Declaration 1.0

Commiting to a Sustainable and People-Centred World for All

www.barcelonaconsensus.org

May 2011
Barcelona Consensus Declaration 1.0

Committing to a Sustainable and People-centred World for All

People deserve a decent life, simply because they are human

The current global situation is unacceptable: it is structurally violent, unjust and unsustainable. We are living through one of the most decisive periods in the history of humankind, both in terms of gravity and scope. A crisis of consciousness and responsibility underlies our current predicament. Most current leaders have shown neither the ability nor the willingness to radically renew the existing economic or decision-making structures. Nor have they adopted the values needed to drive a transformation.

We live not in a time of change, but a change of times. Citizens and communities can and must respond to this multiple crisis, which threatens to engulf us all. We acknowledge innovative social political and economic practices; we witness the awakening of peoples; and uphold the sovereignty of all persons to choose their own destiny.

In order to re-build a sustainable and people-centred world for all, we must ensure that each and every person has access to adequate resources for the sustainable and equitable satisfaction of their basic needs.

We propose a new social, political and economic contract, promoted by people and communities, engaging with institutions, governments and business from different territories to build an alternative to the Washington Consensus.

The progressively implemented proposals of the Barcelona Consensus and related actions will enable us to achieve a gradual transition from a culture of constraints, domination, violence and war, to one of dialogue, conciliation, partnership and peace. We shall move from a culture of force to a culture of words, facilitated by remote electronic participation and innovative policies being pursued by some countries.

The new social contract, represented by the Barcelona Consensus, is an urgent call to reorganise our societies and to rearticulate our presence on Earth. In practical terms we propose the collective creation of Transition Plans, as ways to implement robust nonviolent processes. These shall have clear goals, methods and timelines for execution.

We call on all people in all communities to freely and deliberately commit to implementing a Transition Plan in their respective territories and fields of action (neighbourhood, town, city, sector, organisation, etc.). Summoning the imagination of everyone everywhere, together we can create a sustainable and people-centred future for all.

These plans will enable all groups to select shared goals to implement the following transitions:

1 Annex 1. The Barcelona Consensus
2 Annex 2. Transition Plans for a Sustainable and People-centred World for All
3 Visit our webpage to see a full list of objectives: http://consensus.nova.cat/news/barcelona-consensus-shared-goals-1
1. **Transition to a participatory and deliberative democracy in order to:**

   - Involve society in the selection of political policies for resource management and equitable distribution.
   - Avoid weak or poor implementation of laws and strengthen the legitimacy of the rule of law.
   - Guarantee social, health and education services and the protection of the common good of the entire population.
   - Eliminate corruption and improve public management, prioritising participatory budgets; introduce information and public administration systems that guarantee the right to access information; transparency and accountability of governments.
   - Facilitate the participation of vulnerable groups, first of all, women, in collective decision-making, promoting democratic practices and organisations, with effective representation, parity of men and women, in all fields.

2. **Transition to environmental sustainability in order to:**

   - Revive a vision of human life as interdependent, intrinsically linked to living beings, nature, sun, air, water and Earth.
   - Generate a new sustainable lifestyle, responsible consumption and the use of renewable energies, and progressively reduce fossil fuels and nuclear energy.
   - Promote models for the regeneration and decentralisation of human settlements.
   - Establish and apply stricter national and global tax policies for sustainability, introducing ecological taxes, penalties and ecologic and social incentives.
   - Protect the rights of present and future generations and extend the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court to environmental and economic crimes.

3. **Transition to a social, equitable and sustainable economy in order to:**

   - Drastically revise the economic system and lifestyle, and replace misleading economic indicators.
   - Stop land grabbing and the seizing of natural resources, as well as the concentration of wealth, property and power, applying the principle of “Those who have more or earn more, contribute more.”
   - Guarantee the right to dignified work\(^4\), to a basic income and a decent living as this is a human right.
   - Abandon the “development aid” policies that have become a way of exploiting people and resources, and establish global cooperation and exchange systems based on solidarity.
   - Replace unrestricted competition with cooperation and self-management and promote the “relocalization” of production and services.

\(^4\) Here used instead of “decent work”. Certain cultural contexts may require a modification of certain concepts.
4. **Transition to a non-speculative financial system in order to:**

- Prosecute speculative financial activities, tax financial transactions and effectively abolish tax havens.
- Limit public indebtedness to the financial system, and recover financial sovereignty with public, social and transparent authority for monetary creation.
- Prevent money from being a means of profit and money for its own sake, and introduce alternative and transparent monetary systems under social and public control.
- Free people from slavery to servicing a public foreign debt, through renegotiation, debt relief or unilateral cancellation.
- Prevent banks from supporting businesses and projects that are hazardous for life and the planet and favour ethical financing.

5. **Transition to a society of shared knowledge and democratic communication in order to:**

- Consider and evaluate knowledge and the capacity to generate it, as well as to share it, as a common heritage of humanity.
- Prevent control of intellectual resources, the media and communication systems by large multinational corporations and/or political parties and support media by the people and for the people.
- Prevent the manipulation of the emerging information and communication society, giving access and control to all.
- Promote more open models of multidisciplinary scientific research and exchange of knowledge.
- Prioritise the right to health and life, and the right of all people to receive adequate healthcare and medical treatment, as opposed to paying royalties on medical patents.

6. **Transition to a world beyond war and violence in order to:**

- Move towards a more peaceful world, and oppose the structural causes of war and violence.
- Promote peaceful co-existence, tolerance and respect for sexual, religious, ethnic, linguistic and cultural diversity, and to oppose patriarchy, femicide, caste segregation and racial prejudice.
- Advance disarmament, particularly through the prohibition of all weapons of mass destruction.
- Eliminate structural impunity for trafficking of human beings, organs, weapons, drugs, and money-laundering.
- Reinforce the right of peoples and communities to resist injustice.
7. **Transition to a democratic world governance, in order to:**

- Prevent plutocracy - the power of money, and progress towards an inclusive democratic world governance system based on the interests of people not of countries, including a reformed United Nations System.
- Guarantee global security and coordinated action aimed at reducing the impact of catastrophes caused by humans or nature.
- Ensure that the norms and entities of international regulation act in the public interest, in accordance with the new social and human objectives of “buen vivir”\(^5\) and are respectful towards the environment.
- Protect the human rights of migrants and progressively open migratory flows, working towards the free movement of persons.
- Escape from the global financial disarray caused by speculators and the International Financial Institutions, and create a new financial system and global reserve currency.

As we move forward with these transitions, we pledge to take **urgent actions for survival**, in order to:

- Eradicate hunger and malnutrition locally and globally, and provide clean drinking water and adequate sanitation.
- Confront the damage caused by “development” and climate change in impoverished countries.
- Avoid having recourse to armed interventions and wars, even if they are pursued in the name of “democracy”.

The financing of the proposed shared objectives can be obtained through savings made on the cost to society of weapons, corruption, tax havens and illegal trafficking, and through increasing resources thanks to social funding and public monetary creation, as well as the taxing of financial transactions and unsustainable activities and introducing a wealth tax.

And as people or groups in transition, **we commit ourselves to exercising our rights as citizens** not to cooperate with, collaborate with, buy from, serve or obey organisations or institutions that prevent or hinder the transition.

People and groups thereby **take responsibility for choosing their own objectives and carry out their own transition strategies**\(^6\), sharing their proposals, actions and results with the community formed around this declaration.

All organisations may also **commit to annually proposing and implementing initiatives for agreed Actions for a Common Transformation (ACT!)**\(^7\).

**To this end**

WE PLEDGE OUR SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT TO TAKE PART IN, DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT TRANSITION PLANS FOR A SUSTAINABLE PEOPLE-CENTRED WORLD FOR ALL

Barcelona, 3rd May 2011

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\(^5\) Andean concept of living in harmony, that supersedes “Welfare”.

\(^6\) Please visit our webpage to see strategies on how to act: [http://consensus.nova.cat/article/how-act](http://consensus.nova.cat/article/how-act)

\(^7\) Annex 3: Action for a Common Transformation (ACT!)
Annex 1: The Barcelona Consensus

The Barcelona Consensus is a process started in 2008 by the Barcelona-based NGO Nova - Social Innovation Center. It aims to promote a rethinking of the world we live in, and take act to change it, with objectives and proposals on the kind of world we want, the world we have, how should the decision-making processes should take place, how should the world economy be managed and how we would like to communicate.

Nearly 150 thinkers and social movement leaders have started to act together, proposing new solutions to the challenges we face today. These individuals, half of whom are male and half female, have been selected for their ability to propose new ideas and also according to population distribution around different regions of the world. They have made their proposals and have been deliberating over the Internet during the course of 2010, through the system “Delibera” (www.deliberaweb.com).

On February 8, 2011, a preliminary version of the Barcelona Consensus Declaration was presented in the Dakar World Social Forum. The Declaration was approved on May 3, in Barcelona. The Declaration is an incentive to promote Transition Plans for a sustainable and people-centered world for all.

Since May 2011, the process is open. You may sign the Declaration with the commitment to develop or take part in Transition Plans. You can also bring in new shared objectives, proposals on how to reach them, share experiences on the actions that you are taking to reach one of a few of the objectives, participate in the Action for a Common Transformation consultations and actions, develop alternative socioeconomic models and submit your idea to the annual Grant for Innovative Socio-Economic Models.

Number of participants from according to world region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>Central America</th>
<th>South America</th>
<th>Northern Europe</th>
<th>Western Europe</th>
<th>Southern Europe</th>
<th>Eastern Europe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of participants</td>
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<td>05</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>09</td>
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<tr>
<td>World region</td>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td>East Africa</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>Indian Subcontinent</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>03</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>East Asia</td>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
<td>Pacific</td>
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<td>Women</td>
<td>Men</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region</td>
<td>03</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International Advisory Board

The International Advisory Council is composed of individuals renowned for their critical and propositive trajectories. Today it has 34 members, 17 men and 17 women, with enormous geocultural diversity:

List of experts who have actively participated in the process 2009-2011

Abi, Samir
Acharya, Arabinda
Afid, Fatna
Ahmad, Mohiuddin
Ahmad Ali, Fatuma
Akter, Farjana
Amra, Bahia
Anselmi, Juan Carlos
Arruda, Marcos

(Tanzania) (Egypt) (Jordan-UK) (Cameroon) (Mali) (Canada) (Mexico) (Bangladesh) (Portugal) (Iran) (France) (Brazil) (China) (USA)


(Indonesia) (Rwanda) (Kenya) (Russia) (Turkey) (China) (Spain) (USA) (Tanzania) (Italy) (Ecuador) (Argentina) (India) (Morocco) (India) (Peru) (Belgium) (Brazil) (Chile) (Brazil) (Swaziland) (Serbia) (Morocco) (Angola) (Mexico)

Centre Tricontinental Unified Democratic Forces KENDREN

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Arruda, Marcos

(Togo) (Singapore) (Morocco) (Bangladesh) (Kenya) (Palestine) (Uruguay) (Brazil)


(India) (Chile) (Brazil) (Swaziland) (Serbia) (Morocco) (Angola) (Mexico)

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Ll. Ortega, Josep
Lini, Hilda
Lihua, Xie
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Li, Ortega, Josep
Loh, Kwik Wah
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López, Cecilia
Lopezlira-Mendez, L.
Lu, Aiguo
Mahesar, Aijaz Ahmed
Malahat, Nasibova
Man, Rama
Massiah, Gustave

Center for the HR
Part. Dev. Action Program
The Farm
Alliance 21
Un. of Indonesia
Lithuanian HR Assoc.
Center of Concern
Women Researchers Assoc.
Patras University
Gonoshasthaya Kendra
Chengkung University
Mujeres para el Diálogo
Un. General Sarmiento
Western Shoshone
World Citizen Found.
INSAF
Generation Peace
Darshan Organization
Ac. of Medical Sciences
International PEN
CODEPINK
Collectif des femmes
AMAN Pakistan Found.
Int’l Org. Consumers Unions
World Citizens Association
UN Development Program
Ever Green Group
Asia-Europe Found.
Armenian Helsinki
Xiangfan Environmental
SADC
Aga Khan University
Alliance 21
FEMNET
Feminist League
Kansai University
Nakhon Phanom Un.
Beijing Cult. Dev. Center
Melanesian-Global Inst.
Congreso de los Pueblos
Christian Act. Group
House of Repres.
PDP
Academy of Social Sciences
Government of Sindh
Justice Unlimited
CRID

Moreau, Susana
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Murthy, P. K.
Nanuashvili, Ucha
Castro, Loreta
Nazaretyan, Akop
Nishikawa, Jun
Nizamani, N.
O Siochru, Seán
Obregon, Rafael
Ohlale, Badr Eddine
Onyemel, Emilia
Osman Ahmed, B.
Perlstein, Jeff
Petrovic, Zivojin
Pignatti, Martina
Primavera, Heloisa
Qadir, Khurram
Raffer, Kunibert
Raghuram, Shobha
Ramambaso, F.
Ribas, Sandra
Robinson, Deborah
Roy, Ashim
S. Kusum, Bhawani
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Sabir, Michael
Saleh, Ibrahim
Sandell, Tami
Sandra, Chaher
Saniora Baassiri, S.
Santiago Oretta, J.
Seneviratne, Kalinga
Shenjing, Lin
Siraqul, Islam
SIT, Tsui
Siwatibai, Suliana
Sun, Bai
Sun, Ge
Suwanwela, Charas
Swami, Agnivesh
Telibert, Laoc
Tiejun, Wen
Villanueva, Cesar
Vranic, Andrija
Wallertstein, I.
Warszawski, M.
Xilulin, Gu
Yon Tjega, Simon
Zhao, Ling

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(Costa Rica)
(USA)
(India)
(Argentina)
(Pakistan)
(Egypt)
(Argentina)
(Philippines)
(Sri Lanka)
(Philippines)

The Barcelona Consensus Executive Team

Nova - Social Innovation Center
Martí Olivella (Catalonia, Project Director)
Gisele lecker de Almeida (Brazil), Project Coordinator

Institut de Drets Humans de Catalunya: Jaume Saura (Catalonia)

Alliance for Freedom and Dignity: Rachid Aarab (Morocco)
Annex 2. Transition Plans for a Sustainable and People-centred World for All

In the Declaration Commiting to a Sustainable and People-centred World for All the Barcelona Consensus states:

We call on all people in all communities to freely and deliberately commit to implementing a Transition Plan in their respective territories and fields of action (neighbourhood, town, city, sector, organisation, etc.). Summoning the imagination of everyone everywhere, together we can create a sustainable and people-centred future for all.

In these transition plans for a Sustainable and People-centred World for All, each person or group can choose some of the shared objectives to carry out transitions to: a deliberative and participatory democracy, environmental sustainability, a social, equitable and sustainable economy, a non-speculative financial system, a society of shared knowledge and democratic communication, a world beyond war and violence and a democratic world governance.

Product of a participatory consultation process, the Barcelona Consensus has elaborated the Commitment for a Sustainable and People-centred World for All that includes shared goals for these 7 transitions, which can serve as an inspiration for the creation of Transition Plans. Each person or group that shares the values of this Declaration can thus take responsibility for selecting and implementing their own commitments and to report them and their results to the community that will form around this Declaration.

Anyone who wants to promote a transition plan should first choose an area of interest (from the shared goals) and area of influence (on the specific goal that you believe could produce real change in the world).

Transition Plans can be started either by affinity or proximity groups, which would then constitute a Transition Circle: groups of people who voluntarily commit themselves to achieve - with clear timelines - changes in habits and unsustainable structures, with the voluntary relinquishment of unnecessary privileges, in order to progressively convert communities or sectors in sustainable and habitable spaces for all.

Preparation and presentation of a Transition Plan - FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details of the organization, group or network that wants to form a Transition Circle:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of the Transition Plan:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target area for the proposed Transition: district, county, country, world ...:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description and justification of the transition to be achieved:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reference Objective (area of interest): (please consult the list of shared objectives or propose new ones).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attainable goal (area of influence):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation phases and concrete objective/s for each phase:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expected results:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What if every year thousands of organizations around the world agreed on a common transforming action?

A social consultation has been launched to identify an Action for a Common Transformation (ACT!) for 2012, with the involvement of organizations and networks around the world that have cheered with the call that "another world is possible."

The aim of the consultation is to obtain changes that affect either those responsible for the global crisis or the main unfair or unsustainable situations we live. In 2012, this project seeks to promote a single global action for a common transformation to cause a specific change in one of the shared objectives * promoted by the Barcelona Consensus, or those promoted by the convergence assemblies of the World Social Forum in Dakar. Each year a new consultation will be launched, leading to a different Action for a Common Transformation, in a different theme, depending on the proposals made and supported by the participating organizations.

All participating organizations, therefore, must share the principles of the World Social Forum and / or the Barcelona Consensus Declaration. Organizations and coalitions that they want to express their support and act together are able to participate:

a) Providing a concrete proposal for an Action for a Common Transformation
b) Inviting other organizations to participate
c) Deliberating on the proposals and selecting the proposal to be developed in 2012

How to make proposals for an Action for a Common Transformation

1. Ask in your group, organization or network proposals for an Action for a Common Transformation, and which global changes should be the priority for 2012 and submit your ideas by January 31st.

2. In February the list of suggestions received will be published online and similar proposals will be merged. All organizations and groups who wish to participate may choose a maximum of 3 priority actions they would be willing to support.

3. By the end of March 2012, all of those involved will start planning how to carry out - in a global and coordinated fashion - the action that received more support.

4. A grant of 8,000 € will is offered to help organize and carry out the agreed Action for a Common Transformation.
# Proposals of Actions for a Common Transformation - FORM

## Details of the organization, group or network that proposes the action:

### Name of the action:

### Description and justification of the proposed action:

The premise is that the action should result in a possible transformation. Proposals only seeking to raise awareness will not be taken into account.

**Justify why this action is considered very important.**

### What kind of action is it?:

- Non-cooperation (not buying, working, voting, saving, investing, etc.)
- Civil disobedience (not following unjust laws, reject those responsible such as politicians or bankers)
- Construction of alternatives (to change habits, demand new laws, start law suits, etc.)
- Others - explain the transformative process that is produced.

## Selected objective (area of interest)

Please consult the Barcelona Consensus shared objectives, as well as the objectives promoted by the WSF Assembles, or propose a new objective in line with those mentioned.

## Goal, concrete objective to reach through the proposed action (influence area)

It is important to present realistic objectives, that can be reached and thus reinforce the capacity to perform other actions.

### How could other organizations get involved?:

- What would be asked of them?
- What could they do to participate?

### How could citizens participate?

- What would be asked of them?
- What could they do to participate?

### When would this action have to be publicly launched?

- How much time would be needed for the launch of the action?
- How long would the action be?

### What organizations could be willing to organize the action?

## Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Until January 31st, 2012</th>
<th>Organizations or coalitions send the information of their proposed Action for a Common Transformation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Until February 15th</td>
<td>Agglutination of proposals to reduce the volume, avoid duplication and strengthen their viability and impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From February 15th to March 25th</td>
<td>All of the registered organizations select those actions they are willing to commit (Max. of 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From March 25th</td>
<td>Start of the preparation stage of the 2012 Action for a Common Transformation that has received more support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Visit our webpage to:

Sign the commitment,  
Share your Transition Plan,  
Propose an Action for a Common Transformation,  
Find out more about the Barcelona Consensus

www.barcelonaconsensus.org

Contact us: info@barcelonaconsensus.org

The Network of Support Organizations of the Barcelona Consensus currently consists of: Alliance for Freedom and Dignity, IDHC - Institut Drets Humans de Catalunya, Ubuntu - World Forum of Civil Society Networks, Fundació Alfons Comín, Centre d'Estudis sobre Moviments Socials-UPF, Fundación Cultura de Paz, Xarxa d'Economia Solidaria, Centre Unesco de Catalunya, Fòrum Ciutadà de Mallorca (Spain); Patir - Peace Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania (Romania), CRID - Centre de Recherche et d'Information pour le Développement (France), Association européenne pour la défense des Droits de l'Homme (Belgium), ALOP - Asociación Latinoamericana de Orgs. e Promoción al Desarrollo (Mexico), IBASE - Instituto Brasileiro de Análises Sociais e Econômicas (Brazil), CAD - Coalition des Alternatives Africaines Dette et Développement (Mali), Palestinian Medical Relief Society (Palestine), CETRI - Centre Tricontinental (Belgium), World Forum for Alternatives (Senegal) and Good Future Alliance (Austria), PeaceWomen Across the Globe (Suíssa), Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (Litouânia), The Faculty of Social sciences-Lithuanian University of Educology (Litouânia), Mayukha (Índia).