



## APPEAL FOR THE “*UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD*”

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1. Since its inception, the **MEDITERRANEAN FOUNDATION** has set as one of its objectives the establishment of the "**UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD**": a "**Coalition of shared values and interests**" among all the peoples who over time have produced reciprocal socio-cultural influences and intense exchanges; a tradition of synergies, even turbulent and restless ones, from which an indissoluble interdependence has arisen that is stronger than all contrasts, oppositions and wars.
2. Over the last three decades, the **MEDITERRANEAN FOUNDATION** has given substance to these synergies, particularly in the area of the "**Greater Mediterranean**". In this difficult moment, in order to continue to operate in the spirit of peace and collaboration among peoples and in respect of the fundamental rights expressed in the UN Charter, it spreads the "**APPEL FOR THE UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD**", aimed at bringing together men and women organisms and institutions of the various countries to identify viable objectives and effective means for the defence of the planet, the respect of the fundamental rights of the human person, the coexistence of philosophies, faiths and religions, the fair distribution of goods and resources, the union of science and politics for the salvation of humanity.
3. For the construction of the "**UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD**" it is necessary to promote international understanding through knowledge of the identity, social and cultural realities: encouraging their close interaction thus strengthening shared values and interests in respect of the fundamental rights of the human person; developing intellectual cooperation and the training of human resources in multidisciplinary fields; allowing everyone access to sources of knowledge for the protection and safeguarding of creation and life.
4. The planet - now damaged by climate change and pollution - is beset by tensions, crises and conflicts that tear apart its coexistence. The recrudescence of terrorism and the risk of fracture between those who believe in dialogue and those who go for clashes between civilisations impose the commitment of Governments and instances of Civil Society to promote a "**Coalition of shared values and interests**", indispensable after the pandemic and to avoid an environmental catastrophe foretold.
5. The "**Coalition**" will have to develop models and disseminate programmes for moral and material growth, based on equal dignity and respect for identities, bearers of independently chosen principles and values and at the same time open to exchanges and comparisons. Specificity, richness of traditions and commonality of interests and actions: the divide between specificity and commonality of values will be based on respect for the fundamental rights of the person and the commitment to the right to health for all, to freedom, to equality between men and women. Everything is based on the principle of the equal dignity of peoples and respect for pluralism, cultural and religious diversity, the fundamental rights of the person and democracy.
6. We are fast approaching the century that is about to bring about the exploration of the Fourth Environment: the peoples of the Earth cannot face this unprecedented change of phase in conflicting forms. The prospects that are opening up call for a substantial change aimed at universal brotherhood, sharing common principles and goals that are, however, interpreted differently in the various regions of the world. All together we must take care of our common home, spread a systemic vision, and operate from a transgenerational perspective.
7. Reconciliation requires Solidarity. Young people must be offered education and vocational training, reduce starting handicaps. A major effort must be made to allow fair integration into the world of work: action is needed, 1to

identify specific training needs in relation to the labour market opportunities opened up by the global dimension. The global dimension of the labour market opens up new opportunities.

8. The recognition of universal knowledge will not be at the expense of the roots of cultures at local level: it will bring together tradition, modernity and innovation. The commitment to build '**Alliances between Civilisations**' is part of the need for new policies: respect for the culture of the other enables the fundamental defence of the person and his or her rights. This is the new frontier of social experimentation in a world where intense migration processes lead to the coexistence of religions and cultures.

9. The spread of wealth leads to new divisions of labour and the development of comparative productivity. E' This is the climate for investment. The protection of the rights of the individual, the weaker social classes, the weakest social classes and least-favoured regions will combine new rules for the operation of the market, combining efficiency and solidarity. solidarity.

10. Firm in its shared principles and values in the 'Interethnic City' - consisting of the entire planet - a global society is incompatible with clashes between civilisations, the use of force, and the violent overthrow of the political and social order. Those who preach the ideology of evil, those who incite division, those who incite oppression must be morally isolated and the seeds of discord eradicated. The peoples of the world - especially after the pandemic - have a vital interest in a different path from the imposition of government from outside, recourse to terrorism or violent overthrow.

11. All the religions of the world, all the 'philosophies' - from Christianity to Judaism, from Islam to Buddhism and the other faiths that have contributed and contribute to the formation of the various identities of the planet - must be the only possible way forward: collaboration, mutual understanding, solidarity. It cannot be forgotten that European civilisation owes a great debt to Islam, since Europe owes its revival largely to Islamic civilisation. Europe owes its revival to a large extent to Islamic civilisation, as do many other religions in many parts of the world. It is time to recognise the role that Muslim culture and the civilisation of Islam in the development of universalism. underestimated, societies must accentuate initiatives that resolve any concealment of memory in relation to Even if this contribution is underestimated, societies must emphasise initiatives to resolve any concealment of memory with regard to all religions, which together make up the great rainbow of spirituality.

12. In some parts of the world, globalisation has generated and continues to generate hostility, sometimes violent. There is a generalisation of different visions, giving free rein to stereotypes accumulated in the imagination of the various regions of the world. The result is a clash between societies - some of which are incapable of adapting to the changing world - and a modernity that is the prerogative only of the cultured and wealthy classes. The sterility of this vision, of the so-called irreducibility of things between societies and cultures opposed to modernity and a West, for example, the symbol of an accomplished modernity, must be stressed. It is necessary to overcome this We need to overcome this vision and build a shared modernity with respect for different cultures and traditions.

13. Ancient cultures and religions are not antagonistic to modernity. Many historical realities and a common critical area common critical area; a problematic situation where each sees in the eye of the other the expression of his own lack; a shared universe where the logic of the great a shared universe where the logic of big capital makes various regions of the world, mutant from time to time, increasingly peripheral to the regions of the world, mutating from time to time, more and more peripheral to the places of government. In this way the question leads to policies of In this way, the question leads to policies of opposition, but when posed in multiple terms it leads to solidarity, to moving together towards the same end, even if the starting point is different and the even if the starting point is different and the distances from the term are different. Collaboration is the basis for build the "**UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD**"; it identifies in the Civil Society of the various countries - Local Communities, universities, business and professional organisations, trade unions, NGOs, networks of associations, the media, etc. - the key factor for progress in fundamental rights, political security, culture, economy, science, sustainable development, communication sustainable development, communication and information.

14. The planet is a geographical and political space: today it encapsulates the need for dialogue between cultures, for peace, for integration between innovation and tradition, for individual rights and social solidarity. The many initiatives for peace and development undertaken so far have produced partial progress. Seasons of Hope and other initiatives are at a standstill. No country should be the subject of political programmes decided elsewhere: instead, it must be the subject of strategies that are the direct expression of the real needs of individual peoples. This is why we need to be aware of the risks of destructuring and marginalising the old geopolitical and geostrategic schemes, and we need to commit ourselves to building the **"UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD"**.

15. This project is not utopian, nor does it replicate what happens in bodies such as the United Nations, nor does it aim to expand myths and spaces in order to colonise more peripheral and abandoned places. The **"UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD"**, especially after the pandemic, is a necessity, a lifeline in a mental space where differences and conflicting visions are cancelled out by a global representation based on respect for the person and for life. The **"UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD"** are made up of different men and women, sometimes in conflict today, but who want social justice and democracy. This is why when we speak of the **"UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD"** we are not talking about an abstract entity dating back to ancient times, but about women and men of the 21st century who need to govern global processes in order not to be devoured by them.

16. Immediately after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the MEDITERRANEAN FOUNDATION was among the main promoters of the Dialogue between Cultures also thanks to its presence in international bodies. It has drawn on the lessons of history and on what has been said by protagonists of past and recent history: from Victor Hugo to Alcide De Gasperi, from Gerardo Marotta to Predrag Matvejevic', from Nullo Minissi to Giovanni Pugliese Carratelli (for the "UNITED STATES OF EUROPE"); from Gustavo Rol to Michele Capasso (for the "UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD"), from Vittorio Di Pace to Corrado Beguinot (for the "Interethnic City"), from Massimo Pica Ciamarra to Pasquale Belfiore (for the "City of Dialogue"). Its action was carried out without sterile bureaucracy, every resource was invested directly in the field. The large number of partnership agreements signed and the quantity and quality of the actions carried out document high impact and concrete results.

With this wealth of experience, the **MEDITERRANEO FOUNDATION** - with the *Academy of the Mediterranean*, the *Maison des Alliances*, the *Maison de la Paix*, the *Maison de la Méditerranée*, the *Mediterranean Observatory on Organised Crime and Mafias (OMCOM)* and its network of organisations and institutions of the Mediterranean countries and of the world - urges all the forces in the field to weave a network of "Alliances between Civilisations", the founding basis for the constitution of the **"UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD": a political and social entity whose protagonists are young people, the producers of our future**. To them, future scholars, scientists and researchers, we owe the task of ensuring the salvation of the Earth and creation; the coexistence and collaboration of philosophies, cultures and religions; the protection of the rights and aspirations of each in freedom and democracy. It is not utopia. Utopia is the law of the jungle in which we live, the loss of fundamental values and the spread of particularism and selfishness that are destroying the positive of humanity.

The pandemic is changing the world and an epochal transformation is taking place that requires a similar cultural transformation with a new beginning and new paradigms: first and foremost, respect for the fundamental rights of the human person for the creation of a society in which all values can unfold in their entirety.

**The "UNITED STATES OF THE WORLD" are the last bastion for the defence and salvation of humanity.**

**Presented from 14 to 22 April 2021, World Earth Day**

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