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MAGAZINE

Global Campus



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Secretary General
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of Human Rights

We are living in a period of severe global crises, but also at a time of transformation. Scientists have been telling us for decades - and politicians slowly seem to be starting to grasp the concept that global warming will make our planet uninhabitable if we do not take swift and decisive action to address the root causes of our global environmental crisis, including the deliberate destruction of our rainforests, the emission of greenhouse gases that contribute to accelerated climate change, and a rapid loss of biodiversity etc. The COVID-19 Pandemic has contributed to strengthening our belief and opening even the eyes of the most sceptical politicians that we can no longer leave the solution of our global problems simply to market forces, as was the mantra of neoliberal economists and politicians for almost half a century. Most people realise today that we need robust and well-functioning democratic states, regions and cities with accountable politicians willing to take responsibility for protecting our human rights to life, health and a sustainable environment as well as the same rights for our children and future generations, if necessary against powerful business interests.

Since the voices of human rights defenders and academics are usually not loud enough and often overheard by politicians and business corporations, human rights need to join forces with the arts in order to reach out to a broader public. I do not know any place which would be better suited to combining the arts with human rights as Venice! For 1,600 years, Venice has established itself as one of the most fascinating cities of arts in the world. Wherever you walk in Venice, you see, feel and breathe the beauty of arts: in architecture, sculptures, paintings, music and many other forms.

With the Global Campus of Human Rights, Venice also hosts the Headquarters of the largest institution worldwide in the field of human rights education. As Senator Orietta Vanin and others advocate, the City of Venice should declare itself as an official human rights city, and the Global Campus stands ready to support it on this journey.

Koen Vanmechelen and Nick Danziger are two world famous artists with whom we have been cooperating for many years, with the common aim of bringing human rights closer to photography, cinema, the fine arts, architecture and action-related applied arts. The annual Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy, which Nick has been organising together with Claudia Modonesi for many years, in cooperation with the Venice Film Festival, is a big success and has empowered generations of participants to express

their human rights messages by means of documentaries or feature films. In addition to donating his well-known sculpture of Collective Memory to the Global Campus, a sculpture that catches the eye of every visitor when entering our cloister, Koen Vanmechelen has organised Cosmocafés in many parts of the world, where we discussed human rights-related topics from an artistic perspective. The ultimate aim of all these events is to create a Human Rights Pavilion for the future Art Biennale. I fully agree with Nick and Koen that we need to join forces with like-minded artists and policy makers to use empty spaces and transfer Venice into a city of human rights artists.

We recently signed a Partnership Agreement with the Fondazione Venezia and started a close cooperation with the magnificent and innovative M9 Museum in Mestre, directed by Luca Molinari. This is a multi-media museum about the development of the Italian people, life and culture throughout the 20th century, full of human rights related aspects. I am sure that the Global Campus and our students will both benefit from this partnership but also contribute to enriching the human rights approach of this remarkable museum.

We also would like to strengthen our cooperation with the Human Safety Net of the Generali Group to assist them in their aim of transforming Venice into a “world capital of sustainability”, as Emma Ursich explained. By renovating and opening the magnificent Procuratie Vecchie at St Mark’s Square to the public for the first time after almost five centuries, new and vibrant spaces will be made available for debates that could centre around the arts, human rights and the future path of Venice transforming from a UNESCO supported, but fragile World Cultural Heritage threatened by global warming and the rise of the sea level, towards a sustainable human rights city. As the Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Benedetto Della Vedova, so eloquently said: “Venice is the most ancient city of the future”! With the recent decision of the Italian Government to deny cruise ships as from 1 August 2021 any passage through the city, an important first step towards the future has been taken, away from mass tourism towards a city, where native Venetian citizens, artists, students, academics and intellectuals feel home and inspired again. The Global Campus of Human Rights is happy to become one of the drivers for this important transformation.

Interviews with:

Benedetto Della Vedova,
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation (Human
Rights Mandate - Italy)

Luca Molinari,
Academic Director of M9 - Museum
of the 20th Century

Nick Danziger,
Artist, Photographer and Filmmaker

Koen Vanmechelen,
Artist

Emma Ursich,
Head of Corporate Identity,
The Human Safety Net



Interview with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Human Rights Mandate), Benedetto Della Vedova



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to interview the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Human Rights Mandate) about his views on possible sustainable futures for Venice and how arts and culture improves international relations.

This year marks the 1600th anniversary of Venice and its celebrations. Given your role as Deputy Minister, we would like to know your vision of the city of Venice, how could it have a more sustainable future?

According to the UN, in addition to the global health emergency, the pandemic has also caused a crisis of sustainable development. We are also told by the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda that we are seriously behind on, including Goal 11 on how to make cities and urban settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. This delay also affects Venice and if the Italian State does not decide to tackle the unresolved issues at the root of the problem, there is a risk that in mid-July UNESCO will include it in the list of world heritage sites in danger. The passage of tourist flows and large ships in the Giudecca canal, marginalisation in the lagoon, the conversion of the port of Marghera and others are all issues that affects the future of the city. That said, I am ready to bet that Venice will start up again before many other cities because of its boundless and vibrant cultural offer, and as an ideal place for experimentation. To accompany this new start, however, a functional intervention plan is needed for the sustainable development of the entire Veneto area, with Venice as its fulcrum. In my opinion, this plan should be based on three main lines of action. The first is the transition, by 2030, to electricity and hydrogen for all means of transport. Venice must be the vanguard in energy transition and environmental sustainability with interventions such as the creation of a Hydrogen Pole, decarbonisation and circularity, the promotion of initiatives such as VeniSIA (Venice entrepreneurial international Sustainability Innovation Accelerator) as an innovation centre and acceleration on sustainability issues, in

synergy with other foundations and research centres. The second is to interpret the phenomena of globalisation that materialise in the city in a provident, far-sighted way, aiming at quality tourism, becoming technologically advanced in order to attract permanent residents rather than hit and run visitors, also through digital platforms for tourism. Sustainable as a Smartland, and returning to what has always been its identity as a great crossroads of the most diverse cultures. The historic centre of Venice must be repopulated and for this reason a dedicated residential plan, subsidised taxes and services for workers, students and residents in general must be implemented. The third is the education sector, an issue that closely affects the Global Campus: relaunching the educational offer, which is already rich, and improving services and housing for students to make Venice a campus city at international level. Of course, these proposals involve a cost - from 2.5 to 4 billion euros according to some estimates - but the beauty is that they are consistent, not only with the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development, but also with the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, which will make it possible to use the financial resources of the Next Generation EU for the recovery from the pandemic to access the convergence of programs and consequent synergies. On the other hand, in its 1600 years, Venice has been continually hit by epidemics, in particular by the Plague which was its true great enemy. The two votive basilicas - *la Salute* and *il Redentore* - are there to remind us how Venice has always emerged as a winner.

How could art and culture improve international relations between Italy and other countries?

Italy is a medium political and military power, but



a great artistic and cultural power. Art and culture - what is now called soft power - have always been at the centre of our foreign policy but today we have to make a qualitative leap. And, to better project our soft power outwards, at the *Farnesina* we are in the final stages of an internal reorganisation that will see the birth of a new General Directorate at the start of 2022, that will deal with public diplomacy and communication, human rights, the network of our cultural institutes abroad, the promotion of the Italian language in the world, and scientific research. At a time when multilateralism, perhaps on a new basis of values, is making a comeback as a method for reaching global consensus, we are also witnessing the emergence of new actors - cities and their networks, regional, non-governmental and civil society organisations, that which require us to solve the challenges we face by promoting international relations based on shared rules and not on relations of force or power.

Venice has always been perceived as a window for all of Italy. What could be the most interesting topics of discussion in the Agenda of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs referring to the city for this year of recovery, thinking above all of its specific primary condition as an international city of art?

It is true, Venice is not surprisingly a showcase for us and to give a signal that the restart starts from Venice, it was chosen to host the top G20 Economy and Finance ministers from 8-11 July. In anticipation of the celebrations of the 1600th anniversary of the founding of the city, through its diplomatic-consular network and the Cultural Institutes abroad, the *Farnesina* has promoted a series of cultural activities to enhance this important anniversary. I'll give you some examples. In April, the exhibition "Under the Mask of Venice" dedicated to 18th century Venetian culture was inaugurated in Moscow, with more than one hundred works from the *Fondazione Musei Civici di Venezia* exhibited for the first time in Russia. In May, in Lima, a conference was held, organised with IUAV University, entitled "Theatres in the World", as part of the "1600 years of Venice. History, architecture, city". From May to June, in Santiago de Chile, a collaboration between our Institute of Culture and the Universidad Finnis Terrae gave birth to an online course on the art and culture of Venice. This is a taste of initiatives organised so far but there will be others throughout 2021.

How could the Global Campus of Human Rights, an association of 100 universities around the world based in the Monastery of San Nicolò in Venice, help in the work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs considering the excellence in human rights education?

In Italy, foreign policy is traditionally considered as a construction site where access is authorised only to insiders while what is missing is a real foreign affairs community on the Anglo-Saxon model. By community, I therefore mean the Government and Parliament - obviously - but also the academy, the analysis and research centres, the universities, the experts on the big media... a varied world that must become a network and contaminate itself. In this context, education has a central role to play. In recent times, then, ethno-nationalist and populist leaders have for the first time questioned not only the instruments of international protection - by establishing for them which social groups were holders of rights and which not, as if human rights were no longer universal, or indivisible - but even international law as the guiding star in relations between states. Given the challenge we face, it is important to go to the root of the issue, namely education and training on human rights and international humanitarian law as a real subject of study. Centres of Excellence are therefore well positioned to make this important contribution.

Can you leave us a message for our teachers, students and staff at the Global Campus of Human Rights?

Gladly. Human rights are a process, and, like all processes, they can go forward but also backwards, like a pendulum. This is why they must be continuously cultivated, defended and promoted. Today they are under attack, almost everywhere in the world, as I said before. When asked "where do universal rights begin?" Eleanor Roosevelt replied: "in small places, close to home". Here, it is from there that we must start again if we want a world where living in freedom and diversity is still possible.

* The statements were shared on 30 June 2021, on the occasion of the 4th Online Global Campus of Human Rights Conversation



Interview with the Academic Director of M9 - Museum of the 20th Century, Luca Molinari



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to interview the Academic Director of M9 - Museum of the 20th Century, architect Luca Molinari on his ideas about the possible sustainable futures of Venice and on how art and culture can improve communities.

This year marks the 1600th anniversary of Venice and its celebrations. Given his role as Scientific Director of the M9 Museum, we would like to know his vision for the future of the city.

Venice has always been an innovative laboratory capable of mixing art, science and a vision of the future. In addition to this, Venice is an unprecedented ecosystem in which the relationship between design and Nature has always been taken to extreme levels that must be rethought every time. I believe that the destiny of Venice must move in this direction by reconstructing a virtuous relationship between art, science and technology, as well as becoming a laboratory of new sustainability in which to experiment useful scenarios for the future of the territory and of all coastal areas in the world.

In what roles do you see art and culture in the different future scenarios?

Central. Art and culture are engines of social innovation as well as factors in the construction of new forms of environmental awareness and social coexistence.

How does the M9 Museum work with the universities and academic networks present in the area?

The relationship between M9 - Museum of the 20th Century and the different university centres in the area is fundamental and is nourished by a reciprocal exchange. M9 wants to be an open house for cultural and social innovation in the area as well as a place where the best resources of local and international universities can meet freely. In addition to this we are working to ensure that university students have places to meet up and work in a welcoming environment, reinforcing the

idea of a home-laboratory which is a contemporary museum.

How can the recently signed Partnership between the M9 Foundation and our Global Campus of Human Rights institution help?

I believe that the partnership that has just been signed will increase the quality of relations and opportunities for discussion on a series of social issues that we strongly believe in by promoting dialogue and every possible form of social and cultural integration between distant worlds.

Can you leave us a message for our teachers, students and staff of the Global Campus of Human Rights?

We are waiting for you at M9 to play together and imagine projects that bring our unique and special identities to the world!



Interview with Artist, Photographer and Filmmaker, Nick Danziger



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask artist Nick Danziger from our partner organisation Picture People (UK), about his experiences in Venice coordinating our Summer School on Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy (CHRA), and his views about how the city could contribute to artistic projects.

What does the city of Venice mean for an artist like you? Could you tell us more about your future artistic projects in Venice like the CHRA School and others?

Venice holds a special place in my heart and head, as well as in my artistic and intellectual development. My first ambition was to be a painter, and my admiration for Titian, Tintoretto and the Venetian school is undiminished from my early career as a painter and subsequently in my work as a photographer. Many books such as Jan Morris's 'Venice', Mark Hudson's 'Titian: The Last Days' and Andrea di Robilliant's 'A Venetian Story: A true story of an impossible love in the eighteenth century' have enriched my knowledge of one of, if not arguably the world's most inimitable city and its people.

I hope that the Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy Summer School that I have co-run for the last 15 years with Claudia Modonesi will continue to evolve and build on attracting talented filmmakers, activists and others from across the world to go forth and be agents for positive change in the world through the art they produce as a result of attending the summer school at the Global Campus for Human Rights.

I have had the opportunity to produce portraits of several cities through my photography and having now had a 15-year relationship with Venice, I would love to produce a similar body of work on Venice.

How could Venice become more efficient, attractive and prepared to host artists like you and international cultural foundations and non-profit organisations like yours (Picture People)?

Venice would be a lot more attractive if it was affordable to artists, the offer of artists-in-

residence schemes and for organisations such as Picture People, the charity I co-run, as well as cultural foundations to offer assistance by subsidising rentals in dedicated spaces that would become hubs for non-profits from a variety of fields.

With Venice 1600-year anniversary, how do you view the relations between artists with the academic networks and authorities in Venice, the EU and the world? Could they be strengthened with new ideas and contributions regarding possible sustainable future scenarios for the city? Do you have any specific proposals?

I believe relations between artists, academic networks and authorities in Venice, the EU and the world could be much strengthened through schemes similar to artists-in-residence whereby there is a quid pro quo, an exchange of services and goods that would benefit everyone. Particularly, as Venice reaches this landmark date, I could have imagined a photographer like myself being given a fellowship or residence to provide a portrait of Venice as a sustainable city in exchange for providing a certain number of hours per week/month teaching at academic institutions and offering a series of images to Venice as part of its heritage.

Equally, to give you another concrete example, and in answer to your question, you would have thought that existing entities such as the Global Campus and Picture People who have worked tirelessly for 15 years to build on the success and reach of our Cinema, Human Rights and Advocacy Summer School, should be able to have a relationship with the Biennale Cinema. We have had nearly 300 participants attend our Summer



School from 69 countries including Afghanistan, Syria, Afghanistan, Jordan, Myanmar, China, Lebanon, the Philippines, Rwanda, Nigeria, South Africa, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Brazil, Mexico, ... There can be no better ambassadors for Venice and its cultural activities than our participants who are passionate, engaged, and committed to the idea of using film to contribute to social change and build a better and more inclusive society. Nonetheless, we haven't been able to find a way to engage with the Biennale Cinema in any significant way.

How is human rights education relevant to the art world and the achievement of the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

Human Rights Education is increasingly relevant to the art world and the art world is an important pillar for human rights as we are missing out on growing these connections that could provide for a more equitable, just, diverse and inclusive world. Art can be inspiring, educational, emotional, so can human rights! The SDGs will only be achievable through our collective will, in the words of James Baldwin: "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced".

Could you share a message with the Global Campus of Human Rights community?

I think that if I was to provide a message it would be patronising, I continue to learn every day, and long may this last, but I can only say that time and experience have taught me to not be focused on problems, but seek solutions, if I meet victims it also means they are survivors and heroes. Encourage people to be part of something, cultivate change,

reach out beyond your comfort zone, and engage with people, we are increasingly losing touch with our common humanity... it's them and us, but we all share the same house, it's our planet, and there's only one!



Interview with Artist Koen Vanmechelen



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to ask artist Koen Vanmechelen from our partner organisation LaBiomista, Mouth Foundation and Studio Koen Vanmechelen (Belgium) about his artistic initiatives in Venice such as the Human Rights Pavilion Cosmocafes, La Museion/Unthinkable Experiment and his ideas for possible sustainable futures for the city he knows very well.

What does the city of Venice mean for an artist like you? Could you reveal to us more about your future art projects in the city? How is the international Human Rights Pavilion evolving?

I consider Venice as a birthplace. This was the meaning of the title of my solo exhibition at the 2011 Biennale: *Nato a Venezia*. Venice is a city on the border of water and land, a city of duality, growing on elements of death and birth; it is fragile and strong. The city is a melting pot of differences, a cultural hybrid. Without finding the balance, there is always the risk it might be seen as inconsistent. I have a powerful connection with Murano, where I discovered the furnaces of the Berengo Studio. On Murano, the fire is kept alive, transformation happens. Contradictions are necessary. It is wise to balance them. An artist is always in a position of duality. Art is like the Oracle of Delphi; it incorporates both the good and the bad. It consumes you and enlightens you; it allows you to see the many sides of the mysterious hyper-object called existence.

We initiated the Human Rights Pavilion during the Biennial of 2019, together with the Global Campus of Human Rights, Fondazione Berengo, and the Mouth Foundation. At various locations around the globe, we organised debate platforms called Cosmocafes. From a table under a tree in Zimbabwe to the Botanical Gardens in Sydney. The pandemic slowed us down significantly. But when travel- and congregation bans were lifted last year, we still had the chance to host Cosmocafes in Zagreb and at LABIOMISTA (Belgium). It is imperative to keep moving. The foundations of the Pavillion exist out of the diversity of places, people, and topics.

During the pandemic, the Cosmocafes further evolved to be included in our *LaMouseion* project. *LaMouseion* invites young adults to “think the unthinkable”. In three knowledge boxes, every one of them is a piece of art; students from different universities and the local communities can work and think. We intend to exhibit one of these ‘boxes’ as an artwork at the Global Campus of Human Rights headquarters during the next Venice Biennial in 2022. Creativity encourages connection. The box will invite people and continue the Cosmocafes, discussing various topics, forming temporary thought clusters. The Human Rights Pavilion is a developing process as well as a place of connection. It has its rhythm involving many institutions. This will not happen overnight. The important thing is to keep on moving, finding the right moment to “cross-fertilise,” metaphorically speaking, when the right conditions are present. The right place and time, the right temperature, context, and love.

How could Venice be more efficient, attractive, and prepared to host artists like you and international cultural foundations and non-profits like your LABIOMISTA, the Mouth Foundation, Cosmogolem, and others?

A city is like a person. As Jung stated in his *Red Book*, a person is governed by two spirits: the spirit of the times and the spirit of the depths. The same applies to Venice. Venice is very accessible and welcoming for artists and international foundations. Because of the spirit of the depths. The issue there is linking the economic to the sustainable. In doing so, Venice could be more contemporary. A more vibrant city, less a



commercial machine that temporarily offers an experience. When I was there during the pandemic, I could see a mentality switch happening. In the end, everything is about the mindset. It is never easy to transform a successful commercial product. But in Venice, the content is the key, and this should be much better appreciated. The Venice Biennial has the opportunity to bring content on an international level. The danger that looms is to pay too much attention to the design/form and not to the content — too much the spirit of the times. The energy invariably comes from the content - the deep - and not from manipulating the forms.

With Venice's 1600th anniversary, how do you view the relations between artists with the academic networks and authorities in Venice, between the EU and the world? Should they be strengthened with new ideas and contributions regarding possible sustainable future scenarios for the city? Do you have any specific proposals?

There is a lot of knowledge revealed through the arts. Art is thought from the future, says Timothy Morton correctly. People should learn to read the arts, to explore what they can teach us. Too often, we are only looking for confirmation of what we already know. It is an essential job for schools and universities to guide young generations to read the knowledge inside art. Art is fragile, yet its content can provide new knowledge. Every artwork has a story. Remembering those narratives, their expertise, and lessons is of vital importance. Hence, we need more careful translators. Venice has everything to enable this. Everyone wants to visit this fantastic city. The biggest brains in the

world could come to this tiny island to create and discover this new knowledge. However, if you show only the surface, there is a risk you become a candy land. Murano already fell into the trap of becoming a monoculture, losing its essence and viscosity. We could organise many conferences about this. We could work together to make society and the world better and richer and move away from overconsumption. Our world already changed on the inside; it will inevitably also vary on the outside

How is human rights education relevant to the art world and achieving the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

Art is a human right, a critical contributor to evolution and to the achievement of the SDGs. For me, freedom of art differs from freedom of speech. The absolute assertion of freedom of speech can lead to violence. For example, sometimes a freedom fighter's problem is that he will keep fighting even if he is free. Because fighting for freedom is what he knows. I realise that some people would disagree with me.

I see art differently. Real art reveals the point where everything is reconcilable, without direction or orientation. Art arises in an unorchestrated, absolute freedom. It transcends the free will and ego of the artist. That means it requires the willingness to distance yourself from a single truth, knowing that change is the only constant. Good art moves away from power. It creates a middle ground, and it always shows different facets of issues, conflicts, themes, ideas, etc. In this way, real art maps the essence of man. It visualises the conflict that is in all of us, while it also reveals



the absolute. This, to me, goes beyond freedom of speech. Art is a barometer of time. Art is knowledge.

Yet, because art is about opposites and conflict, the risk of abuse is always present. Art can thus be turned into a weapon. It can be used to limit our freedom of knowledge, restrict the diversity of perspectives, and simplify complexity into a monocultural message. We should constantly be aware of the power of art and work together to guard against this potential abuse. Because art impacts how and if we can progress. This is why freedom of art is a human right and why it is important to integrate this in all our educational systems. The freedom of art, the freedom to hold opposites. This feeling of freedom is essential for a peaceful society.

Could you share a message with the Global Campus of Human Rights community?

Build your community and build it further and more profound. Connect creatively and expand your network. Offer balance. Be a platform on which people, communities, and groups can tell their stories. The world communities are the essential aspects of the Global Campus of Human Rights. There is a need for new leadership, and the Global Campus is in the proper position to detect the new leaders in their small communities. You could find them early on and create projects where you could test micro and macro. This type of leader is better than the ones made randomly. Too often, today's leadership refers to somebody who seems a good leader but quickly transforms due to popularity and eventually ruins everything. There is a golden thread in the Global Campus of Human Rights. It leads from Venice to small communities. It can create memorable effects through experimental programs and creating safe and timely testing platforms.



Interview with the Head of Corporate Identity, The Human Safety Net, Emma Ursich



The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights had the opportunity to interview Emma Ursich, Head of Corporate Identity and The Human Safety Net of Generali Group, about her views on the importance of the collaboration with networks of NGOs from all over the world to the sustainable futures of Venice.

What does the city of Venice mean for The Human Safety Net and for Generali?

Generali opened its first offices in 1832 in Venice in the Procuratie Vecchie, a few months after the Company was founded in Trieste. For many decades, its business operations across Italy were conducted from this incredible location, overlooking St Mark's Square. The time has now come to revitalise these roots and revamp the presence in the lagoon city, which shares the symbol of the winged Lion with Generali. As insurers, our mission is to care for the future and ensure a better quality of life for people. Making urban spaces more accessible means also creating a sense of well-being, which is particularly important for the future of Venice, its residents, and its visitors from all over the world. The restoration project launched in St Mark's Square is intended to make Venice an even more dynamic city that encourages people to reflect, to work and to enjoy culture and, at the same time, to support the city to unlock its full potential. Venice is a fragile city in a lagoon environment, protected by UNESCO. It aims to become a world capital of sustainability. Generali, together with the Venetian community, is committed to supporting this ambition.

How could Venice become more efficient, attractive and prepared to host co-working spaces like your future headquarters in San Marco Square?

For many years, Venice has been a crossroads of different cultures worldwide. We hope to build on this tradition through our initiative The Human Safety Net and our movement of people helping people. The beauty and the history of Venice is a source of inspiration for the world, and Generali is

very proud to enrich the city's heritage by restoring the area of St Mark's Square. The Human Safety Net and its future home inside the Procuratie Vecchie bring together knowledge and inspiration for the common good.

By opening the Procuratie Vecchie to the public for the first time in its history dating back nearly five centuries, we are creating new and vibrant spaces that will serve as a platform for international debates around social issues. An interacting exhibition space will allow Venetians and visitors to experience The Human Safety Net directly and get involved. It aims to generate an incisive understanding of the human potential to engage more people to amplify the movement.

To do this, world-renowned architect David Chipperfield has been selected to renovate and restore this 16th-century Venetian building - known as the largest in Venice - and transform this historic landmark into a new venue.

The building was initially completed in the sixteenth century by Jacopo Sansovino. It featured a monumental façade that would establish the classical language for the subsequent developments on the southern and eastern sides. Behind the 150 meters of its façade, centuries of modifications from multiple occupants had severely compromised its internal structure.

The renovation plan focuses on reunifying the interiors and introducing clarity to the building, with suitable spaces for The Human Safety Net activities, and improving circulation by re-establishing the historical paths and flow around St Mark's Square.

With Venice's 1600-year anniversary, how do you view the relations between the non-profit



networks with artists, universities, academic networks like the Global Campus of Human Rights, local and international authorities? Do you see any areas of collaboration?

Generali sees Venice as a universal symbol of imagination, open-mindedness and an inclusive city open to different contributions - the ideal site for a wide-ranging project that can catch everyone's interest. We want to help turn Venice and the area surrounding St Mark's Square into a place where people seek new stimuli, share ideas and work together, unlocking the city's full potential.

The renovation and enhancement project will create a new permeability of the square, offering a new way of travelling, living and experiencing the square and its attractions. In partnership with The Venice Garden Foundation, Generali has already renovated and opened to the public both the Royal Gardens and The Human Garden. This greenhouse hosts the Archive of the Roots, a collection of wooden tiles coming from all the countries where The Human Safety Net is active. The installation enables the discovery of the stories of families and refugees we support. It expresses the connection between people and cultures at the centre of our mission.

This commitment to social and cultural causes lies at the heart of Generali's vision: to position Venice as an innovative hub where many diversified players can take action, drive advocacy and take a key role in solving global challenges that affect the future of us all.

How is human rights education relevant to the non-profit sector and the achievement of the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

The spirit of the Universal Human Rights Declaration is certainly a fundamental building block and an inspiration for all institutions, social enterprises, and companies active in the social sector. At The Human Safety Net, we believe no one should be held back from reaching their potential. Our mission is about unlocking the potential of people living in vulnerable circumstances so that they can transform the lives of their families and communities. Working with a network of over 50 NGOs in 23 countries where Generali is active, we aim to give equal opportunities to every family with children aged 0 – 6 years or every aspiring refugee entrepreneur we support “without distinction of

any kind”.

The United Nations Global Sustainable Development Goals are a lighthouse for everyone, not only companies, wishing to live as active and aware citizens.

By contributing to early childhood development in the For Families we support Good Health and Quality Education goals for parents with children up to six years. Because if we change the beginning of the story, we can change the whole story, one family, one child, one parenting centre at a time. With the Refugee Start-ups programme, we help to create jobs and more Sustainable Cities and Communities, working side-by-side with refugees to implement their business ideas up to serving their first customers or supporting them with professional training for jobs needed in the community.

The Human Safety Net is a net, and we activate the partnership with many NGO partners, governments, and local and global institutions, with Venice being the open node of this international network. Our aim is to make our small but growing contribution to a more inclusive society, starting from the communities where we live and work.

Could you share a message with the Global Campus of Human Rights community?

I believe it is essential to continue working together to make Venice a lively community of international exchanges and dialogues and create new opportunities to experience the city on sustainability issues.

News & Events

The Global State of Human Rights -
High level conference

The Global Campus of Human Rights
Enters into a new Partnership with
Fondazione M9

Biennale Architettura 2021:
“How Will We Live Together?”

Online Global Campus Classroom 2021:
COVID-19 Pandemic and Economic
and Social Rights

Global Campus of Human Rights EU-UN
Fellowship Programme 2021

Fourth Online Global Campus of
Human Rights Conversation



The Global State of Human Rights High level conference

On 16 July 2021, the European Parliament and the Global Campus of Human Rights, organised the first Global State of Human Rights conference in Venice-Lido (Italy), to discuss the state of Human Rights in the world.

The hybrid event took place from 10.00 until 17.30 (CEST) at the Monastery of San Nicolò and gathered MEPs, EU Commissioners, Nobel Peace Prize Recipients, Sakharov Prize Laureates, International organisations' high representatives, academia and stakeholders. It was live web streamed.

Participants included the President of the European Parliament, David Sassoli, the President of Global Campus of Human Rights, Veronica Gomez, regional and local authorities, the EU Commissioners Didier Reynders and Jutta Urpilainen, the Secretary General of the European External Action Service, Stefano Sannino, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, US Congressman and Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Gregory Meeks, the EU Special Representative for Human Rights, Eamon Gilmore, the Secretary General of Amnesty International, Agnès Callamard and Denis Mukwege, Nobel Peace Prize Recipient 2018 and Sakharov Prize Laureate 2014.

In three panels, speakers explored:

- How to use the newly approved EU law on due diligence to make business responsive to human rights;
- How international justice can help ensure accountability;
- What challenges a values-based foreign policy faces when responding to human rights and democracy issues around the world.

SIDE EVENT

White Torture - underground poetry - a performance by Lorent Saleh, took place from 18.00 to 19.00 (CEST), Monastery of San Nicolò, Riviera S. Nicolò 26, Venice-Lido.

Venezuelan activist and Sakharov Prize laureate 2017, Lorent spent more than two years in 'La Tumba', the Venezuelan secret service prison, five floors underground in Caracas. In his white cell, exposed to a white light 24/7, in a bright loneliness and a complete silence, he would lose awareness of time and space.

Through videos, pictures, sounds and poetry that he wrote during his confinement, he let the public experienced the suffering of political prisoners all around the world.

The Global State of **HUMAN RIGHTS**

High level conference
First edition

16 July 2021
Venice



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The Global Campus of Human Rights Enters into a New Partnership with Fondazione M9

Fondazione M9, and the Global Campus of Human Rights are entering into a long-term three-year cooperation (2021-2024) to join efforts and co-develop activities in the City of Venice and the Veneto Region, focusing on Human Rights-related issues of common interest. This was announced by the President of Fondazione M9 Michele Bugliesi and the Secretary General of the Global Campus of Human Rights Manfred Nowak in Venice at the premises of the M9 - Museum of the 20th Century, with the presence of the Academic Director Luca Molinari and Administrative Director Elisabetta Noli.

In striving towards this purpose, the parties will work together to:

- strengthen the role of both organisations in promoting the universal human values, as proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all relevant international and regional instruments;
- link human rights with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, as promoted in the Agenda 2030;
- develop a calendar of annual events in the City of Venice and the Region of Veneto for the period of July 2021 until July 2024;

The Global Campus and Fondazione M9 agree, within the limits of the competences bestowed onto them by their respective constitutive instruments, to harmonise their efforts so as to pursue cooperation in the framework of the following activities and events (non-exhaustive list):

- Participation by FONDAZIONE M9 in the Annual International Conference on the “State of Human Rights in the World” jointly organised by the European Parliament/Global Campus of Human Rights;
- Joint development of a Workshop on Music and Human Rights to be held at M9 with music performances by the Musicians for Human Rights in order to promote intercultural dialogue, as well as implement further joint research and educational initiatives focusing on music;
- Collaboration opportunities in the context of the European Master Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA) first semester in Venice (from September until January of each year), either within ongoing or future activities involving EMA students, alumni and professors, also supported by the seven Regional Masters composing the integrated framework of the Global Campus;
- Cooperation in the context of other activities initiated by the Global Campus at its HQ in Venice, relating to Arts and Human Rights (e.g. annual EMA students’ arts/cinema festival; art exhibitions,



trainings, lectures, concerts, etc).

- Participation by GLOBAL CAMPUS in the M9 Community Programme events like the annual Festival of Politics and other cultural events, workshops, etc.

Fondazione M9 is a private, non-profit organisation established to manage the M9 – Museum of the 20th Century, according to the principles of ICOM. M9 narrates the compelling history of the 20th Century. The multimedia content, selected by more than forty Italian experts in their fields, reveals a wealth of materials that the general public rarely gets to see: with material from nearly 150 Italian and international archives and libraries, M9 showcases its 20th-century cultural heritage: photographs, newspapers, magazines, posters and advertising material, radio recordings, films and documentaries, amateur footage and television shows. The displays in the museum include

more than 6,000 photos, 820 videos, 500 printed material, 400 audio files and 10 hours of digital films. Beside the permanent exhibition, M9 organises exhibitions, conferences, education workshops with a specific look at contemporaneity, in collaboration and synergy with local cultural institutions and associations



Biennale Architettura 2021 “How Will We Live Together?”

The calendar of events can be found on the website:
www.labiennale.org

The 17th International Architecture Exhibition opened its doors on 22 May 2021 and will run until 21 November 2021 at the Giardini, Arsenal, and Forte Marghera of Venice, Italy. The Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights participated on the preview days attending the press conference of the inauguration.

The International Exhibition includes 112 Participants in competition from 46 countries, with a growing delegation from Africa, Latin America and Asia and with a wide female representation. The Exhibition is organised into five scales, three are exhibited in the Arsenal and two in the Central Pavilion: *Among Diverse Beings, As New Households, As Emerging Communities, Across Borders, As One Planet*. A total of 17 Collateral Events have been approved by the Curator, promoted by national and international non-profit entities and institutions. Organised in various venues in the city of Venice, they present a broad spectrum of contributions and participations that enrich the pluralism of voices that distinguishes the Exhibition.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION:

A part of the Exhibition is entitled “*How will we play together?*”, a contribution by 5 international participating architects who have designed a project dedicated to children’s play, on exhibition at Forte Marghera and open to the public. This edition also includes a series of participations out of competition. For the fifth consecutive year, La Biennale di Venezia and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London present the Special Project at the Pavilion of Applied Arts (Arsenale, Sale d’Armi A) entitled *Three British Mosques*. In collaboration with architect Shahed Saleem, the exhibition looks at the often undocumented do-it-yourself world of mosques adapted for this use. Created by La Biennale di Venezia.

La Biennale again this year dedicates the Biennale Sessions project to Universities, Academies and Institutes of Higher Education. The goal is to facilitate three-day, self-organised visits for groups of at least 50 students and teachers, who will be assisted in organising their journey and their stay and will be offered the possibility of organising seminars to be held free of charge in the venues of the exhibition.

Over the past decade, La Biennale has lent increasing importance to its educational aims, maturing a strong commitment with its educational activities towards the audiences of the Exhibitions, the universities, young people and children in schools of all levels. The Biennale Architettura 2018 and the Biennale Arte 2019 involved a total of 114,672 people, including 68,205 young participants in the Educational activities. For the year 2021, there will be a generous programme offered to individuals and groups of students, children,

How
will we
live
together?

BIENNALE
ARCHITETTURA
2021
22.05-21.11
VENEZIA
GIARDINI/ARSENALE

Italy

adults, families, professionals, companies and universities. All the initiatives pursue the active involvement of the participants and are conducted by personnel selected and trained by La Biennale. They are divided between Guided Tours and Workshop Activities.

This year the 17th International Architecture Exhibition will intersect with the 15th International Festival of Contemporary Dance from 23 July to 1 August, hosting the installations and dancers-choreographers of the Biennale College at the Arsenale, in the section of the Exhibition titled *Among Diverse Beings*. Under the mentorship of the artistic director of Biennale Danza Wayne McGregor, they will create short choreographic fragments, "snapshots" or "sketches" inspired by the signs, materials and themes of the Architecture Exhibition.

61 national participations will bring to life the historic Pavilions in the Giardini, at the Arsenale and in the historic city centre of

Venice, with 3 countries taking part in the Biennale Architettura for the first time: Grenada, Iraq, and Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Italian Pavilion at the Tese delle Vergini in the Arsenale, sponsored and promoted by the Ministry of Culture, General Direction for Contemporary Creativity, is curated by Alessandro Melis.

The programme of the 17th Exhibition is complemented by the Meetings on Architecture, encounters with architects, scholars and professionals from around the world. The protagonists will attempt to answer the question *How will we live together?* in a series of dialogues focusing on the new challenges that climate change brings to architecture, on the role of public space in the recent urban uprisings, on the new techniques of reconstruction and the changing forms of collective building; on the architecture of education and the education of the architect, on the relationship between curating and architecture.



Online Global Campus Classroom 2021: COVID-19 Pandemic and Economic and Social Rights

The Global Classroom is one of the flagship annual activities of the Global Campus of Human Rights designed to bring together students, professors and experts from our seven regions. It is a research programme focused on topics of current interest, different every year, whereby students and alumni from across the Global Campus network study, analyse and discuss their research topic through the lenses of regional perspectives. Global Classroom 2021, hosted by the Global Campus South East Europe / European Regional MA programme in Democracy and Human Rights in SEE, took place online from 7-10 June 2021.

This year's research topic was the Covid-19 Pandemic and its impact on Economic and Social Rights worldwide. COVID-19 is a global public health emergency without parallel since 1918 and has affected not only the right to health but also a range of other socio-economic rights. Millions of people are out of work, lack adequate social protection, and have been unable to pay for essential needs. Those who are marginalised and disadvantaged by income and non-income indicators, however, are exposed to even greater risks, experience more extreme forms of deprivation and discrimination, and are denied the right to health, right to education, right to work and a range of other socio-economic rights.

The research carried out by the seven Regional Research teams was presented and discussed throughout the four-day online event and provided analysis and critical reflection in response to the following questions: In which ways has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted economic and social rights of individuals and groups, including the dynamics and dialectics of these interactions and the role of social resilience in meeting these challenges? How have responses to COVID-19 revealed pre-existing weaknesses in access to economic, cultural, and social rights by groups and communities that are relatively disadvantaged? How might long-term approaches for mitigating future human rights harm like the one caused by COVID-19 be developed and implemented in future crises?

The Opening event took place on the 7 of June at 12:00 (CEST); it was open to the public and live streamed through GCHR channels. It was opened by Manfred Nowak, Global Campus Secretary General, Verónica Gómez, Global Campus President, and Asim Mujkić, ERMA/GCSEE Co-director, University of Sarajevo. The Key Note Speech was given by Tlaleng Mofokeng, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health. The Introduction to the Global Classroom was given by Rachel Kurian, this year's Global Classroom Research Coordinator from the Institute of Social Studies (ISS, Netherlands) and GCSEE/ERMA.

Covid-19 Pandemic and Economic and Social Rights

7 - 10 June 2021

The High level Expert panel moderated by Thérèse Murphy, EMA Chairperson and Co-founder of the GC Human Rights Preparedness, hosted the following speakers: Meskerem Geset Techane, Member of the UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls; and Joshua Castellino, Executive director, Minority Rights Group.

The Global Campus of Human Rights is a unique network of more than one hundred participating universities around the world, seeking to advance human rights and democracy through regional and global cooperation for education and research. This global network is promoted through seven Regional Programs which are based in Venice for Europe, in Sarajevo/Bologna for South East Europe, in Yerevan for the Caucasus, in Pretoria for Africa, in Bangkok for Asia-Pacific, in Buenos Aires for Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Beirut for the Arab World.

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Hosted by: Global Campus South East Europe (GC SEE) / European Regional MA programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe (ERMA), University of Sarajevo and University of Bologna.



Global Campus of Human Rights EU-UN Fellowship Programme 2021 - Autumn Session

The Global Campus of Human Rights offered two positions as fellows in the framework of the Global Campus of Human Rights EU-UN Fellowship Programme to the EMA graduates of the past three years.

The Fellowship will start on Monday, 30 August 2021 and will end on Thursday, 23 December 2021. The placement office will be the European Union Delegation in Geneva and New York (one fellow for each office for the entire duration of the programme) where the fellow will assist the delegation in following the United Nations Human Rights Council and United Nations General Assembly and related bodies dealing with human rights.

The fellow will perform tasks as set out by his/her supervisor.

Tasks may include, but are not limited to, carrying out research, writing reports and evaluations on negotiations, assisting in the drafting of EU statements and resolutions, as well as participating in negotiations with EU and other countries' delegates. Some administrative tasks can be expected. Often, overtime work will be required.

Overall administrative management of the Fellowship Programme is provided by the Global Campus of Human Rights.

**(Article 50, clause 1, letter c) of the Italian Consolidated Text on Income Tax includes among incomes considered to be similar to those of employed labour "sums paid by anyone in the form of a scholarship, check, prize or subsidy for the purposes of study or professional training, if the beneficiary is not bound by relations of regular employment to the provider of funds" (tax law in force as of 31.07.2010). The net sum paid will thus vary according to the overall tax situation of the recipient of the payment, as well as the nature of the taxation system itself, which varies from year to year.*



Fourth Online Global Campus of Human Rights Conversation

The Global Campus of Human Rights wishes to provide a space for exchanges of views on the possible futures for Venice, and to do so will host a series of “online Global Campus of Human Rights Conversations: Possible Futures for Venice”.

Our fourth edition featured the following speakers talking about possible futures for Venice based on the arts and culture, and the relationship of the city with national institutions like the Senate and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, artists, universities and international cultural and non-profit organisations:

Benedetto Della Vedova, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation - Human Rights mandate (Italy)
Orietta Vanin, Senate of the Republic (Italy)
Luca Molinari, M9 - Museum of the 20th Century (Italy)
Emma Ursich, Generali Foundation - The Human Safety Net Onlus
Nick Danziger, Picture People (UK)
Koen Vanmechelen, LABIOMISTA – Studio Koen Vanmechelen
(Belgium)
Costanza Fidelbo, UNESCO
Manfred Nowak, GC Secretary General
Elisabetta Noli, GC Administrative Director

This Conversation provided an occasion for local partners, our staff, professors, alumni and students to actively participate in the discussion about the future development of the city of Venice, which hosts the Headquarters of the Global Campus of Human Rights at the Monastery of San Nicolò in Lido. The fourth online Global Campus of Human Rights Conversation took place via Zoom on Wednesday, 14 July from 11:00 to 12:00.

The organiser was the Press Office of the Global Campus of Human Rights:
pressoffice@gchumanrights.org

Campaigns

Partnership Campaign for the Global
Campus of Human Rights



Partnership Campaign for the Global Campus of Human Rights

We share the willingness to support the implementation of the 2030 UN Agenda, including Goal 17 Revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development with many organisations. In this line we created and presented a video animation campaign during the EDD22 with the invitation to join the Global Campus of Human Rights as partners. The Global Campus overall objectives are: - EDUCATION: to develop the capacity of stakeholders to respond to current human rights and democracy concerns - RESEARCH IMPACT: to influence policies and practices on human rights and democratisation in national and international governance - OUTREACH: to consolidate global collaborations to advance human rights and democracy through inter-regional networking.

Since our foundation over 20 years ago we have engaged with public administration, civil society, human rights organisations, international governmental/multi-governmental and non-governmental organisations, academia and the research community. We would like to initiate cooperation with partners who believe that EDUCATION CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. The encouragement we receive from our donors and members greatly contributes to the success of our global network.

You could be part of our community and follow our ongoing video animation fundraising campaign.

Contact us now: fundraising@gchumanrights.org

Elisa Aquino – Giulia Ballarin

Fundraising Office

You can contribute greatly to the success of the Global Campus in the following ways:

- donations help to fund the everyday functioning of our institution;
- companies, charitable foundations and institutions can sponsor and partner our initiatives, linking their brand to the prestigious academic network of the Global Campus of Human Rights;
- supporting the scholarship programmes helps many qualified students to start their career and enter the job market, in particular through internships and fellowships;
- contributing to the Global Campus of Human Rights research projects.

Your support allows us to go forward in the pursuit of our vision and to make the Global Campus a convener for those who share our goals.

You can also donate your il 5x1000 from IRPEF (CF 94054110278).



GENERAL DONATION

This donation helps fund our everyday functions



SPECIFIC DONATION

Support scholarships, internships, fellowships and professorships



IN MEMORIAM

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For more information visit:

<https://gchumanrights.org/support-us/join-us/donations.html>

<https://gchumanrights.org/support-us/join-us/partnership-sponsorships.html>

or contact our Fundraising Office at fundraising@gchumanrights.org

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