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**The Hague presents Hague Manifesto at 70th anniversary United Nations**

Today, The Hague have kickstarted the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the United Nations (UN) by organising a series of events titled ‘We, the People’ throughout the course of the day and presenting the first draft of the *Hague Manifesto* on the occasion. Developed by young academics and a cross section of the international community in thematic working groups organised by the Hague Project Peace and Justice, the Hague Manifesto is the beginning of a determined effort to contribute to the implementation of the UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development, paving the way towards their full realisation by 2030.

The Hague Manifesto is a tribute to the important work of the United Nations and the newly adopted UN Global Goals. The Hague Manifesto is presented today in its first draft outlining the 7 principles taking forward the actions, such as the engagement of all actors through effective partnerships to advance Global Goal 16 and the wider Agenda 2030, including within civil society, the business community, governments, media, academia, and international organisations. In particular, local communities and the younger generation need to be engaged directly in these partnerships. The concrete actions will be defined over the course of the coming weeks, based on further dialogues with the international community.

The Manifesto outlines the strong belief that the UN Global Goals will spur dialogue and cooperation among people and their organisations, from the local to the global level. As UN Secretary General [Ban Ki-moon](http://www.theguardian.com/world/ban-ki-moon) said during the Sustainable Development Summit: ‘The true test of commitment to the new Global Goals will be implementation’. The Hague Manifesto aims to contribute to this implementation process. Emphasizing Goal 16, it aims to leverage the unique role of the City of The Hague, the City of peace & justice. The Manifesto offers a framework to support an open discourse between all the relevant actors with a view to identifying, prioritising and implementing concrete action supported by informed societies.

‘The Hague as the International City of Peace and Justice is, naturally, contributing to the realisation of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development of the United Nations. The Hague Manifesto is a concrete example of this contribution’, says Jozias van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague.

‘Today we celebrate the UN’s 70th birthday. The Kingdom of the Netherlands is a partner for peace, justice and development for the UN and its Member States. Let’s work together for a strong UN and a better world for the next 70 years to come’, says Bert Koenders, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

Jozias van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague together with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs are hosting the evening event in the Peace Palace, organised by the Hague Project Peace and Justice. Over 200 dignitaries, representing the international community of The Hague, as well as partners from Brussels, Geneva and Vienna will share their ideas on the implementation of the UN Global Goal 16. The Mayor of The Hague will close the evening programme by illuminating the Peace Palace in blue lights, with a tribute to the United Nations.

Follow the event via livestream on www.haguetalks.com and find further information on the programmes. The Hague Manifesto is published on [www.hagueproject.com](http://www.hagueproject.com) in the newsroom and on [www.haguetalks.com/news](http://www.haguetalks.com/news).

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