



# SPIRIT OF HUMANITY FORUM

## **1st Spirit of Humanity Forum 13th-15th September 2012, Reykjavik-Iceland**

### **RE-SETTING THE COMPASS CREATING A LANDSCAPE OF POSSIBILITIES**

#### **Vision and Mission of the Spirit of Humanity Forum:**

A global partnership of organisations, communities and individuals, committed to improving the condition of the world and those who live in it. The Forum creates a safe space for dialogue and self exploration among leaders to discover new ways to move forward together.

#### **What is the experience that we would like to have across these two days?**

- Experience a safe space of reflection;
- Listen to and share stories of values-based decision-making, and transformation;
- Experience of the deep personal shift that can enable lasting change;
- Gain Inspiration to go forward together; to make a difference in the world with others.

#### **The process by which this will be achieved:**

- Reflective silences;
- Interactive – facilitated process involving all participants;
- Roundtable conversations;
- Wisdom reflections/insights;
- Conversations in smaller groups;
- Summary in plenary.

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

### THURSDAY 13th SEPTEMBER, 2012

5.00 pm - 6.15 pm          Registration open at Harpa Congress Centre

6.30 pm – 8.00 pm          **WELCOME RECEPTION**

at Hofti House hosted by the Mayor and the City of Reykjavik  
Welcome by **Jon Gnarr**, Mayor of Reykjavik

### FRIDAY 14<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2012 - HARPA CONFERENCE CENTRE

8.00 am                      Registration open

#### DAY ONE: RE-SETTING THE COMPASS

9.00 – 10.00 am          **OPENING DAY ONE**

Forum Presenter:

**Veronica Pedrosa**, International News Presenter, Al Jazeera English

Youth Choir

Greetings from **Sabah Al Rayes**, Chairman, ARG, Kuwait

Greetings from **Dadi Janki**, Head of the Brahma Kumaris

Opening Remarks by **HE Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson**, President of Iceland

*Video message from:*

**HE Katalin Bogyay**, President of the General Conference of UNESCO

#### SESSION ONE:              **INSPIRING**

10.00 – 12.45 pm          Led by **Svanhildur Konráðsdóttir**, Director of Culture and Tourism,  
City of Reykjavik

Theme (I): Exploring and sharing experiences which have created major transformation in me and/or my community.

*This session will explore the story of Iceland as the people and government sought to understand the financial collapse of 2008 and began a reassessment of their of social values. We will hear from those who lived through the crisis and came through with renewed hope. It is an opportunity to hear the 'inside story' from the heart, identifying and expressing how deepest intentions and thoughts can guide our actions.*

#### The session includes:

- The 'Icelandic Saga'
- The National Assembly of Values presented by the Ministry of Ideas
- 'Seriously funny' – the Reykjavik Best Party experience (with video)
- **Jon Gnarr** sharing his personal challenges and observations as Mayor of Reykjavik
- Panel Lounge including **Jon Gnarr**, Mayor of Reykjavik, **Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir**, Country Director, UN Women in Afghanistan, former Foreign Minister of Iceland and **Professor David Cadman**, Quaker Writer and Economist.
- Roundtable conversations: *What can we learn from the 'Icelandic Saga' that would be of value to other communities in facing the challenges of today?*

12.30 pm

**Lunch**

## SESSION TWO: LISTENING & LEARNING

13. 45 – 15. 45 pm Led by **Sister Jayanti**, European Director, Brahma Kumaris and **Sander Tideman**, Managing Director, Global Leaders Academy

Theme (ii): Understanding the impact of personal change based on human values, on my community and the wider world.

*In this session we aim to develop greater understanding of how change within of attitudes, feelings and thoughts can lead to change manifested outside. We will reflect on how our own higher values enable us to create change in our own situation. We will share our personal stories of values-led change.*

### The session includes:

- An exploration of the principles of change
- Appreciative inquiry into the values-led change
- Roundtable conversations:  
*How is it possible for personal change to lead to systemic change?  
What are the main factors that enable a practical shift to take place?*
- Reflection: **The Most Revd Dr Thabo C. Makgoba**, Archbishop of Capetown, South Africa

3.45 pm Refreshments Break

## SESSION THREE: CALLING

4.15 – 5.45 pm Led by **Miriam Subirana**, Foundation for a Culture of Peace

Theme (iii): What is the future asking of me and how can I respond? Where can I find the energy and passion to respond to this inner call?

*This session will help us identify and understand what the future is asking of each of us personally, within the context in which we find ourselves, and explore how we empower ourselves with the higher human values to respond to this call. From where do I find the energy to think, feel and act differently in facing current challenges?*

### The session includes:

- Insights by: **Joan Mele**, Deputy Director, Triodos Bank Spain and **Theary C. Seng**, Founder, Centre for Justice and Reconciliation, Cambodia
- Personal reflection:  
*What is the future asking of me?  
How do I respond to this call?  
How can I empower my response?  
Where do I find the energy and the passion to respond to inner call?*
- Roundtable conversations

7.00 pm Departure by boat to Videy Island for dinner

## SATURDAY 15th SEPTEMBER, 2012 - HARPA CONFERENCE CENTRE

### DAY TWO: CREATING A LANDSCAPE OF POSSIBILITIES

9.00 – 10.30 am      **OPENING DAY TWO: SHIFTING**  
Performance on Icelandic Stone Harp  
Introduction by **Veronica Pedrosa**  
Insights on creating a landscape of possibilities:  
**Federico Mayor**, Founder-President, Foundation for a Culture of Peace  
**Dadi Janki**, Head of the Brahma Kumaris  
*Video messages from:*  
The **Rt Hon Artur Mas**, President Generalitat Catalonia Government  
introduced by **Pepa Ninou Pere**, Co-ordinator National Plan of Values,  
Generalitat de Catalunya  
**Frances Moore Lappé**, Founder, Small Planet Institute, USA

10.30 am              **Refreshments Break**

#### **SESSION FOUR:              TRANSFORMING**

11.00 – 1.00 pm      Led by **Gabor Karsai**, Director, World Servers Foundation & **Scherto Gill**,  
Executive Secretary, Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace

Theme (iv): Seeking new horizons: how re-adjusting our personal compass can help meet social and global challenges.

*This session will explore the adjustments needed to reset our personal compass as well as respond to what the future is asking of us. We will reflect on the impact higher human values may have on our decision-making within our organisation, community or country. We will further identify the challenges of transforming difficult situations through a value-based approach and how we can move forward together as a community of people.*

#### **This session includes:**

- Introduction & story-sharing:  
*How are human values manifested in our decision making in practice?*
- Roundtable conversations:  
*What new possibilities can arise when we integrate higher human values in decision making?  
How can we work together in order to create a value-based culture within our field?*
- Reflection

1.00 pm              **Lunch**

**SESSION FIVE: TRANSCENDING**

2.00 - 4.00 pm Led by **Mark Milton**, Founder, Education 4 Peace Foundation & **Ambassador Ragnar Angeby**, Senior Advisor, Conflict Prevention in Practice Programme, Folke Bernadotte Academy

Theme (v): What do we feel inspired to do? Where would we like to go together?

*This session will seek to clarify existing and new directions we may want to pursue together in a practical way, guided by our higher values and open to new possibilities. How do we continue to support each other in keeping our personal compass aligned with the new landscape of possibilities I now see for myself, my community and the world.*

**The session includes:**

- Video cameos of values led social change including:  
Speech delivered at Oslo Cathedral by **Jens Stoltenberg**, Prime Minister of Norway, at the memorial service for victims of bombing in Oslo and shooting on the island of Utøya
- Panel lounge with two panellists (tbc) sharing how their higher human values have helped them in responding to and transforming crises.
- Followed by roundtable discussions:  
*Guided by higher human values and open to the new possibilities how can we reset the compass in society towards new horizons?*  
*How can we continue to support this process of change across borders?*
- Open interactive plenary session

4.00 pm **PARTICIPATORY CLOSING CEREMONY**

*Video messages from*  
**Yoko Ono**, Peace Campaigner  
Closing Ceremony

4.30 pm Close of the Forum

7.00 pm Reception hosted by  
**HE the President of Iceland** at Bessastaðir, the Presidential Residence

**Facilitator:**

**Veronica Pedrosa** is an international news veteran of 20 years experience. She has lived and worked in three continents, and has presented and reported for CNN, BBC World TV, BBC World Service Radio and most recently Al Jazeera English. Veronica also has extensive experience hosting international conferences for the United Nations, the European Union, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the WWF. For more information visit [www.veronicapedrosa.com](http://www.veronicapedrosa.com)