

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING (IYGU)

10th Anniversary of the 2016 Opening



Monday, 23rd February 2026

Online Conference

[Zoom Link](#)

Organizer:

UNESCO Chair Global Understanding for Sustainability
Friedrich Schiller University Jena

14:00

Opening

Achievements of the 2016 International Year of Global Understanding (IYGU)

Welcome Addresses

Prof. Dr. Andreas Marx, President, Friedrich Schiller University Jena

Dr. Roman Luckscheiter, Secretary-General, German Commission for UNESCO

14:30

Why we need Global Understanding

Moderation

Prof. Dr. Erika M. Robrahn-Gonzalez (Brazil/Portugal) &

Prof. Dr. Enrique Aliste Alumna (Chile/France)

Prof. Dr. Gordon McBean (Canada), Co-founder of the IPCC, Co-Nobel Prize laureate for peace; former President, International Council for Sciences (ICSU)

Prof. Dr. Luiz Oosterbeek (Portugal), President, International Council of Philosophy and the Human Sciences (CIPSH)

Prof. Dr. Michael Meadows (South Africa/China), Past-President, International Geographical Union; Fellow, Intentional Science Council (ISC)

Prof. Dr. John M. Dudley (New Zealand/France), Executive Director, 2015 UN International Year of Light; 2025 UN International Year of Quantum Science and Technology

Garry Jacobs (USA), President & CEO, World Academy of Art and Science; Chairman, board and CEO, World University

Prof. Dr. Lesley Green (South Africa), Anthropologist, UN Decade of Science for Sustainable Development (2024–2033)

Howard Blumenthal (USA), TV Producer, Disney Channel/Sesame Street; Co-founder of MTV; Founder, Kids on Earth

15:10

Arts & Global Understanding I

Andy Innes (South Africa), Musician & Producer; Anthropologist and Anti-Apartheid Activist for / with Nelson Mandela
Contribution: *Ride to the Sea*

15:20

Keynotes

Introduction

Prof. Dr. Paul Shrivastava, Penn State University; President The Club of Rome:
The Quest for Peace for a New Humanity Era

Prof. Dr. Hartmut Rosa, Friedrich Schiller University Jena:
Resonance for Global Understanding

15:50

Art & Global Understanding II

Bartu Elci-Ozsoy and his SHARE Ensemble (France), Musical Artist, Conductor and Composer;
Ambassador of The Jena Declaration (TJD)

16:00

Panel: Live Discussion

Moderation

Prof. Dr. Erika M. Robrahn-Gonzalez (Brazil/Portugal)

Art & Global Understanding III

Andrea Green (USA), Composer, Broadway New York
Contribution: *Under the Moon*

Panel discussion with

Prof. Dr. Enrique Aliste Alumna (Chile / France), IYGU Regional Action Center Latin America;
Sorbonne University

Margalit Berriet (France), Artist, The Jena Declaration

Bartu Elci-Ozsoy (France), Artist; Ambassador of The Jena Declaration

Prof. Dr. Lesley Green (South Africa), Anthropologist, University of Cape Town

Dr. Joanne Kauffman (USA), The Jena Declaration

Prof. Dr. Raminder Kaur (India / UK), Social Anthropologist, University of Sussex,
The Jena Declaration

Prof. Emer. Aharon Kellerman (Israel), University of Haifa, Israel, former vice-president, IYGU

Dr. Wesam Ad Mahoum (Palestine), Global Ambassador for Sustainability, The Jena Declaration

Prof Dr. Maria Paradiso (Italy), Governors Board, ISC and University of Naples Federico II

Prof Dr. John Pickles (USA), University of Chapel Hill

Samantha Waki (Kenya), The Grass Company and The Jena Declaration

17:00

Wrap-Up of the Conference / Conclusions

Joanne Kauffman & Benno Werlen

17:15

Art & Global Understanding IV (Outro)

Andrea Green (USA), Composer, Playwright, Theater Director & Music Therapist, Broadway New York
& **Henry Nevison (USA)**, Emmy Award Winning Film Writer & Producer
Contribution: *We're All in This Together*