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Agenda item 46

University for Peace

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 4 December 2024

[*on the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee) (A/79/419, para. 8)*]

79/84. University for Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/73 of 9 December 2021, in which it recalled that, in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979, it had approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for higher education, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system, as well as all preceding resolutions on this item,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980, the General Assembly approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recognizing that in 2025 the University will celebrate 45 years of executing the mandate given to it by the General Assembly of educating and training leaders for peace,

Recognizing also the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period from 2021 to 2024 with the valuable assistance and contributions of Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations, in particular the progress made in the further development and implementation of the academic programme and in expanding its coverage in various regions of the world, and welcoming in this regard the signing of agreements and memorandums outlined in the report of the Secretary General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 76/73,¹ encouraging Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations to maintain and expand their engagement with the University,

¹ A/79/272.



Noting with appreciation that the University has reaffirmed its commitment to academic excellence throughout its certificate, master's and doctoral degree programmes in areas related to peace studies, international law, gender equality, including women's empowerment, human rights, conflict resolution and sustainable development in several of the official languages of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation also that the majority of the students and alumni are women, and acknowledging the fact that women fulfil a critical role as peacebuilders at the international, national and local levels,

Noting that the University prioritizes conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and the peaceful settlement of disputes, and that it has carried out a wide variety of capacity-building programmes in the areas of access to justice, international human rights law, post-conflict consensus-building, illicit trade and organized crime, and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful conflict resolution,

Noting with appreciation the support provided to the University by the host country, Costa Rica,

Acknowledging the University's global presence and global reach as an international institution of higher education,

Recognizing the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development² and the need to coordinate efforts for its implementation,

Recognizing also the relevance of Sustainable Development Goal 4, to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, in particular its target 4.b, which aims to substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries,

Noting the University's new initiatives, including the establishment of an office in Rome dedicated to the study of the role of artificial intelligence in peace-related matters, important advances in the establishment of doctoral degree programmes in China, Malta and Somalia, and the development of projects related to interreligious dialogue and education on peace, climate mitigation and adaptation, and the fight against illicit trade and transnational organized crime, referred to in the report of the Secretary-General,

Taking note of the commitment of the University in its support to the work of the United Nations, and recognizing its contribution through programmes focused on peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

Recalling the mission of the University for Peace, as outlined in its Charter, including its aims to promote understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence among all human beings,

Considering the importance of promoting education and culture for peace that foster tolerance and respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among people, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among people irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture, in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the decrease in student enrolment, in both undergraduate and graduate programmes, caused by the redirection of funds that were previously destined for education, including vital support for academic scholarships and research opportunities in peace and conflict-related fields,

² Resolution 70/1.

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General, in which he outlined the progress made with regard to the administrative and financial stabilization of the University for Peace and through its recent process of academic reform through the implementation of its innovative programmes on critical subjects related to peace and security;
2. *Requests* the University, given its role in developing innovative concepts and approaches to peace and security through education, training and research in order to respond effectively to emerging threats to peace and security, to find viable ways to further strengthen cooperation with the United Nations system;
3. *Reiterates* the request made to the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution 64/83 of 10 December 2009, to establish, under his leadership, a trust fund for peace to facilitate the receipt of voluntary contributions to the University;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expand the scope for using the services of the University as part of his conflict prevention and resolution as well as peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts through the training of staff, especially those concerned with peacekeeping and peacebuilding, in order to strengthen their capacities in these areas, and in the promotion of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace³ and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
5. *Requests* Member States to take the lead in supporting the mission of the University by recognizing the institution and, when possible, making financial contributions, including through the establishment of scholarship opportunities, that will make it possible for the University to offer its programmes of study to all students who wish to participate in them, and by facilitating the University's operations in host countries;
6. *Invites* Member States that have not already done so to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,⁴ thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution established pursuant to a General Assembly resolution and devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
7. *Invites* the University to further strengthen and broaden the outreach of its programmes and activities for cooperation with and capacity-building for Member States in the areas of conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacebuilding and sustaining peace;
8. *Encourages* intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, interested individuals and philanthropists to contribute to the programmes and core budget of the University to enable it to continue to perform its valuable work worldwide in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the recent substantial transformations with regard to such issues as gender equality and the empowerment of women, human rights, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, sustaining peace and climate change;
9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-second session the item entitled "University for Peace", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at that session a report on the work of the University.

47th plenary meeting
4 December 2024

³ Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 223, No. 19735.