



SDG16+ In Peril: "A call-to-action for safeguarding commitments to Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies"

Wednesday 6 April 2022

Time: 9:00 – 10:30 AM EDT | 13:00 – 14:30 GMT/UTC | 14:00 – 15:30 BST | 15:00 – 16:30 CEST

Hosted by [Namati](#), the [TAP Network](#), the [Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding \(CSPPS\)](#), [CIVICUS](#) and the [Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict \(GPPAC\)](#)

Background

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015, progress towards SDG16+ has been slow and uneven – and in many cases backsliding. On top of this, global trends and forces continue to work against peaceful, just and inclusive societies, with political will from governments fading, closing civic space, and exclusion on the rise. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed unique pressures on the world's governing institutions, presenting once-in-a-generation challenges for all, while exacerbating existing global, existential challenges. Additionally, urgent and ongoing threats to peace and security and international law have emerged in recent weeks, as exemplified by events in Ukraine and recent coups in West-Africa, threatening to undermine any progress made towards the 2030 Agenda overall, and pushing governments into investing more in militarization, and less on delivering results to improve peoples' lives. And with authoritarianism on the rise, the 2030 Agenda commitments on inclusive, responsive and participatory decision making, along-with respect for access to information and fundamental freedoms have also assumed greater significance.

This **online interactive workshop**, hosted by the Namati, the TAP Network, CSPPS, CIVICUS and GPPAC, will explore various emerging issues around SDG16+, to identify areas where amplified actions are needed to safeguard commitments for implementation and accountability of SDG16+ in 2022 from governments, the international community and civil society alike.

Why is this relevant now?

The workshop will serve as a key moment of consultation for inputs and priorities for updating the [Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+](#) to counter pressing challenges in 2022 and beyond, particularly in light of current events such as the disastrous conflict in Ukraine and its impact on the lives of millions, and the profound geopolitical shifts it has created on international law and multilateralism overall. Additionally, as Member States continue discussions around the "Our Common Agenda" report with eyes on the 2023 SDGs Summit and planned "Summit for the Future", the international community has a critical opportunity to re-shift its priorities and political will to double efforts to implement SDG16+, to bring progress back on track - particularly as vital resources that could be used to improve the quality of people's lives are now being diverted towards military infrastructures and the production and proliferation of weapons of war.

About the Workshop

This virtual event will be hosted in a workshop style, and will feature breakout groups featuring interactive discussion and collaboration around visual "mural" boards around key issue areas included in the original Rome Declaration, as well as additional emerging topics of interest and concern amongst civil society partners around SDG16+.

Objectives:

1. Provide an opportunity for civil society partners working on SDG16+ to collectively discuss and identify issues and areas for amplifying actions to safeguard and advance SDG16+ commitments
2. Provide inputs for the 2022 update to the Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+, to identify key commitments and recommendations for the international community to advancing SDG16+
3. Identify opportunities for joint collaboration, partnership and advocacy in 2022 amongst civil society partners

Register to attend this workshop here



What's Next: The Rome SDG16 Conference and 2022 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

The updated Rome Declaration will feed into the Rome SDG16 Conference, hosted by UNDESA, IDLO and the Government of Italy from 21-22 April 2022 as well as the 2022 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2022. In addition to utilizing this workshop as a key consultation point, civil society partners are encouraged to provide direct inputs into this drafting process through an online consultation, which is accessible in English, Spanish, French and Arabic. You can find more information and [access these consultation links online here](#).

This workshop builds on a previous workshop in this series hosted in November 2021, which explored ways that civil society can enhance efforts to support bold and ambitious commitments to SDG16+, and presented opportunities for civil society to mobilize around to advance SDG16+ at the global and national levels. With the goal of providing a platform for peer-learning amongst civil society partners, the workshop provided opportunities for national and local CSOs to dialogue and share experiences around SDG16+ in an interactive and dynamic exchange.

Registration and Participation:

This workshop will be open to civil society organizations that wish to attend and provide inputs into the 2022 Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+. Participants will be required to pre-register for this workshop, and will be asked to identify breakout groups that they wish to participate in with their registration. Pre-registration for this workshop is required.

Engaging in the 2022 Rome Declaration Consultation:

In addition to this workshop, civil society partners can contribute priorities and recommendations for consideration for the Rome Declaration via consultation surveys available in 4 different languages.

[English](#)

[French](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Arabic](#)

Breakout Groups for this workshop may include:

1. Examining the current context of SDG16+ and key challenges

- Overcoming challenges & threats to multilateralism in promoting and preserving peace and security – Ukraine and beyond
- Protecting civil society and expanding civic space and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms
- Integrated approaches and SDG16+ interlinkages with other SDGs
- Capacity Strengthening for enhancing implementation of SDG16+
- COVID-19 Response, Recovery and Resilience through an SDG16+ Lens
- Mobilizing and scaling up commitments and investments for SDG16+ approaching the “half-way to 2030” moment

2. Going forward: Engaging with key moments towards 2023

- Connecting SDG16+ with the “Our Common Agenda” Report
- Mobilizing around 2023 “Moments” – SDGs Summit and Summit for the Future
- Strengthening data, monitoring and accountability for SDG16+