



**KYUNG HEE UNIVERSITY  
GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE SUMMER PROGRAM IN HUMANITY,  
CIVILIZATION AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE**

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**COURSE TITLE:**

Civil Society and Multilateralism: NGO Consultation, Collaboration and Cooperation in the 75<sup>th</sup> Year of the United Nations

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The course will be an introduction to the concept and practice of civil society and non-governmental organizations in the context of the United Nations System. For the 2020 class, emphasis will be given to the development and cultivation of “global civics” and how civil society and NGOs help in its development and cultivation through consultation, collaboration and cooperation.

Each class session will start with a live or video interview of a leader of a non-governmental organization or a relevant stakeholder related to the UN. UN officials and senior-level staff will be interviewed, including NGO leaders of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO) and its substantive NGO committees.

The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations in 2020 will provide the backdrop for discussions about the notion and practice of multilateralism and how the anniversary can give focus to the revitalization of the UN. The course will make use of the “CoNGO Declaration on the Occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations” (See: <http://bit.ly/2DAvvLg>). The course will be a contribution to the call by the UN to enter into the “75<sup>th</sup> anniversary dialogues.” (See: <https://www.un.org/UN75>)

The course will address questions like: What is the United Nations? What is the United Nations System made up of? What is civil society? What is a non-governmental organization? What is the role and place of NGOs and civil society in the UN System? What is the role and place of civil society and NGOs in the multilateral process? What is multilateralism? What makes for a robust multilateralism? What is global civics? How about “glocal civics”? How can NGOs help in the development and cultivation of global

civic mindedness? What are the global challenges that we face that require global collaboration, multilateral action and global civic mindedness among all stakeholders?

The class will discuss the UN Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals . The Agenda and the Goals will be the basis for student's individual and group work.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE:**

Most class meetings will feature a video or live interview of a UN senior staff, a UN member state diplomat, or an NGO leader addressing relevant questions as described in the course description.

The class will be conducted using a combination of lectures, guest speakers, video presentations, readings, discussions, workshops, and student reports.

### **Week I (June 29-July 3)**

The first week of the course will focus on theoretical and practical dimensions of how non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSO) engage with the United Nations system. This will be discussed in the context of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN in 2020. This focus will look at what consultation, collaboration and cooperation means and requires for NGOs to be effective leaders in the multilateral context, especially at the United Nations. This will serve as an introduction to the civil society aspects of the workings of the United Nations system and how, through CoNGO, the participation of civil society is enhanced. It will also include discussion of the challenges encountered by NGOs in their relationship with the United Nations.

Basic material for discussion will be the CoNGO Declaration on the Occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations and other statements that will have come out before the start of the class.

By the end of the first week, students should have a clear understanding of the role of NGOs and how they navigate the United Nations system so that they become effective interlocutors of civil society.

### **Week II ( July 6-10)**

The second week of the course will focus on specific areas of NGO engagement at the United Nations and other settings that require multilateral cooperation. Such areas could be thematic (human rights and human dignity, peace and security, sustainable development goals) or geographic (peace in the Korean Peninsula, the global migration crisis, climate change), and about specific populations (indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees, women, children, aging, faith-based organizations). How do NGOs organize to be effective in their advocacy campaigns?

By the end of the second week, students should have a clear understanding about the nature and character of advocacy campaigns that NGOs conduct at various levels

(national, regional and international), including how they organize for their work to become effective interlocutors at the UN.

### **Week III (July 13-17)**

The third and last week of the course will focus on special topics and concerns that are close to the heart and advocacies of not just non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs), but also that of critical social movements (CSMs). We will also look into how grassroots advocacy relate to global advocacy. This will include “NGO access at the United Nations”, “funding the United Nations”, “financing for development”, “towards a robust multilateralism”, the role of religion in international affairs”, “the case for decolonization and the rights of indigenous peoples”, and “the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN: what does it take to revitalize the United Nations”, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women” and adoption of the “Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995)”.

By the end of the third week, students should have a higher understanding of how NGOs, CSOs and CSMs interface with multilateral institutions like the UN and how such work at the global and regional level can be made effective in the national, local and grassroots levels.

Reports by students, both individual and group work, about the UN Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, will provide both the foundation for understanding NGO consultation, collaboration and cooperation, but also as framework for how students imagine their role in the successful implementation of the SDGs.

## **COURSE READINGS AND RESOURCES**

### ***THE UNITED NATIONS, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CIVIL SOCIETY***

1. The United Nations System  
<http://bit.ly/2x81PSn>
  - a. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)  
<http://bit.ly/2XpE4UV>
  - b. 1996/31. Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations  
<http://bit.ly/2N7DHdE>
  - c. NGOs and ECOSOC Consultative Status  
<http://bit.ly/2LaErMi>
  - d. NGOs and DPI (DGC) Associated Status  
<http://bit.ly/2ICNALZ>
2. We the peoples: civil society, the United Nations and global governance Report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on United Nations–Civil Society Relations  
<http://bit.ly/2Fq8uvJ>

3. A Global Crackdown on Civil Society?: Assessing the Accreditation Practice of the United Nations Committee on NGOs (by Rouven Symank, 2017)  
<http://bit.ly/31RbqLG>
4. NGOs and International Relations Theory, in NGOs in International Politics  
<http://bit.ly/2Xu1lF6>

### ***THE CONFERENCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (CoNGO)***

1. CoNGO website  
[www.ngocongo.org](http://www.ngocongo.org)
2. CoNGO Declaration on the Occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The United Nations  
<http://bit.ly/2DAvvLg>
3. Critical Mass: The Emergence of Global Society, edited by James W. St.G. Walker and Andrew S. Thompson (Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2008), pp. 43-74  
<http://bit.ly/2X1WGe7>
4. The Power of Co: Consultation, Collaboration and Cooperation: By Liberato Bautista, President of CoNGO  
<http://bit.ly/2YgRvDT>
5. Select Statements by CoNGO
  - a. Statement on the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
<http://bit.ly/2x83Eib>
  - b. Statement on Funding Our United Nations  
<http://bit.ly/2XydmJu>

### ***CIVIC SPACE, DISCOURSE AND ACTION: ROBUST? SHRINKING? ENDANGERED?***

1. CIVICUS: 2019 State of Civil Society Report  
<http://bit.ly/2N8MPia>
2. PGA Espinosa, Kevin Rudd: UN System, Multilateralism Under Attack  
<http://bit.ly/2N8OunU>
3. PyeongChang Global Peace Forum: Outcome Documents  
<http://bit.ly/2J5MwiF>

### ***THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

1. Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
<http://bit.ly/2WVKEOE>
2. The Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals  
<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>
3. Achieving the SDGs. Together—Reports of NGO Major Group to the High Level Political Forum  
<http://www.ngomg.org/reports/>
4. “Leave No One Behind”: Human Rights-Based Approach to Sustainable Development (pp. 1-14)  
<http://bit.ly/2Y4tAY8>
5. A Human Rights-Based Approach to Data: Leaving No One Behind in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda  
<https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/HRIndicators/GuidanceNoteonApproachtoData.pdf>

### ***HUMAN MOBILITY, GLOBAL AND FORCED MIGRATION***

1. New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants  
<http://bit.ly/2Y7qOfF>
2. Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration  
<http://bit.ly/2Fwt5Pk>
3. Ten Acts for the Global Compact: A civil society vision for a transformative agenda for human mobility, migration and development  
<http://bit.ly/2FqnAS4>
4. Talking and Doing Points: Churches Witnessing With Migrants  
<http://bit.ly/2XOefvh>
5. Turning Strangers Into Friends: A Workbook of the Churches Witnessing With Migrants (Manila: NCCP, 2018)
6. Churches Witnessing With Migrants-Africa
  - a. Migration of Minds and Hearts: The New Face of Migration in the Context of Terrorism and Climate Change—A Report
  - b. The New Face of Migration in the Context of Terrorism and Climate Change—A Communique