



23 October 2009
Edition No: 461

In this issue

- News in brief
- Get Involved
- Resources
- Events
- Opportunities
- Book Reviews
- Appointments

Poll question

This week's question: Where do you think we'd be if the UN did not exist?

- a. better off
 - b. right where we are now
 - c. worse off
 - d. in the apocalypse
- To answer the question, [click here](#)

Previous question: The greatest need for civil society to strengthen its work comes from:

- a. Freedom of Information legislation
 - b. Strong National Human Rights institutions
 - c. Lifting of curbs on accessing funding from across borders
- Results: a. - 66.7%, b. - 16.7%, c. - 16.7%**

Get involved

Every Human Has Rights

Declare to take responsibility for upholding the goals of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in your daily life and in your community. Declare to do your best to speak out to protect the freedom and rights of others in your community. Affirm the following principle: "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status." For details [click here](#).

We Welcome Contributions

e-CIVICUS is a useful channel through which you and your organisation can share your news, publicise your events and articulate the issues you face. Please send us your contributions by Monday for publication in the coming week to editor@civicus.org. To read the contribution guidelines, [click here](#).

The content of e-CIVICUS may be translated into other

From the Desk of the Secretary General



64th Anniversary of the United Nations

Last weekend over 173,045,325 citizens gathered at over 3,000 events in more than 120 countries, demanding that their governments eradicate extreme poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals (check it out at <http://standagainstopoverty.org/>). This weekend, the United Nations is celebrating its 64th Anniversary, marking a day when the nations of the world first stood together to declare their dedication to working together for peace.

In recognition of this date, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon states "The United Nations is doing its utmost to respond — to address the big issues, to look at the big picture. We are forging a new multilateralism that can deliver real results for all people, especially those most in need." To see his full speech, visit <http://www.youtube.com/user/unitednations>.

While the UN has not always lived up to its ideals, it is worthwhile taking a moment to ponder where we would be without it.

With faith, gratitude and solidarity,

News in brief

Civil Society and Advocacy for MDGs for Youths in Africa

By: *Deus M Kibamba, CIVICUS*

Talking points for Deus M Kibamba, CIVICUS, to the SAYM-UNDP organised Stand-up and Take Action Campaign event for the Millennium Campaign, Ivory Park Stadium, Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province, Saturday 17 October 2009.

It gives me great pleasure to be part of a campaign trail I have belonged to for so many years since the Millennium Campaign started, but this year participating in a country other than the ones I have been involved in in previous years. The Millennium Development Goals, if properly envisioned, resourced and implemented can bring about a reversal of the extreme poverty of millions of populations today, of which a greater percentage constitute the youth, children and women. For details, [click here](#).

Civil society activist detained in Turkmenistan

Famous ecologist and civil society activist Andrey Zatoka, was detained in Dashovuz, Turkmenistan on his birthday, 20th October 2009, and is currently being held in jail on the grounds of 'hooliganism', awaiting trial. According to on-the-ground colleagues, he was attacked by an unknown man in the city market and as he attempted to escape, two police officers stopped him. While initially he was told that he would be let go, he has since been charged with 'hooliganism'. International observers at Zatoka's trial are essential to ensure that the fundamental freedoms of Zakota and Turkmen civil society are maintained. Please write to your embassies in Turkmenistan and ask them to conduct an independent investigation into the case and support the granting of visas to international observers for the trial. For more information and a sample letter, [click here](#).

CIVICUS is deeply dismayed at the Kazakh appeal court hearing

Source: *CIVICUS*

CIVICUS is deeply dismayed that the appeal court hearing the case of Kazakh human rights defender, Yevgeni Zhovtis has rejected the plea of his counsels with regard to serious procedural violations at his trial concluded on September 3rd. Mr Zhovtis was sentenced to four years imprisonment for unintentional vehicular manslaughter. CIVICUS believes that Mr Zhovtis has been denied his right to due process of law. CIVICUS, in solidarity with international, regional and local civil society groups, many of whom believe that he may have been victimised because of his work, has cited a number of procedural irregularities in Mr Zhovtis's trial in a letter to President Nazarbaev. For details, [click here](#).

Reflecting With Nyerere On People-Centered Leadership

Source: *All Africa.com*

Drawing from Mwalimu Nyerere's thoughts on colonialism and post-colonialism, Marjorie Mbilinyi critiques the current state of leadership. "Corruption and the lack of patriotic leadership", she observes, "has increased during the last 20 some years, but not in a vacuum." This is so because an "enabling environment was created for corruption, individualism and compradorial tendencies by neo-liberal ideology and macroeconomic reforms which successfully took a dominant position in Tanzania - and much of the rest of Africa - in the mid-1980s." To bring an end to this leader-centred group leadership,

languages and reproduced elsewhere, as long as due acknowledgment is made to CIVICUS.

DISCLAIMER: Although CIVICUS makes all reasonable efforts to obtain prima-facie reliable content for e-CIVICUS, CIVICUS cannot guarantee the accuracy of the reports, views or opinions of third parties

Events

Rework India

16 November 2009, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

The Rework India meeting is part of the preparations for the 5th Global Youth Employment Summit, (Rework Sweden 2010). The Rework India meeting is bringing together a number of key Indian partners who are already advancing promising initiatives, green business models and technologies, and seeks to leverage and support their visions by adding youth momentum to the vision of scale. The event is being organised by YES Inc and the Tallberg Foundation. The other interested supporting partners include Ministry of Rural Development, Drihste Foundation, Development Alternatives, Microsoft, New Ventures of World Resource Institute, TERI, SEWA, and YES Bank. For details, [click here](#).

WIDE Gender Lunch on Honduras with Regina Fonseca

10 November 2009 Rue du Collège, Brussels

Regina Fonseca, a human rights activist from Honduras, is a Project Coordinator at the Centro de Derechos de la Mujer, (CDM - Centre for Women's Rights) (www.derechosdelamujer.org), the host of a radio programme of CDM, "Tiempo de Hablar" and one of the founders of Feministas en Resistencia (Feminists in Resistance). For details, [click here](#).

Recovery towards what? Finance, justice, sustainability

6 November 2009, Congress Centre, London

This is an exciting and timely one-day conference in London on global finance and its role in both developed and developing countries. It brings together experts, researchers, practitioners and civil society to discuss how to reshape finance so that it contributes to a just and sustainable economy. To stimulate a genuine debate, it has not only plenary sessions but also two breakout sessions to facilitate small group discussions. Please see the agenda for an overview of topics and speakers. For details, [click here](#).

Book Reviews

In A Different Time - The Inside Story Of The Delmas Four

Source: Loot.co.za

It is the final years of Nationalist rule, and four ANC cadres steal across the border into South Africa. They left as students after the Soweto riots of June 1976; now they return as soldiers, a specialist unit reporting to Chris Hani. Their mission: to carry out acts of war in the country of their birth. On the other side, a police hit squad operates in deepest secrecy, relentless, and a dark conspiracy unfolds. When the four are eventually captured, they face the ultimate penalty. Narrated by their lawyer as the trial progresses, this compelling true story is an insider's account of one of the most dramatic political court cases of the previous era. A tale of men driven to extremes for an ideal. Of people with unwavering commitment to their cause; and of a mother who never loses hope. For details, [click here](#).

For more book reviews, [click here](#)

Find Us



[Become a CIVICUS Facebook fan and get updates on our activities in your news feed!](#)



Check out our video channel:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/civicusworldalliance>

Marjorie calls for a people-centred leadership whereby "group-centred leaders ... are grounded within their organisations or institutions, or movements; and the groups/organisations/movements they lead are identified not by a particular individual, but rather by collectivity and its vision and mission." For details, [click here](#).

Countering Militancy in FATA

Source: *International Crisis Group*

The military operation in South Waziristan is unlikely to succeed in curbing the spread of religious militancy in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), unless the Pakistan government implements political reforms in that part of the country. Pakistani Taliban groups have gained significant power in the tribal agencies, seven administrative districts bordering on Afghanistan. While state institutions in FATA are increasingly dysfunctional, the militants have dismantled or assumed control of an already fragile tribal structure. This encroaching Talibanisation is not the product of tribal traditions or resistance. For details, [click here](#).

Children tell world leaders to consider them

Source: *Consider Us*

Children don't mince their words and hundreds of thousands of South African children will tell world leaders what they want them to do about the planet. Their main message is: "Consider Us" ... so that the world they live in will be habitable in years to come. Children between six and eighteen are being asked to explain in 20 words why world leaders should consider them when signing their climate change treaties. What is precious about our world? Why is it worth saving? These messages then appear in real time on a dedicated website, serving as a voice of the generation with the most to lose - a voice that grows louder every day as the virus spreads and the messages roll in. To download the conference poster, [click here](#). For details, [click here](#).

Climate change to accelerate displacement in Africa, top UN official warns

Source: *UN News*

Climate change will lead to ever greater numbers of people being uprooted in Africa, the top United Nations humanitarian official said today, calling for enhanced and swift action to reduce the risk of disaster and step up mitigation. "Too often, the humanitarian implications of climate change and the need for adaptation to the new, more dangerous reality of more frequent and intense natural disasters are forgotten as the world focuses on the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs John Holmes said at the African Union (AU) Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Kampala, Uganda. For details, [click here](#).

HIV vaccine trial results raise more questions

Source: *IRIN News*

The recent news that for the first time an HIV vaccine had shown some protective effect generated widespread excitement, until it emerged that the results were based on the most promising of three different analyses of the trial findings. For details, [click here](#).



Are you one of the missing 85?

One CIVICUS member for every UN member state, that's the goal of CIVICUS' 1 for 1 Membership campaign. [Click here](#).

CIVICUS Member profile

Africa in Democracy and Good Governance (ADG)

Africa in Democracy and Good Governance is a pan African NGO working in the field of human rights, democracy and the promotion of good governance in Africa. ADG was established in the Gambia on 25th November, 2005 and incorporated as a charitable organisation. It was founded to contribute to the growing efforts to promote and inculcate democratic values and principles that will ensure good governance, an open society and public participation. The mission of ADG is to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights, democracy and good governance in Africa by initiating and advising on programmes and policies which will strengthen institutions responsible for the protection of these values in order to ensure human security, sustainable development and lasting peace. ADG is currently working on four thematic areas, namely: Women's human and reproductive health rights, HIV/AIDS in correlation with Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Human Rights, Child Rights, Democracy and Good Governance programmes and the publication of biannual magazines. ADG also collaborates with several network/partner members. These members are instrumental in supporting ADG activities at country level as they work closely with national bodies and decision makers and can influence policies. ADG has a total of 782 network members, three national partners, five regional partners and four international partners.

Resources

Flagship or failure? The UK's implementation of the OECD guidelines and approach to corporate accountability

Source: *Christian Aid, Amnesty International & Friends of the Earth*

The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, established in 1976, set out a broad range of responsible business principles for companies to follow. The guidelines are voluntary but are central to the UK government's delivery of corporate social responsibility (CSR), which it committed to actively promote at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002. For details, [click here](#).

Climate and Society

Source: *The Earth Institute*



Appointments

This week, new civil society job openings have been added to the CIVICUS website. Please [click here](#). Should you wish to publish a New Vacancy, please click on [Add job](#). Please add an expiry date for applications.

Director, Demand Dignity and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Programme

Application Deadline: 25 October 2009

Amnesty International
Location: Central London
For details, [click here](#).

Civil Society Index Senior Programme Officer

Application Deadline: 30 October 2009

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
Location: Johannesburg, South Africa
For details, [click here](#).

Civil Society Index Programme Officer

Application Deadline: 30 October 2009

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
Location: Johannesburg, South Africa
For details, [click here](#).

Internship Programme

Africa in Democracy and Good Governance (ADG)
Location: The Gambia, West Africa
For details, [click here](#).

Civil Society Advisory Committee Member

Application Deadline: 30 November 2009

Commonwealth Foundation
Location: International
For details, [click here](#).

Humankind is both the driver of and responder to climate in its pursuit of well-being. Anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases affect the heat balance of the earth and the direct exploitation of natural resources has a significant impact on climate. Conversely, changing patterns of precipitation, temperature extremes, increased frequency of storms, and rising sea levels determine the limits of societal development. While the dynamic interaction between humans and climate is not new, the scale of the interaction has reached unprecedented proportions. For details, [click here](#).

September Issue of Alliance Magazine

Source: Alliance

Guest editor for this Alliance special feature is The Economist's Matthew Bishop, who poses two vital questions: how has the world changed? And what are the new opportunities for philanthropy? This special feature includes interviews with Sonal Shah of President Barak Obama's new Office of Social Innovation and Civil Participation and Susan Bell of the Hewlett Foundation. For details, [click here](#).

Opportunities

The Echoing Green Fellowship

Deadline: 2 December 2009

Each year, Echoing Green awards 12-15 two-year fellowships to social entrepreneurs. Fellows receive up to \$90,000 in seed funding and technical support to turn their innovative ideas into sustainable social change organisations. For details, [click here](#).

Open Society Fellowship

Source: Open Society Institute

The Open Society Fellowship supports individuals seeking innovative and unconventional approaches to fundamental open society challenges. The fellowship funds work that will enrich public understanding of those challenges and stimulate far-reaching and probing conversations within the Open Society Institute and in the world. For details, [click here](#).

Tell a friend

Would you like to share this newsletter with a friend? Please forward their e-mail address to subscriptions@civicus.org.

Unsubscribe: To unsubscribe from e-CIVICUS, get a password reminder, or change your subscription options by entering your subscription email address: [Click here](#).

CONTACT US

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF	P.O. Box 933	1420 K Street NW,
Devendra Tak	Southdale, 2135	Suite 900
Ingrid Srinath	South Africa	Washington D.C.
		20005 USA

EDITORS	Tel: +27 11 833 5959	Tel: +202 331-8518
Jessica Hume	Fax: +27 11 833 7997	Fax: +202 331-8774
Daniel Gray		
COPY EDITOR		
Margaret Fish		

www.civicus.org