

World Movement for Democracy

The World Movement for Democracy, initiated by NED in 1999, is a global network of activists, practitioners, scholars, donors and others engaged in advancing democracy around the world. Through electronic networking, regional meetings, global assemblies and special projects, the World Movement facilitates the sharing of knowledge, information and experiences to help enhance the work of its participants and thus leverage the support provided by democracy assistance organizations like NED.

Sixth Assembly

On April 11–14, 2010, the World Movement for Democracy held its Sixth Assembly in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Assembly brought together a richly diverse group of some 550 participants representing every region of the world. Through panel discussions, dozens of workshops, and informal dialogue, they taught and learned from each other and developed collaborative relationships, thus strengthening the World Movement as a global network committed to mutual support, exchange and solidarity. Under the theme of “Solidarity Across Cultures: Working Together for Democracy,” the Assembly fostered discussions on cross-border solidarity, protecting minority rights, preventing electoral violence in multi-ethnic societies, building interfaith coalitions, and using civic education to instill democratic values. Discussions also focused on youth engagement and empowerment; freedom of association, assembly and expression; making democracy work by ensuring accountability and transparency and by building sustainable institutions; and best practices

in democracy assistance. Participants also held regional workshops and engaged in a variety of technology training sessions.

The Assembly opened with welcoming remarks from the Right Honorable Kim Campbell, former Prime Minister of Canada and chair of the World Movement Steering Committee, and



The Sixth Assembly included site visits to schools to better understand the role of education in building democracy.

Bambang Harymurti, the member of the Committee from Indonesia. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono presented the keynote address. The Honorable Anwar Ibrahim, former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia and current parliamentary opposition leader, delivered an opening address, which was followed by presentations by World Movement participants Esraa Rashid (Egypt) and Tapera Kapuya (Zimbabwe), and by Steering Committee member Hans Tippenhauer (Haiti).

A highlight of each Assembly is the concluding John B. Hurford Memorial Dinner at which the World Movement presents its



Democracy Courage Tribute recipients pictured with the presenters, World Movement Steering Committee Chair Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell (Canada); Committee members Igor Blažević (Bosnia), Yuri Dzhibladze (Russia) and Jana Hybášková (Czech Republic), and Ali Afshari of the Iranian Democratic Student Association.



President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia presented the keynote address at the World Movement's Sixth Assembly in Jakarta.

Democracy Courage Tributes. At the Sixth Assembly, Courage Tributes were presented to the Movement for Human Rights in Syria, the Youth Movement in Venezuela, the Women's Movement in Iran, and the Human Rights Defenders in the North Caucasus.

A Final Report on the Assembly has been published and posted on the World Movement website. (To request a print copy, write to world@ned.org.)

Defending Civil Society Project

In 2007, the World Movement launched the Defending Civil Society project to respond to growing governmental restric-

tions on the space in which democracy and human rights organizations carry out their work. In February 2008, following in-depth research and consultation with hundreds of civil society groups, the World Movement, in partnership with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL), published the *Defending Civil Society* report, which articulates a set of long-standing principles, rooted in international law, that ought to inform proper government-civil society relations, and includes examples of violations of those principles.

Since publication, the World Movement, in partnership with ICNL, has facilitated numerous discussions and produced reports

on the situations in a wide variety of countries. The World Movement and ICNL have also worked closely with civil society initiatives in several countries, such as Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Kenya, Mongolia, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe, not only to help build local capacity to respond to the challenges, but also to facilitate engagement with government, where possible, to improve legal frameworks.

In an effort to help bring civil and political society together to advance reforms, the World Movement and ICNL joined several other nongovernmental networks and organizations, as well as democratic governments, in a Working Group on Enabling and Protecting Civil Society of the Com-

munity of Democracies, a global intergovernmental initiative that seeks to strengthen democratic norms and institutions around the world. Since its inception in 2010, the Working Group, chaired by the government

of Canada, has developed a mechanism for alerting an international contact group on developments concerning legal environments for civil society, particularly proposed laws on NGOs, and to mobilize an inter-

national response. The Working Group's efforts also contributed to the recent establishment of the UN's Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Association and Assembly.

World Movement Steering Committee

Mariclaire Acosta—Mexico
Center for Investigation and Economic Teaching

Antoine Bernard—France
International Federation for Human Rights

Igor Blažević—Bosnia
People In Need, Czech Republic

Francesca Bomboko
—Dem. Rep. of Congo
International Research and Consulting Bureau

Ladan Boroumand—Iran
Abdorrahman Boroumand Foundation

Kim Campbell—Canada (Chair)
Former Prime Minister

Kavi Chongkittavorn—Thailand
Nation Media Group

Michael Danby—Australia
Member of Parliament

Melinda Quintos de Jesús
—The Philippines
Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility

Alicja Derkowska—Poland
Education Society of Malopolska

Han Dongfang—China (Vice Chair)
China Labour Bulletin

Esther Dyson—United States
EDventure Holdings

Hannah Forster—Gambia
African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies

David French—United Kingdom
Convener Associates

Carl Gershman—United States (ex officio)
National Endowment for Democracy

Paul Graham—South Africa
Idasa: An African Democracy Institute

Bambang Harymurti—Indonesia
Tempo Publishing

Hisham Kassem—Egypt
The Egyptian Today

Asma Khader—Jordan
Sisterhood Is Global Institute

Maina Kiai—Kenya
InformAction Kenya

Reginald Matchaba-Hove—Zimbabwe
Zimbabwe Election Support Network

George Mathew—India
Institute of Social Sciences

Inna Pidluska—Ukraine
International Renaissance Foundation

Jacqueline Pitanguy—Brazil
CEPIA - Citizenship, Studies, Information, Action

Carlos Ponce—Venezuela
Consortium for Development and Justice

Vladimir Ryzhkov—Russia
Russia's Choice

Hans Tippenhauer—Haiti
Fondation Espoir

Roel von Meijenfeldt—The Netherlands
European Partnership for Democracy

Yevgeniy Zhovtis—Kazakhstan
International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law (currently imprisoned by the government of Kazakhstan)

Democracy Assistance Project

As a result of discussions at the Fifth Assembly, the World Movement initiated a project to highlight perceptions of international democracy assistance by recipients and other key players in the field, and to develop ideas for making the funding and technical assistance more effective. The Democracy Assistance project consists of an online survey of some 1,500 activists worldwide conducted by the World Movement during 2010; 16 country case studies and a report synthesizing their findings that was contributed by the Madrid-based think tank FRIDE; profiles of various actors in the field of democracy assistance, also contributed by FRIDE; and a statement of the World Movement Steering Committee offering recommendations to donors and policy makers drawn from both the results of the reports and the members' own experiences. The World Movement is undertaking discussions with donor organizations and government representatives to help advance the findings and recommendations of the project.

World Movement Networking

During the past year, the World Movement Secretariat staff continued to work with participants on the development of the following regional and functional networks affiliated with the World Movement.

- African Democracy Forum – www.africandemocracyforum.org
- World Forum for Democratization in Asia – www.wfda.net

- Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy – www.democracialatinoamerica.org
- International Women’s Democracy Network – www.learningpartnership.org/iwdn
- Network of Democracy Research Institutes – www.ndri.ned.org
- World Youth Movement for Democracy – www.wymdonline.org
- Global Network on Local Governance – www.gnlg.org/

Networking Highlights

In February 2010, the **African Democracy Forum (ADF)** and its member, IDASA: An African Democracy Institute, jointly launched a campaign to encourage African states to ratify the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance. The Charter offers a unique opportunity for stakeholders to consolidate democratic gains they have made and to ensure democratic practices by governments in Africa. At the time of the campaign launch, only four countries had ratified the Charter. Since the launch, an additional six countries have ratified. For the Charter to come into force, ratification by at least 15 African Union member states is required.

In 2010, the **World Youth Movement for Democracy** significantly expanded its membership and activities. The Youth Movement held elections for a newly created Leadership Board and subsequently launched its Democracy Ambassadors Project to help develop local leadership in countries around the world. On October 18th, World Youth Day for Democracy, young people held events in 33 countries to encourage youth civic engagement to highlight youth efforts to advance democracy and to raise awareness about those at risk. Activities included art contests, democ-



In 2010, the World Movement Secretariat launched a redesigned website, www.wmd.org.

racy hikes, meetings with local government officials, and peace marches, among others.

The World Movement Secretariat also worked in 2010 to develop the **East Europe and Eurasia Networking Initiative**. In the last year, a regional listserv was expanded and communications among participants increased. A section of the Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia website called “Spotlight on Human Rights” was greatly expanded, providing country summaries, alerts, reports and links to local human rights organizations in the region. It is available in English and Russian. In April 2010, at the World Movement’s Sixth Assembly, a regional networking workshop focused on attacks on human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Information on these and other networking initiatives can be found on the World Movement website: www.wmd.org.

World Movement Communications Redesigned Website.

In 2010, the World Movement Secretariat launched a new website to better facilitate participant engagement and to highlight World Movement activities. The new site encourages visitors to get engaged in democracy advancement by learning, connecting and taking action. The Secretariat also created a Facebook page for the World Movement where DemocracyAlerts and other announcements are posted.

World Movement Supporters

- Arab Democracy Foundation
- Canada Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
- Friedrich Ebert Stiftung – Indonesia
- Friedrich Naumann Stiftung – Indonesia
- Green Radio – Indonesia
- The Hurford Foundation
- Jakarta Capital City Government
- Microsoft Partners in Learning – Indonesia
- SERASI Program, USAID – Indonesia
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- Taiwan Foundation for Democracy
- United Nations Development Programme – Indonesia
- Judy and Gilbert Shelton

DemocracyVoices: In 2010, the World Movement Secretariat launched a video project that allows activists and practitioners to share their experiences and insights in brief video interviews.

DemocracyAlerts: In 2010, the World Movement Secretariat issued or updated some 35 alerts on World Movement participants and other democracy activists facing danger.

DemocracyNews: The World Movement’s monthly electronic newsletter, *DemocracyNews*, reaches over 3,300 activists, scholars and practitioners, and serves as an important information sharing tool. Each issue includes announcements of activities, calls for collaboration, and other items. Subscription is available for free via the World Movement website.