



THE PEACE INNOVATION INITIATIVE & THE UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE RECEIVE \$1 MILLION TO BUILD BOLD SOLUTIONS FOR PEACE

New York, NY, January 30, 2023— Amid the deep challenges we face to global unity and stability, peace may appear like a far-off ideal. People around the world are seeking to invest in alternative paradigm-shifting innovations that are sustainable now and in the future. This week, The University for Peace (UPEACE)— the educational arm of the United Nations with a Permanent Observer Mission to the UN General Assembly— and the Peace Innovation Initiative (PII) announce their collective call-to-action to infuse peace with the power of innovation, positively disrupting the sustainability ecosystem to spark a global and cross-sectoral movement of bold peace practice. As a peace accelerator, PII understands that conflict and disruption are an opportunity for sustainable peace practice. Through multi-stakeholder convenings and programs, PII is connecting diverse and otherwise siloed leaders across sectors and equipping them with the education and technologies to turn data into action. By actively envisioning and investing in bold reformative solutions for peace, PII is empowering leaders and organizations across sectors to build their own practice of peace. **THE MISSION: CONSTRUCT THE DNA OF PEACE.**

Made possible by the generous \$1 million donation by the Naveen & Anu Jain Family Foundation, the Peace Innovation Initiative was established in May 2021 under the vision and leadership of Barbara Winston, who initially launched the Commission for Peace as a steering committee of UPEACE Ambassadors dedicated to serving as advocates for a global culture and practice of peace. Ms. Winston has focused her commitment and determination to reinvigorate peacebuilding worldwide, which led her to found the Commission and PII. Aware that peace requires a reframe to drive active global engagement, Ms. Winston shares, “peace is the way, the beauty of life; there is no peace without health, no health without peace. We are most grateful to Naveen and Anu Jain for their generous donation, true leadership, and commitment to this effort in bringing health and wellbeing to everyone as a foundation for peace.” PII’s foundational research will begin through their DNA of Peace Fellowship Program at the most basic level of peace: health and wellbeing. The Fellowship Program will commence in July 2023 at the UPEACE campus stationed in San José, Costa Rica under the leadership of Rector Francisco Rojas and Dean, Vice Rector Juan Carlos Sainz-Borgo, whose direction and guidance has been at the heart of the University’s success.

PII Founding Member and UPEACE Ambassador, Gordon Winston speaks to the Initiative’s monumental integration of peace and innovation: “Working in collaboration with UPEACE, our initiative will transform education and create a platform for the creation of innovative programs that will have a powerful impact on international and public agendas.” Mr. Winston recognizes the magnitude of possibility in linking the brightest minds in the fields of technology and peacebuilding with the immense public interest in investing for peace.

With the Naveen & Anu Jain Family Foundation as an exemplary partner, demonstrating the drive and devotion necessary for catalyzing innovative change, PII and UPEACE now call upon other organizations and leaders from all sectors and industries to join with them as they commit to innovating for peace.

About The Peace Innovation Initiative

Founded as a 501(c)(3) in November 2021, the Peace Innovation Initiative is the new accelerator for peace practice: a team of pioneer bridge-builders committed to making peace a sustainable reality. Devoted to the mission of creating and enabling a global practice of peace, PII believes in the power of positive disruption and the opportunity that conflict provides for sustainable peace practice. Driven by research and a commitment to harnessing the power of our individual and collective strengths, PII is building the bridge from peace potential to peace practice by developing programs that connect diverse minds and equip them with the knowledge and tools for peace. For more information, visit www.innovatepeace.org

About The University For Peace

Created by UN General Assembly Resolution 35/55, the University for Peace has been training leaders for peace for the past four decades. It is a unique global academic institution with over 2,000 Alumni hailing from more than 120 nations. Through its Master's and Doctoral degree programmes, UPEACE trains future leaders to explore and formulate strategies and practices in various contexts to address the causes of multiple problems affecting human and global wellbeing, and thus contribute to the processes of peacekeeping and peacebuilding. The UPEACE Experience is unique, empowering, transformative and cultivates critical thinking in its students. For more information, visit www.upeace.org

About The Naveen & Anu Jain Family Foundation

The Naveen & Anu Jain Family Foundation is a private foundation focused on improving lives around the globe through innovation and entrepreneurship. They are committed to increasing global access to education, health, and wellness through technology and catalyze the power of positive disruption in every project they have incubated. The Jains are paving the way for others to do the same and envision a world where the basic needs of every human on the planet are understood and prioritized as a fundamental right. Naveen Jain, a serial entrepreneur and visionary. He is the founder of InfoSpace, Intelius, and TalentWise, established and currently serves as CEO of Viome Life Sciences, where he has built an AI-driven platform capable of preventing and reversing chronic diseases to “make illness optional.” Anu Jain is the CEO of the family foundation with a focus on the advancement of girls and women. She is the founder of Women Safety XPrize, a tech-based solution setting new safety standards for women and girls. She is also a founding member of the UN Foundation Girl Up and member of Women Moving Millions. Together, the Jains' dedication to social service is creating impactful solutions to global health problems by mobilizing unprecedented resources for the advancement of people and planet.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Jordan Parrish

contact@innovatepeace.org

Peace Innovation Initiative