



***PUSHING  
FORWARD***



***FOR PEOPLE  
& PLANET***

# 2024 GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT SUMMIT

**Digital Program**



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**#USAFORUN**

**WATCH GES2024 LIVE  
AT [WEBTV.UN.ORG](https://webtv.un.org)  
ON FEBRUARY 16TH  
STARTING AT 10AM ET.**

**WELCOME TO UN HEADQUARTERS!**



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# Eleanor Crook Foundation

**THANK YOU TO  
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**THANK YOU TO  
OUR 2024 GLOBAL  
ENGAGEMENT  
SUMMIT  
PLANNING  
COMMITTEE!**

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CHAIRPERSON**

**BETTINA HAUSMANN,  
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**JOHN DALTON**

**DR. EILEEN DAVIS-JEROME**

**AKASH PATEL**

**FARAH SALIM ECK  
STAFF LIAISON**



# ABOUT THE 2024 GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT SUMMIT



Held at UN Headquarters in New York City, GES is the largest annual gathering of UN supporters in the country, having previously filled more than 1,600 seats in the UN General Assembly Hall. The event brings together members, educators, community leaders, representatives from UN agencies, Members of Congress, college students, social media influencers, young professionals, and subject matter experts from across the nation. The goal for this event is to convene changemakers at all levels of society to engage in complex conversations and to take action to address local issues that have global implications.





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FORWARD***



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## **ABOUT THIS YEAR'S THEME:**

Our theme for 2024 — *PUSHING FORWARD>>>FOR PEOPLE & PLANET* — highlights the importance of empowering our advocates to take bold action in order to achieve great impact in the areas of people and planet. The event will serve as a continuation of the celebration of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**' 75th Anniversary. In addition, the event will feature a unique Sustainable Fashion Showcase to demonstrate how individuals and businesses are bolstering the push for sustainability through their products and platforms.



# SUMMIT SCHEDULE

## 10:00 am - 10:45 am — Opening Plenary

- [Rachel Bowen Pittman](#), *UNA-USA Executive Director*
- [Varsha Thebo](#), *Senior Advisor, Eleanor Crook Foundation*
- [Elizabeth Cousens](#), *President and CEO of the United Nations Foundation*
- [Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield](#), *U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations*
- [Stéphane Dujarric](#), *Spokesperson for Secretary-General of the United Nations*
- [Sanskriti Deva](#), *UNA-USA GES Planning Committee Chairperson*
- [Bettina Hausmann](#), *UNA-USA GES Planning Committee Vice Chair*

## 10:45 am - 11:15 am — The Intersection of Human Rights & Emerging Technologies

- [Sanskriti Deva](#), *UNA-USA GES Planning Committee Chairperson and STEM advocate*
- [Kevin Kissell](#), *Office of the Chief Technology Officer, Google*
- [Ursula Wynhoven](#), *ITU Representative to the United Nations*

## 11:15 am - 11:20 am — Mindful Moment Break

## 11:20 am - 11:55 am — Gender Apartheid: Women's Rights Under Attack

- [Anne Richard](#), *Sr. Adviser for Afghanistan Coordination & Distinguished Fellow, Freedom House*
- [Leyla Sharafi](#), *Senior Gender Advisor, Officer-in-Charge, Gender and Human Rights Branch, Technical Division, UNFPA*
- [Ilinca Drondoe](#), *UNA-USA Global Goals Ambassador SDG#5*

## 11:55 am - 12:00 pm — First Segment Closing Remarks

- [Marielle Ali](#), *UNA-USA National Council Chairperson*

## 12:00 pm - 1:45 pm — Lunch time (off campus, on your own)

## 1:45 pm - 1:50 pm — Field Visit Video 1

## 1:50 pm - 2:20 pm — Propelling Youth Rights & Responsibilities

- [Ose Ehianeta Arheghan](#), *12th UNA-USA Youth Observer to the United Nations*
- [Ronelle King](#), *UN SDG Young Leader and Founder, Life in Leggings*
- [Vitorino Oliveira](#), *First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations*

## 2:20 pm - 2:25 pm — Field Visit Video 2

## 2:25 pm - 2:55 pm — The Enduring Heartache of War: Navigating the Psychological Impact of Crisis

- [Allehone Abebe](#), Senior Policy Officer, UNHCR
- [Alona Volinsky](#), Head of Communication at WHO Ukraine
- [Dr. Zeinab Hijazi](#), Global Lead on Mental Health at UNICEF
- [Liz Metraux](#), Better World Campaign, UN Foundation

## 2:55 pm - 3:05 pm — SDG BINGO BREAK

## 3:05 pm - 3:40 pm — Nourishing Peace for People & Planet: Democratic Republic of Congo

- [Moise Ballo](#), World Food Programme Partnerships Officer for West & South Africa
- [Christine Bowers](#), Head of Washington Office, UNOPS
- [Kathryn Kross](#), Executive Director, Communications, Better World Campaign, UN Foundation
- [Ugo Solinas](#), Senior Political Affairs Officer at United Nations Department Of Peacekeeping Operations

## 3:40 pm - 3:50 pm — On UN Brand Ambassadors and Big, Bold (Crazy?) Ideas

- [David Ohana](#), Chief Communications & Marketing Officer, UN Foundation

## 3:50 pm - 3:55 pm — Mindful Moment Break

## 3:55 pm - 5:00 pm — Sustainable Fashion Showcase

- Opening Remarks
  - [Annemarie Hwa Hou](#), Executive Director, UN Office for Partnership (UNOP)
- Discussion
  - [Saad Amer](#), Founder of Justice Environment, Expert Reviewer for the IPCC, and UN consultant
  - [Vanessa Barboni Hallik](#), Founder and CEO of AnotherTomorrow
  - [Sophia Kianni](#), Founder, Climate Cardinals and former advisor for UN Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change leader
  - [Yasin Samatar](#), Senior Multilateral Cooperation Specialist, ILO
- [Contributors/Showcase](#)
  - Edelweiss Vogel
  - Prota Fiori
  - Julieta Gaitan, Swarovski Foundation Creatives for Our Future designer
  - Kaixi Yang
  - Tega Collective
  - Remake

## 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm — Closing Plenary

- [Claire Vlases](#), Time Earth Award Recipient on behalf of youth plaintiffs in Held v. Montana
- [Gabriel Nagel](#), Chairperson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Environmental Youth Advisory Council
- [Farah Salim Eck](#), UNA-USA Senior Director of Programs and Policies



# DESCRIPTIONS: STAGE SESSIONS

## **SESSION 1: The Intersection of Human Rights and Emerging Technologies**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the capacity to fundamentally change how we live and work. What does it mean in the context of human rights? Will AI inadvertently magnify existing biases? Compound growing economic inequality? Eliminate an individual's right to privacy? Society, governments, and the private sector are facing incredible challenges to reconcile the benefits of AI while limiting its potential to be misused, and to ensure equitable access and opportunity for people around the world. This session will feature perspectives from the UN's International Telecommunications Union (ITU) along with that of Google.

**UDHR Articles:** Article 12, Article 19

**UN SDGs:** SDG#9, SDG#10

**UN Agency/Program:** ITU

**Member States Covered:** Global

### **ADVOCACY ASK**

Did you know the United Nations is taking bold steps to ensure AI fulfills its potential in supporting diagnosis, treatment, and healthcare management? Share with the world what you learned during this session by [using our suggested messaging on social media](#).



## SESSION 2: Gender Apartheid: Women's Rights Under Attack

Under international treaties, such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, (CEDAW), governments have a legal obligation to protect women from violence, to promote the human rights of all women and to ensure their economic, legal, social and political empowerment.

However, there are many examples of gender apartheid occurring within many countries and contexts. For example, in Afghanistan, the Right to Education has been revoked for girls and women since the Taliban took back control in 2022. In that same year, Roe vs. Wade and the constitutional right to an abortion were overturned in the U.S. Hear more from women's right's proponents during this session on the rights (or the lack thereof) that are under attack.

UDHR Articles: Article 16, Article 26

UN SDGs: SDG#3, SDG#4, SDG#5

UN Agency/Program: UNFPA, UNAMA

Member States Covered: Afghanistan, United States

### ADVOCACY ASK

Did you know one voice can make a difference? Stand up for women and girls by urging your Members of Congress to fund the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

## SESSION 3: Propelling Youth Rights & Responsibilities

2023 was a banner year for youth-led initiatives at the UN and at UNA-USA. On Friday, September 1, 2023, the UN General Assembly adopted its first ever resolution on Model UN. UNA-USA facilitated consultations and garnered feedback and opinions throughout the year to create the UNA-USA American Youth Declaration of Human Rights, which was launched in December 2023. Learn more about what's in store to build the capacities of young people in the field of international affairs and human rights in 2024 and beyond.

UDHR Articles: 19, 20, 28

UN SDGs: SDG#10, SDG#17

UN Agency/Program: UN Youth Office

Member States Covered: United States of America, Portugal

### ADVOCACY ASK

Our youth is the future. Champion youth action by signing UNA-USA's American Youth Declaration of Human Rights and show the world that you believe in the leaders of tomorrow.

## SESSION 4: The Enduring Heartache of War: Navigating the Psychological Impact of Crisis

The physical scars of war are obvious. The emotional scars of war can be hidden and long lasting, even stretching across generations. These unseen scars impact individuals' enduring sense of security, relationships, health, healthy behaviors, and overall quality of life. And it's not just those who directly experience violence who are impacted. Exposure to war coverage over time or the ancillary effects of war also impacts one's physical and mental wellbeing.

In this session, we will explore multiple conflicts – Ukraine, Sudan, and Syria – to understand how people are coping amidst these crises, as well as how the UN's Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the UN's Refugee Agency (UNHCR) are stepping in to aid in treating the invisible wounds.

UDHR Articles: Article 16, Article 26

UN SDGs: SDG#3, SDG#4, SDG#5

UN Agency/Program: WHO, UNICEF, and UNHCR

Member States Covered: Ukraine, Syria, and Sudan

### ADVOCACY ASK

The lives of millions of children in Ukraine have been marked by an unimaginable level of suffering and challenges caused by the scourge of war. The United Nations is on the ground and working around the clock to ensure they receive vital help. **Urge your Members of Congress to stand with Ukraine by fully funding the UN in FY'24!**

## SESSION 5: Nourishing Peace for People & Planet: Democratic Republic of Congo

In January 2024, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) became the country with the greatest number of people requiring humanitarian assistance—more than 25.4 million. While the recent collapse of a truce between the government and the armed group, M23, sharply increased numbers, Congolese have faced protracted crises because of years of economic strife, political turmoil, and rampant insecurity. This session will uncover the cumulative impact affecting the citizens of DRC and how the UN is working to improve their livelihoods.

UDHR Articles: Article 3, Article 16, Article 26

UN SDGs: SDG#2, SDG#9, SDG#11, SDG#16

UN Agency/Program: UNOPS, WFP

Member States Covered: Democratic Republic of Congo

### ADVOCACY ASK

Join us in advocating for the importance of the United Nations and its efforts to end hunger in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. **Post on your social media channels using our suggested language** and share support for the fight against food insecurity.



## **SESSION 6: On UN Brand Ambassadors and Big, Bold, Crazy Ideas**

The United Nations is the world's organization: its work and impact is meaningful and relevant for all people on the planet. Whether as beneficiaries, supporters, or staff, so many people are touched by the UN's values, principles, and ultimately, results. Hear from David Ohana, who has worked with some of the biggest names in the creative community to help tell the story of the United Nations. He'll be sharing a unique peek behind the curtain of projects which harnessed the power of ideas and influencers to help reach billions, raise millions and help change attitudes. Big, bold, impactful ideas can come from anywhere, and can serve as force multipliers when advocating for peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet.

**UDHR Articles: All UDHR Articles**

**UN SDGs: All SDGs**

**UN Agency/Program: OCHA, UNICEF**

**Member States Covered: All Member States**





# DESCRIPTIONS:

# FIELD VISIT VIDEOS

## FIELD VISIT VIDEO: Panama

Coffee has long been an important source of income for many Indigenous Peoples in Panama. But, in recent years, these communities have struggled to maintain their traditional methods of production. With the advent of an innovative project called “Support for post-COVID economic recovery for Indigenous coffee producers,” an initiative of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) with funding from the Japan Special Fund Poverty Reduction Program, the goal is to increase the income of Indigenous coffee producers by enhancing the production, processing, quality and sales of coffee from sustainable agroforestry. It was implemented with the technical assistance of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and with the support of Panama’s Ministry of Agricultural Development, as well as coffee company, Café Durán.

UDHR Articles: Article 23

UN SDGs: SDG#1, SDG#2, SDG#8

UN Agency/Program: FAO

Member States Covered: Panama

### ADVOCACY ASK

The world can be sustainable and inclusive. Spread the word on the vital work the UN is accomplishing in Panama by posting on your social media channels using our suggested language in the [Panama Social Media Toolkit](#).

## FIELD VISIT VIDEO: Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Rwanda & Uganda

Because virtually every person on earth is already affected by climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) has declared the years between 2020 and 2030 as the Decade of Ecosystem Restoration. During this Decade, member states have pledged to restore their ecosystems through various initiatives.

In particular, mountain regions face unique challenges given melting glaciers, eroding soils, and actions and implications that have driven species to go further uphill. Visit UNEP partner initiatives in Uganda, Rwanda, Serbia, and Kyrgyzstan to learn how mountain countries are restoring health for both people and the planet.

UDHR Articles: Article 22

UN SDGs: SDG#13, SDG#15, SDG#17

UN Agency/Program: UNEP

Member States Covered: Uganda, Rwanda, Serbia, Kyrgyzstan

### ADVOCACY ASK

Climate change is a global threat to human existence. **Tell your Members of Congress to fund the Green Climate Fund in FY'24.** The planet depends on it.







**DESCRIPTION:**  
**SUSTAINABLE FASHION  
SHOWCASE**







## About the Sustainable Fashion Showcase

UNA-USA is collaborating with the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion (Alliance), which is an initiative of United Nations agencies and allied organizations designed to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals through coordinated action in the fashion sector. Specifically, the Alliance works to support coordination between UN bodies working in fashion and promoting projects and policies that ensure that the fashion value chain contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals' targets. In particular, UNA-USA will highlight the Alliance's partners and will utilize the principles from the [Sustainable Fashion Communication Playbook](#) developed by UNEP and UN Climate Change.

### CONTRIBUTORS:

- *Edelweiss Vogel*
- *Prota Fiori*
- *Julieta Gaitan, Swarovski Foundation Creatives for Our Future designer*
- *Kaixi Yang*
- *Tega Collective*
- *Remake*

### MODELS / SUSTAINABLE FASHION ACTIVISTS:

*Brianna Lopez, Niharika Elety, Sorah Park, Tania Roa, Shanelle Campbell, Taina Colon, Giselle Mastrolonardo, Jaegi Lissade, Eleanor Petry, Hayley Penn, Colleen Cochran, Christian Dion Brandt-Sims, Catrice Austin*

### ADVOCACY ASK

Innovation and forward thinking are core values at the heart of the United Nations' mission. Without U.S. funding, the United Nations (UN) cannot continue accomplishing its life saving work. **Urge your Members of Congress to fully fund the UN in FY'24!**

# GET 10% OFF YOUR PURCHASE AT THE UN BOOKSHOP!

Present this coupon at the UN Bookshop Thursday, February 15 - Friday, February 16 for a 10% discount! All proceeds from sales support the work of the United Nations. The Bookshop is located on the lower level of the visitors concourse.

UNITED NATIONS BOOKS  
AND SUSTAINABLE GIFTS



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2024 GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT SUMMIT

## 10% OFF YOUR PURCHASE\*

PRESENT THIS COUPON AT THE UN BOOKSHOP

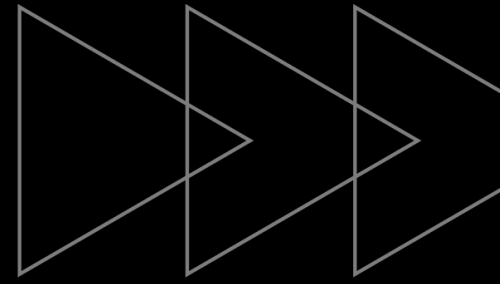
UN Headquarters - New York // Valid 15-16 February 2024  
\*Discount excludes items under \$10 and the purchase of Klean Kanteen and Loqi products.

ALL PROCEEDS FROM SALES  
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**UNITED NATIONS**

VISITORS CONCOURSE - LOWER LEVEL  
HOURS 9:00AM - 5:00PM (MON-FRI)  
CLOSED (SAT-SUN)



# WAYS TO ENGAGE FOR PEOPLE & PLANET AFTER THE SUMMIT



The UNA-USA Global Engagement Summit is just the start of ways that you can engage...it does not start and stop with the Summit! We have outlined some ways you can take actions since we should all collectively continue "*Pushing Forward>>>For People and Planet.*"

- **Join** more than 20,000+ other Americans who want to help people all over the world to live more just, peaceful and dignified lives.
- Sign the **UNA-USA American Youth Declaration of Human Rights**.
- Review the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights **here**.
- Apply to be the next **Youth Observer to the UN** in March.
- **Join** the UNA Women Affinity Group to support women's rights.
- Sign up **here** for updates about the 2024 UNA-USA Leadership Summit in Washington, DC from June 2-4, 2024.
- If you're a bike rider and want to support our friends at USA for UNHCR and the UN Refugee Agency, join the 40-mile ride at the **2024 TD Five Boro Bike Tour** in NYC on Sunday, May 5 by clicking **here**.
- Participate in the #PeaceBegins with me campaign by completing the sentence, #PeaceBegins with me because..... and tag @UNPeacekeeping.
- Push forward with other UNA-USA members for the planet and **join** the UNA-USA Climate & Environmental Action Affinity Group.
- Help the ocean by hosting an Ocean Wise Shoreline Cleanup – wherever water meets land! Visit **ShorelineCleanup.org** to get started!
- Read the UN Environment Programme's Playbook on Sustainable Fashion **here**,
- Connect with other activists and advocate for human rights for all by joining the **UNA-USA Human Rights Affinity Group**.
- Advocate for survivors of human trafficking by signing our petition **here**.
- Support sustainable water solutions in Yemen. Find more information **here**.
- Join Remake in making fashion a force for good by supporting the FABRIC Act to end US sweatshops and create jobs with dignity. **Sign the FABRIC Act Petition here**.
- Join the 90-Day NoNewClothes Challenge **here**.





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**THANK YOU FOR  
JOINING US!**



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OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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