

The New “Gold Standard” and Paradigm Shift for All—

Agreeing We Are All Humans

The axiom “We are all humans” is a primary empirical actuality for each and all of us. At some level—implicit or explicit, subconscious or conscious—we all recognize this commonsense fact. Therefore, it is something about which we universally agree.

We have become accustomed to settling for agreements that are only stopgap compromises,

►Agreeing: Next column



“I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves...”

—Thomas Jefferson



“Through our scientific genius, we have made this world a neighborhood; now, through our moral and spiritual development, we must make of it a brotherhood.”

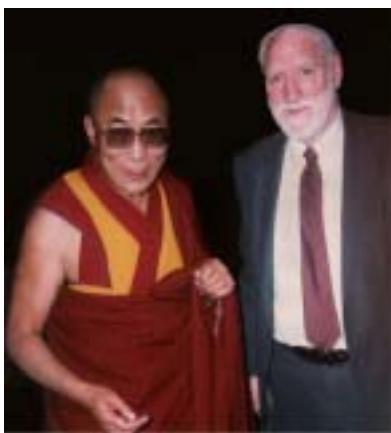
—Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

There lies before us, if we choose, continued progress in happiness, knowledge, and wisdom. Shall we, instead, choose death, because we cannot forget our quarrels? We appeal as human beings, to human beings: remember your humanity and forget the rest. —Bertrand Russell

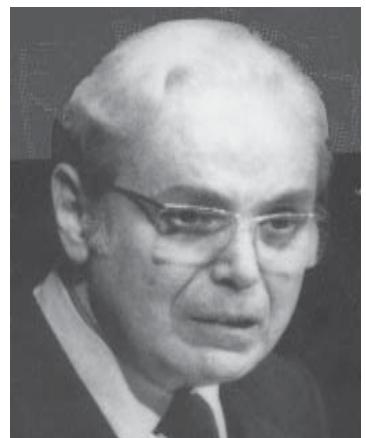
Some Early Signers of the Declaration



Archbishop Desmond Tutu
First recipient of our
Human Courage Award



His Holiness the Dalai Lama
and Eugene Haggerty (founder
of World Public Forum)



Javier Pérez de Cuéllar
Former Secretary General,
United Nations



**Betty Williams and
Mairead Maguire**
Co-recipients of Nobel Peace
Prize, Northern Ireland

► Agreeing: (from previous column)

as though irreconcilable differences were our true nature. **Are not our very lives rooted in our shared humanity? When we observe the entirely obvious, that we are all humans, we are freed to inherit all the dignity, wholeness and goodness that human life can offer.**

The Human Unity Project is dedicated to the application of this universal agreement to the most imperative and prudent priorities facing our generation, which are to assure our security and wholeness of life and environments in this now-perilous world. By building upon the foundation of our human agreement, this project moreover provides each and all of us with the keys for achieving our inherent (but as yet unexplored) wholeness as humans in all our diverse manifestations. **Through these means, each of us can discover and rejoice in our fullest inheritance, the consummate good for ourselves, for all of life, and for every habitat on Earth.**



A Few of the Many Distinguished Signers of the Declaration of Human Unity

Oscar Arias Sanchez – President of Costa Rica; Nobel Peace Laureate (1987)

Willie L. Brown, Jr. – Former Mayor of San Francisco, California

Rodrigo Carazo Odio – Former President of Costa Rica and Founder of the UN University of Peace; San Jose

Tom Campbell – former US congressman, director, California department of finance and dean, Haas school of business, UC (Berkeley)

Walter Cronkite – journalist-author-lecturer; New York City

His Holiness the Dalai Lama – leader of Tibetan Buddhism; Nobel Peace Laureate (1989)

Fang Lizhi – astrophysicist; democracy and human rights leader

Bill Joy – venture capitalist (partner at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers); cofounder and ex-chief scientist at Sun Microsystems; science writer; Aspen, Colorado

Richard Leakey – anthropologist, environmentalist, author-lecturer; Nairobi, Kenya

Seymour Martin Lipset (dec.) – Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution; public policy analyst; Stanford, California

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar – Former Secretary General, United Nations

Vimala Thakar – International Gandhian lecturer and author on spirituality and philosophy; Mount Abu, India

Desmond M. Tutu – Anglican Archbishop Emeritus; Former Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; Nobel Peace Laureate (1984)

Robin Williams – actor, comedian; San Francisco, California

Stevie Wonder – singer-songwriter; Los Angeles, California

THE HUMAN UNITY PROJECT

The Agreement that Unites Us All

The purpose of the Human Unity Project is to optimize the prospect of all life on Earth for ourselves and our children, by building upon our uniquely practical and beneficial agreement: **“We are all humans.”** That we are all humans is a primary empirical actuality for each and all of us. Yet, oddly enough, we define, construct, and choreograph our lives almost exclusively through our differences and disagreements.

Is not our human-focused agreement fundamentally more practical than disagreement? What opportunities may emerge when we, building upon our irrevocable agreement, begin to include each other as humans beyond all our differences?

The Human Unity Project undertakes the most practical, cost-effective and imperative initiative in human history for addressing our crucially urgent security needs and realizing every unfettered opportunity for our lives on Earth. Transparently universal and prudent, this project is one every human can contribute to and benefit from.

I always believe we are the same; we are all human beings ... Whenever I meet people, I always have the feeling that I am encountering another human being, just like myself.

—His Holiness the Dalai Lama

The day after a nuclear attack, what would we wish we had done? Why aren't we doing it now?

—Former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn

Declaration of Human Unity

Whereas, the very existence of all humans is substantially at risk, many of our institutions are impaired, and the possibilities of human life are unfulfilled, and

Whereas, our action together universally as humans for our common survival and fulfillment is becoming a clear necessity, and

Whereas, effective means of communication are now available to unite all humans and therefore to maximize the prospects of all humans for a secure and full life,

We hereby declare our unity as human s beyond all our differences.

We invite all people throughout the world to act together as humans in support of our shared priorities from survival to fulfillment. It is our lives as humans that we share in common beyond all our differences such as race, sex, religion, class, culture, and nationality. We affirm the simple fact of our humanness as the bedrock reality of our lives and institutions. By bringing our common humanness to the foreground of our lives, we will be able to act together with all other humans to meet our priority needs and shared aspirations.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

Email/Website: _____

Telephone/Fax: _____

Comments: _____

How did you hear about Human Unity Project?

Contribution: \$ _____

(Thank you for your important contribution. Please make your tax-deductible check payable to World Public Forum, a California nonprofit, public benefit organization.)

If people look only to their own interests, our world will certainly fall apart. —Pope Benedict XVI

Our Most Tragic Misunderstanding

Perilously, we accept a life-threatening, disconnected world of differences because we assume that conflicting interests are the bottom line of human interactions. This is a profoundly tragic misunderstanding.

And it is an altogether untenable and dysfunctional mode of operation, which leads to increasingly lethal development of weapons, risks as well as acts of war and terrorism.

What an immense waste of human and environmental resources! The source of our tragedy lies in our identification *solely* with our rightly cherished differences and institutions where we are oblivious of one another as humans. In the 21st century, this ignorance is as utterly astonishing and unnecessary as it is dangerous and unendurable.

How do you identify yourself? The odds are that you do not point to your primary identity: "I am a human." You will, instead, claim some secondary identity, such as American or Chinese; Black or White; Christian or Muslim; male or female—the list goes on. Of course, you are *some* of these things at various times.

What you are always is a human. What might become possible if we all actually lived out of our shared relation as humans? Perhaps we could change the course of our lives and of the world.

From a *human* focus, derivative and transient identities are *additive*: they are facets of our shared human identity in all of its magnificent diversity. From a focus *only* on our differences, they are *subtractive*: my interests and strengths appear to be opposed to, and diminished by, yours.

Our new, intercommunicating world allows us, for the first time in history, to build upon our empirically and universally obvious actuality and agreement: "**We are all humans.**" In such an emancipated world, whatever you bring to the table will serve everyone's best interests – starting with your own.

**—Eugene Haggerty
Founder, Project Coordinator**

We must create not only a massive but a basic change in our culture, in our entire approach to our relationship with other human beings. —Walter Cronkite

A HUMAN-FOCUSED SCENARIO

Phase One – Build upon our universally latent agreement that "We are all humans." Team with a world cross section of recognized thinkers and distinguished leaders who have already signed the Declaration of Human Unity and supported the Human Unity Project. Facilitate a world public inquiry into an apparently unprecedented economical, practical and prudent human agreement and dawning "Global Human Conversation," in sync with the Declaration. Examine how the Project applies human agreement and conversation, among its newfound resources, for ensuring the security, releasing the wholeness and sharing the goodness of all our lives and environments on Earth.

Phase Two – Invite distinguished leaders and communicators to bring our message of human agreement to the entire world. Launch worldwide human-focused, public reportage and celebrations, carrying the unparalleled applications of deep human agreement, for meeting our shared human priorities everywhere on Earth.

Phase Three – Conduct a survey to discover and document our specific shared agreement and priorities for all our lives, life forms and environments on Earth.

Phase Four – As people everywhere learn of, and congruently act upon, our inherently shared human agreement and identity, we – each and all of us – begin to connect with, elevate and inspire one another, becoming whole and, at long last, free and fully alive as humans.

BENEFITS FLOWING FROM A HUMAN-FOCUSED WAY OF LIFE

Stepping out from our newfound ground of universal human agreement, we will begin to:

- ◆ Ensure the security and wholeness of all our lives on Earth.
- ◆ Renew and restore the ability of all human individuals, populations and institutions to integrally realize their (our) highest aspirations to provide for priority human needs.
- ◆ Save and reinvest immense economic resources being wasted due to needless ignorance (of each other), fears, disagreements, hatreds, violence and wars.
- ◆ Harmonize and deepen our relationship with all life forms and habitats on this planet where we must all live.



"Know that all those involved [with Human Unity] will be very specially in my prayers."

—Mother Teresa

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN EXPEDITE HUMANITY

- ◆ Sign the Declaration of Human Unity if you have not already done so.
- ◆ Send a quotable statement of support.
- ◆ Share the opportunity provided by the Human Unity Project with others who can accelerate this life-affirming endeavor.
- ◆ Contribute your own unique talents and leadership toward the full realization of the Scenario goals.

Your inquiries and suggestions are vitally important. Bring your expertise to the fore to help accomplish the project's goals. Donations of money help to forward the project's operations and are gratefully received; please make your tax-deductible check payable to:



"I believe that the sum total of the energy of mankind is not to bring us down but to lift us up."

—Mahatma Gandhi

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The enlightened efforts of generations of democrats, the terrible experience of two world wars, the evolution of civilization has brought humanity to the realization that human beings are more important than the state. —Vaclav Havel