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# *The Weekly Pulse*

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NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



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Vol. 130: USAID Budget Hearing & Cities Summit of the Americas.

May 1, 2023

Call to Action

**The United Nations Association of the United States (UNA-US) is seeking signatures for its petition to secure funding for the Green Climate Fund.** Currently the President's budget requests \$1.6 billion to the fund. This petition towards Members of Congress seeks to secure that funding. To read and sign the petition, click [here](#).

Quick Summary

**USAID [Administrator](#) Samantha Power addressed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during the Budget [Hearing](#) on April 26th.** She stated that "During our lifetimes, the United States has helped accelerate tremendous progress in reducing extreme poverty, fighting disease, addressing hunger, getting kids in school, and fueling democracy's rise. But now, many of these trends have moved into reverse." She also emphasized the humanitarian devastation around the world as a national security risk.

She explained that “...our national security hinges on this work. Deprivation and indignity abroad can fuel resource competition, political fragility, and extremism that endangers us here at home. Disease outbreaks can cross oceans, and recessions in foreign markets can threaten our own economic growth. And if we don’t lead efforts to take on these challenges, the People’s Republic of China and Putin are ready to step in, whether through opaque loans on unfavorable terms, or with mercenaries in tow.” She called for resumed progress towards the continued gains in global health, education, and prosperity. To read and watch this hearing, click [here](#).

**The CPFI Youth Alliance Working [Group](#) has joined the youth- and student-led Subgroup within [Education Cannot Wait](#).** This is a collection of over 100 youth- and student-led organizations across the world, from grassroots refugee-led groups, national networks of youth activists to global student unions, united in defending the right to education in emergencies. The goal of this subgroup is an important step forward for organized, representative youth-led movements to be recognised as the valid voice for young people in global policy and decision-making. To learn more about youth- and student-led Subgroups within Education Cannot Wait, click [here](#).

## Spotlight

**The Cities [Summit](#) of the Americas happened last week in Denver, Colorado.** The Summit brought together mayors and city leaders from North, Central, and South America to discuss critical issues that are facing the Americas. The goal of the Summit was to “promote regional cooperation, convening subnational leaders from across the entire Western Hemisphere with diverse and inclusive representatives of government, civil society, business, academia, youth, culture and the arts, and indigenous and underrepresented groups.”



Left: [Ambassador](#) Nina Hachigian, the U.S. Special Representative for City and State Diplomacy and Associate Professor [Naazneen Barma](#), Director, Scrivner Institute of Public Policy at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver. Right: [Dean](#) Frederick “Fritz” Mayer, Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver; Ukrainian [Mayor](#) Oleksandr Kodola, of Nizhyn; [Mayor](#) Ivan Fedorov, of Melitopo; Professor [Rachel Epstein](#), Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver; Mayor Yurix Bova, of Trostyanets; and Mayor Ihor Terekhov, of Kharkiv.

The first of many events included a conversation with [Ambassador](#) Nina Hachigian, the U.S. Special Representative for City and State Diplomacy. She emphasized the importance of collaborating with mayors and governors when it comes to international diplomacy. This includes cities and local governments working with the private sectors and investing more in foreign affairs offices in local governments. She also elaborated on the importance of young people at the local level, highlighting that t “Youth are extremely powerful...Youth push the needle.” To learn more about this event, click [here](#).

Another side event included a discussion with Ukrainian [Mayor](#) Oleksandr Kodola, of Nizhyn; [Mayor](#) Ivan Fedorov, of Melitopo; Mayor Yurix Bova, of Trostyanets; and Mayor Ihor Terekhov, of Kharkiv. They spoke on the specific needs of each city when it comes to aid. All of the mayors emphasized the magnitude of the crisis in Ukraine and how difficult it is to govern during this time. They also spoke on the multitude of war crimes, including those committed on children. You can watch that conversation [here](#).



From left to right: [Dean](#) Frederick “Fritz” Mayer, Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver; [Ambassador](#) Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Representative of the United States to the United Nations and the United Nations Security Council

[Ambassador](#) Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Representative of the United States to the United Nations and the United Nations Security Council held a [conversation](#) with young people about current global issues. She emphasized the role cities play in international affairs, noting that policies are implemented by cities and mayors, who have direct engagement with the communities. Local governments around the world often work with other governments in policy and aid decisions. Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield also spoke on the current crisis in Sudan and the importance of paying attention to the continent of Africa. She stated that “we live in a global world and we can’t cushion ourselves from the rest of the world..If you don’t engage today, it will be your problem tomorrow.” She explained that Africa is the final frontier for progress because the people who live there are young; the median age is 19. She stated that “These young people are going to be the future and will be dealing with climate change, war and peace and more.” To learn more about this event, click [here](#).

#### Events

- Search for Common Ground, USAID, USC, CYPAN, and Kenya National Youth Council [virtual event](#) “**Economic Return on Investment in #Youth4Peace and State-Society Relations.**” May 2, 2023, at 9 am ET.
- The Humanitarian Action Initiative - GWU [in-person](#) event “**Humanitarian Protection & Counter-trafficking: Focus on Ukraine.**” May 3, 2023, at 12 pm ET.
- The New Humanitarian and CARE [virtual event](#) “**The Ukraine effect: Driving up costs, driving away attention.**” May 10, 2023, at 10 am ET.
- Child Identity Protection (CHIP) [virtual event](#) “**Online Symposium on Child's Right to Identity in Family Relations.**” May 16, 2023, at 7 am ET.
- GCE-US [webinar](#) “**GCE-US Global Action Week for Education 2023 Coalition Meeting.**” May 23, 2023, at 7 am ET.
- University of Strathclyde Glasgow in-person [event](#) “**Joint Social Work Education and Research Conference.**” June 15-16, 2023.

#### Reports, Articles & Resources

- The New Humanitarian [article](#) “**Four ways ChatGPT could help level the humanitarian playing field.**”
- Better Care Network Interagency [statement](#) “**Joint Statement on the Forcible Transfer, Deportation, and Adoption of Children from Ukraine by Russia.**”
- Kharkiv Institute of Social Research (KhISR), League of the Strong (LS), European Disability Forum (EDF), National Assembly of People with Disabilities (NAPD) [report](#) “**Rights of Persons With Disabilities During the War in Ukraine: Summary of Monitoring Report.**”



- UNICEF [report](#) “UNICEF Disability Inclusion Policy and Strategy (DIPAS) 2022-2030.”
- UNICEF [report](#) “Included, Every Step of the Way: Upholding the Rights of Migrant and Displaced Children with Disabilities.”
- Human Rights Watch [article](#) “Iran: Security Forces Kill, Torture, Abuse Children.”
- The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Settings [course](#) “Programme Design for Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAAFAG).”
- The New Humanitarian [article](#) “‘I poison my children in order to survive’: The terrible toll of Somalia’s drought.”

## Professional Opportunities

The United Nations Development Programme ([UNDP](#)) and Samsung Mobile are seeking applications for its [Generation17](#) initiative. This joint-initiative is aimed at “empowering young changemakers to achieve the Global Goals.” If you are the leader of a Global Goals-focused initiative and are interested in being part of the next cohort of Generation17 Young Leaders, please complete and fill out this [application](#) by **May 7, 2023 12:00 AM ET**.

The UN Environment Programme ([UNEP](#)) launched a new talent acquisition initiative called the Young Talent [Pipeline](#), in partnership with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme. This is aimed at “increasing the diversity of experiences and solutions to solve the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature loss and pollution and waste.” To learn more and apply by May 15, 2023, click [here](#).



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