



(Left to Right). [San Francisco: Founding of UN](#) – Human Rights Champion [Eleanor Roosevelt](#) – UN S-G [Dag Hammarskjöld](#)
 UNICEF Director: [James Grant](#) – legendary Peace negotiator: [Sergio Vieira de Mello](#) – UN Nobel Prize-winner [Kofi Annan](#)
 UN Staff: the [UNsung heroes](#) – [“I hate the UN!”](#) skit – [“Happy Birthday UN”](#) from Gorky Park, Moscow;

THE UN OF THE FUTURE

Our world does not have a Climate, Peace or Biodiversity problem: it has a global governance problem. The 2022 Biodiversity Review expresses it thus: *“Our world lacks the global infrastructure to protect the global commons...”* The UN is not that infrastructure: in its current form, it cannot save Life on Earth for Future Generations. Once you know a little about the UN in its current form, you can start the journey that your generation has to make to create the global institutions that can protect the planet’s Biosphere, or environment, so that it can sustain life for your children and grand-children. Peace Child International has created a number of resources to empower teachers and students to explore how young people can succeed in re-inventing the UN to rise to the challenges of the 21st Century – an effort that their parents and grand-parents generations have spectacularly failed to do.

THE RESOURCES BACKGROUND – THE SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

“The choices we make, or fail to make, today could result in Breakdown - or a Breakthrough to a greener, safer future.”
 - António Guterres, UN Secretary-General, announcing the Summit of the Future

All Governments have systems of laws to regulate their citizens’ behaviour supported by courts that administer penalties and prison sentences to enforce them. Corporations have shareholders and Boards of Directors to ensure that they abide by national and international laws. Schools and Universities have Senior Management Teams, Charities have Boards of Trustees; farms and fisheries – pages and pages of detailed regulation with incentives and fines to enforce them.



Everything and every one are regulated. EXCEPT – poor old Planet Earth on which we all depend for life. It has nothing: we can tear down her forests, trash her oceans, pollute her atmosphere, cause catastrophic climate change and equally catastrophic biodiversity loss without fear of reprisal. The Planet’s only protection comes from a UN System that was never designed to protect it. It is under-

funded - spending in a year what national governments spend on their militaries in a few hours! It is powerless, marginalised and well beyond its sell-by date.

If we are to survive, reform of this global governance system is not an option: it's an imperative. The Summit of the Future in September 2024 – with its hopeful Declaration on Future Generations – was designed to herald that reform.