THE CLUB OF BUDAPEST

As an official Signatory I herewith affix my signature indicating my approval and adoption of the Manifesto on the Spirit of Planetary Consciousness in the formulation dated 27th October, 1996.

THE CLUB OF BUDAPEST FOUNDATION

Founded in 1993, the Club of Budapest is an informal international association dedicated to developing a new way of thinking and a new ethics that will help resolve the social, political, economic, and ecological challenges of the 21st century. With its roster of internationally renowned members, the Club initiates a dialogue between different belief systems and worldviews in order to co-create and develop effective strategies for responsible and sustainable action with a global focus.

The idea of the Club of Budapest was developed in 1978 in a discussion between Aurelio Peccei, founder and first president of the Club of Rome, and Ervin Laszlo, systems philosopher and member of the Club of Rome. They were convinced that the enormous challenges to humanity can only be dealt with through the development of a cultural and cosmopolitan consciousness. Based on these ideas, the Club of Budapest was founded by Ervin Laszlo in 1993. The founding city and namesake of the Club lies at the heart of Europe and is spread out over both banks of the River Danube. The successful merging of the two cities Buda and Pest is symbolized by the famous Chain Bridge. It visualizes the ambition of the Club to build bridges between generations, disciplines and cultures. It was selected as the logo and signet for the objectives of the Club.

The Mission of the Club of Budapest is to be a catalyst for the transformation to a sustainable world through promoting the emergence of planetary consciousness and interconnecting generations and cultures. The philosophy of the Club of Budapest is based on the realization that the enormous challenges that humanity is currently facing can only be overcome through the development of a global cultural consciousness with a global perspective.

The Club perceives itself as a builder of bridges between science and art, ethics and economy, between old and young, as well as between the different cultures of the world. One of the prime objectives of the work of the Club is the initiative “You can Change the World”.

"It has been said that our generation is the first in history that can decide whether it is the last in history. We need to add that our generation is also the first in history that can decide whether it will be the first generation of a new phase in history. We have reached a watershed in our social and cultural evolution." (Ervin Laszlo)

Ervin Laszlo spent his childhood in Budapest. He was a celebrated child prodigy on the piano, with public appearances from the age of nine. Receiving a Grand Prize at the international music competition in Geneva, he was allowed to leave Hungary and begin an international concert career, first in Europe and then in America.

Laszlo received the Sorbonne’s highest degree, the Doctorat ès Lettres et Sciences Humaines in 1970. Shifting to the life of a scientist and humanist, he lectured at various U.S. Universities including Yale and Princeton. Following his work on modeling the future evolution of world order at Princeton, he was asked to produce a report for the Club of Rome, of which he was a member. In the late 70s and early 80s, Laszlo ran global projects at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research at the request of the Secretary-General. In the 1990s his research led him to the discovery of the Akashic Field.

The author, co-author or editor of 89 books that have appeared in a total of 23 languages, Ervin Laszlo has also written several hundred papers and articles in scientific journals and popular magazines. He is a member of numerous scientific bodies, including the International Academy of Science, the World Academy of Arts and Science, the International Academy of Philosophy of Science, and the International Medici Academy. He was elected member of the Hungarian Academy of Science in 2010.

The recipient of various honors and awards, including Honorary Ph. D.s from the United States, Canada, Finland, and Hungary, Laszlo received the Goi Award, the Japan Peace Prize in 2001, the Assisi Mandir of Peace Prize in 2006, and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 and 2005.
THE CLUB OF BUDAPEST

Honorary Members

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Oscar Arias
A.T. Ariyaratne
Maurice Béjart †
Thomas Berry †
Karliehzin Böhm
Sir Arthur C. Clark †
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Deepak Chopra
Paulo Coelho
Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi
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Milos Forman
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Hans-Dietrich Genscher
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Masami Saionji
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Michael Tobias
Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Karan Singh
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Liv Ulmann
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Richard von Weizsacker
Eli Wiesel
Betty Williams
Marianne Williamson
Muhammad Yunus

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INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

The Club of Budapest is a group of eminent individuals dedicated to the basic mission of facilitating and providing direction to a „global shift” toward a more peaceful, equitable, and sustainable world. Working toward this objective is a network of independently operating national Clubs in America, Europe, as well as Asia. The headquarters of the Club and the seat of its President is the Club of Budapest Foundation in Budapest. It is the body entrusted with implementing and coordinating the Club’s international projects and activities.

The Honorary and the creative members of the Club of Budapest are personalities of international fame whose social responsibility is widely acknowledged and acclaimed. The Honorary and the creative members represent and communicate the spirit of the Club of Budapest worldwide.
Starting in the year 1996 the Club of Budapest issued a series of awards for outstanding examples of global consciousness in action. The prizes were given in three categories:

**Planetary Consciousness Award**
The Club of Budapest’s Planetary Consciousness Prizes are awarded in recognition of the urgent necessity to upgrade the thinking and feeling – the consciousness – of a critical mass of people in today’s societies. The problems faced by the world community today are due above all to a lag in the consciousness of people and leaders with respect to the rapidity with which new conditions evolve on this planet. The Prizes honor individuals who, in their sphere of personal and professional activity, have been most effective in exhibiting and promoting the universally required new consciousness. Nelson Mandela, Václav Havel, Mikhail Gorbachev, Muhammad Yunus, Desmond Tutu, Kofi Annan, Hans Küng and Paolo Coelho can be found among those who have received this award. Sir Peter Ustinov was honored by the Lifetime Achievements Award.

**Change the World—Best Practice Award**
Change occurs through innovation. With the help of Best Practice Projects these innovations can be translated into deeds in an intelligent manner. If we desire change towards an ecologically and socially sustainable world, we should develop a special ability to recognize and promote the best practice projects in the world concerning sustainable development - in other words, projects that:
- put into practice the criteria of “Agenda 21” for socially and ecologically sustainable global development in a particularly innovative, exemplary, successful and integral way;
- have a special potential to initiate fundamental processes of change towards a globally responsible and win-win oriented kind of thinking;
- have an implicit potential for applicability under different circumstances.

**The Hungarian Business Ethics Award**
This is an annual prize jointly founded in 2000 on the proposal of the Dalai Lama and managed by Club of Budapest together with the magazine Piac&Profit (Market&Profit). The prize is awarded by an independent jury each year in several categories for those companies operating in Hungary which excel in the field of ethics and social responsibility. The awards are handed out to managers and owners of small, medium sized and big Hungarian companies as well as to business leaders managing local subsidiaries of multinational enterprises. To date more than fifty companies have been hallmarked by the Hungarian business Award.
FURTHER PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

THE WORLDSHIFT 20 (WS20): AN INDEPENDENT BODY TO COMPLEMENT THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE G20

The WorldShift Council is to articulate the collective voice of humanity, drawing on the heritage of all peoples, cultures and religions. Its core purpose is to transcend short-term and self-serving economic and political interests in recognition of the fact that thinking and acting in exclusive reference to narrow national or multi-national agendas cannot solve the global challenges currently confronting humanity. The Council is to speak for the whole human family. It is to function as a small yet potentially crucial “butterfly” that shifts the attention of today’s people and today’s media from the increasingly intractable problems and deepening crises of our world to the opportunities and vistas of a new civilization where seven billion humans can live in peace, prosperity and harmony with each other and with their planetary environment.

The Members of the WS20 are: Deepak Chopra (USA/India), Jude Curriivan(UK), James Garrison (USA), Jonathan Granoff (USA), Hazel Henderson (USA), Jean Houston (USA), Barbara Marx Hubbard (USA), Min Jiayin (China), Ervin Laszlo (Hungary/Italy), Bernard Lietaer (Belgium), Federico Mayor (Spain), Edgar Mitchell (USA), Tomoyo Nonaka (Japan), Marianne Obermüller (Germany), Paul Ray (USA), Marco Roveda (Italy), Masami Saionji (Japan), Marilyn Schlitz (USA), Karan Singh (India), Hiroshi Tasaka (Japan)

Worldshift 20 Council Administration

Ervin Laszlo, Convener (Hungary/Italy), David Woolfson, Coordinator (Canada)

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ON CULTURAL CREATIVES

This international and cross-cultural research is based on ideas originally advanced by Paul H. Ray and Ruth Anderson in their book The Cultural Creatives: How Fifty Million People Are Changing the World (Harmony Books, New York 2000). Ray and Anderson showed that in American society a new culture is emerging next to the traditional liberal and conservative cultures: a culture that embraces a planetary ethics and a responsible planetary consciousness. Nearly one-fourth of U.S. society is now part of this new culture: the culture of the “cultural creatives.”

The Club of Budapest undertook to investigate the segment of the population that belongs to the new culture in order to ascertain to what extent the new values and the new consciousness affect development in the contemporary world. To date the survey of cultural creatives has been carried out in Hungary, France, Italy and Japan.

INTERACTIVE RESEARCH ON THE FUTURE

This internet based interactive Club of Budapest program seeks to find answers to the question “what can individuals do to improve the world: how they can enhance sustainability and solidarity.” By launching this program Club of Budapest intends to create new contacts among positively-minded people and facilitate a dialogue on sustainability.

THE ANNUAL WORLD DAYS

The Club of Budapest initiated two major celebrations each year. The World Day of Planetary Consciousness is celebrated on the spring equinox, the 21st of March, each year, and the World Day of Planetary Ethics is held on the fall equinox (the spring equinox in the Southern Hemisphere) on the 21st of September.

The first World Day was held to coincide with the coming of the first spring of the third millennium, on the 20th of March in the year 2001. The Planetary Vision Festival held on this day included celebrations across the globe, following the rise of the sun in each region. The first celebration was held in New Zealand, and the last on the island of Samoa. The central event in Hungary began with the ceremonial lighting of a torch on top of Dobogoko, a sacred mountain believed to be the place where the heart of the Earth beats. The torch was carried by a mounted rider in traditional dress, who on arrival in the city of Budapest, lit a bonfire on Mount Gellert in the city. A group of young people joined the celebration and sang and danced. The formal celebration took place that same evening in the Karolyi Palace in the city, and included festive addresses by Peter Ustinov, Jane Goodall, and other eminent personalities. Since then the World Days have been celebrated each year, in the framework of consultations, dialogues, concerts, and other cultural events.

In the year 2011 the World Day was commemorated in cooperation with the European Leadership Academy (Berlin) and the Central & Eastern European Regional Environment Center, in a joint symposium dedicated to the Philosophy of Postconventional Leadership.
In 2013, the Club of Budapest celebrated the World Day with the Conference “Interconnectedness for Sustainability” in cooperation with the Embassy of India in Budapest. The Ambassador of India Gauri Shankar Gupta, Ervin Laszlo, and Etele Barath addressed the conference.

The annual World Days are to promote the evolution of a new consciousness that, in the view of the Club of Budapest is essential if a more equitable, peaceful, and sustainable world is to be created on Earth.

GLOBAL PEACE MEDITATION

The Global Peace Meditation is a joint project of the Club of Budapest and the World Peace Prayer Society, a United States-based ecumenical organization founded by the Goi Peace Foundation of Japan. The Club of Budapest’s interest is rooted in the possibility that intense meditation by a large number of people can affect the collective consciousness of humanity. We have found evidence for this in the experiment organized on our suggestion by the PEAR (Princeton Engineering Anomalies Research) group who programmed computers in various parts of the world to generate numbers in a random sequence. During events that involve the thinking and the emotions of a large number of people the “0” and “1” sequence produced by the computers deviates from the statistical average. This was found to have been the case also during the first, and to date largest Global Peace Meditation in 2007, when about one million people from sixty-one countries meditated together.

The Global Peace Meditation started at the sanctuary at the foot of Mount Fuji in Japan, where ten thousand people came together to meditate. They carried the flags of all the countries on Earth. The peace message of Ervin Laszlo was followed by ten minutes of silent meditation. It was during this time that computers in the various parts of the world registered a statistically significant deviation. A similar procedure has been followed since then in the bi-annual Global Peace Meditations organized by the Club of Budapest with the World Peace Prayer Society.

THE FUJI DECLARATION

AWAKENING THE DIVINE SPARK IN THE SPIRIT OF HUMANITY
For a Civilization of Oneness with Diversity on Planet Earth

The official launch of the Fuji Declaration will take place in the framework of a historic East-West celebration in May 2015. The text of the Declaration includes the following passages:

A new phase in the evolution of human civilization is on the horizon. With deepening states of crisis bringing unrest to all parts of the world, there is a growing need for change in our ways of thinking and acting. We now have the choice of either spiraling into deepening peril, or breaking through to a world of dignity and wellbeing for all.

When we rediscover our connections to nature and the cosmos, we can re-align our life with the universal movement toward oneness and harmony in and through diversity. We can restore the divine spark in the human spirit and bring forth our innate love, compassion, wisdom, and joy to live a flourishing life. The time has come for every one of us to awaken the divine spark that resides in our heart. …

Human life is inextricably linked to its universal source. When we rediscover our connections to nature and the cosmos, we can re-align our life with the universal movement toward oneness and harmony in and through diversity. We can restore the divine spark in the human spirit and bring forth our innate love, compassion, wisdom, and joy to live a flourishing life. The time has come for every one of us to awaken the divine spark that resides in our heart.

Four studies highlight the practical pass to achieving the idea of the declaration. The study on politics is directed by Ferenc Miszlivetz, on economy directed by Sandor Kerekes, on the media directed by Bente Milton, and on business directed by Christopher Laszlo.

The Fuji Declaration calls attention to the infinite potential that dwells within every human being, and reminds us that we are part of a living universe that exhibits boundless diversity yet embraces oneness.

Almost one hundred and fifty globally-minded leaders in various fields--including Oscar Arias Sánchez, Deepak Chopra, Duane Elgin, Jane Goodall, and Muhammad Yunus--have joined this initiative as Founding Signatories, contributing their words of wisdom to the Declaration.
The official launch of the Fuji Declaration will take place in the framework of a historic East-West celebration in May 2015. On the 15th of that day a public forum will be organized in Tokyo, bringing together leaders and experts from various fields to build upon the research studies and explore how we can nurture the necessary transformation to forge a new paradigm in the relevant spheres of human activity.

In Copenhagen, on May 16th, a live event featuring world-class artists and visionaries will take place at the Danish Radio Concert Hall with the theme “Connecting the World.” The evening event in Copenhagen will coincide with the sunrise celebration the following morning at the Sanctuary at the foot of Mount Fuji in Japan. Here, thousands of people will gather for the annual Symphony of Peace Prayers event, to celebrate the launch of the Declaration with a day of intense prayer and meditation led by representatives of the various cultural and spiritual traditions of the world.

World leaders will be invited to discuss visions of the world rooted in the new consciousness in the field of politics, science, economics, the arts and education.

Initiators of the Fuji Declaration: Masami Saionji, Ervin Laszlo and Hiroo Saionji

Among the Endorsers of the Declaration are:
Oscar Arias (Costa Rica) Former President of Costa Rica, Nobel Peace laureate
Gregg Braden (USA) Author
Deepak Chopra (USA) Goi Peace Award Recipient
Duane Elgin (USA) Author, Futurist, Goi Peace Award Recipient
Jane Goodall (UK) Primatologist, Former UN Messenger of Peace
Hazel Henderson (USA) Economist
Barbara Marx Hubbard (USA) Futurist, President of the Foundation for Conscious Evolution
Bruce Lipton (USA) Cell Biologist (Epigenetics), Goi Peace Award Recipient
Edgar Mitchell (USA) Astronaut
Peter Russell (UK) Physicist, Futurist
Sri Sri Ravi Shankar (India) Founder of the Art of Living Foundation
Karan Singh (India) Member of India’s Upper House of Parliament
Hiroshi Tasaka (Japan) President of the Club of Budapest Association Japan
Neale Donald Walsch (USA) Author
Ken Wilber (USA) Philosopher
Muhammad Yunus (Bangladesh) Social Entrepreneur, Nobel Peace laureate
Gary Zukav (USA) Author, Co-founder of Seat of Soul Institute

SPECIAL EVENT

THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
OF THE CLUB OF BUDAPEST

held on the 5th and 6th of December, 2014, in cooperation with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Twenty-one years after its foundation, the Club of Budapest believes that the time has come to tackle the challenge of creating a sustainable planet. The next stage in the evolution of the Club is dedicated to bringing together people with the ethics and the ethos of planetary consciousness to think together and to act together in order to enable all the women, men, and children on this planet to live with the dignity and wellbeing that is the birthright of every human being on earth. The Club of Budapest wishes to evolve from a think-tank to a do-tank: to a platform that people and organizations can join if they wish to promote the shift toward an ethical and responsible world. The Club calls together its Members, Partners and Associates to tackle this ambitious but necessary and urgent task.

The Conference was addressed by the President and the Science Director as well as the Founders and Members of the Board of the Club of Budapest Foundation, and by

Honoray Members Deepak Chopra, Barbara Marx Hubbard, Duane Elgin, Michael Tobias, Jane Goodall, Hazel Henderson, Jean Houston, Riane Eisler, Masami Saionji, Master Zhi Gang Sha, Andrea Rost, Tomoyo Nonaka, Irene van Kippe Biesterfeld, Stanislav Grof,

Creative Members Constantin von Barloewen, Anna Bacchia, Ludwig Tuman, Bente Milton, and

Club of Budapest Network directors Hiroshi Tasaka (Japan), Jiri Zemanek (Czech Republic), Josip Molitorisz (Croatia) Nitamo Montecucco (Italy), Alain Gauthier (France), Joshua Frenk (USA), David Wolfson (Canada), Min Jiayin (China), Anne-Marie Voorhoeve (Netherlands) with session moderated by Tamas Halm and Ferenc Mlszlivet.

The event featured a special recital by Andrea Rost, world-renowned lyric soprano and Honoray Member.