Almost all of them were relevant, high quality applications. It was exciting and heart-warming to read about all the outstanding work that is happening around the country, and it certainly gave our judges plenty to debate over.

2 <http://www.occ.org.nz/publications/reports/getting-it-right-building-blocks/>



# The Impossible Dream: A World without Nuclear Weapons?



## Lecture delivered in honour of Dame Laurie Salas

by Dr Roderic Alley

[Delivered to the United Nations Association of New Zealand, Wellington 18 May 2018]. It is an honour indeed to have been invited by the United Nations Association to deliver this lecture in honour of the late Dame Laurie Salas. Mentor to many, her long life of 94 years, which ended in 2017, was a beacon for women's rights, peace and disarmament – in particular nuclear disarmament. Shortly I shall speak about all three and how they have informed each other, but first some reflections about a remarkable New Zealander.

I began working most closely with Laurie in the 1980's and at a stage in this country's history that was decisive. In the early part of that decade, I recall comments that not much of social consequence starts to improve until the women get going. They were certainly the dominant presence in one of the biggest public demonstrations seen in the United States against nuclear weaponry, held in New York in 1982, and which Laurie attended. She was in the city as a non-governmental representative to the second United Nations Special Session on disarmament.

When New Zealand's anti-nuclear legislation was passed, a public advisory committee on disarmament and arms control (PACDAC) was established with terms that included advising those holding the newly established post of Minister of Disarmament. I joined Laurie on that committee during its first term which extended from 1987 to 1990. With Kate Dewes, Robin Briant, and Mary Woodward, among others, this was a strong committee and its records still warrant scrutiny for their continuing relevance. They will show recommendations subsequently followed about approaching the World Court for an advisory opinion on the legality of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons; some of the first published work in this country on human security; deliberations about the removal of nuclear weapons from naval platforms; questions about New Zealand's intelligence facilities; and some sharp differences with the government over some defence procurement decisions. Laurie played an active part in all these exchanges.

At times it was clear that those sitting opposite, often in an official capacity, did not quite know what to make of her. How come this well educated, properly spoken woman, of impeccable Christchurch establishment credentials, was so determined in her espousal of comprehensive disarmament, certain to upset our good friends in Canberra, Washington, and London?



Dr Roderic Alley, 18 May 2018

Eyebrows arched slightly upwards, pens were set to rest on tables, while below them the slight nervous shuffling of feet was discernible. The crystalline sharpness of her values, like the representations she made, was received with the chilly politeness second nature to senior officialdom. Those values were rock solid, persistent, and ever active. She had the innate courage and determination that is not bothered much about the status or position of anyone receiving her clearly phrased, uncompromising messages. Here she often used to remind me of what that great man of letters, Samuel Johnson, once called 'the stability of truth'.

Let me now turn to the three themes which were central to Laurie's lasting contribution: **gender equality, peace, and disarmament**. All are closely related.

### Gender Equality

And here we begin with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, forged in 1915 within the furnace of World War I. In some ways this was a troubled birth, frequently the women determined to attain universal suffrage were also ardent patriots. This was as true in Germany as it was in Britain. At least initially, they saw sacrifices of war necessary for defence of the realm. Yet subsequently it is remarkable how durable some early advocacy by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has remained. As a lobby at the 1919 Paris peace conference after World War I, they warned American President Woodrow Wilson about the dangers of agreeing to a Carthaginian peace over Germany by exacting excessive reparations demands, just as they urged the use of arbitration and peaceful settlement of disputes, comprehensive disarmament, and an end to still prevailing systems of economic imperialism.

That advice went unheeded as we move to the present where women without number are denied by war, conflict and displacement. Millions more live in fear through the threat of armed violence whether from overt conflict or from within





Celebrating New Zealand's nuclear free vote in 1987 outside the Wellington Beehive. Laurie Salas centre Photo @UNA NZ Archives

supposedly civil conditions. Key drivers of these tragedies include the proliferation and misuse of small arms, and persisting patriarchies discriminating against women. Currently the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Agenda has established an integrated set of targets out to 2030, and where the international community is committed to achieving gender equality (Goal 5) and reducing illicit arms flows and violent deaths (Goal 16). These goals are inextricably interlinked, but a long way from being realised.

The same can be said of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, passed unanimously in 2000, and reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts; in peace-building; in equal participation and full involvement in the maintenance and promotion of peace and security; and in an increased role in decision-making for conflict prevention and resolution. With its pillars of prevention, participation, protection, peace building and recovery, this Resolution has been a focal point for galvanizing worldwide efforts to deal with the many challenges women face in conflict situations. Partnerships have been formed to move this agenda forward, creating awareness of the normative framework needed to govern these issues. This has been its greatest success.

Groundwork for this important, binding resolution was laid by significant international conferences in Mexico in 1975 when the United Nation's First World Conference on Women resulted in a "Declaration on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace." There followed world conferences in Copenhagen (1980), Nairobi (1985), the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 codifying a Platform of Action directing United Nations member states and the international community to recognise and act against the gendered impact of armed conflict. It advocated women's inclusion in peace negotiations and post-conflict decision-making processes, and to "increase the participation of women in conflict resolution, and protect women living in situations of armed conflicts or under foreign occupation."

These laudable goals are yet to be met. Last year, a wide cross section of women's non-governmental representatives held a stocktaking of Resolution 1325. They recognised that although the Women, Peace and Security Agenda is now an essential pillar, progress in women's full engagement in all phases of peace building, and their protection from sexual violence remains seriously inadequate. Many participants called for strengthened gender expertise across all UN activities, and its stronger presence in consultations with civil society

organisations. Crucial issues such as financing these activities and actual disarmament itself were rightly seen as under-achieving. Underlying reasons for violence against women, and women's marginalisation stemming from patriarchy and militarised political economies, remained unaddressed as key policy challenges. Both obstacles are huge but not immovable. They require publicly driven, policy informed strategies capable of spanning contrasting national and cultural systems, and requiring accountability via exposure, financial responsibility via divestment, and transparency via effective use of social media.

### Peace

Considering this lecture's second theme of peace, noticeable now is greater attention given to needless loss of life incurred through all forms of violence. That may be at the hands of states delivering barrel bombs into civilian locations; insurgencies and militias killing one another; criminal gangs taking lives when engaged in trafficking and narcotics; or the use of terror by disaffected minorities within urban environments. Poverty itself is also a major killer. A little known fact about Nigeria is that more have been killed by cattle raiding Fulani pastoralists, than from outrages committed by Boko Haram. This is a direct consequence of climate change driven drought, and by persisting land insecurity worsened under a succession of corrupt and kleptocratic Nigerian governments.

While a downward trend of conflicts between states continues, this gives no comfort given the scale of fatalities occurring within states or across often weakly defended borders. So far as the unnecessary loss of civilian life through conflict is concerned, we have already had World War III. That is an appalling indictment of the failure of our species to look after each other and to minimise the cost of our differences. Lethal conflict will continue, and it is right we spend money to defend against those who threaten it, but the collective failure to prevent its excesses is dismal.

Yet we do live in a rule-bound world. As American jurist Louis Henkin said in 1968, which was a year of major international convulsions: "Almost all nations observe almost all principles of international law and almost all of their obligations almost all of the time." And he added: "If peace can be maintained, international stability enhanced, nations left alone to work out their destiny, the economic and social development of nations

assisted by those who have more, then the rights of individual human beings will have a chance to flourish, and (where) the UN can play a role in speeding the process, to increase these rights, to make these rights count." Of course the second part of that statement is more conditional than the first, though I believe that Louis Henkin would be encouraged by the universal applicability of the current Sustainable Development Goals programme.

At the outset, I mentioned the contribution that PACDAC made to the study of human security. This focus has continued to expand seen for example in the 1998 Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court and principles surrounding the Responsibility to Protect, including the notion that governments egregiously violating the essential rights of their citizens are effectively abdicating sovereign responsibility. We have also seen the establishment of a range of soft law guidelines ranging from protections for the internally displaced; the so-called Ruggie principles designed to enforce laws requiring business enterprises to respect human rights, periodically assess the adequacy of such laws, and address gaps so as to enable business respect for human rights; maritime security compliance; the conduct of private military companies; the Helsinki Accords on security cooperation in Europe; missile technology control; and the nuclear suppliers group export control arrangements. These arrangements are more than just political. While such guidelines offer flexibility of scope that does not mean flexibility of commitment. This was seen when New Zealand objected to the United States breach of the last mentioned nuclear suppliers export arrangement, when Washington decided to open the door for American nuclear materials sales and assistance to India, not a member of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Wellington's protest over this matter was supported elsewhere; even earning a short leader in the New York Times entitled 'Let's Hear It for New Zealand'.

The human security agenda has also been assisted by the growing salience of individual victim suffering and casualties sustained in conflict. Civil society initiatives emphasising the rights of individuals, not just the sovereign prerogatives of states, has helped build the political momentum needed to conclude treaties banning landmines and cluster munitions. In Geneva, we have seen the United Nations Human Rights Council

**Just twelve days of military expenditure would eradicate extreme poverty everywhere, and just five weeks spending would ensure that five of the key UN Sustainable Development Goals are met: eradicating extreme poverty; ending hunger; ensuring healthy lives; clean water and sanitation; and quality education for all.**



increasingly engage on war and peace issues. Human security needs have been squarely placed before governments by the huge increase in forced migration, refugee flows, and illegal trafficking of individuals beyond borders. In response, we have seen the United Nations Security Council regularly bracket human rights, humanitarian, and refugee law requirements within its resolutions. These have recognised that while States bear primary responsibility for the rights of their citizens and all individuals within their territory, they are also required to take all feasible steps to meet obligations applicable to them under these international rules.

Although human security needs have risen in salience, there is no doubting the readiness of some states to shelter dubious conduct behind shields of sovereign prerogative. Take Chinese arms sales exports as an example, where Beijing has remained ambivalent about enforcing UN authorised arms embargoes. It has engaged in a brisk programme of enhanced arms sales into Africa, resisting UN Security Council attempts in 2016 to establish an arms embargo over South Sudan. Here it insisted such a ban would infringe South Sudan's rights to make its own choices.

This is not to suggest China is alone in such conduct. With their power of veto, all of them nuclear weapons states, and each willing to bend international rules when they see fit, the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, considered as a totality, are an obstacle to the realisation of the human security required for an enduring peace. Between 2002 and 2016, the United States sold arms to 167 countries, ignoring the evident risks of subsequent boomerang or blowback dangers, seen when Daesh (or ISIS) helped itself to hundreds of thousands of American weapons that went missing in Iraq.

Yet those same five permanent Security Council members usually want to be seen to be operating within the rules. It is an example of what Stephen Krasner has termed the organised hypocrisy of the sovereign state system. This is the persistently

uneasy co-existence between what are termed logics of assumed rational state choice that are seriously at odds with needs of appropriateness in state conduct. Be that as it may, the problem reverts back to one of accountability, its absence one of the most pernicious features of the veto power in the UN Security Council.

More widely, and beyond the UN Security Council's problematic role as a primary agent for maintenance of international peace and security, there is universal concern about how best to reconcile the way states perceive immediate and compelling needs, as against what human beings see as fair and just. We are reminded of the Irish poet William Butler Yeats wanting to hold 'in a single thought reality and justice'. Children currently without education or future employment will have the single thought that their reality is one of injustice. Without dedicated and combined official commitment to comprehensive programmes of social, economic and sustainable development mapped out in the sustainable development goals, they may well become the armed insurgents of the future. Their weapons are ready and waiting.

Last year's global military spending averaged out to more than \$US 4.7 billion every day, while an average of more than 15,342 children under the age of five died every day from mainly preventable causes - lack of access to adequate food, clean water and basic medicines. That is the price paid, the collateral damage frequently neglected, for maintaining armed forces in states of combat readiness around the world. Just twelve days of military expenditure would eradicate extreme poverty everywhere, and just five weeks spending would ensure that five of the key UN Sustainable Development Goals are met: eradicating extreme poverty; ending hunger; ensuring healthy lives; clean water and sanitation; and quality education for all.

This is where we engage the third theme dealing with disarmament.



Zeid Ra'ad Al-Husseini, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, addresses the Security Council open debate on "The human cost of the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons", 13 May 2015. Photo @UNPhoto

**Seven myths that currently propel the global arms trade: higher defence spending equals increased security; military spending is driven by security concerns; we can control weapons and how they are used; the defence industry is a key contributor to national economies; corruption in the arms trade is only a problem in developing countries; national security requires blanket secrecy; and now is not the time for disarming the arms trade.**

### Disarmament

Beginning at local levels, what progress has been achieved? I refer to the more than half a billion lives lost annually through the use of small arms and light weapons. Globally in 2016, 81 per cent of firearm deaths were intentional homicides, 15 per cent direct conflict deaths, and an estimated four per cent unintentional homicides or killings during legal interventions. The high figures of domestic homicides by armed violence cannot be divorced from international disarmament demands given the scale of either illicit transfers of these weapons, or failures to control their sale, stockpiling, transfer, or records of licensed ownership. New Zealand is currently passing legislation requiring the registration and licensing of arms brokering activities, but this is something lacking in many jurisdictions as third party brokering activities seek out the weakest links in supply chains to peddle their wares.

The Arms Trade Treaty in force since 2014 is a positive move, but it is not a disarmament instrument. Under the treaty, States parties are required to record and report their arms transfers (this list is not exhaustive and excludes ammunition), while being required before exporting to assess the risk of certain enumerated negative consequences, including violation of international humanitarian and human rights law, violations of existing conventions already subscribed to, or the undermining of peace and security. But in what is surely a major loophole, this risk has to be considered 'overriding', although New Zealand is on record saying that, as far as this country is concerned, the risk threshold is the lower one of 'substantial'.

It is clear that the commercial interest that states have in selling arms outweighs any perceived security or foreign interests involved. This uneasy triangulation between public disapprobation over arms sales violations, ineffectual restraints, and arms trading profit was succinctly stated by United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein before the UN Security Council in 2015. Here he claimed that the devastation caused by small arms never fail to elicit unanimous declarations of dismay, but States then establishing only weak management regimes. 'The reason is clear,' he said: 'The trade in small arms is a multi-billion-dollar business'.

The trade in bigger weapons systems including heavy artillery, strike aircraft, missiles, drones, and naval platforms is even bigger business and even less restrained. In a lively

study published in 2016, Paul Holden and his colleagues systematically debunk what they regard as seven myths that currently propel the global arms trade. Those myths include the following: higher defence spending equals increased security; military spending is driven by security concerns; we can control weapons and how they are used; the defence industry is a key contributor to national economies; corruption in the arms trade is only a problem in developing countries; national security requires blanket secrecy; and now is not the time for disarming the arms trade. In response these authors recommend that we recognise these myths for what they are; seek the most effective use of public funds to increase sustainable human security; demand accountability by supporting whistleblowing; insist upon transparency from government and defence industries; and lastly follow the leadership strategies of local advocates who best understand local circumstances whether that is Australia, the United States or South Africa.

What, then, of weapons of mass destruction? Despite violations we can say that the Conventions prohibiting the use of chemical and biological weapons have solidified norms treating the use of such weaponry as unconscionable. While their respective inspection and verification mechanisms require strengthening and resourcing, the use taboo they represent is now sufficiently universal to have violators treated as pariahs. But increasingly, it has been asked, why has such stigmatisation not also applied to even worse means of mass destruction, namely nuclear weapons? Currently nuclear weapons states remain discomforted by the notion that these capabilities warrant stigmatisation, regarding them rather as necessary instruments of national deterrence, as symbols of major power status, and as a means for overall order maintenance within a highly uncertain, unpredictable world.

But referring again to Krasner's notion of organised hypocrisy, most of the nuclear weapons states have sought to sanitise ownership of these capabilities by supporting the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, in force in 1970 and indefinitely renewed in 1995. As is widely appreciated, this treaty offered seeming reciprocity: in return for their not developing nuclear weapons, states would not be denied access to any advantages accruing through access to peaceful uses of nuclear materials technology which, in the event of dual civil and military potential use, would remain subject to safeguards under the aegis of the International Atomic Energy Agency. A further reciprocal



carrot came in the form of Treaty Article Six, namely to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race, and to negotiate a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control. Contention over this particular Article has frequently been a make or break question before this Treaty's review conferences.

Nuclear-armed states claim that they are fulfilling Article Six obligation through reductions in their arsenals as indicative progress toward disarmament, yet simultaneously investing billions of dollars into modernisation and upgrades in what can be described as a qualitative arms race. For China, its 2015 defence white paper indicates retention of its longstanding no-first-use doctrine for nuclear weapons. However, it's modernisation programme is adding what are termed "significant new capabilities" to its nuclear forces.

France spends around a third of its defence budget on maintaining and modernising nuclear forces. Like other nuclear-armed states, it is engaged in a broad modernisation of its nuclear forces involving submarines, aircraft, missiles, warheads, and production facilities. Studies of next-generation weapon systems have begun.

India continues to develop a triad of nuclear delivery systems of increasing capacity to deliver destruction to greater distances.

Ever opaque regarding disclosure, Israel has current nuclear force estimated at between 60 to over 100 warheads, substantial stocks of both weapons grade plutonium and highly enriched uranium, and a triad of delivery systems, on land, in the air, and at sea.

Rarely free from sectarian and ethnic conflict, Pakistan has nevertheless accumulated approximately 140 nuclear warheads, a total that is expanding along with related delivery systems and fissile materials. Pakistan seeks a nuclear posture that is of "full-spectrum deterrence" including land, air, and sea-based delivery capabilities. This in a country where child slavery bondage is rife in brick making, and where human rights protections are seriously deficient.

North Korea has an estimated 60 nuclear weapons, independent experts claiming it has sufficient uranium to produce six new

warheads a year. In its sixth nuclear weapons test in September 2017, North Korea detonated what was considered a hydrogen bomb, this sufficient to trigger a 6.3 magnitude earthquake felt in China. Untested and unverified is the regime's capacity to fit a nuclear warhead small enough for its existing missile capability.

Russia is undertaking a thorough modernisation of its armed forces intended to replace its Soviet-built arsenals. These plans indicate a determination to maintain parity with the United States in terms of number of warheads and delivery systems. This has seen a major boost to military spending. While some reduction of redundant warheads has occurred, there is no doubting Russian intentions to develop a comprehensive nuclear strike force.

In the United Kingdom, Parliament in 2017 decided to renew the Trident submarine nuclear strike capability which has meant phasing out the Vanguard-class submarines, due to leave service by the early 2030s. Trident renewal was opposed by the Scottish National Party, the Liberal Democrats, and some Labour members of parliament. The successor submarine, now known as "Dreadnought," entered the design phase in 2011 and the first submarine is currently under construction and expected to enter into service in the early 2030s and remain active right out until the 2060s.

Last but emphatically not least is the United States. The scale and range of existing American nuclear weapons capability is vast and expanding, any full summary beyond the scope of this address. Suffice to note that the US modernisation program is expected to cost, along with maintaining and deploying nuclear weapons, at least US \$1.2 trillion over 30 years. Current US nuclear weapons expenditures, about US \$30 billion per year before planned modernisation increases, already exceed the total military expenditures of all but ten countries. Currently proposals from the Trump administration will go to Congress; this is to authorize and fund research and development of new nuclear weapons capabilities for nuclear-war-fighting scenarios.

From this survey some points are obvious. First the programme planning extends into decades ahead, the nuclear weapons states telling us that this capability is here to stay. Second, the developments listed underline the inadequacy of existing restraints on future missile delivery systems. Third, the situation

is bleak so far as what might be termed orthodox nuclear arms control. For decades, and through initiatives such as the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Agreement in Europe, and the various START agreements, the aim was one of mutual confidence building through stabilisation and gradual threat reduction.

This brings us to our present situation where a major fork in the road is now apparent. You have already heard about one direction being taken by the nuclear weapons states, but what of the other?

Here the Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty finalised last year is a momentous development. For one thing, the presumed "right" of those states that already had nuclear weapons when the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was signed has now been downgraded. Like it or not, they now join Israel, Pakistan, India and North Korea as countries with no particular claim to special rights and privileges at the top of the international order.

Here it is interesting to reflect on the wording of Article 38 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice. This speaks of the 'general principles of law recognised by civilised nations.' The implication is clear: not all nations can claim to be civilised, a distinction utilised by the United States when it thundered against the so-called 'axis of evil.' However the Prohibition Treaty will, over time, weaken that presumed status as publics start asking with increased worry and urgency just how civilised are those states with not just the capability, but the declared intent to threaten mass destruction with the nuclear weapons that they possess and for the presumed protection of their own national security.

Another impact of the prohibition treaty is its call to the international community to no longer tolerate the endless prevarication that has characterised approaches taken by the nuclear weapons states to nuclear disarmament. For those states, the bottom line rests with retention of their encrusted doctrines of nuclear deterrence. This has prevailed despite such glimmers of encouragement as the year 2000 NPT Review Conference's agreed so-called Thirteen Steps. They included the principle of irreversibility in nuclear disarmament, and an unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear weapons states to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, and leading to nuclear disarmament to which all States Parties are committed under Article Six of the NPT.

Doctrines of nuclear deterrence have been a consistent wall of obstruction to anything meaningful emerging from the standing UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. For Craig and Ruziicka, more than seventy years after the first call by the United Nations for nuclear disarmament, and after almost



Laurie Salas worked towards a nuclear free pacific and UNA NZ continues that kaupapa Photo @UNA NZ Archives

three decades since the end of the Cold War, none of the states defined by the NPT as 'nuclear weapons states' have moved 'even nominally toward a policy of actual disarmament.'

A significant impact of the Prohibition Treaty has been its enhanced profiling of some of the basic, universally obligatory norms of international humanitarian law. Two words from a humanitarian perspective, retain compelling resonance. Those words are unnecessary and indiscriminate, and frequently relate to the use of armed force in conflict. By any reckoning, these words can do no other than apply to nuclear weapons use. Humanitarian law, and indeed right to life human rights law, has now gone head to head with doctrines of nuclear deterrence which, as we have been painfully aware, retain their credibility by threat of actual use. Any drawing comfort from doctrines of nuclear deterrence would do well to remember former British Prime Minister Harold MacMillan's comment: "We thought of air warfare in 1938 rather as people think of nuclear warfare today."

That is a reality which can never be ruled out while nuclear weapons exist. It has highlighted a longstanding but too often neglected principle of humanitarian law which is civilian protection. This simply asks if these weapons are used what kind of help, if any, would await surviving victims? A denial of that question, motivated by fanciful beliefs that this is something that can never happen, is the grossest form of international political irresponsibility.

This is a realisation that helped formulate the Austrian-led Humanitarian Initiative that helped foster the civic mobilisation

**More than seventy years after the first call by the United Nations for nuclear disarmament, and after almost three decades since the end of the Cold War, none of the states defined by the NPT as 'nuclear weapons states' have moved 'even nominally toward a policy of actual disarmament.'**



that built political support for the formulation and inception of the Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty. That process was snubbed and even demeaned by the nuclear weapons states and those aligned to them under policies of so-called extended nuclear deterrence, most evidently for the Pacific, Australia, Japan and South Korea. That opposition continued through odd claims that the Prohibition Treaty would somehow weaken the NPT which it does not.

The UN headquarters in New York have seen some puzzling events over time, but perhaps none so curious as in March 2017 when, with negotiations opening for the Prohibition treaty, groups of government officials from NATO countries staged a minor protest against the treaty outside the conference room. Flanked by representatives from Albania, Hungary and Romania, UN ambassadors from Britain, France and the United States maintained somewhat confusingly that the planned Treaty was both utterly insignificant yet also dangerous. More lurid were Russian claims in 2016 that the proposed treaty would ‘thrust the world into chaos and instability’.

Simultaneously at the opening of these negotiations, Ambassador Hajnoczi of Austria maintained that ‘we do not believe that a negotiating process with the participation of the majority of states lacks neither credibility nor realism. No similar legally-binding instrument has started with universality, so we cannot expect this here, either. We are also realistic that the elimination of nuclear weapons is not something which can be achieved overnight and by way of a prohibition convention alone. Rather, it would lay the basis on which the necessary system to ensure its complete and verified implementation could subsequently be established.’

Looking ahead, it is critical that the treaty is increasingly set to work as a framework for dialogue on effective nuclear disarmament. Here we acknowledge awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to ICAN as a signal event of great encouragement to civil society. That organisation is already active in promoting exchanges with so-called ‘umbrella states’, such as Australia, linked to nuclear weapons states under various forms of alignment. To any claiming this is a waste of time consider the following factors. Those governments will tell you, as they have already done elsewhere, that comprehensive nuclear disarmament is a desirable long-term objective, but as realists we have to proceed gradually down a step by step path. Yet that path has not gone anywhere remaining stuck in an ever deepening quicksand.

A second argument to make concerns the necessity of concerted, cooperative inter-state implementation over agreed goals-the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on climate change being key examples. Both have clearly indicated the need for precaution and due diligence, and the calamitous consequences of failing to act.

Why cannot similar thinking apply to nuclear weapons?

Third and I conclude by acknowledging Dame Laurie Salas. She is no longer here, but nor will we in one hundred years time. Think of 1918 and a century since the end of World War I. Consider the huge changes, for good or for ill, that have occurred since then. If anything, the next 100 years will be even more dramatic. Barring their accidental detonation, I believe that the century ahead need not see nuclear weapons unleashed in conflict; equally I am pessimistic that they will, should we stay imprisoned under the logjam now blocking effective nuclear disarmament. To quote Angela Kane, the UN’s High Representative on Disarmament Affairs in 2013: “the future of international peace and security will be profoundly influenced— if not in good measure determined by—the fate of disarmament efforts on a global scale”.

Dame Laurie’s message would be simple: You have the tools, now get on with the job.

Mayor of Wellington  
**Justin Lester**  
and the Wellington Branch of  
**United Nations Association  
of New Zealand**



Invite you to a panel discussion to celebrate  
**International Peace Day**

The theme for the Day will be on **Living Together** and will focus on the UN Sustainable Development Goal #16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

**Opened by Mayor Justin Lester**  
**United Nations Association contribution**  
Joy Dunsheath, President

**Date** Thursday 5 October 2017  
**Time** 5.30-7.00 pm  
**Venue** Wharewaka, Odins Square, 2 Taranaki Street Wellington Waterfront

**The International peace Day was established by United Nations General Assembly in 1981 as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace.**

**Light refreshments will be served**

**RSVP to Lily Kemble Welch by 29th September 2017**  
RSVP's not essential but appreciated  
04 801 3107 | 021 227 8518  
lily.kemble-welch@wcc.govt.nz



**Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council**  
We Make It Possible

UNA NZ partnered with the Wellington City Council to celebrate the 2017 International Peace Day in Wellington on 5 October.



prepared by Ronja Ievers, UNA NZ National Administrator and member of the steering committee

Conference convener Marjan van den Belt addressing the audience Photo @Victoria University of Wellington

On Sunday afternoon, 22 April, UNA NZ and Hui E! Community Aotearoa and supporters packed the upstairs conference rooms at St Andrews Conference Centre in Wellington for the Civil Society SDG pre-Summit consultation. It provided an opportunity for civil society to come together ahead of and in preparation for the inaugural Summit on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) the following day at Victoria University. “The pre-summit consultation on Sunday was informative and reflected that scars still run deep over New Zealand’s colonisation and land loss from our indigenous peoples. These issues are not unique to New Zealand”, one participant reflected.

Speakers Andrea Carmen and Hinewirangi Kohu-Morgan provided both an indigenous and wahine Māori perspective on the SDGs. A key message was that ‘if you are not at the table, you are on the menu’. In other words, if you don’t talk, challenge those who challenge you, then your demise is imminent.

Pedram Pirnia, UNA NZ Special Officer for SDGs also spoke about challenges of accountability, and views and perspectives of all three speakers fed into the facilitated workshop discussions in the afternoon, on the topics of: what is accountability, how do we ensure indigenous views, and the challenges of messaging and use of language.

On Monday, 23 April, the inaugural Summit on the Sustainable Development Goals - Partnerships for the Agenda, saw 300 people from across civil society, business, government and youth fill the Victoria University lecture room to “excite, inspire and mobilise around the SDGs”.

We learned how businesses had grown and adopted selected SDG’s to aid its business strategy, and how the SDGs do not comprehensively represent an Indigenous perspective.

Anaru Fraser, Kaiwhakahaere Matua Hui E! Community Aotearoa, in the panel on how the sectors were organised for delivering on the SDGs, advocated towards inculcating across government, private and community sectors to increase awareness and collaboration. Girol Karacouglu, Head of School of Government at Victoria University showed us a prototype of the SDG indicator website, to ‘hold a mirror’ on how we are tracking on the SDGs.

Good data are the key to track and report back on SDG delivery to the UN which, as we know now, is forecasted to occur in 2019 for the first time.

The Hon. Minister James Shaw asserted that the SDGs were at the heart of this government. He spoke about the need for data in a pyramid configuration bottom-up to generate information, knowledge, policy and, ultimately, decision making on SDG delivery and alluded that New Zealand is in the data phase.

Government officials, in a panel on where the government is at, alluded to the existing of an emerging “SDG strategy” but also the need to depoliticise aspects of sustainable development and the SDG in New Zealand, for example, child poverty and water quality. MfE Chief Executive pointed to silos on sustainable development delivery and poor alignment of funding across government to focus on common goals, such as the SDG.

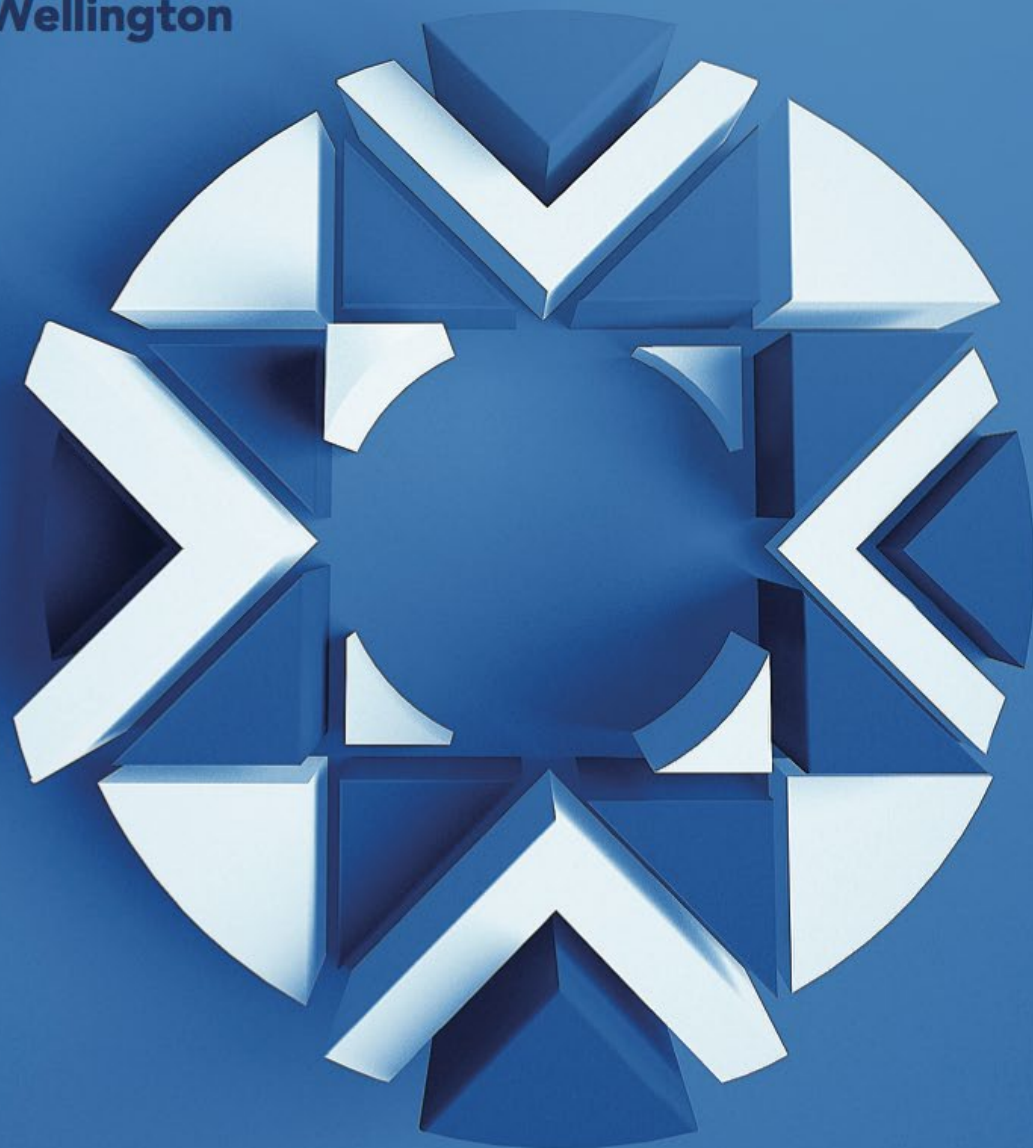
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# Global Summitry

## A world of order and disorder?

**18–19 May**  
**Wellington**



2018 National Conference of  
Te Roopu Whakakotahi Whenua o Aotearoa  
The United Nations Association of New Zealand

**Keynote speaker**  
**Fletcher Tabuteau MP**

**The world's nations have participated in major summits at important points throughout history — whether to discuss war and peace or various aspects of international cooperation and development.**

In the twentieth and twenty-first centuries such summits have become increasingly global in scope, and the United Nations Organization has played a leading role in cultivating the “global summitry.” This has shaped our collective values about everything from sustainable development, the status of women, and human rights, to population growth, urbanization, the internet, and climate change. Global Summits have become the hub of global discussion for not only governments, but for civil society, business, academia, and the media.

Protocols have emerged that guide pre-summit, mid-summit, and post-summit decision-making, implementation and verification processes. But given the ever-expanding list of global policy problems and the failure of the world's nations to make genuine progress with some of the most difficult of them, is the current

pattern of Global Summitry sufficient? Is the accountability of global policy networks and global commitments sufficiently strong? Does effective 21st century global governance require more?

A range of speakers familiar with Global Summits talked about their experiences to date and their perspectives on potential improvements for future practices at the 2018 National Conference of the United Nations Association of New Zealand. The conference aims to provide a platform for promoting dialogue and providing thought-provoking discussion: Do NGOs in Aotearoa influence government? Can New Zealanders influence global politics? Will Global Summitry help us achieve the SDGs?



# New Zealand and the United Nations: strong partners in uncertain times

Keynote address by Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Fletcher Tabuteau to the United Nations Association of New Zealand: 2018 National Conference, 18 May 2018

Tēnā koutou katoa

Te Perehitene mō, te roopu Whakakotahi Whenua o Aotearoa, ā Joy Dunsheath, ngā mihi kia koe

Ngā tauria mē koutou katoa I roto I tē kaupapa ō tēnei rā, Tēnā tātou katoa

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to say a few words at your 2018 National Conference. It's a real pleasure to be here at Victoria University of Wellington [as a former educator myself].

I acknowledge the important role that the United Nations Association of New Zealand plays in raising public awareness about the United Nations.

New Zealand's foreign policy has long been characterised by the strength of its independent voice. That voice has been strongest when New Zealand's deeply held values are projected onto the world stage.

New Zealand has been a consistent supporter of the international rules-based system and was, as you all know, a founding member of the United Nations.

Our interests are best served by such a system where conflict, trans-border and global challenges are addressed collectively, utilising multilateral rules and institutions.

Having international rules and standards provides stability, certainty and protection.

For a small, geographically isolated nation like New Zealand, our security and well-being depends on global stability, underpinned by rules and norms that also reflect our national values.

It is no secret that the United Nations and the broader international rules-based system are under serious strain and face many, complex challenges.

As the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Right Honourable Winston Peters, said recently "we are at a turning point where the importance of protecting our interests in the face of converging geo-political and trade challenges is ever greater, as global rules are under threat, and as geopolitical changes are calling into question the primacy of the system".

We see these strains in the repeated failure of the United Nations Security Council to agree on measures to end major conflicts such as the conflict in Syria, where even getting critically needed humanitarian assistance to war-torn communities has been extremely difficult.

New Zealand saw first-hand the impact of the major power dynamics at play while serving on the Security Council in 2015 and 2016.

Early this month was the second anniversary of Security Council Resolution 2286 on healthcare in armed conflict. New Zealand played a leading role in the development and negotiation of the



Fletcher Tabuteau MP delivering his address, pictured with Joy Dunsheath  
Photo @Stanislas Gros

Reflecting on the “Global Summitry” theme of this year’s conference, the multilateral system has concluded some major components of global architecture in the past few years, which have been notable successes. I want to mention in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development..., the Paris Agreement...[and] the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Resolution and it passed unanimously even though humanitarian access continues to be limited.

In addition to Syria, there are a number of examples where major power dynamics has prevented the Security Council from being able to agree on effective action. These include Yemen, Libya, Western Sahara, Darfur and in South Sudan, where David Shearer is doing an admirable job leading the UN peacekeeping mission – one of the toughest jobs out there in the UN system.

Since the establishment of the United Nations, as you know New Zealand has been a passionate advocate against the veto in the Security Council.

Even more pervasive than the use of the veto is the “threat” of the veto, which is often used on controversial issues to block discussions before they even start. New Zealand has worked with other Member States to support initiatives aimed at curtailing the use of the veto, particularly in situations involving mass atrocities. We shouldn’t kid ourselves, but these initiatives are slowly building real momentum among the broader UN membership.

As major reforms to the structure of the Security Council are unlikely anytime soon, a key focus for New Zealand has been on operational changes to improve the Council’s working methods.

While on the Council, New Zealand encouraged a strong focus on concrete, practical outcomes, such as using Council statements and Council visits as conflict prevention tools. We encouraged greater transparency and consultation with key stakeholders, including affected countries, regional organisations, such as the African Union, as well as the countries that contribute large numbers of troops to UN peacekeeping operations.

New Zealand also reinforced the role of the 10 non-permanent members of the Council and challenged some of the practices of the five permanent members, including their dominance of the drafting of Council resolutions and the way that work is allocated

to non-permanent members. New Zealand secured important outcomes in these areas.

There is a lot of talk, as you know, about the dominance of the permanent five members of the Security Council and the abuse of the use of the veto, and rightfully so. We have seen the veto – and implicit threat of the threat – used recently for instance to block accountability mechanisms for alleged chemical weapons attacks in Syria. But the elected members also have a significant role. Together they make up the majority of the Council. Collectively they have enormous power, but all too often this is not seized.

New Zealand tried to change this as a Council member and still works with current elected members, such as Sweden, to be bolder and more courageous in asserting the interests of the broader UN membership. Along these lines, I would quote the words of the former head of the UN political mission in Libya, Ian Martin, as he signed off his role last month as director of the non-profit organisation *Security Council Report*: “Reform of the composition of the Security Council is essential as a matter of justice and legitimacy, yet seems still beyond the ability of governments to agree upon; it would not in itself be a guarantee of effectiveness, and indeed an enlarged Council would all the more need to improve its working methods. In the immediate future, it is the quality and determination of the ten elected members on which some incremental improvement in performance most depends.”

As a member, New Zealand was a vocal advocate for small states and the principle that every voice should have the chance to be heard. During our Presidency of the Council in July 2015 we convened an Open Debate on the Peace and Security Challenges Facing Small Island Developing States (SIDS). This was the first time island states had had a dedicated Council audience which they used successfully to raise awareness of the particular vulnerabilities they face.

Despite its flaws the Security Council provides a key forum for



global powers to engage regularly in diplomacy to discuss issues and give them greater prominence.

In the case of North Korea, while it was another issue on which it was difficult to get agreement in the Security Council, sustained diplomatic efforts have resulted in increasing the pressure on Pyongyang. The final outcome remains to be seen, but the pressure, including from the Council, appears to have made a positive contribution.

Other examples of the useful role the Security Council has played include the successful completion of several UN peacekeeping operations in West Africa as peace and stability have returned in places like Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire. An example from our region is the UN-assisted process in Timor- Leste, which included a significant role played by New Zealand.

The United Nations also remains a valuable channel for New Zealand more generally. The United Nations and other international organisations have unparalleled convening power and global reach; affording us the opportunity to influence others at the highest level.

New Zealand engages and works with the UN, including the various Funds, Programmes and Specialised Agencies in New York, Geneva and a range of locations such as Vienna, Rome, Suva, Apia and others. Our involvement in the UN System ranges from helping to set policy and international rules, to providing funding, through to cooperation in the delivery of programmes in our region. New Zealand contributes personnel to UN peacekeeping operations and there are many other Kiwis throughout the UN System. We have also contributed significantly over the years in niche areas such as demining assistance.

Multilateral agencies also provide technical expertise and set standards that affect New Zealanders in a wide range of areas from food safety, to oceans and fisheries issues, to health and many others.

We use the multilateral institutions to advance our interests and those of our Pacific neighbours, through our strong advocacy for Small Island Developing States.

Reflecting on the "Global Summity" theme of this year's conference, the multilateral system has concluded some major components of global architecture in the past few years, which have been notable successes.

I want to mention in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Goals contain targets of importance to

New Zealand; reflecting areas where we want to encourage international action, including climate change, oceans and fisheries, trade, fossil fuel subsidies, peace and security, and gender. We incorporate principles of sustainable development, and the Agenda, throughout our aid programme.

The Agenda also applies to what happens within New Zealand. The Government has a strong focus on sustainable development and intends to measure progress more broadly in terms of social, economic and environmental factors. We are taking measures domestically that are directly relevant to the SDGs, including by developing a well-being approach to policy and budgeting.

The Government is proposing to present a Voluntary National Report to the United Nations next year on New Zealand's implementation of the SDGs.

A discussion on recent successes of the international architecture would be incomplete without mention of the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement obliges the international community to take action on climate change. As the Prime Minister has said, it is an issue which needs to be tackled head on.

Another recent example of the power of international action is the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which is the first international treaty formally outlawing nuclear weapons. This week the New Zealand Cabinet agreed to ratify the treaty, in line with our long standing commitment to a nuclear weapon-free world.

[This is particularly welcome timing for me personally – as of this week I am honoured and humbled to assume the role of Under-Secretary to the Minister of Disarmament and Arms Control, in addition to my foreign affairs responsibilities.]

Not every issue needs to be considered by the United Nations or by a "Global Summit". But when used in a targeted fashion they are a vital part of the international diplomatic toolkit.

At the same time, the multilateral system needs to evolve and ensure that it remains relevant.

New Zealand has an opportunity now to support the reform agenda of the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres. The much needed reforms are aimed at:

- improving the UN's delivery of development assistance in line with the SDGs;
- improving the UN's peace and security management, especially conflict prevention, and;
- streamlining the infamous UN bureaucracy.



Guests arrive on the first day of the Conference at the Victoria University of Wellington Hunter Council Chamber, Photo @Stanislas Gros

We need to ensure that New Zealand, and Pacific, interests are well captured in the reform process.

As a demonstration of our commitment to international engagement, the Government has announced a significant boost to New Zealand's development spending as well as a commitment to restoring lost capacity in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Government has allocated an additional \$714.22 million over the next four years to lift New Zealand's Official Development Assistance to 0.28 percent of Gross National Income.

A large part of that increase will be directed towards our work in the Pacific. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has been extremely clear that at the core of New Zealand's international engagement must be our relationships with the Pacific.

Under the "Pacific Reset" the Government intends to refresh its approach to relations with our Pacific neighbours; moving from a donor-recipient relationship to one of genuine and mature political partnerships underlined by mutual-respect.

New Zealand's identity is inextricably linked with the Pacific. What is good for the Pacific is good for us.

The increase in funding will bolster efforts to tackle priority

issues for the Pacific, especially climate change. And to focus on areas in keeping with New Zealand's values – good governance and transparency, and human rights.

The funding will also involve doing our part in support of multilateral institutions; bringing our values to the world. As Minister Peters said "we are determined that New Zealand's voice will be backed with credible resources", so that we can have the greatest impact; working to prevent environmental, humanitarian and international crises.

We need the support of New Zealanders to tell the story of the benefits of New Zealand's international engagement. This is particularly the case with the United Nations which can feel very distant from the everyday lives of New Zealanders.

I encourage your organisation, the United Nations Association of New Zealand, to continue its important work in reaching out to the public and especially to Kiwi youth.

Thank you for having me here today and best wishes for the remainder of the conference.





**Ka nui te mihi  
Kia Koutou Katoa.**  
A warm welcome to  
the United Nations  
Association of New

Zealand 2018 Conference on *Global Summitry – A World of Order and Disorder?* The world's nations have participated in major summits at important points throughout history where they have discussed war and peace and innumerable aspects of international cooperation and development.

UNA NZ aims to provide a platform for promoting dialogue and providing thought-provoking discussion on the topic of Global Summitry: Do NGOs in Aotearoa influence government? Can New Zealanders influence global politics? Who do we trust? Will Global Summitry help us achieve the SDGs?

We are honoured to welcome Fletcher Tabuteau MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Regional Economic Development, to speak at our Conference.

The Laurie Salas Memorial Lecture by Dr Rod Alley entitled, *The Impossible Dream? A World Without Nuclear Weapons* will be a highlight.

We are delighted to welcome Suzanne Snively ONZM, Chair of Transparency International New Zealand, to give the keynote address entitled, *Transparency's Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals*, on Day 2 of our Conference.

A conference spotlight is on the 70th Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. We include a session on: *The exclusion of sexuality*

*and gender diversity from the Sustainable Development Goals: How policy overlooks queer New Zealanders.* This is a timely discussion as we consider what more needs to be done to ensure more inclusive development.

Thank you to our speakers, scholars, organisers and other contributors for their valuable and knowledgeable inputs.

We thank Dr Graham Hassall, Past President and Honorary Life Member, for hosting the Conference.

Throughout the conference please enjoy the social and networking opportunities, meet national and international leaders and let's work together to make the United Nations more relevant and significant to New Zealanders.

**Joy Dunsheath JP**  
President, United Nations  
Association of New Zealand



Rt Hon Helen Clark ONZ, Patron of UNA NZ, at the Conferment of the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun with Joy Dunsheath JP National President of UNA NZ

## Conference Programme

Day 1: Friday 18 May Victoria University Hunter Council Chamber, Kelburn Campus, Wellington

Day 2: Saturday 19 May Victoria University Rutherford House, Lecture Theatre 2, Pipitea Campus, Wellington

### Keynote address Day 1: New Zealand and the United Nations: strong partners in uncertain times

Speaker: Fletcher Tabuteau, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Regional Economic Development.

### Presentation: Global Summitry

Speakers: Dr Kennedy Graham, Dr Graham Hassall, and Amanda Ellis, Executive Director, Hawaii & Asia Pacific, ASU Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability at the University of Arizona.

Speakers will present on the theme of the conference and their experiences and perspectives on potential improvements for future practices of Global Summits.

### Laurie Salas Memorial Lecture: The Impossible Dream? A World Without Nuclear Weapons

Speaker: Dr Rod Alley, Chair: Joy Dunsheath

Luck has helped forestall the use of nuclear weapons in conflict since 1945. And to quote distinguished Lawrence Freedman, nuclear deterrence may continue to work until it doesn't. Deeply worrying are official beliefs among States possessing nuclear weapons that the fortunes of chance, allied to doctrines of credible threat to rain down comprehensive destruction, will continue to favour a tenuous peace.

### UNA NZ Speech Award Finals

How Should we balance climate change issues versus economic growth in New Zealand? Are they mutually exclusive? Guest speakers while the judges deliberate: Hana Mereraiha White, UNA NZ National Council Member. Hana attended the 2018 UN Open Forum on Indigenous issues. Stanislas Gros, UNA NZ intern from Lyon, France.

Chair: Peter Nichols

Speech Award Judges: Colin Keating, former NZ Ambassador to the UN, and Professor Girol Karacaoglu

### Keynote Address Day 2: Transparency's Contribution to Sustainable Global Summitry.

Speaker: Suzanne Snively ONZM, Chair of Transparency International New Zealand.

### Presentation: Snail's pace: 45 years of global environmental summitry.

Global Summitry and the quest for effective global public policy. Speakers: Dr Arthur Dahl, Geneva International Environment Forum and Dr Graham Hassall

### Presentation: New Zealand's experience with Global Summits

Speaker: Bernadette Cavanagh Deputy Secretary Multilateral and Legal Affairs Group MFAT, Chair: Dr Graham Hassall

### Presentation: The exclusion of sexuality and gender diversity from the Sustainable Development Goals: How policy overlooks queer New Zealanders.

Speaker: Stella Ivory, UNA NZ Intern, Chair: Gracielle Ghizzi-Hall, UNA NZ Programme Coordinator, Panel members: Connor McLeod and Mani Bruce Mitchell

In the year of the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this seminar promises a timely discussion as we consider what more needs to be done to ensure more inclusive development. Despite the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) promising a fairer future for the most marginalised groups in society, the goals contain nothing which pertain to people with diverse sexual orientation or gender identity ('queer' herein).

### Presentation: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: from Summit to Outcomes.

Speaker: Christopher Woodthorpe, Director of the United Nations Information Centre for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, Chair: Joy Dunsheath

This presentation will look at the genesis of the Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals through the Summit process, review the Agenda, with specific focus on the Goals and how they create a transformational path towards a better world for all.

### Presentation: Addressing human security concerns or managing dissents in the United Nations?

Speaker: Dr Negar Partow, UNA NZ Special Officer Security Council, Chair: Peter Nichols.

From gathering of major economic powers for addressing environmental security issues to regional and economic forums, global summits are ideally the bases for communicating human security issues with states and with the United Nations. This presentation argues that while discussions on empowering individuals, gender equality and equal distribution of power and wealth are often themes in these summits, their outcomes have not been considered in any global decisions about peace or security at the UN level. By using examples from the existing political debates on nuclear, regional security and migration, this presentation demonstrates why global summits further widens the gap between the UN's state-centric approach to security and the people-centric approaches of global summits.

### UNA NZ Annual General Meeting



## New Zealand's experience with Global Summits

*Reflections by UNA Wellington member Emma-Yvonne Simons*  
**Speaker:** Bernadette Cavanagh  
**Deputy Secretary Multilateral and Legal Affairs Group MFAT**  
**Chair:** Dr Graham Hassall

Bernadette Cavanagh, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, spoke about global summitry from the practitioner's perspective. She noted how people, particularly Ministers and leaders, are incredibly busy people, and so not only does the summit need to be well organised, it needs to have something in it for them, in order to get their buy-in.

Preparation work is essential and when a lot of time is spent. When this is all done right, the summits have resulted in significant achievements such as: Paris agreement on climate change, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Addis Ababa to promote global finance, and the Sendai framework to manage disaster cooperation.

Bernadette mentioned that Cabinet recently agreed to ratify the nuclear weapons prohibition treaty, and acknowledged those present at the conference who had worked tirelessly on nuclear disarmament issues over the years.

Success fuels optimism, particularly important as we face new and emerging issues and risks. For example, with cyber threats there are no borders, geographic isolation will protect no one, and these issues need to be dealt with in a global multilateral setting.

A practical example of global summitry that doesn't have a particularly high profile in New Zealand is the strong track record we have in advocating for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The strength of our record arises from our location and strong links to the pacific as we hold a shared interest in sustainable development in the area. We are also a small state ourselves, and so our ability to advocate for small states is very real.

SIDS are unique. They have rich and diverse cultures and histories, individual social, political and economic structures

and distinctive natural environments. They also face common challenges: scale and distance, limited political and economic influence, reliance on trade, and an enhanced vulnerability to natural disasters, of which the recent cyclones are a very real example.

The 2014 SIDS conference in Apia, Samoa, was a chance to solidify their collective position on issues. New Zealand used the conference to listen, to demonstrate support, and to highlight areas where we have something to offer (renewable energy, ocean governance, fisheries). We wanted to reinforce our credibility and reputation as a country that actually listens and responds. It was also an opportunity to influence the UN agenda, which then became SDGs, and ensure pacific interests are well represented.

This was achieved through a multifaceted approach: find as many different leaders as we could, influence policy outcomes, join the organisational bureau a year in advance, be co-chair of process and lead negotiations with Singapore.

The outcome document 'the Samoa Pathway' was an action plan for SIDS. Whilst negotiations were difficult, the plan was agreed to six weeks in advance. In other cases the negotiations continued right throughout the conference. New Zealand also provided practical logistical support to Samoa. Over 100 New Zealand officials were deployed to support the conference, and a number of leaders were also hosted in New Zealand on their way into and out of Samoa. This support provided a great way to build relationships.

This was the largest UN event in the region. The conference was successful, it reflected the SIDS' priorities, and the event ran smoothly. A key focus for New Zealand was to ensure that a mid-term review was agreed to, as there needs to be follow up from summits. This takes place this year, June to Oct. The review is vital for 'the Samoa Pathway' to remain a relevant, living document, rather than just a reflection of a point in time.



Guests at the 2018 National Conference, enjoying conversations during breaks Photo @Stanislas Gros

There is also a need to build on these relationships in other areas. When New Zealand served a term on the Security Council it introduced a discussion on the security challenges of small island states. As this was not a traditional threat to international security, it was greeted with some resistance. However, it went ahead and it was the first time SIDS had a dedicated audience. For many it was also the first time they had spoken at the security council.

Lessons learned from SIDS conference on what makes a good summit:

- Clear sense of purpose helps to avoid duplication; there are many events out there and an existing mechanism may exist.
- Tangible outcomes - no talkfest
- Make sure participants see value
- Start negotiations early and be ambitious
- All states need a voice
- Ongoing advocacy to ensure smaller states are heard
- Financial support so small states can actually participate
- Voices from outside government
- How to encourage public buy-in to get social licence and the innovative ideas.
- Get logistics right and people will focus on policy
- Transport, venue, security

Bernadette concluded, how do we take these lessons forward? Well, APEC in 2021 in Auckland is the next big event New Zealand is hosting. They're not always easy and nor always the right mechanism to achieve a desired outcome, however, when done well global summitry is a powerful tool.



## The exclusion of sexuality and gender diversity from the Sustainable Development Goals: How policy overlooks queer New Zealanders

*Reflections by UNA NZ Vice President Clark Ehlers*

**Speakers:** Connor McLeod, Mani Bruce Mitchell, Stella Ivory  
**Chair:** Gracielli Ghizzi-Hall

The presentation featured the research undertaken by UNA NZ intern Stella Ivory and a panel discussion of members of Wellington's Rainbow Community. Panel members were Connor McLeod and Mani Bruce Mitchell.

There are about half a million New Zealanders who identify as members of the Rainbow Community. This is a diverse and large group of people and the "rainbow" designation includes people who identify with being queer, LGBTQIA+ or Takataapui. These labels encompass a wide diversity within the Rainbow Community.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have failed in that they exclude the roles and rights of the Rainbow Community. There is no mention of sexuality or gender diversity in the SDGs, which shows the heteronormativity and cisgender-normalisation that are implicit in the goals.

What does this mean to queer New Zealanders?

There are specific queer needs in SDG 1 (achieving no poverty), 3 (good health and wellbeing), 4 (quality education), 5 (gender equality), 8 (decent work and economic growth), and 11 (sustainable cities and communities).

A fundamental issue to address the needs of queer New Zealanders is the lack of data on the Rainbow Community in New Zealand. The last census excluded queer New Zealanders by leaving out the option to identify oneself as LGBTQIA+ or by not using Rainbow Community pronouns.

The rates of mental ill health is high in the transgender community with reference to SDG 3. In Māori and Pasifika trans communities the rates are even higher. Trans people face intolerance and prejudice in our community.

Teachers are using heteronormative avenues to teach and instruct (with regards to SDG 4). This could be due to a lack of education of teachers to make them aware of the sexual orientation and gender diversity of their students. The lack of



l-r: Mani B Mitchell, ITANZ; Connor McLeod, Victoria University; Stella Ivory, UNA NZ intern

understanding and discrimination in the education system may have adverse effects on scholars who are queer.

The gender conversation is leading to gender mainstreaming. This may limit the conversation on gender equality. This focus remains on man versus woman and no recognition is given to intersex or transgender persons. The role that the genders take in our communities today are based on the traditional roles men and women occupy in society. These roles are automatically acquired because human biology dictates societal expectations. Male or female biology is basic and inherent in all people, however, that does not reflect deeper levels of differences between people. Gender identity should be regarded as separate from biology.

Intersex people are not awarded any legal status in the Human Rights Act 1993. This as an unfortunate omission and brazen disregard for the rights and identities of these people.

"Quiet voices" is a pilot programme in Auckland addressing specific needs in cities of interest groups, such as Chinese migrants. The speakers made reference to this programme as it specifically excluded queer voices and to demonstrate the lack of programmes or studies that incorporate the Rainbow Community in our cities. Programmes aimed at queer people are largely driven by people in the Rainbow Community. SDG 11 aims to achieve sustainable cities and communities. The exclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in studies or programmes ignores the value of queer voices and the contributions they make to sustainable practices in our cities.

[Read Stella's research report in this magazine.](#)

## The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development from Summit to Outcome

*Reflections by UNA NZ Vice President Clark Ehlers*

**Speaker:** Christopher Woodthorpe, General Director, United Nations Information Centre, Canberra

Previous environmental agendas from the Earth Summit (Agenda 21) to the present 2030 Agenda developed owing to the tension between economic development and environmental degradation. These summits have influenced global policy and thinking, and have raised expectations globally to achieving environmental, economic and social sustainability.

Voluntary reporting is essential to tracking progress against the targets set in the 17 sustainable development goals. In 2017, seven governments committed to reporting. The slow uptake of voluntary reporting is driven by the lack of data and funding.

Pacific Islands are showing strong use and recognition of the SDGs. The Pacific Forum has adopted a roadmap to implement Agenda 2030. Samoa is one of the first countries to report back to the UN voluntarily regarding the implementation of Agenda 2030. More Pacific Island nations are reporting this year. The UN Pacific Strategy 2018 to 2022 is a sustainable development framework in the Pacific. It is a five year strategic framework in which nations have identified what their goals and needs are. They have adjusted their needs to align with the SDGs. They are

not attempting to deal with all SDGs in the framework, but have adopted a tailored approach to sustainable development.

We must look at localising the SDGs: the Global Goals are a global articulation of local aspirations.

What we do locally well defines the successes and outcomes of the SDGs at a national and international scale. Because 65% of the SDGs can only be accomplished by local actions.

The steps to localisation include:

- awareness
- advocacy
- implementation
- monitoring

Melbourne city is leading the charge by mapping the SDGs against its goals and strategies. It has excelled by identifying the gaps and opportunities by considering the value of the SDGs to Melbourne. It is looking to integrate the SDGs into planning and policy. Sydney has a 2030 plan. There are also examples from US cities mapping the goals against their strategic plans.

**We must look at localising the SDGs: the Global Goals are a global articulation of local aspirations.**



Joy Dunsheath, immediate past President and Christopher Woodthorpe, General Director, United Nations Information Centre, Canberra



# 2018 UNA NZ Secondary School Speech Award

The United Nations Association of New Zealand runs an annual high school speech competition, involving schools across New Zealand on major UN related issues. It has become one of the highlights of our year, and cumulates in the regional branch winners being funded to attend our National Conference, to compete on a national level. Eight finalists participated on the Friday afternoon of 18 May 2018 at Victoria University of Wellington.



Finalists at the 2018 Speech Awards with UNA President and immediate past President and Judge; l-r: Peter Nichols, Joy Dunsheath, Matthew Sutcliffe, Colin Keating, Hamish Gleeson, Jarjot Singh Dharni, Sarah Casey, Zoha Saiab, Emma Abraham, Priyanka Poulton, Aylish Waldron.

The speech awards began 35 years ago in 1983. It was begun by UNA NZ Life Member Clinton Johnson. Winners have included Dr Diva Dhaya, young New Zealander of the year, Paula Tesiora, now Commissioner for Disabilities, Chris Bishop MP, and in 1997 and 1998 the Waikato winner was a contestant called Jacinda Ardern. So coming second can still have its rewards!

The topic was very relevant to current UN and global issues:

**How should we balance climate change issues versus economic growth in New Zealand? Are they mutually exclusive?** It gave contestants plenty of scope, required judgements to be made as well as research into the issues.

Going by the calibre of this years finalists, we can expect to see them featuring as successful New Zealanders over time. Their content was sound and well researched, and delivery was often inspirational. This made the judges work very difficult , there being a very fine line between the top two. The judges were: Colin Keating, former NZ Ambassador to the UN, and Professor Girol Karacaoglu, Head of the School of Government, Victoria University of Wellington.

The contestant's were:

Auckland, Jarjot Singh Dharni, Mission Heights Junior College  
Tauranga, Hamish Gleeson, Tauranga Boys' College  
Waikato, Aylish Waldron, Sacred Heart Girls College Hamilton  
Wanganui, Emma Abraham, Wanganui Collegiate School  
Palmerston North, Zoha Saiab, Palmerston North Girls High School  
Wellington, Matthew Sutcliffe, Wellington College  
Canterbury, Sarah Casey, Rangitikei School  
Dunedin, Priyanka Poulton, Otago Girls High School



UNA NZ Speech Award

Guest speakers while the judges deliberated were Hana Mereraiha White, UNA NZ National Council Member who attended the 2018 UN Open Forum on Indigenous Issues and gave her reflections, and Stanislas Gros, UNA NZ intern from Lyon, France, who spoke of his time as an intern and commended his experience to the contestants.

But there could only be one winner on the day. This year's winner was Matthew Sutcliffe from Wellington College. Well done Matthew, we look forward to hearing of your future.

Peter Nichols, Chair



2018 winner Matthew Sutcliffe with immediate past President Joy Dunsheath



Secondary School  
Speech Award  
Winner List 1986–2018

- 1986 J. Danesh - Otago BHS
- 1987 M. Parkison - PAKURANGA COLLEGE
- 1988 J. A. Knight - BARADENE
- 1989 Gregor Fountain - WELLINGTON COLLEGE
- 1990 Tofigo Lilo - OTAHUHU COLLEGE
- 1992 Jasmyrn Kara - RANGIORA HIGH SCHOOL
- 1993 Emily Turnbull - RANGIORA HIGH SCHOOL
- 1996 Tara Taukiri - RANGIORA HIGH SCHOOL
- 1997 Jeffrey Abbot - WELLINGTON COLLEGE
- 1999 David Dewar - HUTT INTERNATIONAL BOYS' SCHOOL
- 2000 Rebecca Rose - FAIRFIELD COLLEGE
- 2001 Christopher Bishop - HUTT INTERNATIONAL BOYS' SCHOOL
- 2002 Phoebe Smith - LOGAN PARK HIGH SCHOOL
- 2003 F. McKissack - FAIRFIELD COLLEGE
- 2004 Rachel Meadowcroft - GERALDINE HIGH SCHOOL
- 2005 Zaal Meher-Homji - ST PAUL'S COLLEGIATE
- 2006 Pramudie Gunoratne - AUCKLAND GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL
- 2007 Simon Todd - SAINT ANDREWS COLLEGE
- 2008 Georgia Ramsden - WANGANUI HIGH SCHOOL
- 2009 Dhaxna Sothieson - HILLCREST HIGH, HAMILTON
- 2010 Roneil Kintanar - ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE, SILVERSTREAM
- 2011 Byron Terris - SACRED HEART COLLEGE, AUCKLAND
- 2012 Jemima Lomax-Sawyers - ST MARY'S COLLEGE, WELLINGTON
- 2013 Tariq Kader - WELLINGTON COLLEGE
- 2014 Katie Mills - PAPANUI HIGH SCHOOL
- 2015 Cheska Saavedra - HAMILTON GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL
- 2016 Sophie Clark - DIOCESAN SCHOOL
- 2017 Olivia Bennett - ST CUTHBERT'S COLLEGE
- 2018 Matthew Sutcliffe - WELLINGTON COLLEGE

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Ultimately, the government is not clear how to operationalise the SDGs in a cross-party, cross-agency and long-term framework yet. Minster Shaw iterated that the wellbeing of future generations depends on our actions today and the SDGs are key to deliver on our promises to future Kiwis. There is commitment from the government to act on the SDG. The how and who, however, are still being thrashed out.

The 25 Action Stations, set up in a world café style, encouraged cross-sector conversations towards the ‘how and who’ and several action stations focused on the need for a platform to collaborate, facilitate and share stories, models and ideas across sectors, and shifted the focus away from outcomes to processes for SDG implementation. The winning idea, which will be presented in 2019, was research and development of an online platform for sharing ideas and positive SDG stories to provide users with information on how their work aligned with the SDGs and to connect them with others in the same space.

The summit was closed by the Wellington Deputy Mayor acknowledging the Wellington’s role in the SDGs and handing over the waka to AUT, where the 2019 Summit will be held.

It was important to hear the challenges of the SDGs, but also some of the positive work already being done in NZ in this space. The Summit was an opportunity for cross-sector collaboration, and we saw the value in this as it will be key to SDG implementation. As an inaugural summit it was a fantastic starting point for the SDGs in NZ.

We think both the pre-summit and summit were a success, if not at least because they did what they set out to do, to “excite, inspire and mobilise” around the SDGs, and we will have to see where it takes us for the next summit at AUT in 2019. In future summits, we hope to see a larger representation of youth and the media, as key players in the promotion and delivery of the SDGs in New Zealand.



Barbara Bedeschi-Lewando, UNA NZ National Council (top) and Clark Ehlers, UNA NZ Vice President (below) facilitating an action station at the SDG Summit *Photo @Vicotria University of Wellington*





# How can the consideration of sexuality and gender diversity improve outcomes in the SDGs and for queer communities in Aotearoa-New Zealand?

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Since 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have set the United Nations (UN) development agenda for addressing inequalities. The 17 SDGs build upon the earlier Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),<sup>1</sup> and if nations can successfully fulfil them, then poverty, conflict and environmental destruction will be largely diminished.<sup>2</sup> As a member of the UN, the government in Aotearoa New Zealand (referred to as Aotearoa herein) has signed up to work towards fulfilling the SDGs.<sup>3</sup> However, despite the intentions of the SDGs to “leave no one behind,”<sup>4</sup> they contain no mention of sexuality or diverse genders, and no SDG pertains to the difficulties that the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transsexual Queer Intersex Asexual Plus (LGBTQIA+ referred to as ‘queer’ herein) communities globally face.<sup>5</sup> This essay will examine how the lack of consideration for queer communities in the SDGs may limit the capacity of Aotearoa to fulfil the goals, and therefore may further marginalise queer communities. Firstly, I define possible queer communities in Aotearoa, and

why the term ‘queer’ has been chosen as an umbrella term for these groups. Then I discuss the specific inequalities that queer communities face, and how these inequalities link directly to the aspirations of the SDGs. From this, I argue that if Aotearoa is to successfully achieve the SDGs, it is necessary for our institutions, organisations and civil society to include a focus on our queer communities. This consideration is vital if we want to achieve the SDGs for all New Zealanders.

Prior to furthering this discussion, it is important to note the limitations of this research. The scope of this paper is not to address the complexities and challenges that queer communities face in Aotearoa. This essay makes no claim to understand all of the intricacies of the queer experience beyond my own personal experience of being queer, but draws on broad perspectives from various sources. Although the term queer has been, in the past, used as a derogatory label, it has been reclaimed by members in the LGBTQIA+ communities since the 1990s, and especially in academia.<sup>6</sup> Not all members in these

communities will identify as queer, and many may not appreciate being labelled as such. However, for the purpose of having a brief investigation of the implications of the SDGs upon a group of minority New Zealanders, queer has been chosen as an umbrella term. In Aotearoa, there are many groups who may fall under this category such as takatāpui, pansexual, transgender, intersex, fa’afafine, fa’afatama, genderqueer, fakaleiti, leiti, akava’ine, and non-binary, to name but a few’. Please see the references for sources that may provide more information in this area.

Even by using queer as an umbrella term to include a diverse group of people, there are limited statistics available regarding queer populations, and there is no section in the New Zealand Census targeting diversity in gender, sex and sexuality.<sup>8</sup> Additionally, the nature of gender, sex and sexuality being such an intimate aspect of a person’s identity means that not everyone who is queer will be ‘out’, or identify as such publically.<sup>9</sup> However, current estimates based on the available data collected suggest that between 6-15% of Aotearoa’s population are queer.<sup>10</sup> This means that Aotearoa has roughly between 287,000 and 712,000 queer people based on the current overall population.<sup>11</sup> The average of this estimate is approximately 500,000 New Zealanders. Therefore, within the 17 SDGs, which were devised as a holistic framework for beneficial outcomes for all groups,<sup>12</sup> it is possible that approximately half a million New Zealanders are not having their needs considered within these goals.

By only using terms such as man and woman, and with no mention of diverse sexualities, the language and guidelines of the SDGs erase and de-prioritise queer populations. Without any explicit measures to include queer populations, the SDGs and their targets therefore implicitly privilege those who are not queer. The SDGs by default assume that the target populations are cisgender and heterosexual<sup>13</sup>. Cisgender people are those

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1 Elizabeth Mills. ‘Leave No One Behind’: Gender, Sexuality and the Sustainable Development Goals (Evidence Report No 154 Sexuality, Poverty and Law). Sussex: Institute of Development Studies, 2015, 8.  
2 Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. “Sustainable Development Goals.” *New Zealand Foreign Affairs and Trade*. Accessed on 03/12/2017. <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/peace-rights-and-security/work-with-the-un-and-other-partners/new-zealand-and-the-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs/>  
3 Ibid.  
4 Elizabeth Mills. ‘Leave No One Behind’: Gender, Sexuality and the Sustainable Development Goals, 4.  
5 United Nations. “Sustainable Development Goals: 17 Goals to Transform the World.” *United Nations*. Accessed on 04/12/2017. [www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/)  
6 Lauren Guy. “The Question of Reclaiming the Word Queer.” *University Times*. 26/01/2017. [www.universitytimes.ie/2017/01/the-question-of-reclaiming-the-word-queer/](http://www.universitytimes.ie/2017/01/the-question-of-reclaiming-the-word-queer/)

7 Outline NZ. “Glossary of terms.” *Outline NZ*. Accessed on 27/12/2018. [www.outline.org.nz/glossary](http://www.outline.org.nz/glossary)  
8 Moira Clunie. “Suicide prevention and the rainbow population.” A submission on A Strategy to Prevent Suicide in New Zealand 2017: Draft for public consultation. New Zealand: Multiple Contributors (2016). Accessed on 01/12/2017 from <https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/assets/Our-Work/policy-advocacy/Suicide-prevention-and-the-rainbow-population-submission-to-the-draft-NZSPS-26062017.pdf>, 2.  
9 Lynne Alice and Lynne Star. *Queer in Aotearoa New Zealand*. Palmerston North: Dunmore Press, 2004, 134.  
10 Moira Clunie. “Suicide prevention and the rainbow population.” (2016), 2  
11 Statistics New Zealand. “Population.” *Statistics New Zealand*. Accessed on 05/12/2017. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/topics/population>  
12 United Nations. “Sustainable Development Goals: 17 Goals to Transform the World.” *United Nations*  
13 Elizabeth Mills. “Gender, sexuality and the SDGs: An evidence-base for action.” *Institute of Development Studies*. 20/10/2015. [www.ids.ac.uk/opinion/gender-sexuality-and-the-sdgs-an-evidence-base-for-action](http://www.ids.ac.uk/opinion/gender-sexuality-and-the-sdgs-an-evidence-base-for-action)



who identify with the sex and gender that they were assigned at birth based on the gender binary, as only woman or man.<sup>14</sup> Examples of queer people who may not be cisgender include intersex and fa'afafine people, for example.<sup>15</sup> Heterosexual people are those who are attracted to those with the opposite gender to their gender, based on this woman/man binary.<sup>16</sup> Queer individuals who are not heterosexual include those who are pansexual or takatāpui, for example.<sup>17</sup> The lack of acknowledgement of queer groups (who may not be cisgender or heterosexual) highlight the way that queer communities exist at the peripheries of what society deems normal.<sup>18</sup> It illustrates the hegemonies of cisnormativity and heteronormativity – that is, that people who are cisgender and heterosexual have an unchallenged and widely accepted dominance in society and by extension, in institutions such as the UN. There is an institutionalised naturalisation of the gender binaries of women and men, and an expectation within this that sexual attraction will occur mutually only between the two.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, it is unsurprising that the SDGs do not mention queer populations in their targets.

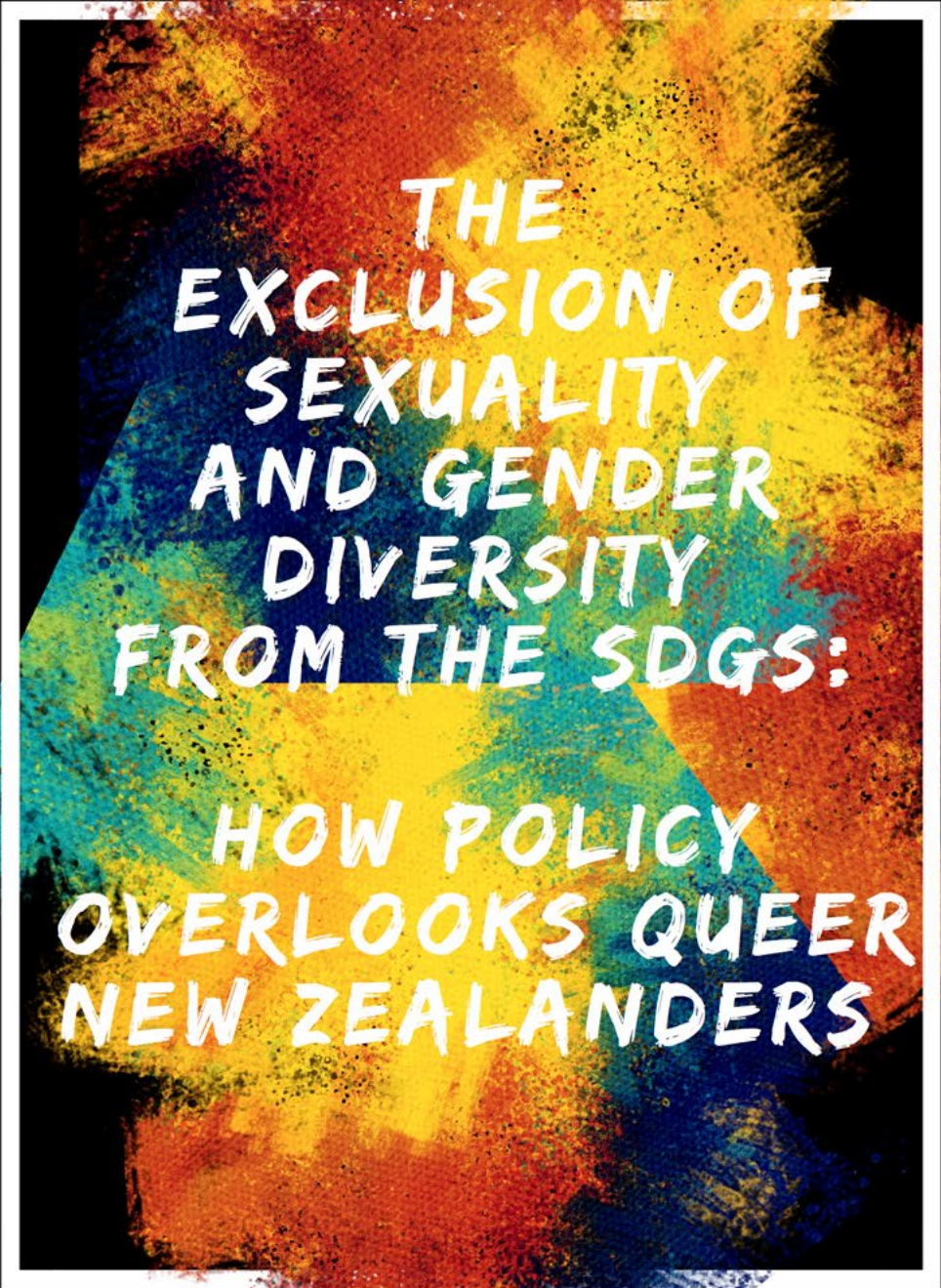
However, if queer people deviate from what society deems acceptable and expected in terms of gender relations, and the SDGs aim to “leave no one behind”, then there is arguably more impetus for the SDGs to be especially inclusive towards queer populations.<sup>20</sup> As mentioned above, the SDGs are not legally binding, and it is for specific nations themselves to determine how they wish to ensure that the goals are fulfilled. It is up to Aotearoa as a nation to decide how the SDGs can and should specifically be fulfilled, based on New Zealander’s specific needs.<sup>21</sup> If Aotearoa does not wish to leave any New Zealanders behind, then we need to ensure that our fulfillment of the SDGs is mindful of the specific needs of our queer population. It could be suggested that the experiences for queer people in Aotearoa are not as dangerous or as difficult as they are in other countries. Counter arguments to the idea that queer people need to be re-prioritised in the SDGs may focus on the progress that has already been made in laws on homosexuality and

Right page: Poster design by Arielle Tallulah Tracey, for the Conference session

same sex marriage.<sup>22</sup> Certainly these measures allow a degree of equality before the law between queer New Zealanders and other New Zealanders. However, because cisnormativity and heteronormativity are so pervasive, these laws can still be exclusionary and are not enough to ensure that queer communities will be properly considered in the fulfillment of SDGs in Aotearoa.

To elaborate further on the importance of considering the needs of our queer populations, we can examine the specific ways that the fulfillment of the SDGs in Aotearoa will need to consider the needs of queer people. A key report from the Institute of Development Studies Sexuality, Law and Poverty Program analysed the fulfillment of the past MDGs and found that queer people were especially disadvantaged because of a failure to ensure inclusive development frameworks. The study related these findings to the current SDGs. These included Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 3 (Good health and Wellbeing), Goal 4 (Quality Education), Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and Goal 11 (Inclusive, Safe Cities).<sup>23</sup> Although no such review has been undertaken within an Aotearoa context, parallels can be found from examining similar evidence about the experiences of our own queer population.

The intersectionality of both the experiences of Aotearoa’s queer populations, and the SDGs make summarising this evidence difficult. The following examples will offer limited evidence of these challenges, despite there being many possible interpretations. Firstly, achieving Goal 1 of No Poverty is arguably the most aspirational of the SDGs. It is beyond the scope of this essay to explore the diverse classifications of poverty, but poverty can be equated to social or material deprivation in some definitions.<sup>24</sup> Measuring social or material deprivation for queer populations in Aotearoa requires an awareness of the specific needs of queer New Zealanders, in the first instance. Therefore, if Aotearoa truly seeks to lessen social and material deprivation for its citizens, then the needs of queer communities must be prioritised. Otherwise, it will not be



14 B. Aultman. "Cisgender." *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly*. 1, 1–2. (2015), 46. <https://doi.org/10.1215/23289252-2399614>

15 Outline NZ. "Glossary of terms," 2018.

16 Human Rights Commission NZ. *Born Free and Equal* [Guide, 978-0-478-35643-4]. New Zealand: Human Rights Commission NZ. Accessed 01/12/2017. [https://www.hrc.co.nz/files/4314/2427/4895/BornFreeEqual\\_for\\_Web.pdf](https://www.hrc.co.nz/files/4314/2427/4895/BornFreeEqual_for_Web.pdf)

17 Outline NZ. "Glossary of terms," 2018.

18 Sally Hines. "Feminism" *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly*. 1, 1–2. (2015), 85. <https://doi.org/10.1215/23289252-2399614>

19 Patricia Beattie Jung, and Ralph F Smith. *Heterosexism*. (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1993), 105; Amy Lind. "Governing Intimacy, Struggling for Sexual Rights: Challenging heteronormativity in the global development industry." *Development* 52.1, (2009), 34. doi:10.1057/dev.2008.71

20 Elizabeth Mills. 'Leave No One Behind': *Gender, Sexuality and the Sustainable Development Goals*, 4.

21 Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. "Sustainable Development Goals," 2017.

22 Human Rights Commission NZ. *Born Free and Equal*. 2017, 3.

23 Elizabeth Mills. 'Leave No One Behind': *Gender, Sexuality and the Sustainable Development Goals*, 5.

24 Joanna Mack. "Definitions of Poverty: How poor is too poor?" *Poverty and Social Exclusion*. 21/01/2016. [www.poverty.ac.uk/definitions-poverty](http://www.poverty.ac.uk/definitions-poverty)



possible for Aotearoa to meet Goal 1 of the SDGs.

Queer communities face higher chances of mental health issues and suicide than other New Zealanders, as has been found in a number of studies.<sup>25</sup> A statistic reported in these is that 20% of queer youth in secondary school considered suicide in the past year in comparison to 4% of non-queer secondary school students.<sup>26</sup> Queer populations have a higher risk of mental health issues generally over their lifetimes, and higher chances of substance abuse.<sup>27</sup> Goal 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing) is therefore significantly more difficult to achieve for Aotearoa's queer population, and will need extra consideration from a queer perspective if it is to be fulfilled.

Without considering queer communities, Quality Education (Goal 4) for everyone in Aotearoa will be difficult, if not impossible to achieve. In Gunn and Smith's book "Sexual Cultures in Aotearoa New Zealand Education," many educational practitioners find that often heteronormative and cisnormative practices end up disadvantaging queer people (and especially queer youth) in schools. They discuss the way that teachers and students alike treat queer students and peers differently, and often at the exclusion of queer students.<sup>28</sup> For example, one fifth of transgender youth experienced bullying at least weekly or more, and more than half of trans students were worried that someone at school would hurt or bother them.<sup>29</sup> Queer students are often unable to access safe spaces in educational institutions, where they would be free to express their identities without any fear of reprehension,<sup>30</sup> and the curriculum around sexuality and gender diversity (which perhaps may offset some of this discrimination), is still widely contested.<sup>31</sup> Curriculum around sexuality is often still seen as a concern for religious institutes, and the teaching of this curriculum is often extremely interlinked with heteronormative and cisnormative assumptions.<sup>32</sup> If Aotearoa

wants to ensure that Goal 4 of the SDGs is fulfilled, then queer communities once again need to be specifically considered.

Gender Equality (Goal 5) aims to better address the specific inequalities and experiences that women face in comparison to men. As feminist theories have become more accepted in development, and in society generally, it has become a normalised notion that women have different experiences to men, and therefore need development frameworks which specifically address these needs.<sup>33</sup> With our recently elected female Prime Minister, it may appear that Aotearoa is doing well in ensuring gender equality. Development policy that focuses on gender equality is called 'gender mainstreaming' and the policies work to better ensure representation of women, such as in positions of leadership. "Gender" mainstreaming however is misleading in that the policies that it refers to do not generally seek to tackle the heterosexist and cisnormative tendencies of development's gender and sexuality assumptions.<sup>34</sup> Rather, often the narratives of gender mainstreaming perpetuate the expectations of the heteronormative social order, and do not support more diverse gender identities and sexualities. This does not only harm queer people, but also women and men, as gender stereotypes are still maintained.<sup>35</sup> For example, Georgina Beyer was the first transgender MP in the world, as voted in by New Zealanders.<sup>36</sup> However, at the same time, the recent announcement of our Prime Minister's pregnancy has caused controversy and made Jacinda Ardern only the second Prime Minister to be in office while pregnant, in modern history.<sup>37</sup> This highlights that changes towards gender equality can be achieved in some ways, but not in others. If these intricacies of Gender Equality are considered from the perspectives of queer communities, then perhaps Goal 5 could be more effectively achieved in Aotearoa.

Decent Work and Economic Growth (Goal 8), may also be difficult to achieve without consideration of queer people's needs. Section 21 of the New Zealand Human Rights Act outlines the areas that a person cannot be discriminated against. Gender is one area that is included, as is sexuality.<sup>38</sup> However, gender in this case does not pertain to anyone who has a more diverse gender other than male or female, and makes no consideration for transgender or non-binary people.<sup>39</sup> An Amendment to the Bill to include gender identity as an area that people cannot be discriminated for only reached Select Committee, and has not been passed.<sup>40</sup> This means that there is no official legal protection against discrimination specifically for transgender or non-binary people in New Zealand. This lack of legal protection can have far reaching consequences in many areas of a person's life, and further undermines the social acceptance of gender diverse people in society.<sup>41</sup> It also means that queer people may be discriminated against in the workplace if their biological sex does not match their self-identified gender, and if the role is sex-specific.<sup>42</sup> Cisnormativity pervades even our human rights laws in Aotearoa as this example highlights. This limits our capacity to be able to fulfil the SDGs generally, but also in specific situations such as work place discrimination. If queer populations were considered in Goal 8, then perhaps the altering of this law could be re-prioritised, and queer populations would be better protected from discrimination.

Queer communities also should be included during urban planning to ensure that Aotearoa's urban areas are to be Inclusive and Safe Cities (Goal 11). It is well established that minority groups need to be considered during urban planning in order to ensure inclusive design.<sup>43</sup> For example, the group 'Women in Urbanism' started this year in Auckland as a way to promote women's issues in Auckland's city planning.<sup>44</sup> In Avondale, Auckland also, a more health outcome focused method of urban design was used in 2005 by including "quiet voices" which included groups such as youth, Chinese migrants and Polynesian women.<sup>45</sup> Despite these measures, and queer groups experiencing similar issues to other gender minorities such as women, queer communities are often still excluded from

25 InsideOUT. *Making Schools Safer for Trans and Gender Diverse Youth*. Wellington: InsideOUT, 2016. [insideout.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Making-Schools-Safer-For-Trans-and-Gender-Diverse-Youth-web.pdf](https://insideout.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Making-Schools-Safer-For-Trans-and-Gender-Diverse-Youth-web.pdf); Moira Clunie. "Suicide prevention and the rainbow population." (2016).

26 Ibid., 9-10.

27 Moira Clunie. "Suicide prevention and the rainbow population." (2016), 3.

28 Alexandra C. Gunn and Lee A Smith. *Sexual Cultures in Aotearoa New Zealand*. (Dunedin: Otago University Press, 2015), 2-7.

29 InsideOUT. *Making Schools Safer for Trans and Gender Diverse Youth*. (2016), 10.

30 G. Hartal. "Fragile subjectivities: constructing queer safe spaces." *Social and Cultural Geography*. (2017), 1. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14649365.2017.1335877>

31 Alexandra C. Gunn and Lee A Smith. *Sexual Cultures in Aotearoa New Zealand*. (2015), 120.

32 Ibid.

33 Amy Lind. "Governing Intimacy, Struggling for Sexual Rights: Challenging heteronormativity in the global development industry." (2009), 34

34 Jacqueline Leckie. *Development in an Insecure and Gendered World: The Relevance of the Millennium Development Goals*. (Surrey: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2009), 1328.

35 Ibid., 1338.

36 Schmidt, Johanna. "Gender diversity – Transsexuals", *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*. Accessed 28/01/2018. [www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/interactive/28858/georgina-beyer](http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/interactive/28858/georgina-beyer).

37 Jonathan Pearlman. "New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announces pregnancy, revealing she found out just days before her surprise election." *The Telegraph, U.K.* 19/01/2018. [www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/01/19/new-zealand-prime-minister-jacinda-ardern-announces-pregnancy/](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/01/19/new-zealand-prime-minister-jacinda-ardern-announces-pregnancy/)



The core work of the United Nations is to implement the SDGs — a to-do list for people and planet, and a blueprint for success.

38 New Zealand Legislation. "Prohibited grounds of discrimination." Human Rights Act 1993. *New Zealand Parliament*. 28/09/2017. [www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1993/0082/latest/DLM304475.html](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1993/0082/latest/DLM304475.html)

39 Alison J Laurie, and Linda Evans. *Twenty Years on: Histories of Homosexual Law Reform in New Zealand*. Wellington: Lesbian and Gay Archives of New Zealand Te Pūrangā Takatāpui o Aotearoa (LAGNZ), 2009, 80.

40 New Zealand Parliament. "Human Rights (Gender Identity) Amendment Bill." *New Zealand Parliament*. 23/8/06. [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/bills-and-laws/bills-proposed-laws/document/00DBHOH\\_BILL6476\\_1/human-rights-gender-identity-amendment-bill](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/bills-and-laws/bills-proposed-laws/document/00DBHOH_BILL6476_1/human-rights-gender-identity-amendment-bill)

41 Alison J Laurie and Linda Evans. *Twenty Years on: Histories of Homosexual Law Reform in New Zealand*. 2009, 90.

42 Ibid.

43 Petra L. Doan. *Queering Planning : Challenging Heteronormative Assumptions and Reframing Planning Practice*. (New York: Routledge, 2011), 3.

44 Adam Jacobson. "Women in Urbanism group aims to elevate gender issues around Auckland's planning." *Stuff Media*. 2/10/2017. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/97351505/women-in-urbanism-group-aims-to-elevate-gender-issues-around-aucklands-planning>

45 Robert Quigley and Sheryl Burt. "Assessing the health and wellbeing impacts of urban planning in Avondale: a New Zealand case study." *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand*. 29 (2006): 165-175. [hiacconnect.edu.au/old/files/Avondale\\_Quigley.pdf](http://hiacconnect.edu.au/old/files/Avondale_Quigley.pdf), 166.



plans.<sup>46</sup> It can be argued that cities, and the governance of them by the state, are yet another space where heteronormativity prevails.<sup>47</sup> Urban design needs to focus on queer populations in order to avoid this, which may in turn further benefit other groups such as women.<sup>48</sup>

As these limited examples illustrate, the needs of queer communities in Aotearoa need to be considered if the SDGs can be achieved for all New Zealanders. In Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing), Goal 4 (Quality Education), Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and Goal 11 (Inclusive, Safe Cities), queer communities face different issues when compared to other New Zealanders. There are many challenges associated with achieving the ideals that the SDGs entail. However, if we can consider queer communities in our pursuits towards these ideals, then Aotearoa could be a world leader in centering the interests of those who were not properly included in the SDGs.

Heteronormativity and cisnormativity are hegemonies which effect all areas of society in Aotearoa, and challenging these structures will be beneficial not only for our queer communities, but for all men and women. For the 2018 Census, sexual orientation or gender identity was not measured again<sup>49</sup> which means there will be no definite statistic about how many people are being impacted. But this omission in itself is perhaps the clearest example that the interests of our queer communities do need to be addressed explicitly. If we do not attempt to re-interpret the SDGs in favour of all groups in Aotearoa, including queer communities, then we will not be successful in seeking a future of truly holistic sustainable development.

46 Petra L. Doan. *Queering Planning: Challenging Heteronormative Assumptions and Reframing Planning Practice*. (2011), 3.  
47 Ibid., 169.  
48 Ibid., 4.  
49 Henry Cooke. "LGBTI people will still be invisible on next NZ census." *Stuff Media*. 10/01/2018. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/100456579/lgbti-people-will-still-be-invisible-on-next-nz-census>

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**What are the Goals?**  
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# Indigenous tourism in Aotearoa – an introductory exploration of Māori Tourism and Manaakitanga

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## I INTRODUCTION

In 2017 we marked not only International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development but also International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples. With the World indigenous Tourism Summit being held in New Zealand this year, it is timely that we focus upon Māori tourism in Aotearoa.

In recent years, indigenous cultures have become a powerful tourism attraction, drawing the attention of tourism

entrepreneurs, government agencies, and academics.<sup>1</sup> However, too often indigenous peoples have become the object to view with little agency and control over what is presented to tourists. This raises concerns over the preservation of genuine indigenous culture when it becomes the focus of tourism.<sup>2</sup> The consequence of this has been the development of various paradigms for indigenously controlled tourism, including Māori tourism.<sup>3</sup> Debate in this area has been rigorous including whether indigenous tourism represents an opportunity for indigenous peoples to gain economic independence and cultural rejuvenation or whether it represents a threat of exploitation and cultural degradation.<sup>4</sup> This essay will seek to explore these topics with particular focus on the tourism area of guided walks and tours.

Before continuing this discussion, it is important to acknowledge the limitations of this research. In particular, that in writing this essay I am exploring and speaking to a space that is not my own. Whilst I hope this essay offers an interesting perspective, I make no claim to understand the depth or nuances that exist within te ao Māori and indigenous tourism. Māori spaces and knowledge are taonga, to be respected and cared for, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have furthered my education in the area.

1 David Fisher, Māori and Tourism - A review of the research and research potential (Lincoln University, 2008); Tom Hince and Richard Butler, "Introduction", in Tourism and Indigenous peoples - Issues and Implications (Oxford: Elsevier Ltd, 2007), 1-14.  
2 Fisher, Māori and Tourism - A review of the research and research potential.  
3 Ibid.  
4 Hince and Butler, "Introduction", 1-14.

## II HISTORY

For the purposes of this essay, indigenous tourism is defined as forms of tourism activity where indigenous people are directly involved either through control or “by having their culture serve as the essence of the attraction.”<sup>5</sup>

In contextualising this topic, it is relevant to reflect that Māori have a long history with tourism in Aotearoa with manuhiri (visitors) being ferried to Te Tarata (The Tattooed Rock), otherwise known as the Pink and White Terraces as early as 1860.<sup>6</sup> In other rohe (regions) too, Māori acted as guides for manuhiri including along the Whanganui river in steamboats and to the glow worm caves of Waitomo.<sup>7</sup>

Prior to the 1990s, the majority of tourism advertising represented Māori as the ‘exotic other’ with media stereotypes of maidens and warriors strategically accentuating the difference between Māori and the international visitors.<sup>8</sup> Their image was used as a marketing tool to promote New Zealand which type-cast Māori as guides, carvers and entertainers.<sup>9</sup> This was done without consultation and with very little commercial benefit to Māori.<sup>10</sup> Such advertising fixed Māori in a historical-cultural context, overlooking that culture develops and that most contemporary Māori live in urban environments, removed from their traditional landscapes.<sup>11</sup> More recent promotional material has attempted to give a more realistic image featuring Māori in a diverse setting accompanied by statements about the relationship between Māori and the land.<sup>12</sup> With the growth in technology and personal communications, Māori tourism companies also have more avenues to communicate a more authentic story directly to the outside world.<sup>13</sup>

Despite this long history, the first thing to understand about Māori tourism is that traditionally there is no such thing as Māori tourism.<sup>14</sup> To begin with, from a Māori perspective “tourism” is just a new word for an old practice - manaakitanga, or hospitality.<sup>15</sup> Manaakitanga is holistic and broad, encompassing hospitality, environmental protection, treating people with

5 Ibid.  
6 Shirley Barnett, “Māori tourism”, Tourism Management Journal 18, no. 7 (1997): 471-44; Steve Sole, “Māori Tourism”, New Zealand Geographic, Nov-Dec 2006, 082.  
7 Sole, “Māori tourism”.  
8 Anna Carr, “Māori Nature tourism businesses: connecting with the land”, in Tourism and indigenous peoples - issues and implications (Oxford: Elsevier Ltd, 2007), 113-128.  
9 Barnett, “Māori tourism” 471-44.  
10 Ibid.  
11 Carr, “Māori Nature tourism businesses: connecting with the land”, 113-128.  
12 Ibid.  
13 Hince and Butler, “Introduction”, 1-14.  
14 Sole, “Māori tourism”.  
15 Ibid.

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Arielle Tallulah Tracey





respect, nurturing relationships, caring for others and reciprocity of kindness, respect, and humanity.<sup>16</sup> “This is nothing new. What we know as tourism today was, in the olden days, known as people coming to visit. We welcome all people and all religions. We always have”.<sup>17</sup> Further, the title “Māori tourism” fails to take account of specifics, in particular that Māori culture is diverse and tribal, and attempts to homogenise Māori culture in such a way should be resisted.<sup>18</sup> As Hone Mihaka, CEO of Taiamai Tours, put it “I may look like a Māori, but I'm not. I'm Ngā Puhi.” And his business is Ngā Puhi, not Māori.<sup>19</sup> For many Māori tourism operators, this means that their kaupapa (policy) is never simply of making money but of sharing personal experiences with visitors. Sharing themselves, their culture and their tūpuna (ancestors).<sup>20</sup>

III WHY ENGAGE IN INDIGENOUS TOURISM?

As an intern with the UNA NZ, I recently supported the organisation of 2017’s Human Rights Day seminar, ‘Human Rights, the SDGs and Tourism’. The speakers at the event came from a diverse range of disciples, topics ranging from eco-tourism to cruise-tourism. Absent, however, were a korero around the landscape of indigenous tourism in Aotearoa and the incentives or challenges therein.

The primary motivator for engaging in indigenous tourism remains the western-based economic rationale, which sees tourism as a means to address the many economic, social and cultural challenges facing indigenous peoples.<sup>21</sup> The essence of this argument is that income generated through the exchange of tourism experiences will be accompanied by increased economic independence and self-determination, such as increasing the authenticity of Māori culture and developing the rūnanga (Māori council).<sup>22</sup> Tourism can be a powerful tool in national, regional and local development because one of the

benefits of tourism, in theory at least, is that it is an industry where money does trickle down.<sup>23</sup> Moreover, many believe that, unlike some other forms of employment, sustainable tourism can be consistent with indigenous values regarding the sanctity of the land and people’s relationship to it.<sup>24</sup>

From an economic perspective, Māori cultural tourism product is perceived as giving New Zealand a competitive advantage based on the unique culture of Māori, the fundamental place of hospitality within the culture (manaakitanga) and their increasingly valuable lands.<sup>25</sup> In the words of the Director for the World Indigenous Tourism Alliance (WINTA) and former New Zealand Māori Tourism Council (NZMTC) CEO Johnny Edmonds, such operations are “providing New Zealand with its unique positioning in the global market-place”.<sup>26</sup> Nevertheless, taking advantage of this niche requires care to ensure authenticity and the protection of taonga (treasured objects, resources or ideas).<sup>27</sup> The participation of indigenous people in tourism is also driven by the belief that such cross-cultural interaction promotes understanding between indigenous and non-indigenous people.<sup>28</sup> Cross-cultural interaction is seen to result in changed attitudes and behaviours that lead to more equitable relationships between indigenous and non-indigenous cultures.<sup>29</sup> However, despite the many benefits of tourism, there exist challenges that require caution. The world over, there exist issues regarding social dislocation, ecological degradation, and identity when tourism is engaged.

IV CHALLENGES  
THE ENVIRONMENT

The relationship between tourism and climate change is two-fold: Climate change affects tourism and tourism impacts on climate change. Whilst the environment is an essential resource for tourism, tourism is a significant contributor to climate change

as a user of fossil fuels and a source of stress on protected areas due to over-visitation.<sup>30</sup> Such activity puts pressure on the environment that is felt keenly by Māori, who, like many indigenous peoples, have a deep and enduring relationship with the land.<sup>31</sup>

For example, Māori are known as tangata whenua which translates literally to “people of the land”.<sup>32</sup> Māori consider the land, water and natural resources to be living things that possess mauri (life force) and therefore to be tapu (sacred).<sup>33</sup> Māori believe their mana (spiritual well-being) to be intrinsically linked to their association with traditional lands and resources.<sup>34</sup> Māori relationship with the land also has a psychological value known as ‘tūrangawaewae’. Tūrangawaewae is often translated as ‘a place to stand’ and signifies places where Māori feel especially empowered and connected, the place we are from, the place where we have rights, the place where we also have responsibilities and obligations.<sup>35</sup>

A recent government report from the Climate Change Adaptation Technical Advisory Group identified Māori as being particularly vulnerable to the fallout caused by climate change, in that it presents a “risk to marae, cultural heritage sites and food gathering sources”.<sup>36</sup> For many Māori, climate change also represents a Treaty of Waitangi issue, a recent claim being lodged with the Waitangi Tribunal by the Mātaatua District Māori Council.<sup>37</sup> The claim, made on behalf of all tangata whenua, asserts that Government has failed to fulfill its treaty obligations to protect Māori land and property meaning Māori have been severely disadvantaged.<sup>38</sup>

Particular environmental issues include ongoing concern

regarding the preservation of wildlife and protected areas including marine reserves and national parks. Many believe that with the heavy visitation of international tourists, the Department of Conservation (DOC) is frequently forced into a position of distorting the priorities that are in the Conservation Act by putting tourism before conservation.<sup>39</sup>

Less tangible environmental concerns include the education of visitors and non-indigenous tour operators around sacred sites. For example, Māori request that people do not stand on mountain summits, as it shows disregard for their tupuna. However, some non-Māori operators take visitors to tapu sites or share iwi stories without permission to do so, something Māori themselves must acquire.<sup>40</sup>

CULTURE AND IDENTITY

In addition to environmental concerns, tourism also creates issues surrounding identity and culture for indigenous peoples, such as the challenge of reconciling the delivery of authentic product with the short-order/‘grazing’ demand of most tourists.

To understand this, we must look at tourist demand for indigenous tourism product. Generally, indigenous culture is never the major motivation for visiting a destination, but instead, constitutes an important part of the visit.<sup>41</sup> This is no reflection upon the depth of any indigenous cultural experience but simply that indigenous tourism opportunities can be taken up by tourists as casually as any other attraction to be visited.<sup>42</sup> Further, studies indicate that, in general, the experiences demanded by tourists represents a desire to ‘gaze on difference’ through the viewing of indigenous culture in a fairly superficial,

16 John C Moorfield, “Manaakitanga”, n.d, Te Aka Māori Dictionary, Longman/Pearson, Māoridictionary.co.nz, (accessed 10th January 2018).  
17 Sole, “Māori tourism”.  
18 Ibid.  
19 Ibid.  
20 Ibid.  
21 Caroline F Butler and Charles R Menzies, “Traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous tourism”, in *Tourism and indigenous peoples - issues and implications* (Oxford: Elsevier, 2007), 15-27.  
22 Butler and Menzies, “Traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous tourism”; Fisher, *Māori and Tourism - A review of the research and research potential*.  
23 Butler and Menzies, “Traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous tourism”; Sole, “Māori tourism”.  
24 Ibid.  
25 Carr, “Māori Nature tourism businesses: connecting with the land”, 113-128.  
26 Ibid.  
27 Butler and Menzies, “Traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous tourism”.  
28 Ibid.  
29 Ibid.

30 P Hart, S Becken, and D G Simmons, “Tourism and Climate Change – New Zealand’s Response”, *1st International Conference on Climate Change and Tourism Djerba* (Landcare Research Ltd and Lincoln University, Tunisia, 2003), 9-11.  
31 Carr, “Māori Nature tourism businesses: connecting with the land”, 113-128.  
32 Ibid.  
33 Ibid.  
34 Ibid.  
35 Te Ahukaramū Charles Royal, ‘Papatūānuku – the land - Tūrangawaewae – a place to stand’, Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/papatuanuku-the-land/page-5 (accessed 2 January 2018); Carr, “Māori Nature tourism businesses: connecting with the land”, 113-128; Te Kete Ipurangi, “ Tūrangawaewae - What is a marae?”, n.d, Te Kete Ipurangi hereoora.tki.org.nz/Videos/Te-marae/Turangawaewae-What-is-a-marae, (accessed on January 4 2018).  
36 Deena Coster, “Living on the Edge: A Māori perspective on the climate crisis”, January 8 2018, *STUFF*, www.stuff.co.nz/environment/climate-news/99949424/Living-on-the-Edge-A-M-ori-perspective-on-the-climate-crisis?cid=app-android (accessed January 8 2018).  
37 Ibid.  
38 Ibid.  
39 Michael Daly, (2018 , “Is DOC putting tourists before our wildlife?”, January 3 2018, *STUFF*, www.stuff.co.nz/environment/99769154/Is-DOC-putting-tourists-before-our-wildlife, (accessed on January 3 2018).  
40 Sole, “Māori tourism”.  
41 Butler and Menzies, “Traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous tourism”; New Zealand Māori Tourism, “The business - Māori myths and legends”, *Tourism News*, 2006, December.  
42 Butler and Menzies, “Traditional ecological knowledge and indigenous tourism”.



easy to consume experience.<sup>43</sup> Tourists have also been found to very rarely educate themselves on indigenous culture prior to departure and to generally hold a traditional or stereotypical view of indigenous culture prior to arrival.<sup>44</sup> For Māori tourism operators, this creates a challenge of how to deliver authentic, contemporary experiences when tourist demand is primarily for traditional, stereotypical performances. Tourism can also work to compound this effect as it is a commercial activity, which means that, like any other product, indigenous cultural experiences must be packaged and geared to sell.

As such, the requirements of both tourism and tourist demand mean that what is presented can often be a stereotypical, superficial package.<sup>45</sup> Such alterations can be seen in the shortening of performances for tourist shows, the creation of artificial and inauthentic artefacts for sale to tourists and the staging of inauthentic events for tourist consumption.<sup>46</sup> The concern thus raised is for the commodification of indigenous culture, which, for indigenous peoples striving to protect their culture is a real threat.

However, tourism is only one of the influences on Māori culture and identity. The forces of globalisation and colonisation also operate to limit indigenous cultures. In Aotearoa, the effects of non-indigenous schooling policy, language prohibition, and restrictive legislation are still lingering and pervasive.<sup>47</sup> Although it was known that the experiences of colonisation have resulted in the devaluing of Māori social systems, for individuals in the tourism industry the outcomes of colonial claims of superiority have left some Māori feeling like they have little of value to offer.<sup>48</sup> Furthermore, in the Waitangi Tribunal's 2011 Wai 262 Ko Aotearoa Tēnei report, the Tribunal heavily criticised the Crown for falling short on its obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, "marginalising Māori and allowing others to control key aspects of Māori culture. This leads to a justified sense of grievance, and also limits the contribution Māori can make to national identity

and to New Zealand's economy".<sup>49</sup> The Waitangi tribunal also pressed that "New Zealand sits poised at the crossroads both in race relations and on our long quest for a mature sense of national identity".<sup>50</sup> The report represents a strong call to action for more Māori to be represented in strategic decision making positions in tourism and beyond.

The discussion above poses many questions about the direction and control of Māori cultural products and experiences, and whether the opportunities presented to Māori through engaging in tourism can be capitalised upon without distorting the authenticity of their culture, or the environment. The following two case studies offer an opportunity to explore how tour-guide experiences are meeting and reconciling these challenges. It is my belief that tour guide experiences offer a unique opportunity to create authentic exchanges in the tourism space.

V CASE STUDIES

The following two case studies are tourism experiences in which the cultural exchange is facilitated by tour guides. Tour guides, iwi, have the ability to bring the environment to life by identifying their whakapapa (n. genealogy), themselves, and identifying themselves as tangata whenua. As cross-cultural mediators, their knowledge of Māori culture and history is very important but so too is their ability to communicate it to others.<sup>51</sup> For instance, to be a guide at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds a person must be able to whakapapa (v. to recite their genealogy in proper order) back to one of the signatories of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.<sup>52</sup> Tour experiences also create the opportunity for the tour guide to communicate their culture in personal and contemporary terms. By comparison, other representations such as performances may reinforce a traditional culture fixed in the past, which fails to recognise that heritage is complex and subjective and that culture is not set in time but is influenced by changing socio-cultural contexts. Tour guides, therefore, may have a unique opportunity to mediate and reconcile these

43 Ibid.  
44 Ibid.  
45 Hilary Du Cros and, Bob McKercher, *The Partnership Between Tourism and Cultural Heritage Management* (Haworth Hospitality Press, Pennsylvania, 2002); Chrys Horn, Joana Fountain, and Robyn White, *Present visitors' interest in Māori cultural tourism on Banks peninsula* (Lincoln University and Landcare Research, n.d).  
46 Hince and Butler, "Introduction", 1-14.  
47 Ibid.  
48 Lynda Johnston, Naomi Simmonds and Sandi Ringham, "Māori Tourism Geographies - Values, morals and diverse economies", MAI journal: A New Zealand Journal of Indigenous Scholarship, (November 12 2016): 99- 112.  
49 The Waitangi Tribunal, (July 2 2011), "Ko Aotearoa Tēnei: Report on the Wai 262 Claim Released - Time to Move beyond Grievance in Treaty Relationship, Tribunal Says", www.waitangitribunal.govt.nz/news/ko-aotearoa-tenei-report-on-the-wai-262-claim-released (accessed November 28 2017).  
50 Ibid.  
51 Trisha Dwyer, "Sharing a living culture: the guides role in managing Māori tourism experiences", Future Times (online), (2012): 3-5.  
52 Sole, "Māori tourism".

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Human Rights Day Seminar 2017

# The Sustainable Development Goals, Sustainable Tourism and Human Rights

8 December 2017



Photo courtesy of WREDA

Seminar Timetable

<b>1300</b> Intro Dion Peter Nichols, VP UNA NZ	<b>1430</b> Afternoon tea & networking
<b>1305</b> Iona Pannett	<b>1500</b> Loren Rutherford
<b>1315</b> Marjan Van Den Belt	<b>1530</b> Eliza Raymond
<b>1400</b> Valentina Dinica	<b>1400</b> Concluding Remarks



different perspectives by providing a link between past traditions and beliefs, and today's world and future direction.<sup>53</sup>

FOOTPRINTS WAIPOUA

Footprints Waipoua offers curated walks through Waipoua Forest to visit the famous Te Matua Ngahere ('The Father of the Forest') and the great Tāne Mahuta ('The Lord of the Forest'). Located on the west coast of the North Island, Waipoua is the most significant kauri forest in New Zealand and sees 250,000 visitors pass through it every year.<sup>54</sup> Māori tour guides lead visitors through the forest offering mihi (greeting) to the ancient trees. The guides also speak to the mythology of how the sons of Papatūānuku and Ranginui failed to break their parents' amorous embrace until Tāne Mahuta managed to prise them apart. Interviewed by National Geographic, tour guide Tawhiri Riwai finds standing beneath the trees humbling, "It puts you into perspective. It's not just the size of the tree, it's the generations it has seen pass under its branches. And that feeling hasn't diminished in any way since".<sup>55</sup> For tour guide Bill Mathews, "This is a very spiritual place. It has mana (power), and people feel that when they come to visit".<sup>56</sup> Footprints Waipoua has been recognised by Lonely Planet as one of only 100 businesses featured from around the globe, that embraces three defining principles: tread lightly on the environment, immerse yourself in the local culture, and be of economic benefit to the local community.<sup>57</sup>

Waipoua Footprints creates an environment for an authentic exchange of culture. The tour guides speak to their whakapapa and culture without a filter and without the stereotypes of warriorism. Furthermore, the visitors are intimately connected to the tour guide themselves, breaking down the 'me' and 'other' dichotomy. There is no stage on one side and seats on the other but one path shared. Whilst the kaupapa for the business is never just money, Waipoua Footprints capitalises on its competitive advantage by enriching and deepening the experience of visiting the ancient kauri. Additionally, the profile

of Waipoua Footprints is such that it has attracted a sister tourism base in Japan, bringing more revenue into the Hokianga region. It is the intimacy with the environment and the tour guide's control of the experience's content that means that issues of cultural identity and stereotyped perception of Māori can be avoided.

However, there are some environmental concerns. In 2013 Te Roroa iwi talked with officials about imposing a rāhui, or ban, to protect kauri from kauri dieback disease.<sup>58</sup> With Te Kawerau ā Maki insisting on similar action in Waitakere, kauri dieback is an issue that still does not have a complete solution.<sup>59</sup> Although Te Roroa iwi have some influence in decision making, the ultimate decision will be made by DOC. For what Waipoua Footprints can control, they use the best options available: shoe cleaning stations to mitigate the risk.

For more information see: [www.footprintswaipoua.co.nz](http://www.footprintswaipoua.co.nz)

POTIKI TOURS

Pōtiki Adventures is an urban Māori tourism company based on Waiheke Island, which offers tours and outdoor education from a Māori perspective. Director Bianca Ronson, of Ngāpuhi and Ngāti Kahu ki Whaingaroa descent, founded Pōtiki Adventures to offer the highest quality experiences and to provide employment for Māori in an environment that celebrates living and working with Māori customs, values and culture.<sup>60</sup> Ronson sought to offer more than "The whole haka and hongi experience" because "What I've noticed over the last decade, especially those with money, they don't want to see something that is superficial. They want to engage with us as we are".<sup>61</sup>

Ronson was educated in a total immersion unit in high school and subsequently undertook private Māori training up north before taking up an outdoor education course with Unitec. Having learned how to engage in the natural environment with a Māori perspective, Ronson's experiences of pākehā outdoor education chafed against her previous six years of immersion



Left: Bruce Bassett, Tourism Industry Association, and John Morgan, past UNA New Zealand Special Officer for Human Rights, at the UNA December 2017 seminar on tourism & human rights marking Human Rights Day 2017.

teachings, "How can you be qualified to be an outdoor educator if you do not know the land?".<sup>62</sup> The company is therefore careful about who they choose as tour guides, "They must understand tikanga Māori (Māori customs and values) and speak Māori. Many have also studied Māori art, so they can ask prompted questions to help explain to visitors more about what they are viewing. They are all enthusiastic, personable people that are good representatives for Māori culture".<sup>63</sup>

In a recent TED talk, Ronson also spoke to how her Māori education and living authentically act as a sort of magnetic guide to support her. She retold the story of the conception of the North Island, fished up from the sea by Maui's hook. From the spirit of this story, Ronson drew principles that she herself applies in her business:

"Māui was resourceful, brave, fearless and cheeky which are characteristics idolised by Māori society which means that even if you come from humble beginnings and even if you're the youngest in your family or the smallest company in an industry it means that you have the potential to achieve whatever it is you want to achieve. All of our whenua and all of our land and everything we see in this country has a narrative which is similar to that which [helps us] make sense of everything we see around us and how we exist as humans; the umbilical cord which



connects us as humans to the land. The name for after-birth in māori is whenua, the name for the land is whenua."<sup>64</sup>

Pōtiki Adventures has been recognised by the Māori Women's Welfare Incorporation Best Māori Women in Business Award, Her Business Magazine Business Awards, New Zealand Tourism Award and most recently the Outdoors New Zealand – Organisation Award 2014.<sup>65</sup>

From the boots up, Pōtiki Adventures is founded on Māori principles, which reflect that, although the business is operating within a pākehā tourism framework, it does not need to compromise Māori values. Furthermore, as a young business-woman working in an urban setting, the exchanges are fresh and contemporary. As one Pōtiki Adventure tour guide put it, their visitors love meeting 'real' people, "We aim to give them a sense of how Māori people live today".<sup>66</sup> Pōtiki Adventures in this way provides a platform to translate the perception of travellers to a more authentic and contemporary perception of Māori culture. As Ronson put it, "We're more equipped to introduce people to our culture in a way that's relevant to our lives today".<sup>67</sup> The company's kaupapa also extends to the community through many programmes directed at the Waiheke community youth.

For more information see: [www.potikiadventures.co.nz](http://www.potikiadventures.co.nz)

53 Trisha Dwyer, "Sharing a living culture: the guides role in managing Māori tourism experiences", 3-5.

54 Carrie Miller, n.d, "6 Ways to Experience Māori Culture", [www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/destinations/oceania/new-zealand/Māori-culture-history](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/destinations/oceania/new-zealand/Māori-culture-history), (accessed on November 14 2017); Kauri dieback,"Waipoua Forest guardians considering a rahu", Kauri Konnect (June 2015).

55 Sole, "Māori tourism".

56 Carrie Miller, n.d, "6 Ways to Experience Māori Culture".

57 Sole, "Māori tourism".

58 Kauri dieback,"Waipoua Forest guardians considering a rahu". .

59 Sally Murphy, "Rāhui on Waitakere Ranges to protect kauri", December 2 2017, [www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/345250/rahui-on-waitakere-ranges-to-protect-kauri](http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/345250/rahui-on-waitakere-ranges-to-protect-kauri), (accessed January 5 2018).

60 Potiki Adventures, "Potiki News", n.d, [www.potikiadventures.co.nz/potiki-news/](http://www.potikiadventures.co.nz/potiki-news/) (accessed on November 25 2018).

61 New Zealand Herald, "Gloombusters: Tourism drives economy higher", 2015, September 9, [www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=3&objectid=11490948](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=11490948), (accessed on November 25 2018).

62 Bianca Ronson, "Living and working by Māori customs, values and culture", TED talk, (TEDxWaiheke, Auckland, 2015).

63 Tourism New Zealand, "The business - Māori Myths and Legends; The experience - Māori Myths and Legends Eco-Tours", Tourism News (online), (Dec 2006): 7-8.

64 Bianca Ronson, "Living and working by Māori customs, values and culture"

65 Potiki Adventures, "Potiki News".

66 Tourism New Zealand, "The business - Māori Myths and Legends; The experience - Māori Myths and Legends Eco-Tours", 7-8.

67 New Zealand Herald, "Gloombusters: Tourism drives economy higher".



VI CONCLUSION

Tourism offers many opportunities and challenges for Māori seeking to take advantage of the growing demand for tourism in Aotearoa. Of particular concern are issues of cultural identity and the environment. Footprints Waipoua and Pōtiki Adventures are examples of where intimate, culturally rich exchanges can take advantage of tourist demand for authentic experiences and also provide a contemporary platform for the cultural exchange. Give Māori business-owners the opportunities to have full agency and control over what is presented to tourists and the experiences will have greater opportunity to be authentic. Authentic exchanges not only empower the iwi who deliver them but also provide a more fulfilling and educational experience for tourists who may come to Aotearoa with an idea of a warrior but leave knowing a person.

I began this piece with a deep interest in extending my knowledge of Māori tourism in Aotearoa. In concluding this essay, however, I am drawn to the quote by Mary Ellen Turpel regarding the proclivity of non-Indigenous people to assume that “any ignorance on their part about Indigenous People is simply a gap in their knowledge which may be filled, rather than an imperative which may shift the paradigm of knowledge”.<sup>68</sup> Māori spaces and knowledge are taonga, to be respected and cared for. It is with the greatest respect and humility that I acknowledge that, although I have greatly increased my education regarding indigenous tourism, I also have so much more to learn. With the World indigenous Tourism Summit being held in April, I look forward to reading the fruits of their mahi.

68 Ani Mikaere, Colonising myths--Māori realities he rukuruku whakaaro (Huia Publishers, Wellington, 2011): 47.

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Hana Mereraiha Skerrett-White, Tainui, Ngā Pikiao, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Koata. PHD Student and UNA NZ National Council Member, speaks about her recent attendance at the 2018 UN Open Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York, at the 2018 UNA NZ National Conference.

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# President Report to the 2018 Annual General Meeting\*

It is my pleasure to report on UNA NZ (United Nations Association of New Zealand) achievements during the period May 2017 to April 2018. My sincere thanks to the National Executive for their support and valuable contributions in their various roles. They are: Paul Oliver, Peter Nichols, Pauline McKay, Graham Hassall (Immediate Past President), Bokyoung Mun (UN Youth President), Robyn Holdaway, Maria Bernal, Karim Dickie, and Clark Ehlers. I mention particularly the dedication of our Treasurer, Paul Oliver, who has made an outstanding contribution to UNA NZ. National Council members who have contributed significantly on the National Executive are Gracielli Ghizzi-Hall, Nedra Fu, Pedram Pirnia and John Morgan.

I am very grateful for the collaborative work and achievements reported for the AGM by Special Officers, Branch Presidents and their committees.

### Administrative Matters

We are fortunate to have Ronja Ivers as our part-time Administrator. We thank her most sincerely for the superb job she does as our Administrator. Ronja attended a Global Citizenship Conference in Norway and COP23 in Bonn on a New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO Grant in November 2017. She

\*The 2018 Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 19 May 2018



Joy Dunsheath

works in the UNA NZ office in Wellington on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10am to 2pm, plus two floating hours per week.

### Governance

The National Executive has held monthly meetings and the National Council has met twice in Wellington since our 2017 AGM.

We have continued to review and update our UNA NZ Constitution and our operational procedures document UNA NZ Handbook & Guide.

We have also worked on updating our Strategic Plan. The rigorous process led by Nedra Fu has provided opportune times for reflection on important UN matters. I thank our members for their input and advice towards this planning.

We have maintained close links with WFUNA, the World Federation of United Nations Associations (refer to the separate report within the AGM papers).

UNA NZ has been well supported by the, "We the Peoples Foundation" overseen by trustees Pamela Jefferies, Paul Oliver, and Joy Dunsheath.

### Growth and Consolidation

We would like to boost our financial membership in New Zealand and have agreed to appoint a SO (Special Officer) Membership to assist. There is no shortage of members volunteering for positions on the National Council.

### UN Banner Days, Public Education and Important Events

The commemoration of UN Banner Days provides occasions when UNA NZ members and supporters gather. In 2017, we added the 10th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to our regular commemorations, namely: the UN Days of International Day of Peace (21 September), United Nations Day (24 October) and Human Rights



Nedra Fu leading the Strategic Planning session at the April 2018 National Council meeting

Day (10 December) which we regularly commemorate.

The highpoint of the last year was our two-day UNA NZ Conference held on 29-30 June in Wellington. A quick revisit of the conference programme will remind the reader of the various sessions. A standing ovation concluded the keynote session with the former head of UNDP and former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Rt Hon Helen Clark, in conversation with political journalist Audrey Young. This session opened our Conference with a capacity audience for the large venue. It provided a

unique platform for promoting dialogue in subsequent, thought-provoking sessions on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and exclusive interviews and discussions held with leading international and local experts. All session in the two-day programme were well received.

Conference Day 2 spotlighted the 10th anniversary of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The presentation and film *Ki roto I te ngahere*: Reducing inequalities for Rangatahi Māori is a national imperative by UNA NZ interns Liletina and Kahu Kutia and other Māori students was supervised by National Council Member, Gracielli Ghizzi-Hall and warmly acknowledged. The conference concluded with our Speech Award finals, hosted at Parliament by Chris Bishop MP. The topic was: Is there a role for nuclear weapons in today's world? The winner was Olivia Bennett of St Cuthbert's College, Auckland.

The theme of our Human Rights Day Seminar held in December was The Sustainable Development Goals, Sustainable Tourism and Human Rights. The seminar explored the delicate dynamic between the potential for tourism to achieve the human rights in employment and decent living conditions, versus the potential destructive impacts of unbalanced tourism on the ecology of the planet that we have a human right to enjoy sustainably. Our congratulations to John Morgan, UNA NZ Special Officer for Human Rights and Arielle Tracey, UNA NZ intern, for organising this event.

### Themes and Publicity

Our theme for 2018 is: **New Zealand and the SDGs: Committed to sustainable peace and development.** The SDGs have been in the forefront of our thinking. We have written letters to government ministers, held information events with some in collaboration with other NGOs and Hui E! Community Aotearoa (Hui E!),

circulated our SDG book marks widely and written media releases with some success. Of note is our support in preparations for the VUW SDG Summit held on 23 April 2018 and the pre-Conference public event Civil society SDG pre-summit consultation, in collaboration with Hui E! which was held during our NC meeting.

Monthly e Newsletters have been published. These can be reviewed on our website: [unanz.org.nz/national/newsletter](http://unanz.org.nz/national/newsletter) and forwarded to anyone interested.

We recently premiered the film of the conference keynote session with Rt Hon Helen Clark in conversation with political journalist Audrey Young.

The printed publication of our 63-page 2017 magazine called UNA NZ News complements our monthly UNA NZ e-newsletter. Both publications have drawn considerable favourable comment.

### Interns, Research and Public Education

We have three interns: Stella Ivory, Arielle Tracy, and Stanislas Gros (from France). Stella and Arielle have been completing their research supervised by Gracielli Ghizzi-Hall and John Morgan. I am most impressed with progress and we will look forward to presentations soon. Arielle also successfully contributed to our Human Rights Day Seminar.

We were invited to attend a NGO Policy Forum at MFAT in November, with the topic, Strengthened engagement, coordination and partnership between MFAT and the international NGO sector, attended by Peter Nichols, Graham Hassall, Gracielli Ghizzi-Hall and Joy Dunsheath. Invitations were then received to meet with Phillip Tauala, Divisional Manager for the UN, Human Rights and Commonwealth Division of MFAT, and in February with Finnian Cheshire at MFAT, NZ Deputy Permanent Representative, NY. These meetings gave me the opportunity to emphasise the work UNA

NZ does to support NZ at the UN.

One of the flagship events is the UNA NZ Speech Award. The topic for 2018 has been set: *How should we balance climate change issues versus economic growth in New Zealand? Are they mutually exclusive?* The competition is underway as I write.

We congratulate the Canterbury Branch on progress with their Webquest and UN Education Portal. Details may be found in their Branch report.

### President's Diary

I have completed a range of activities and attended and spoken at a variety of events and seminars to promote UNA NZ. I have been a voice for UNA NZ as a JP, and with my association with other NGOs.

I attended the UNA Australia (UNAA) Conference which focused on the theme; Enhancing Australia's Support to Global Peace and Security: Seventy Years On, held in Canberra. Its focus was on SDG 16 "Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions" and why they matter. Day 1 was about honouring Australia's contribution to peacekeeping. Prof Ramesh Thakur, well-known to UNA NZ, chaired a session on the South Sudan. That evening we were invited to a reception at Government House. Strengthening Australia's support to UN Peace Keeping was the focus on Day 2. While in Canberra, I visited the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) and met with the Director, Chris Woodthorpe, who last year visited



Women attending the UNA NZ International Women's Day lunch hosted at the Hippopotamus Museum Hotel in Wellington, 8 March 2018



the Canterbury Branch and spoke in Wellington at our Conference. I also met with UNAA Executive Director, Matthew Kronborg, and with Jay Jethwa, Vice-President of WFUNA. Regular contact and cooperation between UNA NZ and UNAA is encouraged by them all.

A highlight for me was attending the New Zealand Centre for Global Studies 5th Annual Global Affairs Lecture (7 April) where Prof. Johan Rockström spoke on The Planetary Boundaries: Implications for Global Governance in the 21st Century. This was motivating and chilling. This week at the SDG Summit the Hon James Shaw told us that the Government may work with Prof Rockström and his team.

Of my activities through the year I was particularly honoured to be a guest at the Japanese Ambassador's residence for the ceremony to confer the Grand Cordon of The Order of the Rising Sun to the Rt Hon Helen Clark.

The usually quiet UNA period from December's Human Rights Day seminar through to March, was not so this year. Highlights included: attendance at the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN hosted by the Ambassador of Thailand; attendance at the CID Annual Conference; a speaker at the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week

2018; helped organise the Wellington stage of the international touring outdoor art exhibition called, Exhibition Coexistence, and was MC and speaker at its opening at Te Papa; attended the Waitangi Day Celebration at Government House; organised the International Women's Day lunch at Hippopotamus Restaurant, was MC and spoke on the theme Time is Now: Rural and urban activists transforming women's lives; attended the NZIIA Conference The Law of the Jungle and chaired a session titled International Security Conversation with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Tim Wright, and Al Jazeera English journalist, Andrew Thomas.

The National Executive has organised various events, some in cooperation with like-minded organisations. Many of these events continue to make UNA NZ a presence in the community. An example is our collaboration with Coexistence referred to above - please view www.coexistencewgtn.com/, particularly the slide show for an understanding of our involvement. Ronja put together an education package for school students and we were involved in organising the opening ceremony and a special lunch to celebrate International Women's Day and the 125 Suffrage celebration in NZ.



Pamela Jefferies has been an outstanding Trustee for 18 years for We The Peoples Foundation and a supporter of UNA NZ.

This provides an overview of some of my work supporting UNA NZ which is more fully listed in my National Council Reports.

Concluding Comments

I do feel privileged to have the opportunity to serve you as President of UNA NZ. The UNA NZ National Executive has displayed resilience, and enthusiasm. We are committed to sound and ethical governance, and sound management.

To me the ideals embodied in the UN Charter and the crucial role of the UN, to promote world peace and justice, eradicate poverty and hunger and achieve Agenda 2030, are what inspires me have high hopes for the effectiveness of the UN. Let's work together to make this happen.

Arohanui

Joy Dunsheath JP, President



Ronja levers, facilitating a discussion at the inaugural SDG Summit in Wellington on 23 April 2018

Branch Reports

UNA NZ has active regional Branches for the Northern Region (including Auckland), Tauranga, Wanganui, Wellington and Canterbury, and a group in Waikato. UN Youth Aotearoa New Zealand is our youth arm. The best way to get involved in UNA NZ is through your nearest regional branch.

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tauranga@unanz.org.nz  
waikato@unanz.org.nz  
wanganui@unanz.org.nz  
wellington@unanz.org.nz  
canterbury@unanz.org.nz

The following reports were submitted by Branches to the Annual General Meeting on 19 May 2018.

Northern Branch  
Reported by Pedram Pirnia, President

Tēnā koutou from the Northern Branch.

Northern (Auckland) Branch has witnessed a great level of enthusiasm from its supporters in recent months who strive to make the UNA a more effective and efficient organisation while engaging with the community.

The UNA Auckland Team has reached out to local government, universities and Civil Society Organisations (CSO) here in Auckland. We are active in promoting peace and the SDGs while aiming to build trust and collaborate with the CSOs in some of the good work they are doing.

Our New Team:

- Eimear Donoghue

Eimear is our new and active volunteer who has recently moved to NZ from Ireland where she was previously working as an environmental scientist since

completing her MSc. Eimear is passionate about Sustainable Development and Human Rights issues and has played an important role in reviving our Data List, communicating with old and new members and engaging with Aucklanders.

- Paolo Miguel Duran

Paolo is an MFAT Scholar from Philippines who is completing his M.A. here at the AUT. He is currently in one of the classes I teach at AUT and has been a great support in setting up of stalls and meetings. Paolo has a rich background in humanitarian arena having worked for a range of different aid and development organisations in Philippines.

- Steven Arnold

Steven Arnold is currently the principal of Peace Experiment, NZ's only independent Montessori Secondary School. He has been engaged with the MDGs and now the SDGs through his work on the PEACE BOAT, PEACE FOUNDATION, Montessori networks and the UNA. He is also our new Treasurer but Bradley is still a major support to all of us in all fronts. Thanks to Steven's Peace School we have a new home for UNA NZ in Auckland where we hold our Branch Meetings and new initiative 'Circles of Learning'.

Recent Branch Activities and Events:

Membership Data List

1. Auckland Membership/interested people list has been re-established and reinvigorated by our new volunteer Eimear.

2. Peace Foundation International Affairs and Disarmament Committee, Laurie Ross has been very effective through this channel and has written letters to NZ govt to promote prevention of warfare.

3. New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone 30th Anniversary–Coordinator of the major event in Auckland Domain 11 June 2017 with the Peace Foundation and featuring Mayor for Peace Phil Goff and other

leaders eg. Jacinda Ardern (Labour Party), Wayne Mapp (National Party), Kennedy Graham (Green Party) Total 13 speakers and 6 musical acts. Highlight was organising giant Human Peace symbol, aerial photos and TVNZ news. Plus, installation and unveiling of the Peace Plaque by the Pohutukawa Peace Tree.



Giant Human Peace symbol, Auckland 2017

4. Circles of Learning–Circles of Learning are a new concept developed by the Auckland Branch to bring together UNA Members and learned people together on monthly basis to discuss important socio-political issues with a focus on the SDGs. We have had two of these meetings so far and are aiming to hold one in Auckland every month throughout 2018.

5. Nuclear Free NZ30 Event Film–Available online February 2018 for free distribution through schools and community. The 6 month process involved selection of historic photographic material important for education of young people and cultivation of civic pride in the development of the NZ and global culture of peace and disarmament. See vimeo.com/254644003

6. Nuclear Free Peacemaker Exhibition–Presentation in four West Auckland Libraries April - August 2017, Organised film of Assoc. Professor Treasa Dunworth on 'UN Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty'.

7. UNA NZ Stalls–We have engaged and educated the public as much as we can through UNA NZ stalls with banners, handout information with regards to the



UN Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty and the Sustainable Development Goals.

We set up tent and displays in 2017 & 2018 at:

- Rose Garden Festival Parnell Nov. 2017;
- Myers Park Queen St on Feb. 2018;
- Chinese New Year New Lynn at Olympic Park - Feb 2018; and
- International Cultural Festival at Mt Roskill April 2018.



Laurie Ross, Eimear Donoghue and Dr Pedram Pirnia

8. Deputations to Local Boards– Presentation for a: Military War-weapon Free Auckland Peace City, In accordance with the principles of UN Charter ‘We the peoples are determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war....’ Six of the Auckland Boards have had presentations by UNA (Laurie Ross). UNA is aiming to reach out to the 21 Local Boards, here in Auckland.

9. Presentations on:

- Sustainable Development Goals at AUT (Pedram); and
- Nuclear Free NZ -Peace-making AUT (Laurie).

Lectures offered to AUT students on topics mentioned above, and open discussions on the SDGs and issues surrounding peacebuilding, plus promoting United Nations.

**Extra Activities:**

Other Work & Engagements for promotion of UNA NZ:

- New Zealand Institute of International Affairs, (NZIIA). Meetings held with the NZIIA Director with a focus on joining forces (UNA NZ + NZIIA);

- Peace Foundation, we have also joined forces with the Peace Foundation and participated on numerous occasions mainly sharing stalls and attending meetings/conferences and addressing common grounds such as social justice and environmental issues in NZ and the region;
- Pedram is now working with AUT in the Faculty of Public Health and Environmental Sciences where he is collaborating with the AUT Sustainable Task Force; and
- Pedram is also assisting Audrey Van Ryan to establish a shelter for homeless in Auckland as currently there is no shelter in Auckland for the homeless.

**Tauranga Branch**  
**Reported by Dr Gray Southon, President**

Tēnā koutou from the Tauranga Branch.

The year end was celebrated on the 8th December by a showing of the video of the First 50 Years of NZ at the UN, and a talk by Raewyn Bennett who was involved in indigenous people's programs.

2018 has commenced with Speech Awards on the 26th March where 11 Students presented very impressive presentations on the economics of climate change. The evening was enriched by Jan Tinnetti MP who opened the evening and ended with discussions with the students on what they would like to see happening to address climate change. The winner was Hamish Gleeson from Tauranga Boys' College.

Our AGM was held on the 5th April featuring Alyn Ware, talking on “Implementing the United Nations goals of peace and disarmament: The role of civil society.”

Our first Model Security Council was held on the 26th May at the City Council Chambers and chaired by our students. We are also investigating the viability of

a two-day model UN at some time in the future.

**Wanganui Branch**  
**Reported by Kate Smith, President**

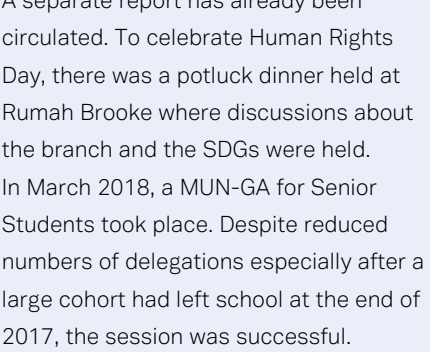
Tēnā koutou from the Wanganui Branch.

**Membership Overview**

As a result of such factors as changes in circumstances, illness and workload, we are rebuilding our membership list. At present we have 15 paid up members, with more expected after our next Brunch.

**Recent Activities**

In November 2017, we held a MUN-GA for Junior Students. This was very well attended and the standards were high. A separate report has already been circulated. To celebrate Human Rights Day, there was a potluck dinner held at Rumah Brooke where discussions about the branch and the SDGs were held. In March 2018, a MUN-GA for Senior Students took place. Despite reduced numbers of delegations especially after a large cohort had left school at the end of 2017, the session was successful.



Senior School Students Model UN participants

**Branch News**

As mentioned in the first part, our energies flagged somewhat last year. It has been difficult to get people motivated to be part of the organization of events, despite these being well attended and enjoyed. There is no lack of involvement in our events – just in the preparation for them. A committee meeting was held recently which looked at how the branch might operate into the future. It was obvious from this meeting that there was

still strong support for us to continue our efforts. A suggestion will be put to all members and prospective members at a Brunch to be held in late May. We are looking forward to further input from members and will let you know the outcome.

At the beginning of May, the Regional Speech Award round was held at St. Paul's Church Hall. The Branch Brunch was on Sunday 20 May. There is an air of excitement about our upcoming Brunch!

**Wellington Branch**  
**Reported by Clark Ehlers, President**

Tēnā koutou from the Wellington Branch.

**Recent activities and events**

The Wellington branch held four seminars between July and September 2017 centred on the SDGs:

- A seminar arranged by Dr Negar Partow on SDG3 (Good Health and Well-being) was held in July about involving former refugee women in cycling activities. The seminar reported on this initiative by Massey University, Wellington City Council and cycling organisations
- Stephan Rupp arranged a seminar by Dr Lee Bint (building scientist at BRANZ) on SDG11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) providing insights into key New Zealand and international initiatives. The seminar was co-hosted by the School of Architecture, Victoria University, in July.

- Dr Clark Ehlers arranged a seminar by Dr Julie Hall (Director, Sustainable Seas National Science Challenge) to tell attendees of the research that is being undertaken in this National Science Challenge to support sustainable seas (SDG14 – Life below water). Three Aotearoa Youth Leadership Institute delegates that attended the UN Oceans Summit in July 2017 reported back on their experiences at that summit. The seminar was co-hosted by the Royal Society Te Apārangi in September.

- The fourth event focused on SDG17 (Partnership to achieve the goals), which took place in September. Dr Kennedy Graham spoke about GLOBE New Zealand, a cross-party working group of 35 MPs that works towards facilitating action on climate change and implementing laws in pursuit of sustainable development. This event was facilitated by Dr Rosalind McIntosh.



Performances at the 2017 International Peace Day celebration

International Peace Day 2017, which was celebrated on 5 October, observed Living Together as the theme of the evening. The Branch involved the Wellington City Council and the Mayor in this year's event. The programme focused on the long-term effects of conflicts within cities and communities. There were performances by a group from a full immersion Te Reo school and Chinese performing company.

Tim Wright, Asia Pacific Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons or ICAN, spoke at a lunch meeting to UNA NZ Wellington in February 2018.



UNA members meeting with Tim Wright (middle) Director of Asia/Pacific International Campaign Disarmament and 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate on February 28th, with Dr Rod Alley (Tim's right) and Edwina Hughes (left) iCAN New Zealand

Disarmament Ambassador Dell Higgie addressed the Wellington Branch AGM in March 2018. Diplomats from 14 African countries attended the AGM.

**Branch committee members and news**

The newly elected committee for 2018 is Clark Ehlers (president), Stephan Rupp (secretary), Peter Cowley (Treasurer), Rosalind McIntosh (Wellington Branch Special Officer SDGs), Robin Halliday, Emma-Yvonne Simons, Pat Metham, Mere Skerrett and John Morgan. As long-standing members of the committee, Robin and John will continue to be involved in activities of the Branch and support various actions. Peter will be relocating in the near future but will continue on as Treasurer until a new one can be found. Emma, Pat and Mere are new to the Committee and will bring new energy and dynamism to UNA NZ Wellington.

**Looking ahead**

The Wellington Branch will focus again on the SDGs in this year. We anticipate forming new and re-establishing historical relationships with organisations, private and public, and other NGOs.

**Canterbury Branch**  
**Reported by Lynette Hardie Wills, President**

Tēnā koutou from the Canterbury Branch.

**Overview**

UN Education is the central focus of the Canterbury Branch to support the Peoples' Movement of the United Nations throughout NZ. Its main focus is on classroom resources for NZ teachers, students and parents which encourage local community engagement. UNA NZ Canterbury believes that our UN Education Portal is poised to be of great assistance as teachers and students reach to become engaged in the critical global questions of our time. It will engage NZers across a broad front in the local



communities where they live, learn and work.

The UN Education Portal provides classroom resources for:

- Primary and lower secondary students and their teachers and parents.

- First Year University/Year 12 & 13 United Nations Core Course provides new opportunities for senior students and suggests fresh opportunities for non-STEM students with its pathways into the global multi-lateral organisations.

Recent activities and events

- 27 & 28 June 2017 Christchurch Visit of Christopher Woodthorpe – Director of UN Information Centre – Canberra, Australia. Christopher Woodthorpe's two Day Christchurch programme involved many organisations and people in the work of our UNA NZ Canterbury.

- Nga Tahu Visit with hosts – Keefe Robinson-Gore and Hanna Mereraiha White- focussed on Ngai Tahu Future plans and 20 yrs of Settlement Achievements. Ngai Tahu led the pan lwi case to the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with regards to the Seabed and Foreshore Act.

- Christian World Service Meeting with Pauline McKay and her staff. Christian World Service (CWS) is the development, justice and aid agency of New Zealand Churches (Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, Christian Churches and The Religious Society of Friends). CWS works to end poverty and injustice throughout the world by supporting communities working for better lives and livelihoods, providing humanitarian relief in times of disaster and campaigning against the causes of global poverty. Known as Inter-Church Aid (ICA) it evolved to become Christian World Service (CWS), New Zealand's longest serving home-grown development and aid agency.

- Christchurch City Council – hosts were Raf Manji and Mayor Lianne Dalziel. Raf is

also the CHAIR of the Canterbury Branch UNA NZ Charitable Trust. CCC Dept Heads involved in developing the City's response to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals reported on their on-going work. Christchurch is engaged with the SDG's and is collaborating/networking with other SDG cities, including Melbourne, Boston etc.

- Project Lyttelton – Host – Margaret Jefferies & Living Economies Trust Board Project Lyttelton is a grassroots organisation that has as its mission to help create a vibrant and sustainable area. Its projects include- the Lyttelton Farmers Market, a programme of festivals, NZ's first Time Bank, Community Garden, Harbour Kids – a growing food and how to cook it for school children, Waste Matters, LIFT library (books about change), vegetable bags, welcome bags.

- Etu Union Interview with Michelle Talingting Construction Organiser for Migrants working on the Canterbury Rebuild.

- Presentation on the UN & SDG's at Burnside High school- Phil Holstein (Principal) and Sandra Pooch (Maths/ Economic Teacher and organiser of the successful free Burnside High Model UN) hosted the secondary school gathering with Christopher Woodthorpe. Phil Holstein sent an invitation to all other Canterbury Secondary Principals inviting them to send 10 students to this presentation. Several Secondary HOD's and Teachers bought students to Burnside High.

- University of Canterbury – Hosts over lunch–Two UNA NZ Canterbury Committee members – Dr Jeremy Moses and Prof Karen Scott plus Dr Pascale Hatcher who is a colleague of Jeremy's in Dept of Political Science and International Relations. Jeremy is Director of UC's International Relations.

- 5 July – 29 September 2017: UNA NZ Canterbury GROUP Project with NZ Broadcasting School Students developed

4 videos aimed at teenagers which will become part of the UNA Education Portal. In addition the NZ Broadcasting Students write stories for MetroNews and put out stories on radio station Embr 96.1.

- 18 July 2017: Greater Christchurch Postgraduate Network gathering with Karolyn Tekulu – Indigenous Conflict in the Solomon Islands – Resolution Mechanism – A Ranonggan Perspective. Karolyn is a McMillan Brown PhD student – Ashalyna Noa – The Taniwha and the Dragon - China's foreign Aid and Soft Power in the Pacific – Ashalyna is a McMillan Brown PhD Student – Guest Speaker, Dr Patricia Champion, talked about her academic and clinical research & the Champion Centre in Christchurch –The Champion Centre provides multi-disciplinary early intervention services to infants and young children with significant disabilities and their families in Canterbury.

- 13 September, 2017: 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples' (UNDRIP) Conference – This day-long conference was the UNA NZ Canterbury event of the Year! Hearty Congratulations go to Conference Organisers Hana Mereraiha White & Keefe Robinson-Gore both on the UNA NZ Canterbury Committee - Hanna is also a UNA NZ National Council member. A line-up of impressive keynote speakers and panelists from diverse socio-political and cultural backgrounds discussed the ways in which the UNDRIP can help to transform communities and create sustainable growth in Aotearoa/NZ. Dual Keynote Speakers were Sir Tipene O'Regan and Dr Hana O'Regan (Ngai Tahu). The International Speaker was Dr Jennifer Rennie from Monash University Australia spoke on her Indigenous Literacy research & "Changing the Discourse – The system is failing – 'not the kids!' " The Te Akatoki Māori Students' Association presented an outstanding hour long programme. Hana's leadership was very evident!

a nurse and midwife, working in about 15 hospitals in New Zealand, UK and Pakistan, and later as a nurse educator and counsellor. Recently awarded PhD for her thesis 'The Once and Future Cathedral' Dr Patricia talked about her life and research findings for this project.

- October 2017: Social Science Conference in Napier – The President attended this Conference along with the UNA NZ National Administrator. This was funded by the Canterbury Branch UNA NZ Charitable Trust in order to progress the work of the UN Education Portal with NZ Social Science Educators

- 19 March 2018: Tayyaba Khan Guest Speaker at UNA NZ Canterbury & NZIIA event. Tayyaba Khan is the Community Engagement Manager at the Office of Ethnic Communities based in Auckland. She leads a team of eight Diversity & Engagement Advisors spread across New Zealand who are responsible for engaging with ethnic communities. Tayyaba Kahn spoke on the buzz of diversity in Aotearoa

New Zealand. The presentation provided an overview of ethnic diversity in New Zealand and the multiplicitous nature of considering New Zealand's increasing ethnic diversity, and the challenge this poses for policymakers, and practitioners alike.

- 20 March 2018 Greater Christchurch Postgraduate Network gathering co-hosted by the UNA NZ Canterbury & the Canterbury Women's Club with Peggy Burrows – PhD Candidate and former Principal of Rangiora High School. Her PhD research focuses on bicultural leadership and kaupapa Māori leadership pedagogies that have the potential to enhance Māori engagement and achievement in education. Her research will contribute to ongoing discussions re UN Indigenous Rights. Guest Speaker –Dr Antonia Miller – Industrial Scientist at Callaghan Innovation. Antonia shared some life learning about acquiring skills and decisions around being a "leader" involved in "strategic" big pictures or a "Manager" involved in mapping out



The UN Education portal is now live and hosts a wealth of resources on human rights, sustainable development and much more. It includes material developed by UNA NZ for primary aged students and will soon host a course for secondary aged students who wan to learn more about international relations and the role of the United Nations.

how to deliver outcomes; decisions about academic vs. non academic roles, readiness to assume global opportunities.

Branch News

UNA NZ Canterbury Branch – believes its most important contribution is via the UN Branch Committee meetings

(Note: Most Canterbury Committee members are still involved in Earthquake Repairs of Repairs. This year meetings and events are still being impacted by these pressures.)

- Wed 30 May 2018 UNA NZ Canterbury AGM – delayed from 31 March due to EQ Repairs of Repairs

Looking ahead

UN Education Portal will continue to be the main focus for the Canterbury Branch and funding applications will be made to progress this work using a variety of technical expertise.

We are exploring how to hold an UNA NZ Canterbury Art Exhibition & Auction – “Art for Education” in 2018-2019. We are also exploring the role that a Music Event might have in our future Programme Mix.

Wed 9 May (to be confirmed) – UNA NZ Canterbury Speech Awards – Canterbury finalist chosen

Future 2018 speakers /events will be co-hosted with NZIIA . Some are still being confirmed

2018 UNA NZ Canterbury UN Global Citizenship Challenge – Unlimited School

7pm Wed July 18th2018 Dr Kate Dewes & Rtd Cmdr Rob Greene “The Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty – A Milestone towards Abolition?” – will focus on the UN Treaty re the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which was negotiated at the UN in July 2017.

13 August - Dr Jeremy Moses Working title“The application of international law to Syria and the functioning of the UN SC”

25 September Professor Karen Scott-

working title – “Climate Change and the Oceans: Navigating Legal Regimes’

Date TBA - Nga Tahu & UN Indigenous Rights – Hannah Mereraiha White

UN Young Professional Exam - awaiting 2018 UN notification re NZ & exam NZ date to be confirmed.

UN Youth

Reported by Bokyong Mun, President

Tēnā koutou from UN Youth.

Recent Activities and Events

UN Youth held our Volunteers Training Hui and AGM in the first weekend of December. Since then the newly elected National Executive have been busy getting the organisation started for the new year, and have put together a new strategic plan for 2018.



Volunteers at our Volunteers Training Hui in December 2017

UN Youth has held two National Councils, and ongoing is a organisation-wide review into the governance and the potential adoption of a board structure. At the end of last year, we made the decision to change our accountants from Crowe Howarth to WH Accounting & Advisory. There were a number of factors in relation to this decision, but primarily we felt that the organisation had grown to a size where accessible accounting advice was needed. We have also purchased a subscription to a new CRM software called Kepla. UN Youth has further established a new National event (NZ Model Parliament, to be held in Christchurch in September) and a new International Event (Globalisation Tour, to be held in February 2019, taking

University students around South East Asia looking at globalisation and trade).

Also of note is that we have finished re-negotiating our Memorandum of Understanding with UN Youth Australia and hope to have this finalised soon. Finally, it is UN Youth's 20th birthday next year! In light of this, a 20th Birthday Committee has been established to oversee the organisation of a number of events to be held around Queen's Birthday weekend in 2019.

Regions

The regions have been busy with a number of large events in the latter half of last year, and start of the 2018 year. In particular, all regions have recently been holding their flagship Model UN events.

National and International Events

We have had a busy period with our International Events with three events having taken place in this last period. The Evatt Competition delegation left to represent New Zealand in the Competition, held in Australia in December. Our Global Development Tour also left at the beginning of January, travelling first to New York, and then to a number of cities in Europe including Paris, Rome, Copenhagen and Berlin.



The Global Development Tour Delegation in New York

Finally the US Leadership Tour left New Zealand in late January, returning after nearly four weeks of jam packed meetings and seminars with a variety of speakers, diplomats, organisations and businesses including Google and NASA. The tour which caters for University students, aims to provide experiences and opportunities

to open up possible career path for students, and generally allow for students to develop their networking and strategic skills.

In terms of National Events, the Diplomacy Competition have begun their first round, with nearly 300 students competing in this round alone. This National Event is unique in that it is completely free and held online, and so is accessible to any High School student in New Zealand who wishes to engage in diplomacy and discussion around international relations. The organisation has also just finished hosting the Aotearoa Youth Declaration which was held with nearly 230 High School students from all around New Zealand for four days at the University of Auckland over the 11-15th April.



The US Leadership Tour Delegation at Google in San Francisco

Looking Ahead

Our next international event Pacific Project, will be leaving for Vanuatu in July. NZ Model UN will be held again in Wellington in July, and Diplomacy Competition will continue to run new rounds of their competition. Our next National Council is also set to be held in July.

Waikato Group

Reported by Mano Manoharan, President

Tēnā koutou from Waikato Group.

The financial year ended recently but our activities were mainly focused on education for High School students.

Secretary Linda Holmes shifted from Hamilton to Te Kuiti which is far from

Hamilton, but she agreed to continue helping the organisation as Secretary. She travels all the way from there to help organise the events.

Margaret Knight life member of the branch, who was the backbone of the group attended the Model UN Assembly.

The days have changed, it is hard to get volunteers. There are people who want to be involved with the group but when an event is organised, everything is on few loyal members.

I have done my best to keep the branch alive and the public to be aware that such an organisation exists in Hamilton.

I represented the branch at 12 Citizenship ceremonies held in the Hamilton Gardens where 1560 people from various countries took citizenship in 2017. UNA NZ Waikato group is in the official party, we walk with the Mayor, Councillors and MPs as the official party to the ceremony and the branch name is announced by the MC to all those who take citizenship. Each ceremony lasts for 90 minutes and 130 people take their citizenship. I have not missed a single ceremony.

ANZAC day celebration UNA NZ Waikato group is in the official party for placing a wreath. We attend the 10 am service by the side of the river memorial and the MC calls the UNA NZ Waikato group to lay the wreath in the presence of over 1500 people. I had been doing this for over 15 years.

Last year one of the Hamilton City Councillor passed away at the age of 58. Hamilton City Council organised a memorial service at Claudelands Event Centre which was attended by about 1000 people. They had only three speakers. I was requested by the CEO to be one of the speakers representing the UNA NZ Waikato group since the Councillors family had made a request that I should be one of the speakers.

We had a successful speech competition in 2017 and a vibrant teenager from

Tokoroa High School won the trophy and took part in the National competition. In 2018 more students took part from five different schools. The trophy was won by a student from Sacred Heart Girls College. Waikato trophy is going around since 1997 and the winner's names are engraved around the trophy. In 1997 and 1998 the trophy was won by Jacinda Ardern of Morrinsville College. In other words, the trophy would have been with the Prime Minister and she also would have taken part in the National competition. At that time she would have never thought that one day she will become the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Model UN Assembly was held in Price Waterhouse Cooper lecture theatre in the Management School of the University of Waikato. We are grateful for the University to provide the theatre free of charge for the full day. Former Mayor of Hamilton Margaret Evans acted as the Secretary-General. About 60 students from various schools took part in the assembly. They came dressed in the national costumes of the countries which were allocated to them. They debated the issues and passed the resolution at the end.



Students participating in the Model UN Assembly, includes Former Mayor of Hamilton Margaret Evans (right front), September 2017

I have done my best to keep the organisation alive with my full-time work and I will continue to do so with the help of the few volunteers.





# Making history at the United Nations

**JAN BEAGLE** originally planned to be a lawyer but got “taken by history” and how its lessons could help build a better world. Now one of the most senior figures at the United Nations, based in New York, she graduated from the University of Auckland in 1974 with a Master of Arts with first class honours in History. It was to be the launching pad for a stellar career in multilateral diplomacy spanning four decades.

In Auckland recently to receive her Distinguished Alumna Award, she paid tribute to the early inspiration she gained from renowned history teachers like Dame Judith Binney and the late Sir Keith Sinclair.

“I became very interested in research and primary sources in particular: how you find patterns in history and how the lessons of the past could inform the future. I found it very exciting.”

Jan went on to work for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, attracted in part by the chance to be involved in a fascinating period of New Zealand history. “It was a new government, a new Prime Minister (Norman Kirk), and a very new focus on foreign policy away from Europe and the US and towards our own region.”

While at the Ministry she was selected to write speeches for Prime Minister Kirk. “I was 22 and I had just come out with my master’s, and he had little formal education but was probably the most well-read person I had ever met. He could find quotes for speeches from almost anywhere. I still think of him sometimes when I’m writing speeches.”

She spent five years as a delegate in New Zealand’s mission to the United Nations where she quickly demonstrated her

versatility and wide-ranging strengths. “New Zealand is a very small player, but it punches above its weight. And if you’re in a small delegation and you’re the most junior one you basically have to do everything.”

She started off working on disarmament at a time when New Zealand was promoting resolutions for a comprehensive test ban and a nuclear free zone in the Pacific; then economic and social development, human rights and a range of political issues.

“I was just 25 when I was sent to Cuba. There was a UN committee that was meeting there to decide whether the African group of member states would boycott the Montreal Olympic Games because the All Blacks had toured South Africa. And of course the decision had been taken long before I got there – I was very alone there.

“But years later in Geneva I met the person who at that time was head of the anti-Apartheid movement and most critical of New Zealand. He was by now the ambassador of South Africa to the UN in Geneva and worked closely with us. So there’s a good side to every experience.”

Jan joined the UN Secretariat in 1979 in the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs. She has gone on to hold a number of key positions including Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management (2005- 2007), Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (2008-2009), followed by eight years as Deputy Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

In her current role as Under-Secretary-General for Management

she leads the overarching management functions of the UN Secretariat, driving change to help the organisation best deliver on its international mandate and vision. The role sees her working with over 40,000 civilian staff and some 100,000 peacekeepers across hundreds of duty stations around the world.

Though Jan still considers New Zealand home and tries to visit every year, her approach has always been international and it should be no surprise that this has spilled over to her personal life.

While still a UN delegate, she recalls trying to persuade the Algerian delegation to sponsor the New Zealand resolution on a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. “At that time Algeria had a very different position from New Zealand on disarmament – it was aligned with China and didn’t like our resolution at all. But subsequently that delegate became my husband.

“The reason why I went to the UN to become an international civil servant rather than to continue as a national diplomat was to combine my personal life with my professional life.”

Some 40 years later Jan and her husband Ali, who has since retired as a diplomat, still live together in New York.

As well as multilateralism, another burning passion in Jan’s career has been her advocacy for gender equality.

At UNAIDS she spearheaded a Gender Action Plan that supports concrete measures to increase gender parity. During Jan’s time at UNAIDS, and through acceleration of her Gender Action Plan, UNAIDS saw a significant increase in female Country Directors – from 27 percent in 2013 to 48 percent in April 2017. Jan led the development of uniquely-designed leadership and mentorship programmes for women, which have been heralded as best-practice examples across the UN system.

She is also an International Gender Champion – a member of a global network of 200 female and male leaders established in 2015 to break down barriers and promote gender equality. She has served as the co-chair of the Champions working group on change management and is now a member of the Champions Global Advisory Board.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres this year said achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls were the unfinished business of our time; the world’s greatest human rights challenge.

His comments came as complaints emerged of sexual

harassment in a number of United Nations agencies, and he has asked Jan to lead a system-wide task force now tackling the issue.

In an interview with Radio NZ, Jan said the international #MeToo movement had shown that sexual harassment is pervasive across all industries, countries and cultures “and clearly the UN is not immune from it”.

As a very large, decentralised organisation with staff of some 185 nationalities and duty stations all over the world, the UN is a complex multicultural workplace. It is imperative to set a clear tone from the top, she says, “which we do have from the Secretary General: zero tolerance. But also that we make clear what the expectations are, and that we put policies and measures in place to ensure we do have a workplace that is inclusive and free of harassment.

“[Sexual harassment] is all about abuse of power and one of the issues that we have to look at is gender parity in the workplace. The Secretary General has made this a priority. We want to have more women in senior decision-making positions because this does definitely change the nature of a workplace.

“We also have strengthened our whistle-blowing policy. And we’ve made it very clear that there will be protection for those who come forward.”

Though there is still more to do, Jan is encouraged by other successes including the achievement of gender parity among the senior-most group of 40 advisors for the first time in the UN’s history; the establishment of clear numerical targets for departments; mentoring for younger women, as well as programmes for women who work in middle management “because that is often a ceiling that is very hard to break through, between middle and senior-most management”. The organisation has also put in place mandatory anti-harassment training.

While leadership and direction will always be crucial, fully achieving gender equality calls for wide buy-in right across an organisation’s staff. “It’s up to each of us, wherever we sit, whatever job we have, to ensure we support other women,” Jan says.

Photo caption: Secretary-General António Guterres swears in Jan Beagle as Under-Secretary-General for Management. Photo @UNPhoto

This article was first published in the University of Auckland’s alumni magazine, Ingenio, Autumn 2018, and written by Pete Barnao. We thank the magazine and Jan for permission to reprint the article here.

## The United Nations Association of New Zealand welcomes our new members to the National Council and National Executive.

We also welcome Transparency International New Zealand as an affiliated organisation. We sincerely thank Paul Oliver, who served on the National Executive for many years as Treasurer, and Nedra Fu as National Council member, and hope they will continue their involvement with the association.



Members of the National Council, April 2018. Photo @Pedram Pirnia

**Special Officer Tangata Whenua and NC representative on the NX–Dr Mere Skerrett** is Māori (Indigenous to Aotearoa/New Zealand). An enthusiastic supporter of the regeneration of indigenous languages, she has dedicated much of her career to establishing and working in the Māori medium education sector. She is interested in equity issues, women's issues and children's rights. Mere hails from Waikato Maniapoto (Ngāti Māhuta, Ngāti Unu), Te Arawa (Ngāti Pikiao, Ngāti Te Rangiunuora), Mataatua (Ngāti Pukeko) and Ngāi Tahu (Ngāti Ruahikihiki, Ngāti Rakiāmoa), and currently is a senior lecturer and Victoria University of Wellington, Aotearoa/New Zealand.

**Special Officer Human Rights–Dr Paula Pereda-Perez** is originally, from Santiago, Chile, and came to New Zealand in 2004. She holds a PhD in sociology from Victoria University of Wellington, with research interests and expertise in development and gender studies, intercultural education, migration and human rights. Paula has worked as a researcher, lecturer and consultant in academia (Victoria University of Wellington, the Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, Massey University, University of Auckland and

Boston University). Since 2013, she has worked as a faculty adjunct for the online Master's in Human Development at the Latin American School of Social Sciences, sponsored by the UN Development Program. In the public sector, Paula has worked as a research analyst for the Auckland Council and the Ministry of Social Development. Currently, she is Senior Researcher at Oranga Tamariki Ministry for Children. Paula is passionate about the contribution that engaged research can make to the development and wellbeing of society, and especially human rights.

**National Secretary–Arielle Tallulah Tracey** is a student at Victoria University of Wellington pursuing a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts (Economics and International Relations). Having completed an internship with UNA NZ, Arielle has deepened her relationship with our Association through her election to the National Council position of secretary.

Arielle's particular interests include gender equality, indigenous rights and prison reform, volunteering for JustSpeak and the Community Justice Project in her spare time, "I am deeply passionate about

Aotearoa and our people, and ambitious about the opportunities we have available as a country. I hope that my ongoing engagement with UNA NZ will continue to provide rich learning opportunities, valuable relationships, and support the ongoing message of the United Nations in New Zealand".

**Special Officer Climate Change and Environment–Barbara Bedeschi-Lewando**

**UN Youth President and on the NX–Bokyong Mun** Kia Ora everyone, my name is Bokyong and I am the National President for UN Youth this year. I have been involved with UN Youth for a couple of years now, and my biggest hope is to finish 2018 with UN Youth and our Volunteers in a better, more positive and influential place than they currently are. I'm in in my fourth year of studying Law/Chemistry down in Dunedin. Aside from being in the law library, I love the outdoors, going tramping, food and cats! I am honoured to be involved with UNA NZ through UN Youth and look forward to working with, and getting to know members of UNA throughout New Zealand.

## Transparency International NZ and UNA NZ sign affiliation agreement

Transparency International New Zealand (TINZ) and the United Nations Association of New Zealand (UNA NZ) have made an agreement to fully affiliate and co-operate with each other.

TINZ chair Suzanne Snively and UNA NZ president Peter Nichols signed the affiliation agreement at a meeting of TINZ's National Board in Wellington on Monday 23 July 2018.

Both organisations have common interests in promoting ethics in government and business, and advocating for effective integrity systems to maintain trust and confidence in New Zealand. This affiliation relationship can contribute greatly to the success of maintaining high standards of ethics, of being vigilant about the enforcement of anti-corruption measures and of being able to demonstrate how training and leadership can make a difference.

A key opportunity is the facilitation of connections to communicate and network across all of the members of both organisations. This will enhance their capacity to promote knowledge about ways to prevent corruption and build strong integrity systems.

TINZ's vision is a world of systems that can be trusted, in which government, politics, business, civil society and the daily lives of people are free of corruption. TINZ believes that good governance, robust integrity systems and transparency are the best ways to stop corruption. TINZ believes that a fairer, safer and more sustainable world can be achieved only with the elimination of corruption.

The United Nations Association of New Zealand (UNA NZ) is the people's movement for the United Nations in New Zealand. UNA New Zealand promotes the understanding and education about and engagement with it. The UN, brings all cultures and peoples together to address global issues such as world peace, poverty, human rights, and justice. UNA New Zealand is a national community volunteer organisation and a registered charity, made up of regional branches, a youth association, and affiliates across New Zealand. Nationally UNA's activities include forums with visiting UN notaries and panel discussions with experts around New Zealand.



Standing L-R are: Gus van de Roer (TINZ Director), Luke Qin (TINZ Member with Delegated Authority for Affiliations). Seated L-R are: John Morgan (UNA NZ Special Officer for Human Rights - recently retired), Suzanne Snively (TINZ Chair), Peter Nichols (UNA NZ President), Joy Dunsheath (UNA NZ immediate past President)





### **National President**

Peter Nichols

### **Immediate Past President**

Joy Dunsheath

### **Vice Presidents**

Pauline McKay, Clark Ehlers,  
Kennedy Graham

### **Treasurer**

Paul Oliver (until July '18), Pete  
Cowley

### **Secretary**

Arielle Tallulah Tracey

### **Communications officer**

Emma Densem

### **National Council Representatives**

Mere Skerrett, Karim Dickie

### **Special Officers**

Alyn Ware - SO on Peace &  
Security  
Pedram Pirnia - SO for SDGs

Paula Pereda-Perez - SO for  
Human Rights

Joy Dunsheath - SO for  
WFUNA Liaison

Negar Partow - SO Security  
Council

Kennedy Graham - SO for UN  
Renewal

Jean-Paul Bizoza - SO for  
Humanitarian Affairs

Rob Clarke - SO Education

Mere Skerrett - SO for Tangata  
Whenua

Barbara Bedeschi-Lewando  
- SO for Climate Change &  
Environment

Luke Santamaria - SO for  
Membership

### **Ordinary Members**

John Morgan, Hana Mereraiha  
White

### **Branch Presidents**

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**Waikato** - Mano Manoharan

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Margaret Knight, Gita Brooke,  
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AFS Intercultural Programmes  
New Zealand

Amnesty International NZ

Association of Former Officials  
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NZ

Baha'i Community of NZ

Council for International  
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Hui E! Community Aotearoa

Humanist Society of NZ

International Physicans for  
the Prevention of Nuclear War  
(IPPNW)

National Council of Women NZ

National Consultative  
Committee on Disarmament  
(NCCD)

NZ Association of Rationalists  
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NZ Educational Institute (NZEI)

NZ Esperanto Association Inc

NZ Federation of Woman's  
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Operation Peace through Unity  
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PanPacific & SE Asia Women's  
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Peace Foundation NZ

Response

Soka Gakkai International  
New Zealand (SGI NZ)

Soroptimist International NZ

The Asian Network  
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The Australian New Zealand  
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UNICEF New Zealand

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### **Patrons**

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The Rt Hon Helen Clark ONZ

### **We the Peoples Foundation**

Trustees: Paul Oliver,  
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To make a donation or a  
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of UNA NZ please contact  
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Photo caption above: Members of the National Council, April 2018.