

# PETITION

## Time for a Truly Democratic United Nations



*To the Heads of State or Government of UN Member States:*

*“This month, September 2024, you will gather at the Summit of the Future in New York to make decisions on how to tackle some of the existential threats and global challenges of our time—climate change, war, artificial intelligence, and more. We demand that you make the United Nations a truly democratic organization—one where global decisions are made transparently, inclusively, and with the best possible participation and representation of all people.”*

To World Leaders,

For the first time in decades you will open a conversation on how to put people at the centre of the United Nations.

For too long, the fate of billions of people and future generations has been determined **behind closed doors**, in secretive and exclusive international meetings where the voices of civil society, ordinary citizens and their elected representatives are not heard. This system fosters inequality and injustice. It undermines trust in international cooperation. It contributes to making the United

Nations powerless, in particular in the face of war. **It's time for change.**

**As you prepare for the Summit of the Future, it is not too late to set us on a different course. Use this once-in-a-generation opportunity: open the doors of the United Nations** and create mechanisms for real participation, representation, transparency, and accountability.

We call on you to endorse the specific proposals over 150 civil society organizations presented to you in a recent [open letter](#).

The world is watching. Now is the time to act. You can build a truly democratic United Nations. Our future depends on it.

\* The proposals are creating a Global Citizens' Assembly, a World Citizens' Initiative, a UN Parliamentary Assembly and a UN Civil Society Envoy. [Supporters](#)

[More about UN needs to “open its doors to the world’s people”, civil society demands](#)

