



**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION**  
*of the United States of America*  
 A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION



**Sacramento**

P.O. Box 163381 Sacramento, CA 95816-9381  
 Email: [info@unausasacramento@gmail.com](mailto:info@unausasacramento@gmail.com)  
[www.unausasacramento.com](http://www.unausasacramento.com)

**Davis**

101 E. 7th Street Davis, CA 95616  
 Email: [rvborton@comcast.net](mailto:rvborton@comcast.net)

**N E W S L E T T E R**

**August 2015**

**Global Goals for 2015**

Become educated on the Sustainable Development Goals and take a stand.

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**UN's 70th Anniversary**

The celebration in San Francisco was a memorable event.

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Commemorated the anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

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Even though conflict disproportionately affects women, access to justice is restricted.

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Members voice their concerns and opinions.

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**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
 For Sustainable Development

The world has a to-do list called the #globalgoals, and it will take everyone to make them successful. [Take action at globalgoals.org](http://Takeactionatglobalgoals.org)





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The United Nation's 70th Anniversary Celebration in San Francisco  
 June 26-27, 2015



The UN's 70th Anniversary celebration in San Francisco at City Hall was spectacular. The UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Governor Brown, Representative Pelosi and SF Mayor Ed Lee spoke about the importance of the UN, with San Francisco as its birth place. VIP's in attendance included 30 or more representatives from around the world.



Nobel peace prize recipient Malala Yousefzai attended the event.



The UN's 70th Anniversary and the Supreme Court's decision to recognize marriage equality were both celebrated on June 26, 2015.



United Nations 70th Anniversary Celebration - June 27, 2015  
 Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

The celebration started with a ringing of the Cathedral bells, a choral of Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy,” and a procession of the United Nations’s many colorful flags. The start of a fascinating day and a long program of speakers, music and Commemoration in memory of the late Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold. The Swedish Choir, Kloster, sung “The Way Chose You,” which was inspired by his spiritual journey, “Markings.”

The first guest speaker was House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, who praised the many accomplishments of the U.N. and pledged her support of U.S. obligations to the U.N. Several other speakers explained Grace Cathedral’s role in the original signing of the U.N. Charter. The beautiful U.N. mural at the entrance wall was dedicated to the Cathedral’s continuing support of the United Nations. Several wonderful musical ensembles performed such as the Sax Vobiscum, Sycamore Chamber Orchestra, Coelis Vocal Ensemble, and the magnificent Pacific Choir of young singers. Wow!

One speaker, the Rev. Victor Kazanjian, Executive Director of the United Religious Initiative (URI), was of particular interest. He described URI’s similar work in promoting interfaith cooperation, peace building and the power of human connection through love, compassion and empathy. I invited Rev. Kazanjian to Sacramento to speak at an upcoming UNA program.

The event included a personal involvement exercise where we asked a selected partner, “what brings you here today? What is it about the U.N. that inspires you? If you could make one proposal to the U.N., what would it be?” My partner and I came up with some good ideas to bring back to our Sacramento UNA-USA chapter.

Peace be with you,  
 Carl Sweet

Photos from Carl’s recent trip to the United Nations in Geneva.



## Citizens Climate Lobby Recommends the Carbon Fee and Dividend Rather than Cap and Trade. Here's Why.

Pricing carbon is a way to incorporate the true cost of fossil fuels into the price we pay for goods and services that use fossil fuels. The true price, which we are paying for with our health and the risks to our economy and global stability, is not reflected in the dollar amount of those goods and services. At CCL, we advocate for putting a fee on carbon at the source or production (well, mine or port of entry) and returning 100% of those fees, equally, to all American households. Returning all the proceeds makes it revenue-neutral, and thus not a tax because the government does not keep any of the money. Cap and trade is another market-based mechanism to put a carbon price.

### Why is Carbon Fee and Dividend better than Cap and Trade?

**Cap and Trade** was used by some early signers of the Kyoto Protocol, the first international treaty to address climate change. Though most early adopters tried hard to make it work, Cap and Trade was not easy to understand, energy prices swung wildly, consumers paid the whole cost of the experiment, and it was not very effective in reducing total CO2 emissions. Much of the reason for this was because of offset credits. Power providers could buy offset credits that allowed them to burn more fossil fuels, but the offset credits did not actually reduce total CO2 emissions. Carbon traders and offset investors made lots of money. Utilities and manufacturers had increased costs that were passed on to the consumer. No real reduction in CO2 was achieved and the consumer was stuck with the bill. **Carbon Fee and Dividend**, on the other hand, is easy for everyone to understand, it gives the end consumer 100 percent of the proceeds of the carbon fee to help pay for the transition to clean energy, there are no offset credits or carbon credits to manipulate and no one technology is singled out to win or lose. Only with inaction over several years do you become disadvantaged. With action you become more efficient and competitive. The free market picks the winning and losing technologies. Low-emissions energy and efficiency measures become cost competitive as prices rise for fossil fuels. As we transition to green technologies and green energies, CO2 emissions are reduced. Investments in green energy spur the development of innovative technologies that we export to other countries. America regains leadership in the green revolution.

For more information: [www.citizensclimatelobby.org](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org)



## World mayors warn of threats to mankind, commit to UN development goals

More than 65 mayors from around the world pledged to implement the United Nation's new global goals in their cities.

VATICAN CITY, July 22 (Reuters) - More than 65 mayors from around the world pledged on Wednesday to implement the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their cities and to combat global warming, saying society was facing numerous threats.

The mayors signed a pledge at a Vatican-hosted conference where participants included New York's Bill de Blasio, Anne Hidalgo of Paris as well the mayors of Rio de Janeiro, Stockholm, Johannesburg and Mexico City. "The very tissue of our societies is under threat of growing inequalities, the unmet needs of the extreme poor and the extremely vulnerable, and a natural environment being hit by more frequent and intense heat waves, droughts, floods, rising sea levels, and other climate-related threats," the pledge said.



The U.N. is due to adopt the SDGs in September. They include 17 commitments from world leaders to eradicate hunger and extreme poverty by 2030, reduce inequality within and between countries, achieve gender equality, ensure sustainable water management and energy, and take urgent action to combat climate change.

Meeting the goals would cost between \$3.3 trillion and \$4.5 trillion a year, while combating climate change and adapting to its effects will cost poor countries an estimated \$100 billion annually.

The mayors, whom Pope Francis addressed on Tuesday, pledged to promote the success of the SDGs in their cities and to form the Urban SDG Alliance committed to sustainable development.



### The 29th Annual August Peace Event

The August Peace Event on August 2, 2015 was held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sacramento. Powerful and inspiring speakers and a coalition of organizations remembered Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They recognized the dire circumstances the world is now in as the United States spends \$1 trillion on modernizing its nuclear stockpile.

While the U.S. is concerned about Iran, who does not have a nuclear weapon, nine nations already have them: the U.S., Russia, France, China, Britain, Pakistan, India, Israel and North Korea. The energy and defense budget our government spends on upgrading weapons and their infrastructure is shocking. Conservative estimates put the world's stockpile at over 15,600 warheads. The U.S. has at least 7,100 of those.

The Non-Proliferation Treaty (or NPT) was made law in 1970 and has three main points:

1. Non-nuclear weapons states won't acquire them.
2. Nuclear weapons states will eliminate their arsenals.
3. Every nation has the right to peaceful nuclear technology which means enrichment at 3% for power generation and 20% for medicine. Weapons enrichment needs to be 90%.

What to do: write to President Obama and Congress to demand no expenditures for nuclear weapon modernization and real compliance with the United State's disarmament obligations.

1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington D.C., 20500.



## Women, Peace and Security Agenda Still Hitting Glass Ceiling

**UNITED NATIONS, Jul 30 2015 (IPS)** - This October will mark the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325. The landmark resolution on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) recognises not only the disproportionate impact armed conflict has on women, but also the lack of women’s involvement in conflict resolution and peace-making. It calls for the full and equal participation of women in conflict prevention, peace negotiations, humanitarian response and post-conflict reconstruction and urges member states to incorporate a gender perspective in all areas of peace-building and to take measures to protect women from sexual violence in armed conflict.

But despite all these commitments on paper, actual implementation of the WPS agenda in the real world continues to lag, according to humanitarian workers and activists.

Data by the U.N. and NATO show that women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected by armed conflict.

Before the Second World War, combatants made up 90 percent of casualties in wars. Today most casualties are civilians, especially women and children. Hence, as formulated in a 2013 NATO review, whereas men wage the war, it is mostly women and children who suffer from it.

Secondary education for girls is almost non-existent in this area and risks of violence, sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking are particularly high, said Kang Kyung-wha Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator at the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Thus marginalized and disempowered, [these women and girls] are unlikely to play any part in building stable communities and participate in the socio-economic development of their societies and countries,” Kang said.

“Despite 1325 and the successor resolutions...women and girls continue to be routinely excluded from decision-making processes in humanitarian responses as well as in peace-negotiations and peace-building initiatives.”

Another challenge in making the women, peace and security agenda a reality is linked to psychological resistance and rigid adherence to the traditional status quo. Gender-related issues tend to be handled with kid gloves due to “cultural sensitivity”, according to Kang Kyung-wha.

“But you can’t hide behind culture,” Kang said.

Also, women activists continue to face misogyny and skepticism in their communities and at the national level. Christine Ahn, co-founder of the Korea Policy Institute and former Senior Policy Analyst at the Global Fund for Women, told IPS that often enough the involvement of women in peace-keeping processes seems inconceivable to some of the men in power who hold key positions in international relations and foreign policy.

- By Nora Happel





5th Annual

Inter-Generational Model United Nations

October 10, 2015

*Resolve International Issues*

**About IGMUN**

IGMUN is a program of the Northern California Division of United Nations Association USA.

IGMUN is one of the few inter-generational Model United Nations in the U.S, offering a diversity of delegates and perspectives.

As a noncompetitive simulation of the United Nations, IGMUN is an excellent opportunity for both novices and experienced delegates to practice their debate and negotiation skills.

**Location:**

University of California Berkeley  
Berkeley, CA 94720

**Registration:**

Early Bird—June 25: \$25  
After June 25: \$30  
After September 1st: \$35  
Price includes: fees, materials, breakfast, & lunch

**Time:**

9:00am– 6:00pm  
(Registration begins 8am)

**Committee Topics**

- Peace & Security - 1st Committee DISEC  
**Global Terrorism: Activities by Non-State Entities**
- Global Health - WHO :  
**Ebola: Combating Communicable Diseases in Developing Nations**
- Human Rights - UNHRC -  
**Internally Displaced Persons in Politically Unstable Areas**
- Women's Rights - OHCHR to Special Session on CEDAW:  
**Revisiting CEDAW: Accelerating Implementation and Execution**
- Climate Change - EP - **Soil Conditions: Erosion, Degradation, and Use for Food Production**
- Internet Security - ITU -  
**Cyber Crime and Espionage**
- Post-2015 Development Agenda - UNDP To GA - **MDGs and SDGs: Adopting and Implementing Specific Goals**
- \*Security Council  
**Open Agenda: Topic will be announced in July**

\*Denotes Advanced Committees

*Register for the conference at [www.igmun.org](http://www.igmun.org)*



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## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

The U.S. military is not appreciated in other parts of the world. Many other parts of the world have governments that don't care to—or don't know how to—serve their people. But they have military organizations that, however ineffectively, can only seem to carry on warfare with their neighbors or even their own people.

To me, it logically follows that a more acceptable and more accepted governmental organization is required. The only other established and reasonably effective such organization is the United Nations system. We need it, it is in place and it is willing and able to carry out the necessary functions. When will we begin to use it for something besides a welfare agency?

F.D.H., July 2, 2015.

Dear Editor,

Nobel Prize winner Malala Yousefzai has urged leaders to cut "8 days of military spending." The amount saved, \$39 billion, would educate the world's children for a year according to her non-profit, the Malala Fund. I believe this is a reasonable request and urge members to contact our legislators. It also points out the sad, disturbing priorities of our global community - that there is never enough money to educate our people, but we always find more money for weapons.

K.W.

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Don't have time to be a board member but would still like to volunteer? Well we need you! Event leaders for UNA sponsored programs will take on one event of their choice during the year. We are starting exploratory committees for:

International Day of Peace September 2015  
 Annual Dinner/UN Day October 2015  
 IGMUN at UC Berkeley October 2015  
 UNA Advocacy Day at the Capitol  
 Model UN Clubs  
 Young Professionals Group

**We welcome your thoughtful and civilized comments! Please email your Letters to the Editor to:**  
[kate.unausa@gmail.com](mailto:kate.unausa@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Dates

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| August 3     | UNA Board of Directors meeting, St. Michael's Church, 9:30am                                  |
| August 12    | International Youth Day   |
| August 19    | World Humanitarian Day  |
| August 20    | Sierra Club film, "One Man, One Cow, One Planet." California State Grange - 3830 U St. 6:30pm |
| August 23-28 | World Water Week  |
| August 29    | International Day Against Nuclear Tests   |
| September 5  | International Day of Charity  |
| September 7  | UNA Board of Directors meeting, St. Michael's Church, 9:30am                                  |
| September 19 | UNA Division Meeting, 305 N. California St. Palo Alto, CA 10:00am - 3:30pm                    |
| September 21 | International Day of Peace  |
| October 10   | IGMUN, U.C. Berkeley, 9:00am - 6:00pm   |

United Nations International Year Observances for 2015:  
International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies  
International Year of Soils

**Dues and donations: Please remember to pay your yearly membership dues. We are an all-volunteer organization and depend on our members' support in order to bring quality programs to you and our community.**

UNA board meetings are the first Wednesday of every month. If you have an idea for a program or would like the UNA board to address an issue, email Sharon Alexander (alexanders@csus.edu) to be considered for an upcoming agenda item.

**Remember to check out our website, Facebook and Twitter.**

**[www.unausasacramento.com](http://www.unausasacramento.com)**

## UNA-USA Board Members

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Verena Borton  
rvborton@comcast.net

### **Sacramento Chapter President**

Sharon Alexander  
916-482-4949

### **Vice President, Young Professionals Chair, Newsletter Editor**

Kate Woolley  
kate.unausa@gmail.com

### **Corresponding Secretary, Newsletter Editor**

John Jervis  
916-482-1354

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916-393-3852

### **Membership**

Carl Sweet  
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Eddie Lee

Sacramento and Davis Chapters

*P.O. Box 163381 Sacramento, CA 95816-9381*

Email: [info@unausasacramento@gmail.com](mailto:info@unausasacramento@gmail.com)

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UNA-USA Sacramento Chapter  
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 Sacramento, CA 95816

**Application for Membership**

- Free Student Membership
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- \$40 Individual / Family
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$500 Patron
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Chapter (Circle one): Sacramento                  Davis

The United Nations Association of the United States of America is a national organization dedicated to strengthening the three pillars of the U.N: sustainable development, human rights, and peace and security. UNA-USA carries out its action agenda through a unique public outreach, policy analysis, and international dialogue.

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Choose Sacramento or Davis as your local chapter.

*Thank you!*

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