



## Summit of the Future Action Days Side Event

### *Peace Not War*

21 September 2024, 11h15 - 12h30, Conference Room (CR) 11,  
UN Headquarters, New York

Organized by: **The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations, UN Department of Global Communications (United Nations Academic Impact and Dag Hammarskjöld UN Library), UNESCO, UN Major Group for Youth and Children and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)**

#### **Background on the event (one paragraph)**

Learn from the peace processes in Colombia and Ireland to galvanize momentum for the Pact for the Future. Showcase how concrete actions on inclusion, good institutions, information integrity and education can be key drivers of peace. The “Peace Not War” side event at the UN Summit of the Future Action Days aimed to explore actionable pathways for advancing global peace in alignment with the [UN’s Pact for the Future](#). Drawing on lessons from the peace processes in Ireland and Colombia, the event explored, from a multistakeholder perspective, how concrete actions in peace, justice, and inclusion can advance a peace and sustainable development. The panel highlighted the crucial role of information integrity, children protection, youth participation, and education in achieving a peaceful future.

#### **Key Issues discussed**

- **Building Inclusive Institutions:** The event emphasized the importance of establishing institutions that ensure inclusive participation and respect for human rights, drawing lessons from the Good Friday Agreement in Northern Ireland and the 2016 Colombian Peace Accord. Both processes show that peace requires inclusive dialogue and addressing the root causes of conflict.

- **Information Integrity and Peace:** Misinformation and disinformation were identified as major threats to global stability, as they can exacerbate conflicts and undermine peace efforts.
- **Children and Peace:** To create a peaceful and just future, children must be urgently protected from war's impacts. One in six children worldwide are affected by conflict, and the global community must act to safeguard their rights, education, and well-being.
- **Youth and Peace:** Youth were recognized as critical stakeholders in peace-building processes, as they bring new perspectives, energy, and innovation.
- **Education and Peace:** High illiteracy rates among children impede sustainable development and peace. Additionally, libraries in conflict zones are at risk, as attacks on them threaten collective memory and dialogue.

### Key recommendations for action

- **Promote Information Integrity:** Support and promote the [UN Global Principles for Information Integrity](#). Governments, media organizations, tech companies and civil society should collaborate to combat misinformation and disinformation, ensuring that peace-building efforts are anchored in truth and transparency.
- **Globalize Compassion:** Support a [globalized compassion movement](#), as proposed by the Satyarthi Movement for Global Compassion, where children, regardless of citizenship, are a global responsibility. Advocate for [UNESCO, Harvard and Satyarthi Movement for Global Compassion's initiative for compassionate leadership](#), where leaders make decisions based on compassion for the children in conflict zones.
- **Institutionalize Youth Participation:** Promote an intergenerational and inter-stakeholder approach for governance and peace-building process by supporting the [Global Coalition on Youth, Peace, and Security](#).
- **Invest in Education and Libraries:** Increase support for [open educational resources \(OER\)](#). Promote the [Global Knowledge Commons for Peace and Sustainable Development](#), as proposed by UNESCO, SDSN, and IFLA, to make educational resources widely accessible and support libraries as centers of learning. Engage in the [global consultation process](#) to enhance understanding of the UN Charter. Additionally, support open educational initiatives on peace, for example the [SDG Academy courses on SDG 16](#), the [Ages of Globalization course](#), and [peace studies programs](#) offered by SDSN Ireland member institutions to build a well-informed global community committed to peace and development.
- **Peace is an ongoing process:** Global peace requires cooperation from all levels of society. Peace must be rooted in justice, inclusivity, information integrity, compassion, and education. By uniting across sectors we can achieve the vision of “peace, not war.”

### Webpage to find more information:

<https://sdgacademy.org/un-action-day-2024-official-side-event-peace-not-war/>