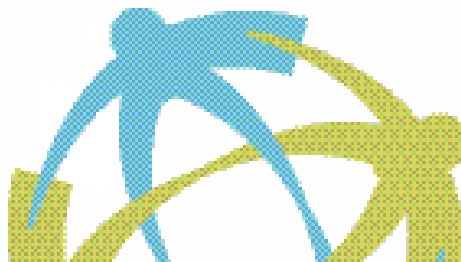




*Anna Tovstukha, vice coordinator of the Center for Social Partnership in Ukraine, was a Hurford Youth Fellow.*



# WORLD MOVEMENT *for* DEMOCRACY

**I**nitiated by NED in 1999, the World Movement for Democracy is a global network of activists, practitioners, scholars, donors, and others engaged in advancing democracy around the world. The World Movement facilitates information sharing and strategizing to further their work and to leverage the support provided by democracy assistance organizations like NED.

In 2013, the World Movement continued its work to protect civil society rights, including through its Defending Civil Society project and Civic Space Initiative. Affiliated networks, like the World Youth Movement for Democracy, worked with activists around the world, and the World Movement facilitated global information sharing. The World Movement also published its *Final Report* on its Seventh Global Assembly.

## **Defending Civil Society Project**

The World Movement's Defending Civil Society project, begun in 2007, responds to efforts by governments to restrict the work of democracy and human rights organizations. In collaboration with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL), the World Movement published two editions of its *Defending Civil Society* report as well as an online interactive Toolkit for civil society engagement on NGO law reform. In 2013, the World Movement continued to work with the Community of Democracies (CD) Working Group on Enabling and Protecting Civil Society, including tracking developments affecting civil society rights and issuing alerts to its international contact group whenever any government puts forward regressive civil society legislation. The World Movement also organized civil society workshops in Burma and Libya,

participated in civil society activities at the CD's Ministerial Meeting in Mongolia and the London Summit of the Open Government Partnership, and facilitated civil society participation in President Obama's side meeting on defending civic space at the UN General Assembly. Information on the Defending Civil Society project can be found at [www.defendingcivilsociety.org](http://www.defendingcivilsociety.org).

### **The Civic Space Initiative**

The World Movement, along with ICNL, Article 19, and CIVICUS, launched a new initiative in 2012 called the Civic Space Initiative (CSI). Under this initiative in 2013, the World Movement helped organize a variety of civil society consultations for the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of association and of peaceful assembly (UNSR), and facilitated civil society input into the UNSR's thematic reports to the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly. In addition, the World Movement began producing short and full-length videos profiling civil society activists from selected countries as one of its contributions to the CSI. In 2013, the World Movement launched its first video in the series, *Girl Child*, which tells the story of a young woman in politically troubled Zimbabwe who challenges the status quo. In addition to being widely disseminated through social media, the video was also the focus of several community discussions in Zimbabwe. The World Movement also made progress on the production of the next videos in the series, profiling activists in Iraq, Pakistan, and Burma, which are due to be released in 2014. The CSI is generously supported by the Government of Sweden.

### **World Movement Networking**

In 2013, the World Movement Secretariat continued to work with participants on the development of the following regional and functional networks:

- African Democracy Forum – [www.africandemocracyforum.org](http://www.africandemocracyforum.org)
- Latin America and Caribbean Network for Democracy – [www.redlad.org](http://www.redlad.org)

- Asia Democracy Network - <http://adn21.asia/>
- International Women's Democracy Network – [www.learningpartnership.org/iwdn](http://www.learningpartnership.org/iwdn)
- Network of Democracy Research Institutes – [www.ndri.ned.org](http://www.ndri.ned.org)
- World Youth Movement for Democracy – <http://democratic-youth.net/world-youth-movement-for-democracy/>

*Networking Highlights:* In 2013, the World Youth Movement for Democracy continued its Hurford Youth Fellowship Program, providing young activists from Ethiopia, Liberia, Pakistan, El Salvador, and Serbia with opportunities to conduct research on youth-related topics, develop online resources, and take part in planning and implementing other activities of the Youth Movement during their three-month residencies in NED's offices. The program also hosted a fellow from South Sudan in cooperation with Atlas Corps. The fellowship program, carried out in cooperation with NED's Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program, is generously supported by the Hurford Foundation.

The Latin America and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad) held its third general assembly in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Over 400 civil society leaders from the region exchanged ideas on how to address back-sliding from democracy in the region. The Redlad has also enhanced its virtual training program by providing technical skills for its members on how to build coalitions and engage in online advocacy, among other areas of work. The Redlad continues to send election observer missions throughout the region to ensure elections are held to international standards with a particular focus on ensuring the inclusion of marginalized groups. In addition, the Redlad has continued to support human rights defenders, activists, and civil society organizations in the region through engagement with the Democracy and Human Rights Observatory, the Inter-

American Human Rights Commission (IAHRC), the OAS, and the UN.

The first discussion about launching an Asia Democracy Network (ADN) took place at the World Movement's Seventh Assembly in Lima, Peru, in October 2012. Following a number of subsequent planning meetings, the network was officially launched in Seoul, South Korea, in October 2013. The ADN will work to promote and advance democratization and democratic governance at all levels of society in Asia, and seeks to build a stronger regional democracy network and movement engaged in international advocacy in Asia and beyond.

Information on these and other networks can be found on the World Movement website: [www.wmd.org](http://www.wmd.org).

### Global Information Sharing

With nearly 3,000 Facebook fans, more than 1,500 Twitter followers, and nearly 5,000 subscribers to its biweekly newsletter, *DemocracyNews*, the World Movement continues to develop its online presence, particularly through social media. In 2013, the World Movement used its communication channels to issue alerts and/or statements on individuals facing danger or on country situations in Russia, Bahrain, Angola, Vietnam, Cuba, Bangladesh, Ecuador, and Azerbaijan, among others. As part of its efforts to develop a new communications strategy, the World Movement has been updating its web site, due to be completed in 2014, and launched a World Movement Blog in 2013 featuring posts from participants around the world.

To subscribe to *DemocracyNews*, visit [www.wmd.org/news](http://www.wmd.org/news). To view the World Movement Blog, go to <http://www.wmd.org/blog>. Find the World Movement on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/worldmovementfordemocracy](http://www.facebook.com/worldmovementfordemocracy), and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/DemocracyTweetz>.

The World Movement for Democracy presents

# GIRL CHILD

One Woman's Quest to Redefine Her Society

Girl Child tells the story of Glanis, a woman who grew up in a village in politically and economically troubled Zimbabwe. Glanis challenges the status quo to achieve the unexpected for herself, and creates space for young women to become the masters of their own destinies.

Watch the video at [www.wmd.org/girlchild](http://www.wmd.org/girlchild)

This video has been produced as part of the Civic Space Initiative, a joint project of the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, ARTICLE 19, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, and the World Movement for Democracy. This initiative seeks to protect and expand the civic space in which citizens engage in the social, economic, and political development of their societies. Support for CSI activities has been generously provided by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

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### Assembly Report

To document the rich exchange of ideas at its Seventh Global Assembly in Lima, Peru, in October 2012, the World Movement published a *Final Report on the Assembly*, including excerpts of presentations from the opening session, information on the Democracy Courage Tributes presentations, and reports on several dozen workshops, panel discussions, and plenary sessions. The *Report* also includes a list of all of those who participated. The *Report* is available online at: [www.wmd.org/assemblies/seventh-assembly](http://www.wmd.org/assemblies/seventh-assembly), and is available in hard copy by writing to [world@ned.org](mailto:world@ned.org).