

## The Peace Post



#### Dear Friends,

Last week, the United Nations Summit of the Future gathered leaders from around the world, all coming together to shape the future of our multilateral system, sustainable development, and peace. In times like these, I am reminded of the power of collective action and of what happens when apparently incompatible ideas and diverse experiences collide in pursuit of peace.

Our organization, the Peace Innovation Initiative (PII), is a testament to the power of the DNA of Peace to shape us all, deconstructing the DNA of Violence in the world and creating something brand new: innovative. As a peace accelerator, we operate as a community of visionaries leading a global movement to accelerate positive disruption and establish active peace as a pillar of innovation worldwide, and in this month's edition of the Peace Post, we explore the core of our commitment: Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). This month, we explore groundbreaking peace initiatives, share inspiring stories of peacebuilders, and delve into the transformative potential of leveraging innovation for the greater good.

Our mission for the Peace Post is not only to report on progress– it is to be catalysts for positive change, providing a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and the exchange of ideas that can drive lasting peace. The Peace Post is not just a newsletter– it's a call to action.

And so, as we all return to our day-to-day lives after two weeks of peace and sustainable development events and meetings, I implore you to consider all that you've learned and the role you might play in creating impact for peace and sustainability. I encourage you to use reason and learn from the lessons of history: indeed, we stand at a crossroads, and we have an incredible opportunity to shape the future together.

Our work together is more than a compilation of programs and events. It's a global movement, and we need passionate voices like yours to help lead the way. I invite you to join us as a member of our Cooperative for Humanity. Together, we can create a future driven by peace and innovation.

In the spirit of peace and unity,

Barbara Winston President and Founder

Gordon Winston Co-Founder

#### **Become a Member**



### At the UN, world leaders try to lay out a vision for the future and actually make it happen

The United Nations General Assembly has adopted a "Pact for the Future" to address 21st-century challenges and enhance global cooperation. This innovative agreement, approved at the Summit of the Future, commits world leaders to tackle issues such as climate change, artificial intelligence, and rising inequality while promoting peace and sustainability. Key provisions include restructuring the UN Security Council, advancing nuclear disarmament, and establishing governance for AI and space. Despite some opposition from Russia, the pact received broad support, highlighting the importance of multilateral collaboration in fostering peace, justice, and strong institutions. This comprehensive approach aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 16, demonstrates the potential for innovative solutions to complex global issues, and complements PII's work in accelerating positive disruption for global peacebuilding.

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# Armed conflict is stressing the bones of the global economy

The armed conflicts and geopolitical tensions we face today are undoubtedly straining the physical infrastructure that underpins global trade and communication. From shipping disruptions in the Red Sea to airspace restrictions over Russia and vulnerable undersea cables, our conflicts are challenging the foundations of globalization. This Vox article emphasizes that while the global system has so far proven resilient, there are growing concerns about its fragility. The interconnectedness of the global economy with peace and stability is evident now more than ever, and innovative solutions, built with a commitment to peace, will be critical to protect infrastructure and create future systems that can sustain the realities we face now and in the future. PII eagerly contributes to this work for a more peaceful world.

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### Civil society groups nudge and cajole world leaders from the sidelines of United Nations week

During the UN General Assembly in New York last week, diplomats and heads of state were not the only ones gathered to promote change; countless civil society groups and philanthropic organizations from around the world played an equally crucial role in advancing peace, sustainability, and innovation efforts alongside official diplomatic discussions. Events like Emerson Collective's "climate science fair" showcased practical solutions to climate change, while organizations like UNICEF and the Gates Foundation advocated for increased funding and attention to global health and poverty reduction. These efforts highlight the growing importance of non-governmental actors in addressing global challenges. Civil society groups also worked to influence policy language, including Oxfam and their push for stronger commitments to gender equality. The week demonstrated how innovative partnerships governments, nonprofits, between and philanthropists can contribute to achieving SDG 16 by promoting peaceful and inclusive societies while building effective and accountable institutions at all levels.



## Negative Trends on SDG 16 Could Jeopardize Global Goals: UN Report

The latest UN Global Progress Report on SDG 16 reveals alarming trends that could jeopardize the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals. The report, jointly produced by UNDP, UNODC, and OHCHR, highlights a significant increase in conflictrelated civilian deaths, rising violent crime, and persistent challenges in governance, justice access, and human rights. Despite some progress in transparency and anti-corruption efforts, the pace of improvement remains slow. The report underscores the critical role of SDG 16 in enabling the entire 2030 Agenda and calls for urgent action to reverse negative trends in peace, justice, and strong institutions. This sobering assessment emphasizes the interconnectedness of the SDGs and the need for renewed commitment to building peaceful, just, and inclusive societies to ensure no one is left behind in sustainable development efforts.

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## **Innovation Spotlight**



## Revolutionizing the Refrigerant Industry through Innovative Energy-Efficient Solutions

We met countless genius leaders at Climate Week and UNGA, and we're excited to highlight our new friends at Zoetic Global this month for their work in promoting sustainability through innovation. Zoetic has developed a revolutionary refrigerant solution that promises to reduce energy costs by up to 30% while significantly cutting carbon emissions. Their technology addresses the growing challenge of cooling-related greenhouse gas emissions, which account for over 10% of global emissions.

With global warming on the rise, the industry projects a 300% increase by 2050, and the need for cooling units that do not contribute to further planetary decline will be critical. Zoetic's refrigerants work with existing equipment, making them a cost-effective and accessible solution for businesses and property owners. By reducing both direct and indirect emissions, Zoetic's technology offers a pathway for governments and corporations to decrease their climate impact without the burden of major capital expenditures.

Zoetic's innovative solution demonstrates how technological advancements can contribute to environmental sustainability and economic efficiency, and we thank them for their work supporting global efforts towards peace and stability in the face of climate change.

## **Event Spotlight**

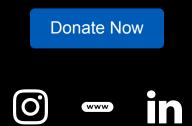


## UN Peacekeeping Marks International Day of Peace with Global Art Installation at UN Headquarters

For the International Day of Peace on 21 September, UN Peacekeeping organized a global art installation at the UN Headquarters in New York. The event featured live artwork by the renowned street artist Detour, focusing on the theme of "Cultivating a Culture of Peace." This interactive installation, including virtual reality experiences, highlighted peacekeeping missions, especially the UN's efforts in South Sudan, and served as a tribute to those contributing to peace globally.

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Your support and engagement drive us to continue our mission of fostering innovation for a more harmonious world. Whether you're reading, sharing, or contributing, you're playing a vital role in this journey toward global peace. If you have stories, insights, or feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we're making a difference.



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