

The Civil **solidarity** Forum



@cojep_inter / cojep_international

#2021
#Geneva
#UnitedNations
#civilsolidarity





Date : Place :

Object : Proposition to cooperation for « Cojep Civil Solidarity Forum ».

Dear _____ ,

By this letter , I request support and partnership for our NGO COJEP INTERNATIONAL, of which I am the president.

Cojep "Council for Justice, Equality and Peace" was created in 1985 and is headquartered in Strasbourg. Our NGO has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations, UNESCO (NGO Liaison Committee), the Council of Europe (NGO Conference), the OECD and accredited by of the European Parliament and the OSCE.

We are present with our agencies and coordinators Asia, Africa, Balkans, Center Asia, Middle East but also at the United States. In the face of the needs of citizens, Cojep has evolved in all its years in areas such as migration, migrant status, belonging, sedentarization, citizenship, democratic participation, education, living together , fighting against racism and discrimination are the priorities of the Cojep movement within international institutions.

We won experience and respect as we go. Today , Cojep works for humanitarian values. We have demonstrated to civil society and international organizations the importance of our role in development, strengthening of peace, justice, rights, freedoms and democracy. Our association has proven itself in these areas by becoming an organization accredited and respected by the international community.

Today, we write to you o request your partnership and cooperation for to organizing together our « Civil Solidarity forum » in your region and others regions where Cojep are represented. These different events will be following by the final of this Forum at United Nations - Geneva.

You can find details about with the documents in appendices. In addition, our coordinator in post will be delighted to warmly explain the purpose and expectations of this forum to you.

In the hope of being able to collaborate with you, please accept my respectful greetings.

Ali GEDIKOĞLU
Chairman Cojep international
20-11-2020 - Strasbourg, FRANCE

The «Civil Solidarity»

Forum - The purpose and the necessity.

Civil society occupies an important position in the development dialogue as it provides opportunities to bring communities together for collective action, mobilising society to articulate demands and voice concerns at local, national, regional and international levels.¹

Civil society is similar to those extracurricular activities. Usually, a country's government takes care of the basics, such as defense, education and health care. But it doesn't provide citizens with a way to organize themselves to do what is important to them or express their views. That's where civil society comes into play. It is the groups that people form to advocate for the things they believe in and to solve problems in their communities. Societies that do not allow people to connect with one another to solve problems or monitor their governments are less effective, less democratic and less resilient than those that do.

There's the saying that if you teach a person to fish, you feed the person for a lifetime. But you also have to make sure that the lake isn't polluted and that the fishing rod can be repaired. Otherwise, teaching people to fish

is no more effective than just giving them a fish. Similarly, it's not enough to simply create or strengthen civil society organizations. You must make sure they have an environment in which they can thrive. This environment includes regulations, tax laws, linkages between civil society organizations and the government, and even people's attitudes about philanthropy. Any program that seeks to strengthen civil society on a national scale has to address legal and regulatory issues and create a culture that is willing to support its own civil society organizations.²

Civil society roles include :

- 1.** service provider (for example, running primary schools and providing basic community health care services)
- 2.** advocate/campaigner (for example, lobbying governments or business on issues including indigenous rights or the environment)
- 3.** Guarantor of rights (for example, monitoring government compliance with human rights treaties)
- 4.** Building active citizenship (for example, motivating civic engagement at the local level and engagement with local, regional and national governance)

5. Participating in global governance processes (for example, civil society organizations serve on the advisory board of the World Bank's Climate Investment Funds).

Civil society has created positive social change in numerous places throughout the world. For example, Wateraid UK provided over 1.3 million people with safe drinking water in 2017/18¹, whilst in El Salvador, the government passed a law in 2017 banning environmentally and socially harmful metal mining practices following civil society action since 2004³. However, questions about civil society's value, legitimacy, means of action and accountability are increasingly. Reasons for this include:

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¹What is Civil Society, its role and value in 2018? Rachel Cooper University of Birmingham 15 October 2018. ¹

²<https://degrees.fhi360.org/2013/02/why-effective-civil-society-is-like-a-good-school/> - Why do we need civil society? Written by Michael Kott, Director, Civil Society and Peacebuilding, FHI 360.

³https://www.civicus.org/images/Saul_Banos_El_Salvador.pdf

- The growing role of new social movements which are able to connect with and mobilise large numbers of people;
- The absence of the voice of civil society in the decision making process towards growing global issues;
- The absence of a real civil solidarity network.

But beyond the current crisis, civil society is an essential building block of development and national cohesion. Civil society organizations play multiple roles. They are an important source of information for both citizens and government. They monitor government policies and actions and hold government accountable. They engage in advocacy and offer alternative policies for government, the private sector, and other institutions. They deliver services, especially to the poor and underserved. They defend citizen rights and work to change and uphold social norms and behaviors. ⁴

There are no final words on civil society, because civil society is constantly being reinterpreted and recreated. This is particularly true at a time when emerging superpowers like China, India, and Brazil are entering and beginning to reshape global debates about politics and economics, often from the perspective of their own knowledge base and traditions which, in civil society

terms, may differ markedly from the trajectories of North America and Europe, from where most civil society theory to date has emerged. The civil society debate will certainly be all the richer for it. ⁵

In this condition, our main proposition on the name of Cojep International (Council for Justice, Equality and Peace) it's to create a global network with different members of civil society around the world for to be a part of this wealth.

Cojep was created in 1996 and is headquartered in Strasbourg. Our NGO has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations, UNESCO (NGO Liaison Committee), the Council of Europe (NGO Conference), the OECD and accredited by of the European Parliament and the OSCE.

To strengthen development and make its voice stronger, we have the ambition to organize forums of civil solidarity in regions around the world where we have representation with our corridors: Asia, Central Asia, Balkans, America, Middle East and Africa.

Our first objective is to create a global network for solidarity. For that we want first of all to organize the forums of civil solidarity in the respective regions mentioned above to finally organize a final with all the

participants in the United Nations in Geneva.

In short, we all in different geographies, have difficulties to make our desperate voices heard to each other and our voices to the world and the international community ...

"We are not helpless, we are not alone, COJEP world network exist »!

We can say to this desperation, this loneliness, together, we can cry out to the world together that we are not helpless and lonely with the spirit of "one for all, all for one".

Time for action with our coordinators ... If we work together, a strong Cojep world network is possible! Please join our team and our actions for to elaborate together the civil solidarity forum in the different regions around the world, for to reach the final event

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Note : Please see the preliminary program of the Forum . With all of partners our coordinators will create a committee of organization for to discuss, prepare, develop and embellish the proposed ideas.

⁴.<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/04/06/civil-society-an-essential-ingredient-of-4-development/>

⁵.<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780195398571.001.0001/5-oxfordhb-9780195398571-e-38> - « Conclusion: Civil Society as a Necessary and Necessarily Contested Idea ».

At least 2 panels and conferences

- Opening speeches (1 person from Cojep, the regional coordinator of Cojep, 1 impressive and famous person from the region and maybe others)
- Opening conference
- Associations fair and opening of the forum

1. Session

2. Session

- Associations Gala Dinner and closing

- Associations of the country and region where the forum is held will come and promote their own institutions at the fair.

- Countries will have stands to promote themselves.

3. There must be at least 150 -200 associations and association representatives for the solidarity forum.

4. Representatives of the United Nations Ecosoc, representatives from commission of social development of UN and Council of Europe NGO Conference should be invited (maybe others for example the current president of session of United Nations; we can invite him by teleconference maybe).

Note: for session we need to found academicians, journalist, representatives of civil society, professors and others.

1. Partners (Please writhe full name of organizations or structures followed by the name of legal representative).

.....(Partners)
make the following Partnership Agreement.

As of, the Partners agree to enter into a Partnership for the purpose of operating together

which will be take place at
(place and date).

The Partnership will be consist of the following activities:

[illegible]

4. Contributions to the Partnership :

The Partners will make the following contributions to the Partnership:

Partner Name	Cash Contribution	Other Contributions (please describe)

5. Partner Signatures (Legal Representative)

Name ://.....

Date :

Address :

Signatures with Stamps :

.....//.....

Note ;

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Ali GEDIKOĞLU
Chairman Cojep international



Celil YILMAZ
General Secretary

Sati ARIK
Coordinator at the Council of Europe



Ifakat YUNA
UNESCO Coordinator

Dudu KELES
Coordinator at the UN



Asif KHAN
Assistant Coordinator



COJEP AMERICA :
Hugues Sanon
☎ +1 (862) 438-6690
✉ huguesanimator@yahoo.com

COJEP CENTER ASIA :
Nushaba Mammadova
☎ +994 50 527 96 27
✉ Nusaba_mamedova@mail.ru



COJEP AFRICA :
Georges Kalonji
☎ +243 851 300 096
✉ Georges.kalonji@yahoo.fr

COJEP MIDDLE – EAST :
Nesim Omeroglu
☎ +96599769227 | +905348838342
✉ nesimomeroglu@hotmail.com



COJEP ASIA :
Tashrif Chowdhury
☎ +880 1709 – 641650
✉ tashrifc@yahoo.com

COJEP BALKANS :
Sabit Grabus
☎ +38761459294
✉ sabitgrabus@gmail.com



The
**Diplomatic
COJEP**

Le
COJEP
Diplomatique

NEWS LETTER

BULLETIN OFFICIEL



freedom forever, justice forever



COJEP INTERNATIONAL

✉ cojep.relations.int@gmail.com



18 Rue du Chemin de Fer, 67200 Strasbourg / FRANCE

🌐 www.cojep.com