



Bosco Marengo, 6-7 November 2008

“Human Rights and Democracy in a Globalized World”

PARTICIPANTS' SHORT BIOGRAPHIES

Anatoly Adamishin is now in the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, he has a more than 40 years' record in diplomatic service, holding many key positions in succession, including Deputy Foreign Minister of the former USSR; USSR (and Russian) Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Italian Republic; First Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation; Ambassador to the United Kingdom; and Federal Minister of Cooperation with CIS countries. Mr. Adamishin has been counsel to the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Joint-Stock Financial Corporation Sistema and Research fellow of Institute of Europe at the Russian Academy of Sciences. He has been an active participant in the UN Commission of Human Right, UNESCO and OSCE. At present he is Visiting Professor at the University of Virginia. He is the author of, among others, “Fall and uprising of a great power” (1995) and “White sun of Angola” (2002).

Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa is the principal and founding partner of Haya Rashed Al Khalifa Law Firm. She was one of the first two women in Bahrain to practice law when she was admitted as a lawyer in Bahrain in 1979. Prior to setting up her practice, she was the vice chairwoman of the International Bar Association from 1997 to 1999. She was the former counsel at the Bahrain Ministry of State for Legal Affairs. She has been admitted to the Court of Cassation and the Constitutional Court of Bahrain and is a member of the Bahrain Bar Association. From 2000 to 2004 she was Bahrain's Ambassador to France and its nonresident Ambassador to Belgium, Switzerland and Spain, becoming the first Bahraini woman Ambassador. She is also Bahrain's permanent delegate to UNESCO. She has been the President of the 61st Session of the United Nations General Assembly, which closed in September 2007. She is the third woman to hold the position. She is the recipient of several notable awards, the most recent of which include the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Special Award, 2007.

Pietro Antonioli is an elementary particle physicist working in Bologna, Italy, as senior researcher for the Italian Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN). He worked in experiments based in different international laboratories. At CERN, Geneva, he is currently engaged in one of the four main experiments of the new Large Hadron Collider. Since 2006 he is a member of the national INFN Scientific Committee for Nuclear Physics as coordinator for the INFN Bologna section. He is an Amnesty International (AI) member since the 1980s. At local level he promoted human rights education projects and development of networks of lawyers and health professionals. At national level he coordinated major campaigns during the 1990s and then trained country and thematic coordinators. Internationally he was a member from 2001 to 2003 of the Standing Committee on Research and Action and he then worked as consultant of the International Secretariat for some months.

Within Amnesty he served in different board positions. During the 1990s he joined the AI Italy board, where he served as vice-chair. At the international level in 2004 he joined the board of the AI European Union Association, which he became chair of in 2006. He was elected to the International Executive Committee of AI in August 2007 by the International Council of the organization.

Alberto Antoniotto is Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Turin at the Faculty of Political Sciences and at the Faculty of Strategic Studies. He is Director of the Master in Peacekeeping Management, University of Torino and President up to 2007 of the Center for African Studies. He carried out field researches in Africa (Tanzania and Somalia) on rural development, Resettlements, traditional medicine. He worked in development projects with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with UNHCR.

Bassam Aramin started his struggle against the Israeli occupation when he was 13 years old. He spent 7 years in the Israeli jails between 1985-1992. He is the co-founder of Combatants for Peace, in 2005 and Chairman of Alquds for Democracy and Dialogue since 2006. Mr Aramin became a member of the Israeli Palestinian Bereaved Family Forum since 2007, after he lost his 10 years old daughter Abir, killed by an Israeli border policemen in front of her school on the 16th January 2007. Mr Aramin was awarded the journalism Award for 2007 by Search for Common Ground Org, the Bremen Peace Award for Unknown Peace Worker, in Germany in 2007, Goodwill Ambassador of Children of Peace in the UK. He spoke at more than 70 meetings in Israel, in high schools, universities, house meetings and wrote many articles for peace and justice.

Enrique Baron Crespo is a Lawyer and Economist. P.H.D. in Law and Economics (Universidad Complutense de Madrid. (UCM. He also holds a Degree in Commercial Sciences (ICADE University-Madrid) and a Diplôme de l'Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales (ESSEC). He is President of the Istituto Universitario Euroforum and Member of the European Parliament, Former President of the European Parliament (1989-92) and of the Socialist Group in the European Parliament. Currently Chairman to the International Trade Committee and to the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr Baron Crespo has been former Minister of the Spanish Government, which finished the negotiations of the accession to the EC. Nowadays he is a Member of the Constitutional Committee. His last publications are " Europa, Pasión y Razón (2004); "La Constitucionalización del Poder Legislativo de la Unión Europea" (2005), as well as several articles about Europe.

Jona Bargur holds a Ph.D in Engineering Economic Systems, at Stanford University, California, USA. He became a member of the Parents' Circle-Families Forum-Bereaved Families Supporting Peace, Reconciliation and Tolerance in 1997, about a year after his son, Ziv, got killed in line of his duties, serving as a commander in the IDF, two months before his 23rd birthday. His personal history during the last twenty years is the history of a peace activist starting at the time of "Operation Peace for Galilee" the official name for the First Lebanon War, which started on the 6th of June 1982. He is the author of more than 100 articles, published in the Media and has been interviewed at many Radio and TV programs; delivered hundreds of lectures at schools and political meetings. His commitment being the one to bring the message of Peace and Reconciliation to any group of audience.

Piero Bassetti has been Board member and Councilor at Milan Town Council from 1956 to 1967; he was the first President of the Regional Council of Lombardy from 1970 to 1974. Member of Italian Parliament from 1976 to 1982, he was also the President of the Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture in Milan (1982-1997) as well as President of the Union of Italian Chambers of Commerce (1983-1992). From 1993 to 1999 he was the President of the Association of Chambers of Commerce Abroad (CCIEE). Currently President of the Director's Board of the ASERI - School of Economics and International Relations. He is also President of Globus et Locus, an association

of institutions whose objective is to analyze global and local relations and President of the Italian Group of the Trilateral Commission. Author of numerous political essays and economic studies, he has written, together with Giacomo Corna Pellegrini, "Le Redini del Potere" (Ceschina, 1959), "Occidente scomodo" (Vallecchi, 1978), "Italia si è rotta", (Laterza, 1996), "Globali e locali!" a cura di Sergio Roic (Giampiero Casagrande).

Lelio Bentes Correa holds a Master of Laws (LLM) in International Human Rights Law from the University of Essex (UK) in 2001; Mr. Correa has worked as a Labour Prosecutor in Brazil from 1999 to 2003, when he was appointed to his current post of Judge at the highest Labour Court of the country. In 2006 he was appointed member of the Committee of Experts in the Application of Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labour Organization, position that he currently holds. Mr. Correa belongs to the consultative board of NGOs in the area of children's rights and is a former member of the international steering committee of the Global March Against Child Labour (1997-1999). He is also committed to Human Rights education, having taught at local Universities, training courses for Judges and Public Prosecutors. Mr. Correa has delivered lectures and participated in several seminars for lawyers, law students and the public in general. His main area of interest is Labour Rights, with special attention to the combat to child labour and forced labour, having published articles on this subject.

Kjell Magne Bondevik is the founder and President of the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights. He was Prime Minister of Norway 1997-2000 and 2001-2005, Minister of Foreign Affairs 1989-1990, Minister of Church and Education 1983-1986, and State Secretary of The Office of the Prime Minister 1972-73. Mr. Bondevik was member of the Parliament from 1973-2005 representing the Christian Democratic Party, and was leader of the Christian Democratic Party 1983-1995. Mr. Bondevik is a Theological Candidate from Norway's Free Faculty of Theology. In 1979 he was ordained as a priest in the Lutheran Church of Norway. He served as the UN Secretary General's Special Humanitarian Envoy for the Horn of Africa during 2006-2007.

Pascal Boniface is the founding Director of IRIS (Institut de Relations Internationales et Stratégiques - Institute for International and Strategic Relations). He is professor of international relations in the Institut d'Etudes européennes (Institute for European Studies) in the University of Paris-8. He has published or edited more than forty books dealing with International Relations, Nuclear Deterrence and Disarmament, European Security, French International Policy and Sport in the International Relations. He makes frequent contributions on International Policy to reviews on geopolitics and to national and international media. Mr Boniface has been a member of the UN Advisory Board on Disarmament matters from 2001 to 2005. In 2007, he wrote a report to the special Representative of the UN Secretary General to West Africa dealing with Security and the process of construction of peace in West Africa.

Jim Boumelha started his journalistic career in scientific publishing. He worked for 15 years at Pergamon Press, Robert Maxwell's Oxford-based publishing house, editing scientific journals. He is currently working as a freelance journalist, editing newsletters and writing for magazines and online newspapers, and specializing in media, race relations and current affairs. Jim has a detailed knowledge of many countries' media through his nine years in the leadership of the Brussels-based International Federation of Journalists where he was, last year, elected its president.

Mercedes Bresso is President of the Piedmont Region since April 2005, she is also member of the Regions Committee, the Parliament of European Local Powers. In June 2004 she was elected Member of the European Parliament. From 1995 to 2004, she was President of the Province of Turin and President of the Union of Piedmont Provinces. Mrs. Bresso is a Professor of Economics at the Turin Polytechnic, she has taught in Pavia, Udine, and at Turin University. Mrs Bresso is an expert in environmental economics, which she has taught in various universities and courses in Italy and abroad, and the author of books and essays. She has also worked in the field of agrarian economics and tourist economics. She has filled the position of President of the World

Federation of United Cities, of the World Coordination of the City Associations (CAMVAL) and of METREX, the Network of European Metropolitan Areas. She has been President of the Piedmont Committee for the European Constitution and chairperson for the Franco Italian Alps Conference (CAFI). From 1985 to 1995 Mrs. Bresso was Piedmont Regional Advisor, and in 1994-95 she worked as Regional Councillor for Territorial Planning and Parks.

Paolo Calzini is currently Visiting Professor of European Studies Johns Hopkins at the University Bologna Center and Scientific consultant at Globus et Locus Foundation, Milan. He is Former Professor of International Relations at Milan University and Bologna University; School of Advanced International Studies, Washington D.C.; State Institute in International Studies, Moscow. Professor Calzini has held conferences among others at Nato Defense College, Rome; Wilton Park Conference; Centro Alti Studi Difesa, Rome; Gorbachev Foundation, Moscow; Bios Cologne. Among his publications "Il conflitto cino-sovietico" (1970); "La rivoluzione russa. Prodomi e premesse" (1980); "Stato, Nazione e comunismo" (1994); "Ordine internazionale e il sistema degli stati" (2006).

Luigi Guidobono Cavalchini is President of UniCredit Private Banking. Graduated in law at the University of Turin, he started a diplomatic career in 1961. Between 1964 and 1972 he worked as Permanent Representative of Italy for the CEE in Brussels and then became Consul of Italy in Bern. After being Head Secretary of the General Direction of the Economics Affairs, between 1972 and 1976, he became First Counselor of the Permanent Representation of Italy for OCSE in Paris, and afterwards for the Italian Embassy in Paris until 1979. Plenipotentiary Minister of Second Class in 1980 and of First Class in 1985, he became Head of the Cabinet for Foreign Affairs in 1985. Appointed Ambassador in 1987, he was General Secretary of Presidency of the Ministers Council between 1989 and 1991, then Ambassador in Paris from 1991 to 1995 and Permanent Representative of Italy for the European Union in Brussels since the same year.

Giulietto Chiesa is Member of the European Parliament since 2004, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on International Trade and Member of the temporary Commission on Environment. He is one of the most famous Italian journalists and author of several books of political content, many of them regarding the Russian transition to democracy. For twenty years correspondent from Moscow for the national newspapers "L'Unità" (1980-1990) and "La Stampa" (1990-2000), presently he is one of the most prestigious columnists. Among his last books: "Superclan" (Feltrinelli, 2003), The Infinite War (Feltrinelli, 2002), Afghanistan Anno Zero (Guerini, 2001) and Genova-G8 reportage on the facts of Genoa, published by Einaudi in 2001. In 2002 he received the Prize Culture of Peace. In 2005 he published the book "Cronache Marxziane" (Fazi) and in 2007 "The secret prisons of CIA in Europe" (Piemme) and "Zero - The reason why the official version on September 11th is a fake". He has recently promoted the coming out of the movie "Zero - Inquiry on September 11th".

Andrea Comba is President of CRT Foundation and Professor of International Law and Law of the European Union at the University of Turin. From 1977 to 1997 he was President of Turin's University Institute for European Studies. Barrister at the Supreme Court and at the Council of State. Former Member of the first Commission on Competition of the Italian Ministry of Industry. Author of books and essays on international organizations, international economic law and European Law.

Alfred-Maurice de Zayas studied History and Law at Harvard, obtained his JD from Harvard and a Dr.phil. in History from Göttingen. He is a retired member of the New York and Florida Bar, practiced law in New York in the firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett and served 22 years in the United Nations Division/Centre/Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, where he was Secretary of the Human Rights Committee and Chief of Petitions. He has been visiting professor at the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales in Geneva, the Universities of DePaul in Chicago, UBC in Vancouver, Trier (Germany), Alcala de Henares (Spain), and is

currently Professor of international law at the Geneva School of Diplomacy. He has written seven books, including the forthcoming "The Case-Law of the United Nations Human Rights Committee" (N.P.Engel), together with Justice Jakob Möller. He is a member of the Conseil Scientifique of the Académie Internationale du Droit Constitutionnel and President of the P.E.N. Centre Suisse romand.

Doudou Diène has been Deputy-Representative of Senegal to UNESCO and the Executive Board, Vice-President and Secretary of the African Group and Group of 77. From 1976 to 2001 he has covered several positions within the UNESCO, such as Deputy Assistant Director General for External Relations and Director of the UNESCO Liaison Office with the United Nations, the Permanent Missions and other UN departments in New York. He has represented UNESCO at the General Assembly of the United Nations and the General Assembly of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Mr Diène has been Responsible for activities related to interreligious dialogue and director of the Department of Intercultural Dialogue and Pluralism for a Culture of Peace. Focal point for "Dialogue among Civilizations". In 2002 he was elected by the United Nations Human Rights Commission as UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and in the same year he was also elected as vice president of the International Committee of Social Sciences and Philosophy. In 2005 Mr Diène was elected as member of the International Peace Prize Committee.

Paolo Filippi is the President of the Province of Alessandria. He graduated in Law at the Università Cattolica of Milan, he was Municipal Councilor in Casale Monferrato between 1986 and 1995 and then, since 1997, Councilor for Agriculture, European Projects, Economic Activities, Balance, Promotion of Local Products. He is also President of the Institute for Cooperation and Development of Alessandria Province and member of the I Commission of the Union of the Italian Provinces for Economic Development and of the Federal Council of the League for Local Autonomy.

Hall Gardner is Professor of the Department of International and Comparative Politics at the American University of Paris. After completing both his M.A. (1982) and Ph.D. (1987) at The Johns Hopkins Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), he taught at the The Johns Hopkins-SAIS-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies (1988-89) and at Johns Hopkins SAIS-Washington (1989-90). He is author of "American Global Strategy and the War on Terrorism" (Ashgate, 2005) and "Dangerous Crossroads: Europe, Russia and the Future of NATO" (Praeger 1997), "Averting Global War: Regional Challenges, Overextension, and Options for American Strategy" (Palgrave, 2007), among many other works on global peace and security.

Alvaro Gil Robles has been Professor of Administrative Law, Law School, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, 1978; Professor at the Human Rights Institute, Universidad Complutense de Madrid and Professor for Ph.D. Students, Law School, Universidad Complutense de Madrid. He is a Member of the Board of Lawyers in Madrid since 1968. He was elected by the Congress and the Senate, National Ombudsman, 1988-1993. Mr Gil Robles was Commissioner for Human Rights at the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, from 15 October 1999 to 31 March 2006. Currently he is director of the Center of Studies of the Valsain Foundation and Co-President of the Spanish-Russian Forum. He is Member of the Spanish Association for Human Rights, former Chairman of the Spanish Committee Helping Refugees (CEAR) and Vice-Chairman of the CEAR Foundation where HRM the Queen of Spain is Honorary Chairperson. He has been involved as consultant in the preparatory work leading to the Earth Charter, The Hague, 1995. Mr Gil Robles is author and co-author of 16 books, 22 articles on human rights, the figure of the Ombudsman, and administrative law, in specialised publications in Spain and other countries, and 94 conferences given in specialised seminars and courses on public law and liberties.

Mikhail S. Gorbachev is the Former President of the USSR, elected in 1988 and Nobel Peace Laureate in 1990. First elected as a Deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR in 1970, in 1971

he became a Member and in 1978 Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party. In 1985 he was appointed General Secretary of the Supreme Soviet Communist Party and tried to restructure the economy of the country launching the Perestrojka process. He also enhanced democratic development by extending individual and collective liberties (Glasnost: transparency), finding considerable resistance in the opposition. He brought great political victories in foreign policy, through his commitment to the cause of peace and cooperation, which led to the signing of the treaty with Ronald Reagan for the elimination of the euro-missiles (Washington, December 1987). He resigned in 1991 after a failed coup organised by the conservative fringe of the Communist Party. He is the Founder and President of The World Political Forum.

Andrei Grachev is graduated in History, he was Editor of the international magazine "World Youth", Visiting Professor at La Sorbonne (Paris) and Kyoto, and Senior Researcher at St Antony's College, Oxford. He was even Deputy Director on the International Department of the Central Committee of CPSU and assistant and official Spokesman of the President of the USSR Mikhail Gorbachev. Author of several books, he's presently member of Russian UN Association, Founding member of the Council for Foreign and Defence Policy of Russia, Adviser at the Gorbachev Foundation (Moscow), Expert of the Association Progress of Management (Paris) and Chairman of the Scientific Committee of The World Political Forum.

Edoardo Greppi is Professor of International Law and Professor of European Union Law, Faculty of Law, Turin University, he is also Member of the Council of the Italian Society of International Law (SIDI-ISIL), of the Italian Society for International Organisation (SIOI), and of its Committee for Human Rights. Full Member of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, he is also author of books on International Trade in Services and on War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity in International Law, and of essays and articles on various issues of International Law, International Organisation and European Law.

Stéphane Hessel is Ambassador of France, with General De Gaulle during WWII, when he was deported to KZ Dora, Mr Hessel entered UN service in 1946, participating then in the drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Permanent Representative of France to the UN (1977-81), he has been the French Representative to the UN Commission for Human Rights (1990-1993). He is also Founding Member and Vice Chairman of the International Ethical, Scientific and Political Collegium and author of "Danse avec le Siècle" (Seuil, 1996); "O ma memoire" (2006); "Citoyen sans frontières" (2007). He is Grand Officier of the Legion d'Honneur.

Mohammad Bassam Hubeichi is a founding member of the Palestinian Human Rights Organization (PHRO), which was established in Lebanon in 1997, & works for defending & protecting the rights of the Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. He holds the position of Public Relations Director since 2002, Coordinator of the Monitoring and Documenting Human Rights Violations Program since 2005 and he was elected as a Treasurer in the PHRO's General Assembly held in February 2007. Besides to his activism in Lebanon which includes following up on the violations taking place within the Palestinian Communities in Lebanon it is noteworthy to mention that Mr. Hubeichi is authorized by the Lebanese Republic (Ministry of Interior Affairs and Ministry of Justice) to enter to the Lebanese Prisons and detention centers and follow up on the situation of the Palestinian Prisoners.

His Holiness and Beatitude Ilia II is the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia, Archbishop of Mtskheta and Tbilisi (Irakli Ghudushauri-Shiolashvili). In 1952 he entered the Moscow Theological Seminary. He took monastic vows in 1957 and was given the name Ilia in honour of St Prophet Elias. Soon afterwards he was ordained hierodeacon and in 1959 hieromonk. Hieromonk Ilia graduated from the Moscow Theological Academy in 1960. He returned to his homeland and was appointed a clergyman at the Batumi Cathedral. For his devoted ministry he was promoted to the rank of hegumen in 1961 and later was elevated to the rank of archimandrite. On 26 August 1963 the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia His Holiness and Beatitude Ephrem II appointed him

Bishop of Shemokmedi and vicar of the Catholicos-Patriarch. From 1963 to 1972 he was the first rector of the Theological Seminary in Mtskheta - the only theological institution at that time. In 1967 Bishop Ilia was assigned to the Eparchy of Abkhazia where he was elevated to the rank of metropolitan in 1969. On 23 December he was elected Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia. On 25 December of the same year he was enthroned and was given the name Ilia II. In 1978-1983 Catholicos-Patriarch Ilia II was the President of the World Council of Churches. His Holiness and Beatitude Ilia II was awarded by the highest awards of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Orthodox Patriarchs of Antioch, Jerusalem, Alexandria, Russia, Georgia, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, the highest awards of the Orthodox Churches of Poland, Czechoslovakia and nearly all the local Orthodox Churches. He was also elected Honorary Doctor of the Tbilisi State University and in 2006 honorary member of the Georgian Academy of Sciences. The Georgian state awarded His Holiness the Order of Davit Aghmashenebeli and the Holy Synod of the Church of Georgia awarded him Order of the Robe of the Saviour.

Ramin Jahanbegloo received his B.A. and M.A. in Philosophy, History and Political Science and later his Ph.D. in Philosophy from the Sorbonne University. In 1993 he taught at the Academy of Philosophy in Tehran. He has been a researcher at the French Institute for Iranian Studies and a fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University. Ramin Jahanbegloo taught in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto from 1997-2001. He later served as the head of the Department of Contemporary Studies of the Cultural Research Centre in Tehran and, in 2006-07, was Rajni Kothari Professor of Democracy at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies in New Delhi, India. In April 2006 Dr. Jahanbegloo was arrested in Tehran Airport charged with preparing a velvet revolution in Iran. He was placed in solitary confinement for four months and released on bail. He is presently a Professor of Political Science and a Research Fellow in the Centre for Ethics at University of Toronto and a board member of PEN Canada. Among his twenty books in English, French and Persian are "Conversations with Isaiah Berlin" (Peter Halban, 1992), "Gandhi: Aux Sources de la Nonviolence" (Felin, 1999), "Penser la Nonviolence" (UNESCO, 2000), "Iran: Between Tradition and Modernity" (Lexington Books, 2004) "India Revisited: Conversations on Contemporary India" (Oxford University Press, 2007), "The Clash of Intolerances" (Har-Anand 2007) and very recently "The Spirit of India" (Penguin 2008).

Jean-Claude Javillier is a tenured professor of law (1973). He taught labour law and comparative industrial relations in Bordeaux (Bordeaux IV), and then in Paris (University of Paris II). A visiting professor at the Universities of Leuven, Oxford, Ottawa and Sao Paulo, he has also participated regularly in activities of the Japanese Institute of Labour in Tokyo. He has been President of the French Association of Industrial Relations Studies and a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Industrial Relations Studies (AIRP, ILO, Geneva). He held the chair of the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the International Labour Organization (Chair David MORSE, University of Liège - International Institute of Social Studies, International Labour Office, Geneva, 1993). From 2001 until 2004, he was engaged as Director of the International Standards Department of the International Labour Office, in Geneva. From 2005 until 2007, he was appointed as a Senior Adviser at the International Institute Labour Studies, International Labour Organisation, Geneva. He is presently Professor Emeritus at the University of Paris-II and Advisor at the Regulation Department, Sciences-Po, Paris.

Kristiina Kangaspunta is Executive Officer of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), heading the Applied Research Programme and acting as the Deputy Director of the Institute. UNICRI, located in Turin, is one of the United Nations institutes focusing on crime, criminal justice and security. Before UNICRI, she worked with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna, as the Chief of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit. Ms Kangaspunta moved to UNODC from the Ministry of Justice of Finland where she worked at the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI). She has also held a researcher position at the University of Helsinki.

Jan Kavan has been a student leader of the 1960s, Mr.Kavan had to emigrate to England in 1969. There he studied at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and at St. Antony's College, Oxford University. Mr.Kavan founded the Palach Press Agency that served as the main press agency for human rights movement Charter 77. He founded the Jan Palach Information and Research Trust (JPIRT), the East European Cultural Foundation (EECF) and the prestigious quarterly the East European Reporter. Mr Kavan returned to Prague in November 1989 and was elected to the Federal Assembly (Parliament). He has been Minister of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister (1998-2002); President of the United Nations General Assembly (2002-3). Senator (1996-2000), Deputy Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament (2002-2006) and foreign policy adviser to the President of the Parliament (2008-).

Davlat Khudonazarov is a Senior Scholar of the Institute of Oriental Studies of Russian Academy Sciences and Head of the Representative office of the Focus Europe Humanitarian Assistance Foundation in Russia. He was a dissident before the Perestroika and became leader of Democracy Movement of Tajikistan at the end of 1980's. He was elected Office in Film Organizations: First Secretary of the Tajikistan Filmmaker's Union, 1986-1993 and Chairman, USSR Filmmaker's Union (transformed in May 1991 into Confederation of Filmmaker's Unions) from 1990 to 1996 and was candidate for President of Tajikistan receiving over 35% of the popular vote in November 1991. Peacemaker during the Tajik Civil War (1992 - 1996), after that and until now he is human right and humanitarian assistance activist. In 1994-95 he was Peace Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace, and 2004-2005 Galina Starovoitova Fellow in Human Rights and Conflict Resolution at Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington.

Angela Lamborizio is the Mayor of Bosco Marengo, she worked for Telecom, the Italian telephone company, before becoming City Councilor and then Mayor in Bosco Marengo.

Andrea LeBlanc graduated from the University of Illinois School of Veterinary Medicine in June 1968. She married Robert LeBlanc in 1973. He was traveling to the west coast on September 11, 2001. His was the second plane that was flown into the WTC. Thus began Andrea's nightmare and emerging life as an activist, promoting nonviolence through the organization that emerged as a phoenix from the ashes of 9-11, September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows. It is a group of family members of some of those who perished on that day, who embrace Martin Luther King, Jr.'s words: "Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows". Since becoming a member of Peaceful Tomorrows, Andrea has become a spokesperson for their beliefs, speaking in many arenas, representing the philosophy of nonviolence.

Flavio Lotti is the Italian National Coordinator of the Tavola della Pace (Table for Peace), the body that every two years organizes the march for peace between Perugia and Assisi (Italy) joined by hundreds of lay and religious organisations, local authorities and hundred thousands of people. He is also Director of the Co-ordination of Local Authorities for Peace and Human Rights, the structure gathering 650 Italian Cities, Provinces and Regions. He is Member of the International Council of the World Social Forum and of the World Council of the Association "United Cities and Local Government". Founder and member of the Executive Committee of the European net of local authorities for peace in the Middle East, he is also founder and Member of the Bureau of the Municipal Alliance for Peace, gathering the national associations of the Palestinian, Israeli and world local authorities. Member of the International Committee of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, he is among the founders and coordinators of the Italian Coalition against Poverty and founder and coordinator of the ONU Assembly of Peoples and of the Campaign "Reclaim our UN".

Jörg Luther is Ordinary Professor of Public Law at the University of Eastern Piedmont (Alessandria), former research assistant of the Italian Constitutional Court, member of the "Associazione Italiana Costituzionalisti" and "Societas Iuris Publici Europei", appointed member

of the "Commission of Guarantee for the Fundamental Law of the Region of Piedmont". He has published several books on constitutional justice and Europa constituenda (2007), the Italian part of "Fundamental Rights in Europe and North America" (A. Weber) and various essays on constitutional and comparative law, specially "European Perceptions of the Chinese Constitutional History", "Nepal's constitutional transition", "Drafting know how and Fundamental Rights Protection in Germany", "Reasonableness and Dignity", "The Development of the Right to Development", "The Constitutional Development of Somalia: Peace through Constitution?".

Victor Makarov is an active participant in the Latvian public debate. He is the author of several research projects dealing with topical issues of Latvian democratic development. He is one of the leading commentators in the Latvian media on issues of political development and foreign policy. He is Research Director at the Latvian NGO think-tank The Baltic Forum and has for years been one of the organizers of the annual Baltic Forum conferences - a respected regional political forum based in Jurmala, Latvia. Victor Makarov a MA degree in Political Science from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. He has taught at the Stradina University in Latvia and given guest lectures at the University of Helsinki and at the Kent State University's Geneva Faculty.

Federico Mayor Zaragoza holds a Ph. D. in Pharmacy. He has served as Director General of UNESCO from 1987 until 1999. He has held numerous political posts, including Advisor to the President of the Spanish Government, Minister of Education and Science and Deputy in the European Parliament. In 1999, Professor Mayor created the Foundation for a Culture of Peace, serving as its President. In 2002, he was appointed to chair the European Research Council Expert Group (ERCEG), and in 2005, former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan designated him to serve as Co-President of the High Level Group for the Alliance of Civilizations.

Rachid Filali Meknassi holds a Ph.D. in law and is Professor at the University Mohammed V in Rabat since 1978. He is also an expert at the ILO and in this capacity he collaborates at training programs among judges and social partners, organized in Italy and in the Arabian and French-speaking countries. He is Founding Member of the Moroccan organization for Human Rights (1988) and of Transparency Morocco (1996), that he currently chairs. He is a permanent adviser to UNICEF, UNESCO, ILO, FAO and the World Bank carrying notably on social rights, public freedom and sustainable development. He is the author of about forty essays and articles published in Arabic and in French.

Danielle Mitterrand is the former first lady of France and the president of France Libertés - Foundation Danielle Mitterrand. Her husband, François Mitterrand was president of France from 1981 to 1995. She is a world renowned human rights activist and has undertaken fact finding missions to observe alleged human rights abuses in Turkey, Mexico and Bosnia amongst many other places. In the past, her organization, France Libertés Foundation has been supporting human rights projects all over the world. It has helped to build schools in Kurdistan, assisted in AIDS education in Africa, was involved in training doctors in the Amazonian jungle, provided health care grants for Palestinian children, it promoted the right to freedom of opinion and repression in Burma. Ten years ago, taking into account a number of testimonies from and experiences in the field, Danielle became increasingly conscious that the issue of access to water, a global common prerequisite to all human life, would become crucial in the near future. Since then, the France Libertés Foundation is active around the world in the fight against water privatization and for community participation in water management. On a wider basis, it works towards people's access to natural resources essential to their lives and livelihoods. This commitment has led the foundation to develop actions and networks focusing on the need to redefine "wealth" and "progress" in order to work together towards an equitable society based on human well-being and true environmental justice.

Roberto Moisis graduated in Philosophy at the University of Turin and then attended the School of Journalism in Urbino. He is professional journalist since 1994. He was press officer of the President of Piedmont Region and in 1990 he became Head of the Press Office of Piedmont Region. In 1996 he was appointed Head of Cabinet, Manager of Institutional Relationships and Communications of the Province of Turin. Since 2005 he is Head of Cabinet of Piedmont Region, Director of Piedmont Region's Museum of Natural Sciences, and, since January 2006, director of the Institutional Communication of the Regional Council. Moisis has taught at the faculties of Communication and Political Science of the University of Turin, and is the author of books and the director of many reviews.

Maurizio Moreno served as Diplomatic Advisor to the Italian Deputy Prime Minister until May 2008, when he was elected President of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in Sanremo. Permanent Representative of Italy to NATO from 2002 to 2007, Director General for European Countries from 1999 to 2002, he previously served as Ambassador to the Czech Republic (1996-1999) and to Senegal (1988-1992). His initial postings included Basel, Rabat, Bordeaux, the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and the CSCE-CDE in Stockholm. Former President of Circolo del Ministero degli Affari Esteri, Maurizio Moreno serves on the board of SIOI (Società Italiana per l'Organizzazione Internazionale), Rome. He is a member of numerous research institutions, including IAI (Istituto Affari Internazionali), Rome; ISIAO (Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente) Rome; Circolo di Studi Diplomatici, Rome.

Colum de Sales Murphy is the President of the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations. A native of Ireland, he has more than 35 years of experience in the field of human rights and as a political officer of the international community. He served that community (UN and EU) in Somalia, Liberia, Bosnia and in many other war-torn countries. As UN Deputy Head of Political Affairs inside Bosnia during the war in that country he negotiated the 1994 Ceasefire and later Cessation of Hostilities Agreement. In New York, he served on the staff of several Secretaries-General of the United Nations and spent many years in Security Council Affairs and in the human rights field. He has lectured and written extensively on political, security and human rights matters - in which he is well known and regarded as a prominent world specialist. In 2008 he was a leading candidate for the position of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Taslima Nasreen was born in a Muslim family in Mymensingh, East Pakistan. Because the area became independent in 1971, her city of birth is now in the country called Bangladesh. She started writing when she was 15 years old, beginning with poetry in literary magazines, and afterwards herself editing a literary periodical called SeNjuti (1978 - 1983). She was the president of a literary organization while in medical college, where she staged many cultural programs. Earning her medical degree in 1984, she worked in public hospitals for eight years.

Her first book of poetry was published in 1986. Her second became a huge success in 1989, and editors of progressive daily and weekly newspapers suggested that she write regular columns. Next she started writing about women's oppression. With no hesitation she criticized religion, traditions, and the oppressive cultures and customs that discriminate against women.

In 1992 she received the prestigious literary award Ananda from West Bengal in India for her Nirbachito Kolam (Selected Columns), the first writer from Bangladesh to earn that award. Islamic fundamentalists started launching campaign against her in 1990, staging street demonstrations and processions. She was publicly assaulted several times by fundamentalist mobs. In 1993, a fundamentalist organization called Soldiers of Islam issued a fatwa against her, a price was set on her head because of her criticism of Islam, and she was confined to her house. The government confiscated her passport and asked her to quit writing if she hoped to keep her job as a medical doctor in Dhaka Medical College Hospital. She was thus forced to quit her job.

In the meantime two more fatwas were issued by Islamic extremists, two more prices were set on her head, and hundreds of thousands of fundamentalists took to the streets, demanding her death. After long miserable days in hiding, she was finally granted bail but was also forced to leave her country. Taslima has been living in exile in Europe. She has written more than thirty

books of poetry, essays, novels, and short stories in her native language of Bengali. Many have been translated into twenty different languages. After a decade, when she was granted a visa, she visited India, her second home. When she was granted residence permit, she moved there. But only after 3 years of living in West Bengal, because some Muslim extremists wanted her to leave India, the West Bengal Government and the Indian Government forced her to live under house arrest and put pressure on her to leave the country. She was forced to leave India after being confined for seven and half months. Among numerous prizes she has received the UNESCO Prize for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence, the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thoughts from the European Parliament, the Human Rights Award from the Government of France and the Hellman-Hammett Grant from Human Rights Watch, USA.

Antonio Papisca is Professor of International Relations and International Protection of Human Rights at the University of Padua. Chairholder, Unesco Chair in Human Rights, Democracy and Peace. Jean Monnet Professor *ad honorem*. Director of the Quarterly " Pace Diritti Umani/Peace human rights". Member of the Boards of "Transnational Associations" and "The European Union Review". Member of the Scientific Council of the " Società Italiana per l'Organizzazione Internazionale". SIOI. Founding Director of the Interdepartmental Centre on Human Rights and the Rights of Peoples, University of Padua (1982-2007). Founding Director of the "European Master Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation" (1997-2003). He is Member of the European University Council for the EU "Jean Monnet Programme" (Brussels, 1990-). President of the European Community Studies association, ECSA-World (Brussels, 2002-2004)and Member of the Scientific Committee of the first EU Conference on Intercultural Dialogue (2001-2002). Among is numerous publications the last one is "City Diplomacy. The role of local governments in conflict prevention, peace-building, post-conflict reconstruction"(2008).

Riccardo Petrella is graduated in Economics at the University of Florence, he is Professor Emeritus of Globalization at the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium). In 1970 he was appointed director of the European Centre of Social Researches in Vienna, and in 1978 Director the FAST (Forecasting and Assessment in Science and Technology) at the European Community. An expert about globalization, welfare and water problems in the worldwide, in 1992 he founded The Group of Lisbon, composed of 18 personalities from North America, Europe and Japan to promote a critical analysis of globalization and to suggest a new global social contract. In 1997 he created, together with Mario Soares, The International Committee for the Global Water Contract and in 2002 the University for the Common Good. In 2005 and 2006 Professor Petrella was President of the Apulian waterworks, the biggest one in Europe. In 2007 he founded the European Research Center on Water Policy (IERPE), Brussels. Collaborator of Le Monde Diplomatique and author of several books, he is an activist proposing alternative solutions to the globalization of the capitalist economy.

Rolando Picchioni is graduated in Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Turin, he was a Councillor for Public Education in the Turin Provincial Administration between 1970 and 1975 and President of Turin's Repertory Theatre in the same period. He was then elected as a Member of the Italian Parliament for three terms and was Under-Secretary for the Cultural Heritage. He has also been President of the Piedmont Regional Council (1995-1998) and promoter of the "Stati Generali" of Piedmont. Currently he is President of the Foundation for Books, Music and Cultural Activities of Turin and Executive Director of The World Political Forum.

Laura Pineschi is Professor of International Law ordinary at the University of Parma. She is author of publications on the subject of environment protection and of peace-keeping operations. She has coordinated the publication of a text on the guardianship of the fundamental human rights and is author of different contributions published on magazines and specialized publications in Italy and abroad.

Gianfranco Pittatore is graduated in Economy. He is President of the CRAL Foundation since 1991. He was Auditor of the BNL until 1993 and Councillor of the Society Finpiemonte (until 1997). He received the title of "Grand'Ufficiale dell'Ordine al Merito" of the Italian Republic in 2001. He presently is Councillor of several corporations and institutions, among which the Society EXPO PIEMONTE, the Association of the Piedmont Saving Banks (within which he especially cares for territorial politics), Milan Popular Bank and Akros. He is vice President of Alessandria Chamber of Commerce since 2003 and Member of the Board of Members, High Direction Committee and Scientific Committee of The World Political Forum.

Fausto Pocar is Professor of International Law at the Law Faculty of the University of Milan, where he has also served as the Dean of the Faculty of Political Sciences and as the Vice-Rector. As of 1 February 2000, he has been a Judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague. He was re-elected for a four year term by the General Assembly of the United Nations, as of 16 November 2001, and subsequently re-elected for another term, expiring November 2009. Judge Pocar also has a long standing experience in United Nations activities, in particular in the field of human rights and humanitarian law. He has served for 16 years (1984-2000) as a member of the Human Rights Committee under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and has been its Chairman (1991-92) and Rapporteur (1989-90). Further, he was appointed Special Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for visits to Chechnya and the Russian Federation during the first conflict in 1995 and 1996. He has also chaired the informal working group that drafted, within the Commission on Human Rights, the Declaration on the rights of people belonging to national or ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities, that was adopted in 1992 by the General Assembly. He has also been for a decade the Italian delegate to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee. Judge Pocar is the author of numerous publications on International Law, including human rights and humanitarian law, Private International Law and European Law. He is a member and treasurer of the "Institut de Droit International", as well as a member of several other international law associations.

Anaisabel Prera is Ambassador from Guatemala in France and Permanente Delegate in UNESCO. She was General Director of the "Fundación Internacional para una Cultura de Paz" and member of the Club of Rome. In her career, Anaisabel Prera has held a number of high level positions within the organizations of the United Nations. She was member of the Executive Board of the United Nations University for Peace (1999-2004), Senior Special Adviser for Latin America and the Caribbean to the UNESCO General Director (1994-1999), Vice President of the Executive Board of UNESCO (1990-1993). Anaisabel Prera was also member of Parliament in Guatemala (1990-1994), Minister of Culture and Sports in Guatemala (1986-1990) and Secretary General of the Supreme Court in Guatemala (1985-86). Lawyer and Phd in Private Law. Among her publications are: "The Right to Food and the Culture of Peace"; "Philosophie de la Culture de la Paix"; "El Pensamiento de José Martí: Partidos Políticos y Movimiento Populares en los Albores del siglo XXI"; "Los Nuevos Rostros de la Esclavitud"; "Miguel Angel Asturias, guatemalteco visionario"; "Cambios etno-sociales y políticos en Guatemala".

Wafa' Abdel Rahman founded Filastiniyat in 2005, an NGO committed to ensuring and supporting the equitable participation of women and youth at all levels of public discourse. Known for her vision, passion for change, and dedication to people, Ms. Abdel Rahman is serving as a Steering Committee member of the International Women's Commission for Just and Sustainable Peace in Palestine and Israel convened by UNIFEM in 2005 and consisting of Palestinians, Israelis, and women from around the world committed to achieving a just and sustainable peace. Ms. Abdel Rahman is a fellow of the Eisenhower Fellowships- 2007 Multi Nation Program in which she was selected as the 2007 Ward Wheelock Fellow. This award is given annually to a Fellow from the Middle East who has best demonstrated a commitment to public causes. She has been Palestinian Coordinator, 3000 Facilitators for Peace in the Middle East (2004 - 2007) and Program Officer, AMAN: Transparency Palestine, Ramallah (2004 -2005).

Ms Abdel Rahman has also been director of the Democracy and Good Governance, Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy- MIFTAH, Jerusalem (2001-2005) and coordinator of Palestinian NGOs' Network, Gaza (1996 -1999). She is hostess of a television talk-show "Filastiniyat" that aims at introducing young women leaders to the media and political analyst with many published articles in local and regional newspapers.

Bengt Säve-Söderbergh retired from the Foreign Ministry of Sweden earlier this year. He is now an advisor to the United Nations on governance issues. He was the initiator of and Swedish member of the Four Nations Initiative (Chile, South Africa, Thailand and Sweden) on Governance and Management of the UN 2005-2008. He also initiated the Nordic UN project for reform of UN Funds and Programs 1988-1992. He is the founder and first Secretary General of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) 1995-2002. Between 1985 and 1991 he was State Secretary in the Swedish Foreign Ministry. He was the head of the International Centre of the Swedish Labour Movement (later renamed the Olof Palme Centre) 1978-1985. Bengt Säve-Söderbergh chaired a parliamentary Commission on the future of Swedish Museums 1992-1994. He is the President of the Swedish Jazz Federation. He holds an MBA from the Stockholm School of Economics.

William A. Schabas is director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland, Galway, where he also holds the chair in human rights law. He is also a Global Legal Scholar at the University of Warwick School of Law, a professor of law at Queen's University Belfast and a visiting fellow at Kellogg College, University of Oxford. Professor Schabas is a 'door tenant' at 9 Bedford Row Chambers, in London. Professor Schabas is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a Member of the Royal Irish Academy. He is the author of more than eighteen books dealing in whole or in part with international human rights law, including Introduction to the International Criminal Court (2007, 3rd ed.), Genocide in International Law (2000), The Abolition of the Death Penalty in International Law (2003, 3rd ed.) and The UN International Criminal Tribunals: Former Yugoslavia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone (2006), all with Cambridge University Press. The second edition of Genocide in International Law will appear in late 2008. The third edition of his book International Human Rights and Canadian Law appeared in 2007. He has published more than 225 articles in academic journals, principally in the field of international human rights law. He is editor in chief of the Criminal Law Forum, the official journal of the International Society for the Reform of Criminal Law. In May 2002, the President of Sierra Leone appointed Professor Schabas to the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, upon the recommendation of Mary Robinson, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. In 2006, the Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed him to the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights.

Alexey Simonov graduated from Moscow University in 1964 (Oriental Studies, Indonesian branch). He has been a translator, editor, author up to 1968. Up to 1991 he has been script writer and director of 21 film, the best known of these is "The Detachment". Since 1991 he holds the position of board chairman, later President of Glasnost Defence Foundation. Member of Constitutional Assembly (1983) and Committee on Human Rights for the President of RF. Member of Helsinki Group. He is the author of, among others, "Private Collection", "End of a Holiday of Disobedience". He has received the prizes from TV films Festival in Georgia, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia; his film "The Detachment" was acknowledged the best Soviet film of 1985; Medal of Honourable Lawyer, 2003; Highest Legal Prize "Femida", 2005; "Golden Pen" from the Union of Russian Journalists, 2005.

Lord Robert Skidelsky is the Chairman of the Centre for Global Studies. He is Emeritus Professor of Political Economy at the University of Warwick, the author of "The World After Communism" (1995) and the internationally acclaimed biographer of the economist John Maynard Keynes, which won 5 prizes including the Lionel Gelber Prize for International Relations and the Council of Foreign Relations Prize for International Relations. He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1994. He was appointed to the House of Lords in 1991 and served as Chief Opposition

Spokesman on Treasury Affairs (1998-1999). From 1991 to 2001 he was Chairman of the Social Market Foundation. Since 2002 he has been Chairman of the Centre for Global Studies. Robert Skidelsky is also a non-executive director of Janus Capital Inc. A Russian speaker, he is a non-executive director of Sistema, chairman of LabRus Investment Club, founder and executive secretary the UK-Russia roundtable and a director of the Moscow School of Political Studies. He is also a Trustee of the Manhattan Institute.

Maurice Strong is Chairman of Cosmos International Group; Chairman, International Advisory Board, CH2M HILL Companies and Chairman Technology Development Inc.; Honorary Professor of Peking University (Beijing), Tongji University (Shanghai), and Environmental Management College of China; Honorary Board Chairman of Peking University Environment Fund; Honorary President, Oriental Environment Research Institute (China); Special Senior Advisor of China International Institute of Multinational Corporations, Member of United States National Academy of Science; Vice-Chairman, Chicago Climate Exchange; Member of Korean Academy of Science and Technology. Some of Mr. Strong's past appointments include: Under Secretary General and Special Advisor to the Secretary General of the United Nations; Senior Advisor to the President World Bank and member of Management Committee; Chairman of the Council, University for Peace; Co-Founder and first Co-Chair of the Canada-China Business Council; Member, Foundation Board, World Economic Forum; Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (1972); First Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme; Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit); First President of the Canadian International Development Agency and Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs; Chairman of the Stockholm Environment Institute; Member and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Foundation; Founder and Chairman, Earth Council; Chairman of the World Resources Institute; Vice Chairman, World Wildlife Fund International; Member, Board of International Institute for Sustainable Development. Mr. Strong is a Member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada. Honors and awards he has received include Companion of the Order of Canada, the Swedish Royal Order of the Polar Star, the Brazilian National Order of the Southern Cross, and Public Welfare Medal, the Highest Honour of the U.S. National Academy of Science, Tyler Environmental Prize, Blue Planet Prize, Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding; Commander of the Order of the Golden Ark (Netherlands) International Saint Frances Prize (Vatican) Fellow, Royal Society (Great Britain) ; Royal Society of Canada; Royal Architectural Society of Canada; 53 honorary doctorate degrees and honorary of Visiting Professorships at 7 universities.

Jean-François Trémeaud is graduated at the Institute of Political Sciences, University of Paris, he spent most of his career at the ILO (International Labour Organization) Headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland): in 1970 he became Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director-General in charge of Technical Cooperation and in 1974 Member, and subsequently Director, of the Office of the Director-General. In 1989 he was appointed Assistant Director-General of the ILO in charge of the ILO Technical Cooperation Department and of the International Training Centre of the ILO in Turin. In 1994 his responsibilities expanded to the overall technical cooperation program and the ILO Offices worldwide. He is currently lecturer at Turin University on labour matters, their evolution at the international level, and their impact on the European Union (post-graduate courses) and delivers lectures on these themes in Universities in the USA. He is also Consultant of the Compagnia di San Paolo (Turin) and member of the Advisory board of the European Policy Centre.

Paul de Waart has been a journalist from 1952 to 1962. In 1962 he entered the Development cooperation department of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague until 1978. In 1974 was appointed extraordinary professor of international law at the Faculty of Law VU University Amsterdam. In 1978 full professor of international law. Emeritus professor of international law since 1997. He has been member of the ad Hoc United Nations Group of Experts on the Right to Development (1981-1987) and Chair joint Academic Project "Dynamics of

Self-Determination" of Israeli, Palestinian and Western researchers from 1988 to 1993. Member of the former committees of the International Law Association on Legal Aspects of a New International Economic Order (1980-1992) and Legal Aspects of Sustainable Development (1992 - 2002), since 2002 he is also member of the current Committee on the International Law of Sustainable Development. His publications include books and articles on human rights, development issues and international settlement of disputes.

Jianmin Wu is the former President of China Foreign Affairs University, Honorary President of International Bureau of Exhibitions (BIE), and Executive Vice President of China National Association for International Studies (CNAIS), Co-interim Coordinator of NEAT, and Spokesman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). He previously served as China's Ambassador to France (1998-2003); to the United Nations Office in Geneva and to other international organizations in Switzerland (1996-98); and to the Netherlands (1994-95). Earlier, Ambassador Wu was Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department and served as the Ministry's Spokesman (1991-94). He was Political Counselor and Deputy Chief Mission at China's Embassy to Belgium and its Mission to the European Community in Brussels (1980-90) and was Counselor at China's Mission to the United Nations in New York (1985-89). In June 2003, Jianmin Wu was awarded Grand Officier, Légion d'Honneur by President Jacques Chirac in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the relations between China and France.