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## **Report on Civil Society and the 2015 G7 Schloss Elmau Summit**

Department of Civil Society Studies, G7 Research Group  
at Trinity College, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto

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The G7 and G8 Research Group is based at Trinity College, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto. It is an international network of scholars, professionals and students interested in the activities of the Group of Seven and Group of Eight. Its mission is to serve as leading source of independent research and analysis on the G7 and G8, the member states and related institutions in the world.

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## **Executive Summary**

The goal of the 2014-2015 Civil Society Studies Department is to provide an analysis of the strategies used by civil society groups to influence G7 decision-making. The following report examines how civil society actors engaged with G7 countries, the public, the media, and other members of civil society, during the months leading up to the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit. The report also tracks civil society activities that have occurred since the 2014 Brussels Summit (June 4-5 2014). Each section analyzes the work of a civil society sub-group by using a standardized set of indicators. The following summaries provide an overview of these activities, which are discussed in greater detail later in the report.

### **Developmental NGOs**

Developmental NGOs have been amongst the most influential civil society actors at G7/G8 Summits, ensuring that global development issues remain a high priority on the G7's agenda. Ahead of the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, these organizations encouraged G7 leaders to continue making progress on their past commitments, and address pressing issues, such as: sustainable development in the post-2015 Millennium agenda, health strategies pertaining to diseases such as Ebola, food security and nutrition, and women's economic empowerment.

The press statements and policy reports that development organizations released in relation to the Schloss Elmau Summit predominately featured recommendations that cited previous efforts, but built on them by analyzing key areas for improvement in strategy, coordination and monitoring. Organizations such as Médecines Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) and Oxfam reflected this trend, in particular. MSF has assessed the international community's response to the Ebola crisis and identified that a change is required to improve the global market-based research and development (R&D) system. Oxfam recognizes the potential of the G7 Schloss Elmau Summit to be the new L'Aquila, introducing new perspectives about the ways in which gender differences and climate resilience directly impact food security and nutrition.

Additionally, MSF took advantage of its Twitter platform to rally public discussion surrounding the topic of vaccine affordability, and pressure governments, health providers, and pharmaceutical companies to reduce the price of life-saving vaccines for vulnerable children in developing countries. In contrast, some organizations such as Plan Canada opted for more indirect forms of advocacy via internal channels, engaging in letter-writing as a strategy to bring forth issues of child and maternal health to the attention of G7 leaders.

Overall, developmental NGOs were very active in the lead up to the Schloss Elmau Summit. Through the use of press statements and social media they actively advocated for sustained efforts to ensure equitable access to food and nutrition and improved access to healthcare.

### **Environmental NGOs**

In the run up to the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, environmental non-governmental organizations (eNGOs) accelerated dialogue surrounding their initiatives and desired outcomes for the Summit. Over the past year, eNGOs unanimously shared their disappointment with the outcomes of the Brussels Summit, stating that the G7 missed a significant opportunity to improve European energy security and take strong action on climate change.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>"Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, 24 June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

Various eNGOs actively pushed for G7 countries to work towards medium and long-term fossil fuel emissions reduction targets, while advocating for the increase of renewable energy to facilitate an industry and market shift toward sustainable energy sources. Greenpeace, Oxfam, the WWF, the Climate Action Network and Seas at Risk released statements expressing the importance of the 2015 Summit in: exercising global influence to reduce emissions in G7 countries, calling on G7 leaders to tackle climate change through measures of both adaptation and mitigation, and investing in marine and land protection initiatives while transitioning to clean and renewable energy sources.

Overall, eNGOs were active in the lead up to the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, particularly given that ocean protection was included on this year's agenda. They also shared a tone of urgency; emphasizing the need for the Summit to result in solidified targets and financial mechanisms leading up to COP15 Climate Change Conference in Paris later this year.

### **Human Rights Groups**

Human rights NGOs typically have a strong presence at G7/G8 Summits; however, participation was lower throughout the G7 Brussels Summit due to the change of location after the expulsion of Russia from the G8.<sup>2</sup> At the Lough Erne Summit in 2013, as well as in previous years, issues such as corruption, accountability for human rights violators, and food security and nutrition have all been highlighted in human rights NGOs' recommendations to the G8.<sup>3</sup>

This year, human rights NGOs emphasized food security and nutrition, gender equality, women's and girl's human rights, sexual and reproductive health, and G7 accountability. Food security was last given the spotlight at the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, and has again been identified as a key issue this year, a decision praised by groups such as InterAction and Oxfam.<sup>4</sup>

There was also extensive participation from German civil society groups. The German All Party Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development, in a collaborative effort with the G7, held a conference on women's empowerment called She Matters and issued recommendations for the G7.<sup>5</sup> In addition, a nationwide alliance called Stop G7 Elmau planned a number of protests, rallies, and educational events for the week preceding the summit, including an "Alternative Summit" in Munich.<sup>6</sup>

Human rights NGOs heavily used partnerships and collaborations in their preparations for the Schloss Elmau Summit. Oxfam published short pieces on G7 preparations on their own website, while more extensive policy papers were published by coalitions of NGOs. InterAction worked with the US G7/G20 Advocacy Alliance to present a coherent body of recommendations. Events such as the Alternative Summit and the She Matters conference were also collaborative initiatives. Finally, civil society groups used social media platforms to promote summit-related activities and engage the public in the key issues they were promoting.

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<sup>2</sup> "Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, 24 June 2014. Date of access: 19 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2013 Lough Erne Summit," G7 Research Group, 10 June 2013. Date of access: 9 May 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/GGRG.-Lough-Erne-summit-report.-2013.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> "2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany," InterAction, February 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>. See also: "Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L'Aquila?" Oxfam international, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>5</sup> "An Appeal: Overview," She Matters, 17 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://she-matters.org/>.

<sup>6</sup> "Sign the Appeal," Stop G7 Elmau 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/networking/sign-appeal/>.

## **Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations**

Following the 2014 Brussels Summit, service-based humanitarian organizations mainly released reports and blog posts, regarding their expectations of G7 leaders in the lead-up to the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit. Forums such as InterAction, which is comprised of NGOs with aligned humanitarian focuses, released additional reports offering recommendations to the G7 leaders, and connected with other civil society organizations via social media.

Service-based humanitarian organizations continued to monitor and assess the G7 leaders' commitments to key humanitarian and developmental goals, underlining the vital role that G7 leaders have in supporting the adoption of new Sustainable Development Goals. Major policy documents emphasized food security and nutrition as a significant topic for the 2015 agenda, with organizations such as Oxfam anticipating a renewed and broader commitment to the 2009 L'Aquila food initiatives.

The lead up to Schloss Elmau also saw a restated commitment to end the Ebola epidemic through sustained emergency assistance and funding for recovery plans. Service-based organizations urged G7 members to capitalize on current global attention to the epidemic and to prioritize the strengthening of public health capacities in developing countries.

While large-scale demonstrations and advocacy events were infrequent in the lead-up to the Schloss Elmau Summit, organizations such as Oxfam also utilized social media and blog posts to engage the public, and draw attention to the context of food security issues.

## **Faith-Based Organizations**

Similar to 2014 Brussels Summit, faith-based organizations demonstrated minimal interaction with the G7 summitry process in the lead up to the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit. Amongst the actions that did take place, ONE issued a statement concerning efforts to raise women out of extreme poverty through the promotion of gender equality in various sectors. Additionally, InterAction led a collaborative effort comprised of 40 NGOs, including many faith-based organizations, to publish a policy paper on the Summit. Apart from publications, faith-based organizations did not participate in other activities during the pre-summit period, leading to a moderate level of overall engagement.

## **Trade Unions**

Similar to the situation leading up to the 2014 Brussels Summit, trade unions remained relatively inactive in their level of engagement with the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit. Although Chancellor Merkel's invitation for active consultations was met with some interest, via the publication of "Global Supply Chains and Decent Work," trade union campaigns continued to focus on the labour initiatives of heavily industrializing countries. This pattern mirrors ITUC and TUAC's engagement with G20 summits in previous years, and the organization of the Labor 20 forum: a collaborative effort amongst trade unions from the G20 countries, advocating for greater engagement of workers and labor issues in summit agendas.<sup>7</sup>

Chancellor Merkel's push to include labour standards on the G7 summit agenda — which includes the rights for employees to seek legal actions to enforce their rights, as well as institutionalizing a G7 peer-review process within the OECD Guideline for Multinational Enterprise — opened consultative space amongst international trade unions and workers.<sup>8</sup> This was also the first time that

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<sup>7</sup> "L20 Priorities for the Turkish G20 Presidency," International Trade Union Confederation, 5 May 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. <http://www.ituc-csi.org/l20-priorities-for-the-turkish-g20>.

<sup>8</sup> "L20 Priorities for the Turkish G20 Presidency," International Trade Union Confederation, 5 May 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. <http://www.ituc-csi.org/l20>

G7 countries discussed global working conditions as part of their summit agenda.<sup>9</sup> However, Merkel's efforts did not stir trade unions' primary interests away from G20 engagement. Overall, while trade unions maintained their support for greater civil society engagement in pre-summit, dialogue forums, their activities were limited.

### **Educational Campaigns**

In the past, educational campaigns have been prominent voices at G7/G8 summits, particularly during years that were critical to the establishment, and renewal, of development goals. With the Millennium Development Goals set to expire in 2015, advocates for education had an increased presence ahead of the Schloss Elmau Summit, as part of larger campaigns centered around development issues. These joint activities have focused on utilizing education, particularly the establishment of universal primary education, as a way to garner greater change on issues such as women's rights and the eradication of poverty. In reports dedicated to planning the post-2015 agenda for education, civil society organizations focused on developing means to accomplish unfinished goals set out in earlier agendas, especially the pledge to implement universal primary education at the UN Millennium Summit in 2000. Accordingly, educational campaigns are still focused on the state of education in the post-2015 development context, but did not actively target the G7 in their advocacy activities.

### **Philanthropic Foundations and Celebrity Campaigns**

Philanthropic foundations and celebrity campaigns have been particularly prominent in raising public awareness of international development issues at G7/G8 summits. With a focus on advocating for increased international development aid ahead of the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, philanthropic foundations and celebrities continued to make a concerted effort to mobilize the public, and ensure that G7 leaders commit to making significant contributions to international development. Additionally, these organizations often joined a coalition of NGOs to advocate for vulnerable groups, such as women and children.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, these organizations were not able to make structured advocacy efforts, due to Russia's dismissal from summitry negotiations. However, reports and press statements released prior to the Schloss Elmau Summit presented an organized front in advocating for girls and women, who would be most impacted by cuts to international aid. These organizations were also consistent in reminding the public of the importance of this year's summit, given its role in marking the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals.

This year, philanthropic foundations formed partnerships with celebrities to develop advocacy events, social media campaigns and music festivals. These activities were designed to promote participation discussions surrounding international sustainable development, and to influence leaders through pledge and letter-writing campaigns. Additionally, these organizations mobilized the public to show their support via online petitions and photo-sharing campaigns. Many efforts sought to put pressure on Merkel to provide strong leadership at the Schloss Elmau Summit.

Above all, philanthropic foundations recognized the synergy between the G7 Summit and other summits, given their similar focus on planning for the transition to a Sustainable Development Goal agenda.

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<sup>9</sup> "Trade Union voice key demands," Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD, 24 March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/document\\_news.phtml](http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/document_news.phtml).

## Introduction

Since the term “civil society” first appeared in a G8 Summit document at the 1995 Halifax Summit, these organizations have been particularly strategic about their involvement with summit activities.<sup>10</sup> Over the past two decades, demonstrations and NGO campaigns around G7/G8 summits have garnered their fair share of media attention, with far-reaching demonstrations becoming increasingly commonplace.

According to the University of Toronto’s Peter Hajnal, civil society’s interaction with the G8 can be categorized into four distinct periods: 1981-1994, a “period of the earliest form of dialogue” and interaction; 1995-1997, a “period of formal recognition” by G8 member-states, and; 1998-present, a “period of well-structured cooperation.”<sup>11</sup> By 2006, they were being involved in formal consultations, albeit in a relatively minor capacity. Since then, civil society groups have been a mainstay.

The goal of the 2014–2015 Civil Society Studies Report is to provide an analysis of the strategies used by civil society groups to influence G7 decision-making, particularly in the time leading up to, and during the G7 Summit in Schloss Elmau, Germany. To that objective, the report has also tracked civil society activities that have occurred since the 2014 Brussels (June 4-5 2014).

Eight (8) civil society sub-groups were identified that perceive G7 lobbying to be an important strategy to their organizational objectives. These sub-groups are:

1. Developmental Non-Governmental Organizations
2. Human Rights Groups
3. Environmental NGO
4. Faith-based organizations
5. Trade Unions
6. Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations
7. Educational Campaigns
8. Philanthropic Foundations and Celebrity Campaigns

Some organizations — e.g., Oxfam and World Vision — fall into more than one category. In this report, their activities will be discussed in their relevant sub-groups.

## Research Methodology

The scope of this report was determined using the London School of Economics Centre for Civil Society’s definition of “civil society”:

*Civil society refers to the arena of uncoerced collective action around shared interests, purposes and values. In theory, its institutional forms are distinct from those of the state, family, and market, though in practice, the boundaries between state, civil society, family and market are often complex, blurred and negotiated. Civil society commonly embraces a diversity of spaces, actors and institutional forms, varying in their degree of formality, autonomy and power. Civil societies are often populated by organizations such as registered charities, development non-governmental organizations, community groups, women’s organizations, faith-based organizations, professional associations, trade unions, self-help groups, social movements, business associations, coalitions and advocacy groups.<sup>12</sup>*

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<sup>10</sup> Civil Society and the G8, presentation prepared for the Civil G8 Forum, 9-10 March 2006, Civil G8, (Moscow), 5 March 2006. Date of Access: 1 February 2011. <http://en.civilg8.ru/1628.php>. Please see the Halifax Summit Communiqué, 16 June 1995, <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/communiqué/index.html>.

<sup>11</sup> “Civil Society at the Gleneagles Summit,” G8 Information Centre, 17 March 2006. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. [http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/hajnal\\_060309.html#\\_ftn11](http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/hajnal_060309.html#_ftn11).

<sup>12</sup> Stephen Osborne, *The Third Sector in Europe: Prospects and Challenges* (New York: Routledge, 2008), 9.

The report assesses civil society's involvement with the G7 by analyzing strategies used by sub-groups. Each report section was researched according to a standardized set of indicators:

9. The first strategy, **Policy, Press Statements and Utilization of Media**, details how subgroups used various communications mediums to lobby the G7 and engage with the wider public.
10. The second, **Utilization of Social Media**, focuses on civil society's engagement with governments and the public through various social media platforms.
11. The third, **Protests**, accounts for demonstrations held by civil society sub-groups.
12. The fourth strategy, **Public Awareness Events and Workshops** pays particular attention to campaigns mounted by civil society groups to lobby G7 member states and create public awareness of their objectives.
13. **Collaborative Efforts** examine cooperation between civil society groups.
14. Finally, **G7-Civil Society Initiatives** assesses official G7 engagement with civil society groups, such as formal consultations and special events.



## Developmental Non-Governmental Organizations

*Delila Bikić*

Developmental non-governmental organizations have become prominent advocates for development issues on the international stage. These civil society actors aim to promote and address political, economic, and social challenges faced by developing countries. Through their programming and campaign work, developmental NGOs have been instrumental in bringing international developmental issues to the forefront of G7/G8 summit agendas.

The broader objectives of various developmental NGOs have focused on promoting projects geared towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with the view that their success presents a viable opportunity to alleviate poverty and improve the quality of life globally. More recently, many developmental NGOs have sought to achieve sustainable development by capitalizing on the resources of various developmental mechanisms, such as Official Development Assistance (ODA).<sup>13</sup> Developmental projects have focused on the eradication of poverty as an important foundation for achieving sustainable development in other target areas, including gender equality, improvement of socio-economic conditions, and food security.<sup>14</sup>

Developmental NGOs have been influential in their roles as monitoring bodies, ensuring that G7/G8 leaders comply with the promises made at previous summits. In addition, their power as a lobbying group has also extended to engaging other sectors of society to evaluate the level of progress of G7/G8 countries in fulfilling their developmental pledges and commitments. In order to do so, developmental NGOs have actively utilized a variety of social media outlets, published accountability reports evaluating the performance of G8 countries, and participated in public demonstrations and awareness campaigns.<sup>15</sup>

### Brussels Summit Outcomes

In comparison to previous summit meetings, the circumstances surrounding the G7 Summit in 2014 had an impact on developmental NGOs' level of engagement. In light of the invasion of the Crimean Peninsula and the crisis in Ukraine, the G7 leaders voted in March 2014 to ban the Russian Federation from participating in G8 summits and changed the meeting location from Sochi to the European Union and NATO headquarters in Brussels.<sup>16</sup> Consequently, developmental NGOs' degree of pre-summit mobilization was not as high as in previous years.

Although the Ukraine crisis emerged as a priority at the G7 talks in Brussels, developmental NGOs also voiced concerns regarding global hunger, climate change, and the need for agricultural reform. Following the Summit, the ONE campaign noted that it was pleased with the progress achieved by G7 countries, praising them for their ability to focus on key development priorities such as

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<sup>13</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, 24 June, 2014. Date of access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>14</sup> "EU: Linking poverty eradication to sustainable development," Brussels Office Weblog, 27 February 2013. Date of access: 1 March 2015. [http://brussels.cta.int/index.php?option=com\\_k2&id=7546:eu%E2%80%90linking%E2%80%90poverty%E2%80%90eradication%E2%80%90and%E2%80%90sustainable%E2%80%90development%E2%80%90&view=item&Itemid=54](http://brussels.cta.int/index.php?option=com_k2&id=7546:eu%E2%80%90linking%E2%80%90poverty%E2%80%90eradication%E2%80%90and%E2%80%90sustainable%E2%80%90development%E2%80%90&view=item&Itemid=54).

<sup>15</sup> Report on Civil Society and the 2013 G8 Lough Erne Summit," G7 Research Group, 10 June, 2013. Date of access: 1 March, 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/GGRG.-Lough-Erne-summit-report.-2013.pdf>.

<sup>16</sup> "G8 Summit in Sochi Cancelled, G7 Leaders To Meet in Brussels Instead," The World Post, 24 March 2014. Date of access: 28 February 2015. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/03/24/g8-summit-cancelled\\_n\\_5023219.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/03/24/g8-summit-cancelled_n_5023219.html).

transparency, health, and agriculture.<sup>17</sup> Moreover, ONE praised the efforts of G7 leaders to take action on AIDS by renewing the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) scheme.<sup>18</sup> Looking ahead to the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit in Germany, ONE had high expectations that governments and global leaders would continue in their commitment towards achieving development goals, especially moving forward with the development of the post-2015 Millennium Development agenda.<sup>19</sup>

In contrast, World Vision was critical that G7 leaders' posed more questions than answers at the Brussels Summit, failing to enforce and set measurable guidelines for the protection of children's rights in the developing world. World Vision remained particularly concerned with ameliorating maternal and child malnutrition, and promoting a wider recognition that the G7 must follow through on these commitments for children in conflict zones.<sup>20</sup>

## Schloss Elmau Summit Participation

### Policy Papers, Statements and the Press

The U.S. G7/G20 Advocacy Alliance, a group of over forty non-governmental organizations and labour groups, released a policy paper on 31 March 2015 as part of the InterAction forum, calling for the United States' leadership in encouraging the G7 to take action on key issues of sustainable development, health, food security and nutrition, and women's economic empowerment.<sup>21</sup> The policy paper highlighted specific Schloss Elmau Summit recommendations and acknowledged the importance of future initiatives in addressing the needs of the world's poorest and vulnerable populations.

As part of the G7/G20 Alliance efforts, World Vision and Action Aid took leading roles in sustainable development advocacy. Both organizations prioritized continuous efforts to achieve all Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) by 2030, including a commitment to guiding principles of human rights and respect for all. There was also recognition that continued engagement with SDG's in the post-2015 development agenda requires accountable financial and implementation strategies, as well as innovative mechanisms, in order to "advance a shared responsibility" for the achievement of all SDG's.<sup>22</sup>

Médecines Sans Frontières (MSF)/Doctors Without Borders remained active on three main health topics on the G7 summit agenda: Ebola, anti-microbial resistance (AMR), and neglected tropical diseases (NTD). MSF identified that the G7 urgently needs to make strong commitments to change the global market-based research and development (R&D) system, which fails to address the health

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<sup>17</sup> "ONE welcomes progress on key development priorities at Brussels G7 Summit," ONE Campaign, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 1 March 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-welcomes-progress-on-key-development-priorities-at-brussels-g7-summit/>.

<sup>18</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, 24 June, 2014. Date of access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>19</sup> "ONE welcomes progress on key development priorities at Brussels G7 Summit," ONE Campaign, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 1 March 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-welcomes-progress-on-key-development-priorities-at-brussels-g7-summit/>.

<sup>20</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, 24 June, 2014. Date of access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>21</sup> "2015 German G7 Summit Agenda and Calendar," InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 12 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/CALENDAR%20G7%202015%20%2825%29%202-19-15.pdf>.

<sup>22</sup> "2015 German G7 Summit Agenda and Calendar," InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 12 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/CALENDAR%20G7%202015%20%2825%29%202-19-15.pdf>.

needs of patients in poorer countries.<sup>23</sup> On 8 May 2015 the International President of MSF, Dr. Joanne Liu, shared her views on the lessons learned from the Ebola crisis at the Gates Foundation Global Partner Forum.<sup>24</sup> Identifying the global response to the Ebola outbreak as a political failure rather than a failure of means, Dr. Liu called on governments, the private sector, and pharmaceutical companies to expand the current R&D system in a way that will ensure medicines and diagnostics for neglected diseases are accessible to those most in need.<sup>25</sup> She further stated that the UN and WHO must hold the same degree of accountability as governments when it comes to emergency responses because “Ebola must remain a public responsibility.”<sup>26</sup>

Oxfam highlighted the importance of a new food security and nutrition commitment for the G7. Gawain Kripke, Director of Policy and Research at Oxfam America, highlighted the reemergence of food security on the summit agenda and the potential of Schloss Elmau to symbolize the new L’Aquila<sup>27</sup> — a food security initiative at the 2009 G8 summit in L’Aquila, Italy, which sought to advance investment in food security worldwide.<sup>28</sup> In particular, he welcomed the remarks of Stefan Schmitz, Deputy Director of the “One World — No Hunger” initiative. Addressing the international community at the Global Food Security Symposium on 16 April 2015, Schmitz announced Germany’s new plan for a broader, ambitious initiative that would build on L’Aquila’s progress on small farmer productivity, while at the same time expanding on other factors driving hunger such as nutrition, gender, and climate resilience. Kripke’s statement praised the German government for their recognition that a more historic effort to break the cycle of malnutrition and hunger, rather than “business as usual,”<sup>29</sup> is a viable option in realizing a world where “future generations can feed themselves.”<sup>30</sup>

In contrast to Oxfam’s response, ONE focused on poverty’s linkages to hunger, sexism, and female empowerment. In a blog statement released on 26 March 2015, ONE utilized their *Poverty is Sexist* campaign to insist that the words of “women” and “big plans to end poverty” to be on the Summit agenda.<sup>31</sup> Additionally, ONE announced its expectation for a “global shift that puts girls and women at the heart of development.”<sup>32</sup> In the spirit of Germany’s commitment to strengthen women economically, ONE also called for world leaders to improve land rights and access to credit for

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<sup>23</sup> Stefan Dold – Press Officer, Media and Communications for Médecines Sans Frontières, email message to author, 11 May 2015.

<sup>24</sup> “Remarks by International President of MSF Dr. Joanne Liu at the Gates Foundation Global Partner Forum,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 8 May 2015. Date of access: 15 May 2015. <http://www.msf.org/article/remarks-international-president-msf-dr-joanne-liu-gates-foundation-global-partner-forum>.

<sup>25</sup> “Remarks by International President of MSF Dr. Joanne Liu at the Gates Foundation Global Partner Forum,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 8 May 2015. Date of access: 15 May 2015. <http://www.msf.org/article/remarks-international-president-msf-dr-joanne-liu-gates-foundation-global-partner-forum>.

<sup>26</sup> “Remarks by International President of MSF Dr. Joanne Liu at the Gates Foundation Global Partner Forum,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 8 May 2015. Date of access: 15 May 2015. <http://www.msf.org/article/remarks-international-president-msf-dr-joanne-liu-gates-foundation-global-partner-forum>.

<sup>27</sup> Kripke, Gavin. “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam America, 16 April 2015. Date of access: 15 May 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmaw-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>28</sup> “L’Aquila Food Security Initiative Final Report 2012,” U.S. Department of State. Date of access: 15 May 2015. <http://www.state.gov/s/globalfoodsecurity/rls/rpt/laquila/>.

<sup>29</sup> Gavin Kripke, “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam America, 16 April 2015. Date of access: 15 May 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmaw-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>30</sup> “2015 German G7 Summit Agenda and Calendar,” InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 12 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/CALENDAR%20G7%202015%20%2825%29%202-19-15.pdf>.

<sup>31</sup> Helen Hector, “Poverty is Sexist – here’s what we can do about it,” ONE Campaign, 26 March 2015. Date of access: 10 April 2015. <http://www.one.org/us/2015/03/26/poverty-is-sexist-heres-what-we-can-do-about-it/>.

<sup>32</sup> Helen Hector, “Poverty is Sexist – here’s what we can do about it,” ONE Campaign, 26 March 2015. Date of access: 10 April 2015. <http://www.one.org/us/2015/03/26/poverty-is-sexist-heres-what-we-can-do-about-it/>.

female farmers in agriculture development plans, and ensure that women are treated under equal standards of health care.<sup>33</sup>

In preparation for the 2015 G7 Summit, Plan International voiced their commitment to breaking the cycle of poverty in order to improve the lives of children, particularly young girls who simultaneously face gender inequality. On 15 May 2015, Plan launched a joint initiative with the campaign “World at School” in response to the Nepal earthquake, lobbying the international community to fund “education in emergencies.”<sup>34</sup> The organization’s main concern is that close to one million children in Nepal will not be able to return to school long-term unless immediate action is taken to financially support and deliver education in safe learning environments.<sup>35</sup>

While Plan Germany took the lead in G7-related advocacy efforts, Plan Canada was indirectly involved with the summitry process and reached out to both the Canadian Sherpa and the Prime Minister’s office on the issue of maternal, newborn and child health, through the Canadian Network on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (CAN-MNCH). Based on feedback from its civil society partners in Germany, the Network was made aware of the risk that MNCH would be de-prioritized on the G7 summit agenda. Jennifer Slawich, Senior Policy Advisor at Plan Canada, stated that the Network’s main outreach in the run-up to the Schloss Elmau Summit included a letter to Canada’s G8 Sherpa and a follow-up letter to Prime Minister Harper, to raise the concern that MNCH would be excluded from the agenda.<sup>36</sup> The letters were sent in advance of Chancellor Merkel’s visit to Canada, and the Network asked Prime Minister Harper to use his position as a global leader on MNCH to reach out to his fellow G7 partners “to agree on concrete political and financial commitments to a robust and renewed Muskoka Initiative,” as the Muskoka Initiative for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health is Canada’s top development priority.<sup>37</sup>

### **Utilization of Social Media**

MSF actively utilized Twitter to raise awareness about their participation at the World Health Assembly (WHA), as well as to initiate public discussion regarding GAVI campaign efforts. The organization’s pre-summit Twitter platform consisted of initiating public pressure for Pfizer pharmaceutical company to provide more affordable vaccines to the poorest countries through GAVI, as well as to be more transparent when it comes to disclosing the real costs of developing and producing the pneumococcal vaccine.<sup>38</sup>

### **Pre-summit Protests**

Developmental NGOs did not engage in pre-summit protests; however, an activist taxation organization, ATTAC, called for demonstrations in partnership with various NGO groups to

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<sup>33</sup> Helen Hector, “Poverty is Sexist – here’s what we can do about it,” ONE Campaign, 26 March 2015. Date of access: 10 April 2015. <http://www.one.org/us/2015/03/26/poverty-is-sexist-heres-what-we-can-do-about-it/>.

<sup>34</sup> “Joint call to world leaders to commit to funding education in emergencies,” Plan International, 15 May 2015. Date of access: 20 May 2015. <http://plan-international.org/about-plan/resources/media-centre/press-releases/urgent-call-to-fund-education-in-emergencies>.

<sup>35</sup> “Joint call to world leaders to commit to funding education in emergencies,” Plan International, 15 May 2015. Date of access: 20 May 2015. <http://plan-international.org/about-plan/resources/media-centre/press-releases/urgent-call-to-fund-education-in-emergencies>.

<sup>36</sup> Jennifer Slawich (Senior Policy Adviser, Plan Canada) in discussion with the author, May 2015.

<sup>37</sup> Jennifer Slawich (Senior Policy Adviser, Plan Canada) in discussion with the author, May 2015.

<sup>38</sup> Médecines Sans Frontières, Twitter post, 21 May 2015, 12:00 pm, [https://twitter.com/MSF\\_USA?lang=en&lang=en](https://twitter.com/MSF_USA?lang=en&lang=en).

between June 3 and 8.<sup>39</sup> Additionally, an alliance of G7 mobilizing groups, including numerous developmental organizations, participated in an Alternative Summit on June 3 and 4 in Munich.

### **Public Awareness Events/Workshops**

MSF was active in raising awareness about their *Access Campaign* leading up to the Schloss Elmau Summit. As a participant in the sixty-eighth session of the World Health Assembly (WHA) from May 18-26 in Geneva, MSF was vocal about public leadership in addressing the gaps in health research and innovation for emerging diseases, such as Ebola.<sup>40</sup> Additionally, MSF has remained committed to facilitating public, educated discussions about the GAVI campaign, an effort underway since 2014 to reduce the price of life-saving vaccines for the most vulnerable children in developing countries. Over the past year, MSF also engaged the public in their efforts to pressure the pharmaceutical company Pfizer to reduce the price of vaccines, through press releases and reports on the *Access Campaign* website.<sup>41</sup>

### **Collaborative Efforts**

In a joint effort to pressure G7 leaders to rank public health challenges as a high political priority on the summit agenda, MSF and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi) advocated for a biomedical research and development fund as a strategy to fix deficiencies in the current R&D system.<sup>42</sup> Both groups called for a strong public leadership to work on developing a “cohesive, needs-driven innovation...that adequately addresses issues of affordability, access and efficiency in the R&D process.”<sup>43</sup> Dr. Manica Belasegaram, Executive Director of MSF’s *Access Campaign*, noted that the biggest problem facing the current R&D system is its reliance on “monopolies and high prices,” which restricts “equitable access for patients...that fall outside the market-based paradigm.”<sup>44</sup> The proposed fund would address this problem by providing an independent approach to coordinating and monitoring R&D, based on principles of “open knowledge innovation, fair licensing, and de-linkage of the final price of a product from R&D costs.”<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> “Protest Gegen G7-Treffen in Elmau.” ATTAC, 16 April 2015. Date of access: 1 May 2015.

[http://www.attac.de/startseite/detailansicht/news/protest-gegen-g7-treffen-in-elmau/?no\\_cache=1&cHash=90d12256046dad9cf6a314669068b335](http://www.attac.de/startseite/detailansicht/news/protest-gegen-g7-treffen-in-elmau/?no_cache=1&cHash=90d12256046dad9cf6a314669068b335).

<sup>40</sup> “MSF and DNDi join call for Biomedical Research and Development Fund and Mechanism to meet pressing global health needs,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 11 May 2015. Date of access: 18 May 2015.

<http://www.msfacecess.org/about-us/media-room/press-releases/msf-and-dndi-join-call-biomedical-research-and-development-fund>.

<sup>41</sup> “MSF responds to Pfizer announcement of pneumococcal vaccine price reduction,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 26 January 2015. Date of access: 18 May 2015.

<sup>42</sup> “MSF and DNDi join call for Biomedical Research and Development Fund and Mechanism to meet pressing global health needs,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 11 May 2015. Date of access: 18 May 2015.

<http://www.msfacecess.org/about-us/media-room/press-releases/msf-and-dndi-join-call-biomedical-research-and-development-fund>.

<sup>43</sup> “MSF and DNDi join call for Biomedical Research and Development Fund and Mechanism to meet pressing global health needs,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 11 May 2015. Date of access: 18 May 2015.

<http://www.msfacecess.org/about-us/media-room/press-releases/msf-and-dndi-join-call-biomedical-research-and-development-fund>.

<sup>44</sup> “MSF and DNDi join call for Biomedical Research and Development Fund and Mechanism to meet pressing global health needs,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 11 May 2015. Date of access: 18 May 2015.

<http://www.msfacecess.org/about-us/media-room/press-releases/msf-and-dndi-join-call-biomedical-research-and-development-fund>.

<sup>45</sup> “MSF and DNDi join call for Biomedical Research and Development Fund and Mechanism to meet pressing global health needs,” Médecines Sans Frontières, 11 May 2015. Date of access: 18 May 2015.

<http://www.msfacecess.org/about-us/media-room/press-releases/msf-and-dndi-join-call-biomedical-research-and-development-fund>.

### **G7-Civil Society Initiatives**

Leading up to the G7 Summit in Schloss Elmau, Chancellor Angela Merkel expressed her commitment to engage in dialogue with a variety of civil society actors, including representatives from the science and research community, as NGOs. Germany's G7 Presidency strived to uphold the "Civil-G8-Dialogue" tradition that began at the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, encouraging other nations to be open to greater civil society participation in the dialogue process. In order to facilitate the dialogue process and incorporate civil society interests in global governance decision-making, Chancellor Merkel, alongside G7 heads of state, devised a number of dialogue forums that were held in the run-up to the Summit.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>46</sup> "G7 Summit – Dialogue with Civil Society," The Press and Information Office of Federal Government. Date of access: 15 April 2015.

## Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations

*Christina Schwantes*

Climate change has been a predominant issue on the G7/G8 agenda since the 2005 Gleneagles Summit.<sup>47</sup> At the Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders acknowledged the global realities of anthropogenic climate change and the threats it posed to every country.<sup>48</sup> As the political, socio-economic and environmental complexities of climate change increase internationally, environment non-governmental organizations (eNGOs) have continually encouraged G7/G8 countries to pursue environmentally sustainable policies and fulfill the commitments established at previous summits.

The major eNGOs involved in past summits include Greenpeace International, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Oxfam International, Friends of the Earth International, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the Climate Action Network, and the Global Call for Climate Action.<sup>49</sup> Smaller, local environmental groups have also participated in past summits, such as the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition at the Muskoka Summit, the Coalition Against NATO/G8 (CANG8) Environment Committee Working Group at the Camp David Summit, and Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland during the Lough Erne Summit.<sup>50</sup>

Greenpeace International and the WWF have been particularly prominent actors at past summits, strongly pressuring G7 countries to assume greater environmental responsibility within the international community. These two eNGOs frequently publish press releases and reports containing policy demands and recommendations, as well as progress evaluations comparing the environmental performance of G7 countries pre and post-summit. In addition, they garner significant media attention through protests, and carry out public outreach through public polls and social media platforms such as Twitter.

The main focus of the major eNGOs is to advocate for the transition to renewable and clean energy sources. This is based on environmental groups' goal of ensuring that the global temperature increase of two degrees Celsius is not exceeded.<sup>51</sup> In recent years, both WWF and Greenpeace International have released comprehensive policy papers focused on the phasing out of nuclear and fossil fuel-generated energy, while encouraging investments in renewable energy sources.<sup>52</sup> eNGOs have vocally expressed their disappointment with G7 countries' continued reliance on a fossil fuel economy, and have avidly advocated for energy independence by reducing the reliance on unsustainable sources of energy, such as coal. In addition, Greenpeace has emphasized the need for mid-term emission reduction goals to be established as stepping blocks toward the existing long-term reduction

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<sup>47</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit," G7 Research Group, February 2011. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/csed/2010-muskoka-civilsociety.pdf>

<sup>48</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit," G7 Research Group, February 2011. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/csed/2010-muskoka-civilsociety.pdf>

<sup>49</sup> "Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>50</sup> "Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>51</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit," G7 Research Group, February 2011. Date of access: 23 February 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/csed/2010-muskoka-civilsociety.pdf>

<sup>52</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2012 G8 Camp David Summit," G7 Research Group, 19 May 2012. Date of access: 23 February 2013. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Camp-David-summit-report.-2012.pdf>

commitments set for 2050.<sup>53</sup> Various eNGOs have also applied pressure on G7 countries to provide financial assistance to developing countries for climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.<sup>54</sup> Finally, eNGOs have worked to influence summit outcomes both by publishing policy reports and evaluations, as well as mobilizing the general public through polls and social media.<sup>55</sup>

### **Brussels Summit Outcomes**

Environmental civil society groups have generally been disappointed by G7/G8 summit outcomes. G7 leaders have been continually criticized by Greenpeace and the WWF for their failure to move forward on climate change commitments, specifically their failure to implement reforms on fossil fuel subsidies and provide incentives for renewable energy investment.<sup>56</sup> The 2014 Brussels Summit was seen as unproductive, in terms of progress on climate change. The last-minute relocation of the Summit from Sochi to Brussels limited the ability of some environmental groups to achieve optimal levels of preparedness, and launch effective public awareness campaigns. Despite this reality, Greenpeace and the WWF released reports stating that the environmental and security goals of the G7 should be achieved through increased use of renewable energy sources and greater energy efficiency.<sup>57</sup> Following the Summit, Greenpeace and Oxfam published press releases declaring that Brussels was a missed opportunity to strengthen energy independence and reduce reliance on fossil fuels, in the wake of Russia's threats to cut off oil supply to the European Union.<sup>58</sup> Both eNGOs argued that the threat of losing Russia's oil supply could have served as an opportunity to seek alternative renewable energy sources, but that instead G7 leaders opted for a continuation of the use of non-renewable fuels.<sup>59</sup> The Brussels Summit was largely seen as a missed opportunity to capitalize on critical opportunities to transition to cleaner fuel sources, and was criticized for a lack of significant movement toward energy independence.

### **Schloss Elmau Summit Participation**

#### **Policy Papers, Statements and the Press**

On 1 May 2015, Oxfam International released a blog post highlighting the need for the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit to continue to work toward increased food security and acknowledge lessons learned from previous summits.<sup>60</sup> The posting identified the New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition, established at 2012 Camp David Summit, which has been heavily criticized by Oxfam and other civil

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<sup>53</sup> "Brussels Hoping for Climate Commitment at G8," EUobserver, 6 July 2009. Date of access: 23 February 2013. <https://euobserver.com/environment/28420>

<sup>54</sup> "Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>55</sup> "Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>56</sup> "Report on Civil Society and the 2012 G8 Camp David Summit," G7 Research Group, 19 May 2012. Date of access: 23 February 2013. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Camp-David-summit-report.-2012.pdf>.

<sup>57</sup> "Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit," G7 Research Group, June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>58</sup> "G7: No Breakthrough on Energy Independence," Greenpeace EU, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2014. <http://www.greenpeace.org/eu-unit/en/News/2014/G7-no-breakthrough-on-energy-independence/>

<sup>59</sup> "Oxfam's Warning to EU: Ukraine is a Wake-up Call for Looming Fuel and Food Crisis," Blue & Green Tomorrow, 3 June 2014. Date of access: 18 February 2015. <http://blueandgreentomorrow.com/2014/06/03/oxfams-warning-to-eu-ukraine-is-a-wake-up-call-for-looming-fuel-and-food-crisis-2/>

<sup>60</sup> "The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the Right Signal on Food Security and Nutrition," Oxfam International, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. [https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm\\_source=oxf.am&utm\\_medium=ZMbU&utm\\_content=redirect](https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm_source=oxf.am&utm_medium=ZMbU&utm_content=redirect).



society groups as being top-down and non-participatory.<sup>61</sup> The post outlined three key principles to ensure the success of the G7 food security initiative. Finally, the post claimed that previous G7 initiatives have failed to address the linkages between food security and climate change issues.<sup>62</sup> In turn, Oxfam recommends an integrated approach to bridge food security and environmental goals, by incorporating ecological strategies into industries such as agriculture and watershed management, thereby recognizing the interconnected nature of climate change and food security.<sup>63</sup> The statement concluded, “Without addressing the issue of water, any G7 initiative will be blind to some of the biggest challenges of coming decades in agricultural production.”<sup>64</sup>

On 20 April 2015, Seas at Risk, a European association of non-governmental environmental organizations, presented a joint NGO document of key proposals regarding ocean protection goals leading up to the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit. The document is in congruence with the G7’s first explicit commitment to ocean conservation in its history, highlighting the pressing need to limit greenhouse gas emissions, marine pollution and overfishing.<sup>65</sup> According to the press release, Germany is responsible for the inclusion of protection of the marine environment on the agenda — specifically marine litter, deep sea mining and the protection of biodiversity.<sup>66</sup> To enhance this commitment, Monica Verbeek, Executive Director of Seas at Risk, in collaboration with WWF, Fair Oceans and Brut für die Welt, produced a position paper with key marine environment recommendations to G7 leaders.

The recommendations were as follows:

- Post-2015 sustainable development goals with ambitious targets for ocean conservation;
- An implementing agreement for the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea that will protect high seas biodiversity;
- A 50% reduction of marine litter by 2025; and
- A halt to the gold rush in deep-sea mining, through investment in sustainable alternatives and a commitment to develop a binding set of international regulations.<sup>67</sup>

Throughout April 2015, Clean Energy Wire conducted interviews with multiple environmental civil society activists regarding their ideal outcomes for the Schloss Elmau Summit. Wael Hmaidan, the director of the Climate Action Network, stated: “We want the G7 to recognize that the current climate change protection commitments are not enough and that more is needed to limit global

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<sup>61</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the Right Signal on Food Security and Nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. [https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm\\_source=oxf.am&utm\\_medium=ZMbU&utm\\_content=redirect](https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm_source=oxf.am&utm_medium=ZMbU&utm_content=redirect).

<sup>62</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the Right Signal on Food Security and Nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. [https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm\\_source=oxf.am&utm\\_medium=ZMbU&utm\\_content=redirect](https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm_source=oxf.am&utm_medium=ZMbU&utm_content=redirect).

<sup>63</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the Right Signal on Food Security and Nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. [https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm\\_source=oxf.am&utm\\_medium=ZMbU&utm\\_content=redirect](https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm_source=oxf.am&utm_medium=ZMbU&utm_content=redirect).

<sup>64</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the Right Signal on Food Security and Nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. [https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm\\_source=oxf.am&utm\\_medium=ZMbU&utm\\_content=redirect](https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm_source=oxf.am&utm_medium=ZMbU&utm_content=redirect).

<sup>65</sup> “Oceans on G7 Radar,” Seas at Risk, April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. [http://www.seas-at-risk.org/news\\_n2.php?page=739](http://www.seas-at-risk.org/news_n2.php?page=739).

<sup>66</sup> “Oceans on G7 Radar,” Seas at Risk, April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. [http://www.seas-at-risk.org/news\\_n2.php?page=739](http://www.seas-at-risk.org/news_n2.php?page=739).

<sup>67</sup> “Oceans on G7 Radar,” Seas at Risk, April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. [http://www.seas-at-risk.org/news\\_n2.php?page=739](http://www.seas-at-risk.org/news_n2.php?page=739).

warming to 2 degrees.”<sup>68</sup> He also stated that, “If the G7 don’t reach an agreement on this long-term goal, it’s very unlikely that Paris will.”<sup>69</sup> This is in reference the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP15 to be held in Paris later this year, and reflects the Climate Action Network’s (among other civil society actors’) long-term goal of phasing out fossil fuel usage by 2050.<sup>70</sup>

The Clean Energy Wire also interviewed Tobias Münchmayer, the deputy head of Greenpeace’s political unit in Berlin. He stated, “If there is no progress on the long-term goal, Elmau will be seen as a failure.”<sup>71</sup> In the interview, Münchmayer advocated for a 100-percent-renewable energy target for 2050 as an optimal outcome at the Summit.<sup>72</sup> He added, “If Chancellor Merkel is not able to convince the other six members of this, we will see a failure.”<sup>73</sup>

On 14 December 2014, the WWF released a statement following UN climate talks in Lima, Peru. The statement highlighted the G7 Summit as an opportunity to plan for emissions reductions and financial commitments for 2020 and onwards.<sup>74</sup> Additionally, Samantha Smith, Leader of WWF’s Global Climate and Energy Initiative, emphasized the need for countries to use the upcoming G7 Summit and UN Summit to identify specific actions to cut emissions and provide financial resources, with 2020 as a target for significant progress.<sup>75</sup>

### Utilization of Social Media

In general, civil society actors maintain active social media platforms, including Twitter and Facebook accounts, where they share daily posts on relevant environmental content or publications. Despite frequent social media activity, posts regarding the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit were infrequent. Postings that discussed the Summit are almost exclusively a singular Tweet promoting a recently published article, press release or website posting.

Seas at Risk has an active Twitter feed, with daily postings. On 7 May, the account tweeted a link to the position paper regarding ocean conservation discussed earlier. The Tweet stated, “#Oceans are firmly on the #G7 agenda this year. We’ve put forward key proposals.”<sup>76</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> “Climate High on Germany’s G7 Agenda, Ambitious Goals Tough to Agree - Merkel,” Clean Energy Wire, 20 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.cleanenergywire.org/de/node/704>.

<sup>69</sup> “Climate High on Germany’s G7 Agenda, Ambitious Goals Tough to Agree - Merkel,” Clean Energy Wire, 20 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.cleanenergywire.org/de/node/704>.

<sup>70</sup> “Climate High on Germany’s G7 Agenda, Ambitious Goals Tough to Agree - Merkel,” Clean Energy Wire, 20 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.cleanenergywire.org/de/node/704>.

<sup>71</sup> “Climate High on Germany’s G7 Agenda, Ambitious Goals Tough to Agree - Merkel,” Clean Energy Wire, 20 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.cleanenergywire.org/de/node/704>.

<sup>72</sup> “Climate High on Germany’s G7 Agenda, Ambitious Goals Tough to Agree - Merkel,” Clean Energy Wire, 20 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.cleanenergywire.org/de/node/704>.

<sup>73</sup> “Climate High on Germany’s G7 Agenda, Ambitious Goals Tough to Agree - Merkel,” Clean Energy Wire, 20 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.cleanenergywire.org/de/node/704>.

<sup>74</sup> “Good Progress in Geneva, But Hard Work Still Ahead: Political Will a Significant Factor,” WWF European Policy Office, 13 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. [http://www.wwf.eu/what\\_we\\_do/climate/energy\\_efficiency/?235452/unclimatetalksfailtodeliverprogressdespitehottestyearonrecord](http://www.wwf.eu/what_we_do/climate/energy_efficiency/?235452/unclimatetalksfailtodeliverprogressdespitehottestyearonrecord).

<sup>75</sup> “Good Progress in Geneva, But Hard Work Still Ahead: Political Will a Significant Factor,” WWF European Policy Office, 13 April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. [http://www.wwf.eu/what\\_we\\_do/climate/energy\\_efficiency/?235452/unclimatetalksfailtodeliverprogressdespitehottestyearonrecord](http://www.wwf.eu/what_we_do/climate/energy_efficiency/?235452/unclimatetalksfailtodeliverprogressdespitehottestyearonrecord).

<sup>76</sup> Seas at Risk, Twitter post, 7 May 2015, 3:04PM. <https://twitter.com/seasatrisk>.

### **Pre-summit Protests**

During the week of 14 April 2015, Greenpeace activists demonstrated in Lübeck, Germany, where G7 foreign ministers were expected to meet on 14 April.<sup>77</sup> The activists posed with a mock polar bear, carrying banners reading “G7: Save the Arctic!” and “G7: No Oil from the Arctic!”<sup>78</sup> These protests reflected Greenpeace’s concern for the North Pole, as it is especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

*Public Awareness Events/Workshops* Environmental NGOs did not participate in, or facilitate public awareness events and workshops.

### **Collaborative Efforts (NGO Forum and external partners)**

A notable collaborative effort was the Seas at Risk report, titled “Healthy Oceans are Our Future: Key Ocean Proposals to the G7.”<sup>79</sup> This paper was produced in collaboration with WWF, Fair Oceans, and Brut für die Welt, and is discussed under “Policy Papers, Statements and Press.”

*G7-Civil Society Initiatives* Environmental NGOs did not take part in G7-Civil Society Initiatives.

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<sup>77</sup> “Germany Diplomacy G7 Protest,” Getty Images, April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.gettyimages.ca/detail/news-photo/greenpeace-activists-pose-with-the-mockup-of-a-polar-bear-news-photo/469681798?Language=en-GB>.

<sup>78</sup> “Germany Diplomacy G7 Protest,” Getty Images, April 2015. Date of access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.gettyimages.ca/detail/news-photo/greenpeace-activists-pose-with-the-mockup-of-a-polar-bear-news-photo/469681798?Language=en-GB>.

<sup>79</sup> “Healthy Oceans are Our Future: Key Ocean Proposals to the G7,” Seas at Risk, April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015 <http://www.seas-at-risk.org/1images/G7%20oceans%20input%20SAR%20WWF%20BfdW%20FO.pdf>.

## Human Rights Organizations

*Aylin Manduric and Sebastian Rueda-Torres*

Human rights NGOs actively engage with the G7 both before and after summits, using the press, protests, and public awareness events to bring attention to the issues they want prioritized on summit agendas. Due to the delayed release of the 2014 Brussels Summit agenda, last year's G7 Summit was preceded by a period of exceptional inactivity from most human rights groups, though several organizations still published press releases and Oxfam International made an appearance at the summit location.<sup>80</sup> Other groups published press releases during or immediately after the summit, including World Vision, ONE, and Transparency International.<sup>81</sup> Since 16 June 2014, when InterAction released a document highlighting the responses of key NGOs to the summit communiqué, there have been few additional releases from human rights organizations.<sup>82</sup>

### Brussels Summit Outcomes

Preceding the Brussels Summit, several human rights groups drew attention to the need to address global economic inequality, poverty, food security, and dependence on non-renewable resources.<sup>83</sup> On 16 May 2014, the FoodFirst Information and Action Network (FIAN), an organization dedicated to protecting the right to adequate food, made a statement criticizing the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa.<sup>84</sup> This was accompanied by a policy paper supporting the argument that the initiative “contradicts a human rights-based framework in key issues relevant for those most affected by hunger and malnutrition.”<sup>85</sup> ActionAid followed with a press statement on 2 June 2014, calling for reforms to the New Alliance.<sup>86</sup>

During the Summit, Oxfam and World Vision made demands for a greater focus on tax transparency, renewable energy, and issues relating to poverty and global health.<sup>87</sup> Following the Summit, ONE's executive director, Tom Hart, applauded G7 leaders for having “kept the ball rolling forward on transparency, health, agriculture and the push for ambitious new goals on development,” and welcomed their commitment to setting measurable benchmarks following 2015, while developing an ambitious development agenda for the next summit.<sup>88</sup> The End FGM European Network (END

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<sup>80</sup> “Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit,” G7 Research Group, 24 June 2014. Date of access: 19 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>81</sup> “Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit,” G7 Research Group, 24 June 2014. Date of access: 19 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>82</sup> “Statements on the 2014 Brussels G7 Summit,” InterAction, 16 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/work/g7g20>.

<sup>83</sup> “Report on Civil Society at the 2014 G7 Brussels Summit,” G7 Research Group, 24 June 2014. Date of access: 19 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>84</sup> “New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa raises concerns,” FIAN International, 16 May 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015.

[http://www.fian.org/news/article/detail/new\\_alliance\\_for\\_food\\_security\\_and\\_nutrition\\_in\\_africa\\_raises\\_concerns/](http://www.fian.org/news/article/detail/new_alliance_for_food_security_and_nutrition_in_africa_raises_concerns/).

<sup>85</sup> “New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa raises concerns,” FIAN International, 16 May 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015.

[http://www.fian.org/news/article/detail/new\\_alliance\\_for\\_food\\_security\\_and\\_nutrition\\_in\\_africa\\_raises\\_concerns/](http://www.fian.org/news/article/detail/new_alliance_for_food_security_and_nutrition_in_africa_raises_concerns/).

<sup>86</sup> “ActionAid calls of G7 to radically reform the New Alliance,” ActionAid, 2 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.actionaid.org/news/actionaid-calls-g7-radically-reform-new-alliance>.

<sup>87</sup> “Statements on the 2014 Brussels G7 Summit,” InterAction, 16 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/work/g7g20>.

<sup>88</sup> “ONE Welcomes G7 Summit News on Extractives Transparency,” ONE, 6 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.one.org/us/press/one-welcomes-g7-summit-news-on-extractives-transparency/>.

FGM), a group of eleven European NGOs dedicated to ending female genital mutilation and other forms of violence against women, called 5 June 2014, “a special day for action on ending FGM,” commending the inclusion of anti-FGM language in the Brussels Summit Declaration.<sup>89</sup> Transparency International mentioned the Brussels Summit as a highlight amongst anti-corruption efforts in 2014, commending the G7’s commitment to address tax avoidance and money laundering.<sup>90</sup>

## Schloss Elmau Summit Participation

### Policy Papers, Statements and the Press

On 16 and 17 April 2015, the German All Party Parliamentarians’ Group on Population and Development, the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development and the Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (German Foundation for World Population/ DSW), held the She Matters meeting of international parliamentarians in Berlin, in order to discuss women’s economic empowerment — a key topic of discussion at the Summit.<sup>91</sup> After the conference, the parliamentarians in attendance released an appeal calling on the G7, as well as the G20, to “step up their commitment to [sexual and reproductive health and rights], gender equality, women’s and girls’ human rights, and their empowerment.”<sup>92</sup> The appeal recommended that the G7 push to revoke laws that penalize abortion, promote universal access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, and ensure that everyone, particularly youth, have access to contraception and information about family planning.<sup>93</sup> It also recommended the removal of “legal, regulatory, social, and gender barriers” that prevent vulnerable populations from accessing information and services related to sexual and reproductive health.<sup>94</sup> Finally, it was recommended that G7 countries dedicate 0.7 percent of their GDP to official development assistance, offer debt restructuring, and provide debt relief.<sup>95</sup>

On 16 April 2015, Oxfam International released a short article on the issue of food security, emphasizing how the issue had been steadily losing “energy and urgency” since it was given the spotlight at the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, following the dramatic increase in food prices in 2008.<sup>96</sup> Oxfam praised Germany’s inclusion of food security on the G7 agenda this year, calling it a “welcome — even exciting — boost [to] the historic effort to end hunger.”<sup>97</sup> Due to the inclusion of the right to food on the G7 agenda, Oxfam International put forth three principles to ensure that the G7 food security initiative is successful.<sup>98</sup> A blog post written by Marita Wiggerthale, Policy Advisor on Food Security at Oxfam Germany, urged the G7 to use a human rights focus in its approach to food security, put a heavier emphasis on public financing of agriculture in developing countries, and align all G7 food security initiatives with the decisions of the United Nations Committee on World

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<sup>89</sup> “FGM Features in both Council Conclusions and G7 Summit Declaration,” END FGM European Network, 5 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.endfgm.eu/en/news-and-events/news/press-releases/fgm-features-in-both-council-conclusions-and-g7-summit-declaration-0124/>.

<sup>90</sup> “Anti-Corruption Day 2014: Corruption Highlights and Low Points of 2014,” Transparency International, 9 December 2014. Date of Access: 20 February 2015. [http://www.transparency.org/news/feature/anti\\_corruption\\_day\\_2014](http://www.transparency.org/news/feature/anti_corruption_day_2014).

<sup>91</sup> “An Appeal: Overview,” She Matters, 17 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://she-matters.org/>.

<sup>92</sup> “An Appeal: Overview,” She Matters, 17 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://she-matters.org/>.

<sup>93</sup> “An Appeal: Overview,” She Matters, 17 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://she-matters.org/>.

<sup>94</sup> “An Appeal: Overview,” She Matters, 17 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://she-matters.org/>.

<sup>95</sup> “An Appeal: Overview,” She Matters, 17 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://she-matters.org/>.

<sup>96</sup> “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam international, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>97</sup> “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam international, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>98</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015, Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

Food Security (CFS).<sup>99</sup> The blog post notes that previous G7 initiatives have “failed to address the linkages between hunger, climate change, soil degradation and other pressing environmental issues” and emphasized the importance of recognizing the relationship between food security and environmental concerns.<sup>100</sup> Oxfam recommended that the G7 make efforts to move away from the dominant “productionist and yield-focused” thinking in agricultural policy and consider ecological approaches to agriculture.<sup>101</sup> The blog post also highlighted the importance of addressing poor water resource management — one of the greatest challenges agricultural production will face in future decades.<sup>102</sup>

InterAction published a policy paper of recommendations from the US G7/G20 Advocacy Alliance, an umbrella group of NGOs and labour organizations, urging the G7 to make a number of commitments in five areas.<sup>103</sup> Specifically, the paper recommended that the G7 make investments in food security that will benefit vulnerable populations by building the capacity of small-scale producers, and protecting land rights (especially for women and people living in poverty.)<sup>104</sup> The group also urged the G7 to provide financial assistance and technical support to areas facing high rates of child malnutrition, and to commit to financially supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>105</sup> Additionally, the paper recommended that the G7 continue to support efforts to end preventable maternal and child deaths, meet the World Health Assembly’s nutrition targets, and work to strengthen healthcare systems.<sup>106</sup> Under the section on G7 accountability, it emphasized the importance of collecting data to monitor and track G7 progress.<sup>107</sup> In particular, the paper called on the G7 to develop a coherent and accountable network for financing the SDGs. Although InterAction praised this year’s emphasis on food security and nutrition, it noted that success in advancing development issues “was possible only when the G7 worked in close partnership with developing countries and others in the international system,” recommending that the G7 adopt more transparent and inclusive policies.<sup>108</sup> Further details regarding the InterAction policy paper can be found in the Collaborative Efforts section of this report.

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<sup>99</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015, Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>100</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015, Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>101</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015, Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>102</sup> “The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam International, 30 April 2015, Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>103</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>104</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>105</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>106</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>107</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>108</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of Access: 7 May 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

## Utilization of Social Media

Social media platforms have increasingly become an asset for civil society groups to reach a mass audience to promote their work and advocacy efforts targeting the G7. The most commonly used social media platforms are Facebook and Twitter. These platforms have been used by civil society actors to present their events, reach out to the public, and at times attempt to engage G7 leaders directly. The StopG7 group shared their upcoming events on their Facebook page.<sup>109</sup> Additionally, the group shared articles and videos on Twitter regarding the Schloss Elmau Summit, using the hash tags #g7 and #stopg7elmau.<sup>110</sup>

Other civil society actors also used Twitter or Facebook to share planned events during the Summit. Katri Bertram, the Senior Advocacy Manager at Save the Children Germany, actively engaged with the public through her Twitter account, using the hash tags #counttozero, #SDGs and #G7. Bertram also shared links to a concert organized by VENRO, a German NGO umbrella organization, and Alternative Summit workshops that took place in Munich.<sup>111</sup> Additionally, Bertram shared pictures of a Save the Children initiative in which children ran to all the G7 members' embassies in Berlin to deliver a petition and a symbolic baton to demand an end to preventable child deaths.<sup>112</sup>

The Save the Children Action Network shared a link on Twitter to the event page of their worldwide action, which included pictures and an interactive map indicating the countries that took part in the event.<sup>113</sup> Oxfam International shared articles and blog entries regarding the G7 on Twitter, including a link to an Oxfam blog entry on the keys to successful G7 food security initiatives.<sup>114</sup> The blog entry, written by Margarita Wiggerthale, is entitled "The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition."<sup>115</sup>

## Pre-summit Protests

Stop G7 Elmau, a nationwide coalition of civil society groups, released a schedule of events for the "Week of Action" against the Schloss Elmau Summit.<sup>116</sup> From 25-26 April 2015, Stop G7 Elmau held an Action Conference in Munich, during which the group discussed and developed its plan of action for the Summit (including the route they would eventually take to Elmau on 7 June.)<sup>117</sup> The group planned to hold a number of marches, in order to present their "resistance to the illegitimate meeting of the seven self-proclaimed leading economies."<sup>118</sup> By protesting at the Summit, the group aimed to pressure the G7 to eliminate a number of free trade agreements, including the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement

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<sup>109</sup> Stopg7elmau, Facebook page. Date of Access: May 9 2015.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/AktionsB%C3%BCndnis-Stop-G7-Elmau/334015116774643?sk=events>

<sup>110</sup> Stopg7elmau, Twitter post 9 May 2015, 1:42 a.m., <https://twitter.com/stopg7elmau>.

<sup>111</sup> Katri Bertram, Twitter post, 8 April 2015, 7:52 a.m., <https://twitter.com/KatriBertram>.

<sup>112</sup> Katri Bertram, Twitter post, 8 May 2015, 2:11 a.m., <https://twitter.com/KatriBertram>.

<sup>113</sup> SCActionNetwork, Twitter post, 29 April 2015, 9:34 a.m., <https://twitter.com/SCActionNetwork>.

<sup>114</sup> Oxfam International, Twitter post, 3 May 2015, 4:10 a.m., <https://twitter.com/Oxfam>.

<sup>115</sup> "The G7 in Schloss Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition," Oxfam Germany, 30 April 2015. Date accessed: 8 May 2015. [https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm\\_source=oxf.am&utm\\_medium=ZMbU&utm\\_content=redirect](https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition?utm_source=oxf.am&utm_medium=ZMbU&utm_content=redirect).

<sup>116</sup> "Action Conference 25/26 April," Stop G7 Elmau 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/>.

<sup>117</sup> "Action Conference 25/26 April," Stop G7 Elmau 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/>.

<sup>118</sup> "Action Conference 25/26 April," Stop G7 Elmau 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/>.

(CETA), and the Trade in Services Agreement (TISA).<sup>119</sup> The group also sought to support migrant and refugee rights, discourage G7 involvement in war, and condemn G7 policies that allowed for ecological degradation, labour exploitation, cutbacks to social services, and excessive state surveillance of citizens.<sup>120</sup>

### **Public Awareness Events/Workshops**

The Stop G7 Elmau Week of Action included an Alternative Summit in Munich from 3-4 June, and a public lecture on 8 June.<sup>121</sup> The “International Summit of Alternatives” featured guests from diverse NGOs, labour groups, and political parties, as well as two panel discussions and a variety of public workshops.<sup>122</sup> The Alternative Summit was coordinated in part by VENRO, an umbrella group of German NGOs<sup>123</sup>. The panels and workshops focused largely on migrants’ rights issues, climate change, wars and militarization, and free trade issues, with only a small portion of the planned schedule dedicated to criticism of current G7 policy.<sup>124</sup> The Alternative Summit also included the performance of a play critiquing G7 policies.<sup>125</sup> Additionally, VENRO planned a music festival called Make Poverty History for June 4.<sup>126</sup> Alongside the concert, the festival included two workshops on trade in the EU and women’s rights.<sup>127</sup>

Save the Children undertook the Race for Survival initiative, which brought youth participants from around the world together to raise awareness, and demand an end to preventable child deaths by running foot races.<sup>128</sup> The initiative began in Washington, where a group of students collected signatures for a petition which they presented to the President’s assistant.<sup>129</sup> The petition urged the government to ensure that maternal and child health become a focus of the new SDGs.<sup>130</sup> Save the Children also held a race in Berlin in which participants delivered their demands for a greater focus on child health to the embassies of the G7 countries.<sup>131</sup>

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<sup>119</sup> “Sign the Appeal,” Stop G7 Elmau 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/networking/sign-appeal/>.

<sup>120</sup> “Sign the Appeal,” Stop G7 Elmau 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/networking/sign-appeal/>.

<sup>121</sup> “Action Conference 25/26 April,” Stop G7 Elmau 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/>.

<sup>122</sup> “Internationaler Gipfel der Alternativen,” Alternativgipfel.org. April 17, 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.alternativgipfel.org/>.

<sup>123</sup> “G7,” Venro. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. <http://venro.org/themen/g7/>.

<sup>124</sup> “Internationaler Gipfel der Alternativen,” Alternativgipfel.org. April 17, 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.alternativgipfel.org/>.

<sup>125</sup> “Internationaler Gipfel der Alternativen,” Alternativgipfel.org. April 17, 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.alternativgipfel.org/>.

<sup>126</sup> “DEINE STIMME GEGEN ARMUT-FESTIVAL,” Deine Stimme Gegen Armut. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.deine-stimme-gegen-armut.de/aktiv-werden/deine-stimme-gegen-armut-festival.html>.

<sup>127</sup> “DEINE STIMME GEGEN ARMUT-FESTIVAL,” Deine Stimme Gegen Armut. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. <http://www.deine-stimme-gegen-armut.de/aktiv-werden/deine-stimme-gegen-armut-festival.html>.

<sup>128</sup> “Growing up is hard enough, it shouldn't be a Race for Survival...” Save the Children, 30 September 2014. Date of Access: 10 May, 2015. <https://everyone.savethechildren.net/articles/growing-hard-enough-it-shouldnt-be-race-survival%E2%80%A6>.

<sup>129</sup> “Race for survival kicks off with 25,000 signatures delivered to White House,” Save the Children. 23 April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. <https://everyone.savethechildren.net/articles/race-survival-kicks-25000-signatures-delivered-white-house>.

<sup>130</sup> “Race for survival kicks off with 25,000 signatures delivered to White House,” Save the Children. 23 April 2015. Date of Access: 10 May 2015. <https://everyone.savethechildren.net/articles/race-survival-kicks-25000-signatures-delivered-white-house>.

<sup>131</sup> Save the Children CA, Twitter Post, 8 May 2015, 12:26, <https://twitter.com/SaveChildrenCan/status/596697607524720641>.



## Collaborative efforts

Civil society groups collaborated in many different areas to prepare for the G7 Summit in Schloss Elmau. InterAction, one of the leading advocates for international development, issues published a paper in collaboration with over forty NGOs and labour groups from the United States.<sup>132</sup> The policy paper, “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany” called for the G7 leaders to “take action to address the needs of the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people.”<sup>133</sup> The collaborative policy paper was drafted by the G7/G20 Advocacy Alliance and offers recommendations on the following issues: Financial Transparency and Tax Fairness, Food Security and Nutrition, G7 Accountability, Health, and the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>134</sup>

On Financial Transparency and Tax Fairness, the paper recommended that the G7 ensures ongoing global transparency initiatives are inclusive by using the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and Financing for Development (FfD) processes. The policy paper further recommended that the G7 fulfill and extend its previous commitments by implementing the reporting provisions of the OECD Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project, and by requiring companies to publish information on their sales, profits, taxes, and number of employees. They also recommended that the G7 strengthen the enforcement of anti-money laundering mechanisms.<sup>135</sup>

With regard to Food Security and Nutrition, the policy paper called on the G7 to ensure that food and nutrition security investments strengthen the capacity of small scale producers. It also recommended that the G7 protect and secure equitable land rights, especially for vulnerable populations, such as women and people living in poverty. Additionally, the paper called for the acceleration of programs aimed at meeting the six World Health Assembly (WHA) global nutrition targets by 2025. Finally, InterAction recommended that the G7 support sound and accountable country-led projects, provide technical and financial support for countries with high child malnutrition rates, and make commitments beyond 2015 to achieve food and nutrition security on a global scale.<sup>136</sup>

G7 Accountability recommendations included a call develop a consultative process that could include task forces, working groups and ministerial meetings to include the perspectives of international organizations, the private sector, and civil society groups in the G7 summitry process. InterAction also called on the G7 Accountability Working Group (AWG) to gather data for G7 progress assessments from multiple sources, such as international organization and regional bodies. Lastly, it urged the G7 to provide full accreditation for at least 100 civil society organizations to the media center during the Summit.<sup>137</sup>

Recommendations on Health focused on accelerating an end to preventable deaths, particularly child and maternal deaths. It further called on the G7 to act in order to end the epidemic of AIDS,

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<sup>132</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>133</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>134</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>135</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>136</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>137</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany,” InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

tuberculosis and malaria, in addition to focusing on accelerated responses to neglected and poverty-related diseases.<sup>138</sup>

When addressing the Sustainable Development Goals, InterAction called on the G7 to commit to, and work towards, achieving all SDGs by 2030. Furthermore the paper called for the creation of inclusive, transparent and accountable mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the SDGs.<sup>139</sup>

Another collaborative effort that involved human rights organizations was the She Matters parliamentarians' conference, which was held on 17 June 2015, in collaboration with the German presidency, The German All Party Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development, the EPF (European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development) and the DWS (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung). The conference concluded with the delivery of an appeal to the German G7 Sherpa, Lars-Hendrik Röller.<sup>140</sup>

Many German based groups also collaborated to plan an Alternative Summit, in response to the official Schloss Elmau Summit. Civil society actors involved in this initiative included Oxfam Deutschland, VENRO, and Handicap International. The Alternative Summit held presentations, speeches and workshops on diverse issues such as global health policy, global power relations, climate change, global justice and human rights.<sup>141</sup>

### **G7-Civil Society Initiatives**

During pre-summit preparations, the German presidency was open to communicating with civil society groups. According to the German presidency, "it is the express wish of Chancellor Angela Merkel that she be personally involved in this dialogue with international representatives of civil society."<sup>142</sup> The presidency also held dialogue forums between government representatives and civil society actors. A total of six forums were planned by the German presidency, five of which took place before the Schloss Elmau Summit. At the forums that have already taken place Chancellor Merkel gave speeches and took part in discussions.<sup>143</sup>

The forums held by the German presidency are by invitation only and have been designed to accommodate a diverse group of civil society actors. The German presidency has stated that the subject matter of the dialogue forums will be decided by civil society. The first forum took place on 23 March 2015 with trade union representatives. The second dialogue took place on 20 April 2015 with non-governmental organizations. A third forum, with the science and research community was held on 29 April 2015. A youth summit also took place on 11 May 2015, while a meeting with business associations was held on 20 May 2015. The fifth and final dialogue forum is planned for 16

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<sup>138</sup> "2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany," InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>139</sup> "2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany," InterAction, February 2015. Date of access: May 10 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>140</sup> "An Appeal: Overview," She Matters, 17 April 2015. Date of access: May 9 2015. <http://she-matters.org/>

<sup>141</sup> "International Summit of Alternatives," Alternativgipfel, Date accessed: 8 May 2015. [http://www.alternativgipfel.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Folder-Alternativ-Gipfel\\_ME\\_Englisch\\_2015\\_04\\_17\\_web.pdf](http://www.alternativgipfel.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Folder-Alternativ-Gipfel_ME_Englisch_2015_04_17_web.pdf).

<sup>142</sup> "Dialogue with Civil Society," German Federal Government, Date accessed: 8 May 2015. [http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel\\_en/Zivilgesellschaft\\_en/zivilgesellschaft\\_node\\_en.html](http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel_en/Zivilgesellschaft_en/zivilgesellschaft_node_en.html).

<sup>143</sup> "Dialogue with Civil Society," German Federal Government, Date accessed: 8 May 2015. [http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel\\_en/Zivilgesellschaft\\_en/zivilgesellschaft\\_node\\_en.html](http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel_en/Zivilgesellschaft_en/zivilgesellschaft_node_en.html).

September 2015 with women in business, science and research, and civil society. All the planned meetings with the German presidency have, and will be held in Berlin.<sup>144</sup>

Civil society actors decided on the focus of the dialogue between the German Presidency and NGOs. The primary panel was dedicated to civil society expectations, criticisms and perspectives on the 2015 G7 Summit. In addition, there were thematic sessions which had two to three speakers. The six themes were: Global Economic and Financial Architecture, Climate and Energy, Oceans, Health, Women's Empowerment, and Agriculture and Nutrition.<sup>145</sup> The speakers were from different civil society groups such as Oxfam, VENRO, Doctors without Borders, and Bread for the World. A special plenary session was held for a discussion with Chancellor Merkel, while an additional forum tackled the issue of how to move forward, and included John Rutherford, director of InterAction USA.<sup>146</sup>

Many civil society actors that were not invited to attend discussions held their own meetings to prepare for the Schloss Elmau Summit. A Germany-wide coalition, the Stop G7 Elmau, held a planning conference from 25-26 April 2015 for the Week of Actions from 3-8 June 2015.<sup>147</sup> Others actors such as VENRO were part of different initiatives, including the Presidency dialogue forums, and served as an organizer for the Alternative Summit.<sup>148</sup>

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<sup>144</sup> "Dialogue with Civil Society," German Federal Government, Date accessed: 8 May 2015.

[http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel\\_en/Zivilgesellschaft\\_en/zivilgesellschaft\\_node\\_en.html](http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel_en/Zivilgesellschaft_en/zivilgesellschaft_node_en.html)

<sup>145</sup> "Civil G7 Dialogue" The Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs (VENRO), 20 April 2015.

Date of access: 7 May 2015.

[http://venro.org/fileadmin/redaktion/material/dokumente/allgemein/2015/Programme\\_Civil\\_G7\\_Dialogue\\_2015.pdf](http://venro.org/fileadmin/redaktion/material/dokumente/allgemein/2015/Programme_Civil_G7_Dialogue_2015.pdf)

<sup>146</sup> "Civil G7 Dialogue" The Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs (VENRO), 20 April 2015.

Date of access: 7 May 2015.

[http://venro.org/fileadmin/redaktion/material/dokumente/allgemein/2015/Programme\\_Civil\\_G7\\_Dialogue\\_2015.pdf](http://venro.org/fileadmin/redaktion/material/dokumente/allgemein/2015/Programme_Civil_G7_Dialogue_2015.pdf)

<sup>147</sup> "Action Conference 25/26. April," StopG7, Date accessed: 7 May 2015. [http://www.stop-g7-](http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/2015/05/02/4-action-conference-2526-april/)

[elmau.info/en/2015/05/02/4-action-conference-2526-april/](http://www.stop-g7-elmau.info/en/2015/05/02/4-action-conference-2526-april/).

<sup>148</sup> "International Summit of Alternatives," Alternativgipfel, Date accessed: 8 May 2015.

[http://www.alternativgipfel.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Folder-Alternativ-Gipfel\\_ME\\_Englisch\\_2015\\_04\\_17\\_web.pdf](http://www.alternativgipfel.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Folder-Alternativ-Gipfel_ME_Englisch_2015_04_17_web.pdf).

## Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations

*Brett Nguyen*

Humanitarian organizations are dedicated to safeguarding human lives, alleviating suffering and upholding human dignity during and following situations of crisis.<sup>149</sup> Service-based humanitarian agencies are a specialized subcategory, mandated to deliver material and logistical services to affected areas, such as: short-term provision of material relief services, food, and coordination to states that lack the capacity to do so on their own.<sup>150</sup>

Leading, international service-based humanitarian organizations include: the International Federation of Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), World Vision, Oxfam International, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), and CARE International. These agencies have structured themselves as politically impartial actors who sustain a consistent presence in situations that demand humanitarian aid intervention.<sup>151</sup>

Service-based humanitarian organizations have actively promoted the interests of vulnerable communities at past G7/G8 summits. Their work has stressed collaborative responses to issues of health care, food security, gender-based sexual violence, sustainable development, and education.<sup>152</sup> The military conflict in Syria continues to be an additional concern for these agencies, who have emphasized the importance of collective action by G7 nations to assist those affected by the ongoing conflict.<sup>153</sup>

In the past, service-based humanitarian agencies have held the G7 accountable to their Summit commitments by coordinating public awareness campaigns, maintaining a strong media presence, and issuing press releases, policy briefs, or reports regarding summit outcomes.

### Brussels Summit Outcomes

Service-based humanitarian agencies had a mixed response to the 2014 Brussels Summit, but were largely disappointed by the lack of concrete action on past commitments.<sup>154</sup>

Following the Brussels Summit, Oxfam International praised G7 leaders for reiterating their support for the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, but highlighted the need to respond to the needs of small-scale food producers by increasing public sector investment in agriculture.<sup>155</sup> Moreover, Oxfam emphasized the need for “major [G7] reform to prevent it from tipping policy reforms and company investments in favour of large-scale producers” to the detriment of small-scale

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<sup>149</sup> “Defining Humanitarian Aid,” Global Humanitarian Assistance: A Developmental Initiative, no date. Date of access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org/data-guides/defining-humanitarian-aid>.

<sup>150</sup> “Report on Civil Society on the 2012 Camp David Summit,” G7 Research Group, May 2012. Date of access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Camp-David-summit-report.-2012.pdf>

<sup>151</sup> “Report on Civil Society on the 2014 Brussels Summit,” G7 Research Group, June 2014. Date of access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>152</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>153</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2015. <http://www.worldvision.org/press-release/g7-leaders-%E2%80%98too-easily-distracted%E2%80%99-they-fail-deliver-children>.

<sup>154</sup> “Report on Civil Society on the 2014 Brussels Summit,” G7 Research Group, June 2014. Date of access: 20 February 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Report-on-Civil-Society-at-the-2014-G7-Brussels-Summit-FINAL.pdf>

<sup>155</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger Steer Needed on Energy Security, Climate Change and the Global Economy” Oxfam, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2014. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-energy-climate-change-global-economy>.

producers who are in greater need of support.”<sup>156</sup> The head of Oxfam’s EU office, Natalia Alonso, called for greater transparency and accountability in the G7.<sup>157</sup> Specifically, she stressed the need to deliver on the promises made at past summits, and to publish an open accountability report ahead of every summit.<sup>158</sup>

World Vision was also particularly critical of the 2014 Summit outcomes. On 6 June 2014, the organization issued a report stating that the G7 leaders were “too easily distracted” in failing to deliver outcomes for children.<sup>159</sup> Despite “strong signs of leadership” by individual countries — such as Canada on maternal and child health, and the UK on preventing sexual violence in conflict — World Vision saw little progress from the forum as a whole.<sup>160</sup> Expressing doubt over whether the G7 still has ambitions to be a “progressive force for the rights of children globally,” World Vision noted the leaders appeared to be engaging in “little more than a talkfest” and called upon the forum to prove its worth.<sup>161</sup>

World Vision also articulated its disappointment over the lack of tangible commitments and measurable outcomes for vulnerable children in the DRC, South Sudan, the Central African Republic and Syria, as the humanitarian and development needs of children went unmentioned during the Summit.<sup>162</sup>

## Schloss Elmau Summit Participation

### Policy Papers, Statements, and the Press

On 19 February 2015, InterAction released a policy paper containing recommendations from its U.S. G7/G20 Advocacy Alliance section. In the document, InterAction applauded the G7’s efforts to ameliorate global hunger and malnutrition, including the “One World — No Hunger Initiative.”<sup>163</sup> To hasten progress towards food security targets, the forum urged G7 leaders to establish policies at the national level to “eradicate malnutrition and transform food systems.”<sup>164</sup>

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<sup>156</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger Steer Needed on Energy Security, Climate Change and the Global Economy” Oxfam, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2014. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-energy-climate-change-global-economy>.

<sup>157</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger Steer Needed on Energy Security, Climate Change and the Global Economy” Oxfam, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2014. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-energy-climate-change-global-economy>.

<sup>158</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger Steer Needed on Energy Security, Climate Change and the Global Economy” Oxfam, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2014. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-energy-climate-change-global-economy>.

<sup>159</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2015. <http://www.worldvision.org/press-release/g7-leaders-%E2%80%98too-easily-distracted%E2%80%99-they-fail-deliver-children>.

<sup>160</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2015. <http://www.worldvision.org/press-release/g7-leaders-%E2%80%98too-easily-distracted%E2%80%99-they-fail-deliver-children>.

<sup>161</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2015. <http://www.worldvision.org/press-release/g7-leaders-%E2%80%98too-easily-distracted%E2%80%99-they-fail-deliver-children>.

<sup>162</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 22 February 2015. <http://www.worldvision.org/press-release/g7-leaders-%E2%80%98too-easily-distracted%E2%80%99-they-fail-deliver-children>.

<sup>163</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations,” InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 29 April 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>164</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations,” InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 29 April 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

In regard to health, InterAction called for the G7 to assure lower and middle income countries that they will assist them in strengthening education and health systems, and ensuring that sustainable management of water and sanitation systems are available. This support was emphasized as especially significant given that the Ebola epidemic “threatens to reverse decades of progress in countries such as Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.”<sup>165</sup> InterAction specifically called on the United States to “lead by example” and encouraged other G7 leaders to recommit to health goals through a declaration, using specific language of reaffirmed commitments.<sup>166</sup>

With regard to the impending adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), InterAction underlined the vital nature of G7 leadership and its sustained support of the new set of goals. To do so, the G7 was encouraged to align financing strategies while also maintaining the integrity of financing schemes that have been designed to meet specific development needs.<sup>167</sup> The organization cited increased policy coherence and reduction in transaction costs amongst the benefits of doing so.<sup>168</sup>

On 16 April 2015, Oxfam America released a report entitled “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?”<sup>169</sup> In this report, Oxfam affirmed that food security has remained a significant priority since 2012; however, the organization noted steadily “deflating” energy and urgency around the issue.<sup>170</sup> As evidence of this trend, Oxfam pointed to lowered food prices and falling donor assistance for food security.<sup>171</sup>

Oxfam also expressed anticipation for a “new, ambitious initiative that would renew and build out” food security initiatives of the 2012 Camp David Summit ahead of the Schloss-Elmau Summit.<sup>172</sup> Noting that a broader initiative that continues L’Aquila’s focus on smaller farmer productivity, while further expanding to incorporate other elements such as nutrition, climate resilience, and gender, would be a “welcome– even exciting boost” to the effort to end hunger.<sup>173</sup>

In a blog post on 30 April 2015, Maria Wiggerthale, Policy Advisor on Food Security for Oxfam America, also expressed support for food security and nutrition as a major agenda item for the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, as it had been at the 2009 L’Aquila Summit and at the 2012 Camp David Summit.<sup>174</sup> Wiggerthale applauded this move as indication that industrialized countries appear to be “sending a clear signal that they will significantly contribute to the achievement of the goal to end

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<sup>165</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations,” InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 29 April 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>166</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations,” InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 29 April 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>167</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations,” InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 29 April 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>168</sup> “2015 G7 Summit Recommendations,” InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 29 April 2015. <http://www.interaction.org/document/2015-g7-summit-recommendations>.

<sup>169</sup> “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam America, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 30 April 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>170</sup> “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam America, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 30 April 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>171</sup> “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam America, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 30 April 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>172</sup> “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam America, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 30 April 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>173</sup> “Food Security and the G7: Is Elmau the new L’Aquila?” Oxfam America, 16 April 2015. Date of Access: 30 April 2015. <http://politicsofpoverty.oxfamamerica.org/2015/04/food-security-and-the-g7-is-elmau-the-new-laquila/>.

<sup>174</sup> “The G7 in Schloss-Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam America, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 6 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

hunger and malnutrition by 2030.”<sup>175</sup> Oxfam further questioned what this commitment will signify in practice, and urged G7 leaders to learn lessons from previous initiatives on food security by the G8. For example, the New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition established at Camp David in 2012 has been heavily criticized as “top-down and non-participatory.”<sup>176</sup> Bearing this in mind, G7 leaders were encouraged to structure new policies on land, tax, and seeds in a way that is sensitive to the needs of small-scale producers, women, and the rural poor.<sup>177</sup>

Oxfam offered leaders three principles to ensure the success of the G7 food security initiative. These included: the safeguarding of human rights frameworks, a re-emphasis and prioritization of public financing, and alignment with the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS).<sup>178</sup> Finally, Wiggerthale noted the importance of richer, industrial countries — such as those in the G7 — remaining vital to financing the implementation of the SDGs later this year, and in establishing the broad policy direction that will determine many of the results of these new development goals.<sup>179</sup>

### **Utilization of Social Media**

Organizations such as Oxfam and InterAction primarily employed Twitter as the social media platform to engage and garner the support of public and other civil society groups. For example, Wiggerthale of Oxfam America tweeted a link to her blog post using the hashtags #foodsecurity and #CFS.<sup>180</sup>

### **Pre-Summit Protests**

Service-based humanitarian organizations did not take part in coordinated demonstrations.

### **Public Awareness Events/Workshops**

Service-based humanitarian organization did not take part in public awareness events and workshops prior to the Schloss Elmau Summit.

### **Collaborative efforts (NGO Forum and external partners)**

Service-based humanitarian organizations’ collaboration through InterAction have been highlighted above under Policy Papers, Statements, and the Press.

### **G7-Civil Society Initiatives**

On 20 and 21 April 2015, the Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs (VENRO), and the Forum Environment and Development, organized a forum for dialogue with the

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<sup>175</sup> “The G7 in Schloss-Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam America, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 6 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>176</sup> “The G7 in Schloss-Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam America, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 6 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>177</sup> “The G7 in Schloss-Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam America, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 6 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>178</sup> “The G7 in Schloss-Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam America, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 6 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>179</sup> “The G7 in Schloss-Elmau: Sending the right signal on food security and nutrition,” Oxfam America, 30 April 2015. Date of Access: 6 May 2015. <https://blogs.oxfam.org/en/blogs/15-04-30-g7-schloss-elmau-sending-right-signal-food-security-and-nutrition>.

<sup>180</sup> Maria Wiggerthale, Twitter post, 1 May 2015, 6:14 a.m., <http://twitter.com/mawigger>.

Federal Chancellery in Berlin.<sup>181</sup> Plenary sessions included discussion on topics such as civil society expectations and criticisms of the 2015 Summit, as well as perspectives on agricultura, nutrition, and health.<sup>182</sup> Among the topics highlighted in the thematic sessions were increased investments in the research and development of health tools for poverty-related and neglected diseases, as well as the direction of New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition.<sup>183</sup> A plenary session on 20 April 2015 featured Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel, who appeared as part of a panel that included representatives of VENRO, the German NGO Forum on Environment and Development, the Council of Canadians.<sup>184</sup>

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<sup>181</sup> "Civil G7 Dialogue" Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, 27 February 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015. <http://www.icad-cisd.com/pdf/G7-Summit/Civil-G7-Dialogue-2015-AGENDA-27.02.2015.pdf>.

<sup>182</sup> "Civil G7 Dialogue" Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, 27 February 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015. <http://www.icad-cisd.com/pdf/G7-Summit/Civil-G7-Dialogue-2015-AGENDA-27.02.2015.pdf>.

<sup>183</sup> "Civil G7 Dialogue" Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, 27 February 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015. <http://www.icad-cisd.com/pdf/G7-Summit/Civil-G7-Dialogue-2015-AGENDA-27.02.2015.pdf>.

<sup>184</sup> "Civil G7 Dialogue" Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, 27 February 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015. <http://www.icad-cisd.com/pdf/G7-Summit/Civil-G7-Dialogue-2015-AGENDA-27.02.2015.pdf>.



## Faith-Based Organizations

Gabriela Ansari-Correa

Since their rise in the 1990s, faith-based organizations (FBOs) such as World Vision, Oxfam and Christian Aid, continue to be influential in affecting changes in civil society.<sup>185</sup> FBOs advocate for humanitarian assistance regarding social justice issues, and act as a voice for marginalized groups in society. These organizations can vary in size and religious affiliation. FBOs provide relief in areas including: illness, famine, displaced persons, human rights, and government transparency. FBOs lobby, and communicate through publications, press releases, and protest campaigns. Their missions continue to expand with current issues such as global climate change, the Ebola crisis, and the rising price of food supplies. At past G7/G8 summits, FBOs utilized online outlets, such as social media, response papers and press releases, to communicate their stances on issues. Moreover, FBOs have also employed protest marches and rallies to voice their opinions.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees defines faith-based organizations as follows:

*They include religious and religion-based organizations/groups/networks; communities belonging to a place of religious worship; specialized religious institutions and religious social service agencies; and registered or unregistered non-profit institutions that have a religious character or mission.*<sup>186</sup>

In addition, the *International Review of the Red Cross* differentiates faith-based organizations from their secular humanitarian counterparts by explaining that, “they are motivated by their faith and they have a constituency which is broader than humanitarian concerns.”<sup>187</sup>

### Brussels Summit Outcomes

The Brussels Summit showed extensive discussion on topics pertaining to faith-based organizations. However, the general consensus among FBOs was that the Summit did not take enough initiative on existing causes. On 6 June 2014, World Vision released a statement expressing disapproval of the leadership exhibited at the Brussels Summit. According to World Vision spokesperson, Chris Derksen-Hiebert, the G7 Summit failed to demonstrate its commitment to a majority of the causes World Vision campaigns for.<sup>188</sup> World Vision claims its main commitment for the Brussels Summit was to increase humanitarian efforts for children, especially in affected areas such as Syria, South Sudan, and Central African Republic. Nevertheless, aside from individual progress in Canada and the UK, World Vision states that the G7 as a whole has failed to make any progress on this social justice issue.<sup>189</sup> World Vision challenged leaders in four areas for children: conflict, fragility, hunger, and nutrition.<sup>190</sup> On conflict and fragility, the G7 neglected humanitarian appeals to improve their service in these areas. However, on hunger and nutrition, Canadian leadership swayed other leaders to reaffirm their commitments. Accountability is still an issue since the G7 have failed in previous years to provide an open accountability report. In addition, their humanitarian assistance in Syria needs to

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<sup>185</sup> “Report on Civil Society and the 2011 G8 Deauville Summit,” G7 Research Group, 28 February 2012. Date of access: 7 March 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Deauville-summit-report.-2011.pdf>

<sup>186</sup> “On Faith-Based Organizations, Local Faith Communities and Faith Leaders—A Partnership Note,” The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2014. Date of access: 11 Feb 2015. <http://www.unhcr.org/539ef28b9.pdf>.

<sup>187</sup> “Faith-based and secular humanitarian organizations,” *International Review of the Red Cross*. Volume 87, no. 858, June 2005. Date of Access: 10 Feb 2015. [https://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/other/irrc\\_858\\_ferris.pdf](https://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/other/irrc_858_ferris.pdf)

<sup>188</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. [https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response_FINAL.pdf).

<sup>189</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. [https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response_FINAL.pdf).

<sup>190</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. [https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response_FINAL.pdf).

improve. The final scorecard given by World Vision gives a letter grading of “D,” a drastic drop from previous summits.<sup>191</sup>

Alternatively, the US Executive Director of the ONE Campaign, Tom Hart, applauded the progress made at the Brussels Summit. In a statement, Hart explained how G7 leadership successfully made progress in enhancing the transparency of companies and governments by publishing reports, and hoped that this would help developing countries to move forward as well.<sup>192</sup>

Echoing the sentiments of World Vision, Natalia Alonso, the Head of Oxfam’s EU Office, provided a statement outlining Oxfam’s general discontent with the lack of leadership at the Brussels Summit. In regards to energy security and climate change, Oxfam felt the G7 leaders failed to use the energy crisis with Russia as an opportunity to move towards greener energy. According to Alonso, this is a crucial point that needs stronger action from the G7 since a reliance on fossil fuels will create negative externalities such as a rise in food prices globally.<sup>193</sup> On the global economy, Oxfam argued that while G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to end financial secrecy and tax evasion, they failed to provide any explanation on their steps to combat wealth inequality.<sup>194</sup> On extractive industries, Oxfam supported the initiative by G7 leaders to promote transparency between industries and governments of developing countries.<sup>195</sup> Lastly, Oxfam touched upon the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, introduced by the G8 in 2012. According to Oxfam, while the program has continued with the G7 to date it requires more investment from the public sector.<sup>196</sup> Overall, the organization states that in order to create meaningful progress, the G7 needs to adopt a “stronger steer” from its leaders.<sup>197</sup>

## Schloss Elmau Summit Participation

### Policy Papers, Statements and the Press

On 7 March 2015, ONE issued a statement on their campaign to make women’s rights a focus for the G7 summit. The campaign included an open letter signed by 35 influential women, and was directed towards Angela Merkel, the Chancellor of Germany and the chair of this year’s G7 summit.<sup>198</sup> Additionally, in a separate statement published on 26 March 2015, ONE outlined its

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<sup>191</sup> “G7 leaders ‘too easily distracted’ as they fail to deliver for children,” World Vision, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. [https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/G7%202014%20WV%20response_FINAL.pdf).

<sup>192</sup> “ONE Welcomes G7 Summit News on Extractives Transparency,” ONE, 6 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. <http://www.one.org/us/press/one-welcomes-g7-summit-news-on-extractives-transparency/>.

<sup>193</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger steer needed on energy security, climate change and the global economy,” Oxfam International, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-needed-energy-security-climate-change-and-global>.

<sup>194</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger steer needed on energy security, climate change and the global economy,” Oxfam International, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-needed-energy-security-climate-change-and-global>.

<sup>195</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger steer needed on energy security, climate change and the global economy,” Oxfam International, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-needed-energy-security-climate-change-and-global>.

<sup>196</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger steer needed on energy security, climate change and the global economy,” Oxfam International, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-needed-energy-security-climate-change-and-global>.

<sup>197</sup> “Oxfam on G7 Summit: Stronger steer needed on energy security, climate change and the global economy,” Oxfam International, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 15 Feb 2015. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/reactions/oxfam-g7-summit-stronger-steer-needed-energy-security-climate-change-and-global>.

<sup>198</sup> “Poverty is Sexist: How women and girls can and must lead the fight to end extreme poverty,” ONE, 7 March 2015. Date of access: 13 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/us/press/poverty-is-sexist-how-women-and-girls-can-and-must-lead-the-fight-to-end-extreme-poverty/>.

objectives for the G7 summit with respect to equality on agriculture, health, finance, and setting new global goals.<sup>199</sup>

#### **Utilization of Social Media**

FBOs did not use social media to interact with the summitry process.

#### **Pre-summit Protests**

Additionally, FBOs did not organize or participate in any protests.

#### **Public Awareness Events/Workshops**

FBOs did not organize any public awareness events or workshops leading up to Schloss Elmau.

#### **Collaborative Efforts (NGO Forum and external partners)**

On 19 February 2015, a policy team of the G7/G20 Advocacy Alliance from multiple FBOs worked in collaboration with InterAction, an alliance organization of NGOs, to publish a G7 Policy Paper.<sup>200</sup> In this paper, over 40 NGOs call on the United States to encourage leaders at the G7 Summit to tackle issues pertaining to financial transparency and tax fairness, food security and nutrition, G7 accountability, health, and sustainable development goals.<sup>201</sup> The FBOs who participated in publishing the policy paper included Jubilee USA Network, ONE, and World Vision.

#### **G7-Civil Society Initiatives**

Due to their disengagement with the summit, FBOs were not part of any civil society initiatives.

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<sup>199</sup> "Poverty is Sexist – here's what we can do about it," ONE, 26 March 2015. Date of access: 13 May 2015.

<http://www.one.org/us/2015/03/26/poverty-is-sexist-heres-what-we-can-do-about-it/>.

<sup>200</sup> "2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany," InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 14 May 2015. [http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/2015%20G7%20Policy%20Paper%20\(3\)%20FINAL%20\(2-19-15\).pdf](http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/2015%20G7%20Policy%20Paper%20(3)%20FINAL%20(2-19-15).pdf).

<sup>201</sup> "2015 G7 Summit Recommendations Schloss Elmau, Germany," InterAction, 19 February 2015. Date of access: 14 May 2015. [http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/2015%20G7%20Policy%20Paper%20\(3\)%20FINAL%20\(2-19-15\).pdf](http://www.interaction.org/sites/default/files/2015%20G7%20Policy%20Paper%20(3)%20FINAL%20(2-19-15).pdf).

## Trade Unions

*Esther Lee*

With the rise of economic globalization, trade unions continue to serve as an agency in promoting the labour rights of workers, through negotiations between international leaders, institutions, and transnational corporations. First recognized in 1997 at the Kobe Summit, international trade union participation has been guided by two main organizations: the international Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), and the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC).<sup>202</sup> Established in 2006, ITUC represents 179 million workers within 161 countries and territories,<sup>203</sup> with a focus on addressing key issues surrounding economic and workplace security, and the institutionalization of fundamental workers' rights.<sup>204</sup> TUAC, a consultative body to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), is responsible for consolidating OECD trade union inputs, and by extension its 66 million workers, to G7/G8 summits.<sup>205</sup>

Trade unions have addressed a range of issues concerning economic and social vulnerabilities linked to the global market. At the 2003 Evian Summit, international trade unions urged leaders to honour commitments on key issues, such as the implementation of the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises, and the active consultation of workers in solidifying the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) policy framework.<sup>206</sup> Furthermore, unions have engaged in movements to expand the G7's recognition of human rights as a fundamental aspect of labour principles: in 2009, ITUC, TUAC and the Global Unions issued a joint brief, urging the G8 leadership to foster a sustainable growth plan to combat the 2008 economic crisis. The report, entitled "Putting Jobs and Fairness at the Heart of Recovery: The role of the G8," further highlighted the need for a new model of people-oriented economic development, grounded upon socially-just and environmentally sustainable policies.<sup>207</sup> As such, the growing integration of international trade unions and coordinated actions outside of the key G7 nations, trade unions have turned their focus on addressing the emerging economies of G20.

### Brussels Summit Outcomes

Trade unions were not engaged with G7 activities leading up to the 2014 Brussels Summit, and no subsequent press statements or publications were released by the ITUC or TUAC after the completion of the Summit. It must be noted that much of the trade unions' activities have been targeted at addressing G20 summit priorities and policy directives, advocating for greater workers' protection in emerging member-states.

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<sup>202</sup> "Trade Unions propose a 'social partnership' to the G8," ICFTU, 30 November 1997. Date of Access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.hartford-hwp.com/archives/26/064.html>

<sup>203</sup> "About Us," International Trade Union Confederation. Date of Access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.ituc-csi.org/about-us>.

<sup>204</sup> "About Us," International Trade Union Confederation. Date of Access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.ituc-csi.org/about-us>.

<sup>205</sup> "About TUAC," Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD, 2007. Date of Access: 18 February 2015. <http://www.tuac.org/en/public/tuac/index.phtml>

<sup>206</sup> "Trade Union Statement to the Evian G8 economic Summit and OECD ministerial council," G8 Information Centre, 9 February 2007. Date of Access: 18 February 2015.

<sup>207</sup> "Global Unions' Statement to the G8 Summit Italy – July 2009 Putting Jobs and Fairness at the Heart of Recovery: the role of the G8," International Trade Union Confederation, 19 June 2009. Date of Access 5 July 2015. <http://www.ituc-csi.org/global-unions-statement-to-the-g8>.

## Schloss Elmau Summit Participation

### Policy Papers, Statements and the Press

On 16 March 2015, TUAC, in collaboration with the ITUC and The Confederation of German Trade Unions (DGB) published “Global Supply Chains and Decent Work,” identifying a series of trade union priorities for strengthening the rights of workers.<sup>208</sup> The paper also outlined mechanisms for tackling abusive practices across Global Supply Chains (GSCs), in light of recent working conditions-related incidents in Bangladesh, Cambodia and Pakistan.<sup>209</sup> The paper was discussed at the outreach meeting between the German G7 presidency and trade union representatives from G7 countries, the OECD, NGOs and international trade organizations — the Trade Union meeting was the first of six G7 outreach meetings with civil society actors held prior to the Schloss Elmau Summit.<sup>210</sup>

The German government also pushed for discussions concerning decent work in GSCs on the G7 summit agenda — the first time that the group addressed global working conditions.<sup>211</sup> Germany in particular has also advocated for institutionalizing a G7 peer review process within the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, as well as the establishment of a Prevention Fund for instituting proper safety conditions and social protections for workers.<sup>212</sup>

### Utilization of Social Media

ITUC maintained consistent social media precedence for its frontline campaign on multinational supply chains, in affiliation with governments and organizations in Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Hashtags such as #EndCorporateGreed and #RanaPlaza — a reference to the 2013 garment factory collapse in Dhaka, Bangladesh — have been promoted on both Twitter and Facebook. However, the campaigning efforts have been predominately catered towards trade union developments in L20 and G20 summits.

### Pre-summit Protests

Trade unions did not participate in pre-summit protests at an organizational level.

### Public Awareness Events/Workshops

There were no G7-related public awareness events or workshops organized by trade unions.

### Collaborative Efforts (NGO Forum and external partners)

Trade unions did not directly lead or engage in collaboration with other civil society actors on G7-related initiatives.

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<sup>208</sup> “Trade Unions voice key demands on ‘Global Supply Chains and Decent Work’ to German Chancellor Angela Merkel during G7 outreach meeting,” TUAC, 24 March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/document\\_news.phtml](http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/document_news.phtml).

<sup>209</sup> “Global Supply Chains and Decent Work Trade Union Input to the G7,” TUAC, 16 March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/telecharger.phtml?cle\\_doc\\_alt=34](http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/telecharger.phtml?cle_doc_alt=34).

<sup>210</sup> “Trade Union voice key demands,” TUAC, 24 March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/document\\_news.phtml](http://www.tuac.org/en/public/e-docs/00/00/10/36/document_news.phtml).

<sup>211</sup> “G7 to reach agreement on sustainable supply chains,” G7 Germany – the Federal Government, 11 March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.g7germany.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2015/03\\_en/2015-03-10-g7-konkrete-lieferketten\\_en.html](http://www.g7germany.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2015/03_en/2015-03-10-g7-konkrete-lieferketten_en.html).

<sup>212</sup> “G7 to reach agreement on sustainable supply chains,” G7 Germany – the Federal Government, 11 March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.g7germany.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2015/03\\_en/2015-03-10-g7-konkrete-lieferketten\\_en.html](http://www.g7germany.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2015/03_en/2015-03-10-g7-konkrete-lieferketten_en.html).

### **G7-Civil Society Initiatives**

Germany hosted a series of dialogue forums with various civil society groups, the first of which occurred on 16 March 2015, between Chancellor Merkel and trade union organizations.<sup>213</sup> The meeting focused on international labor standards that must upheld by multinational organizations, in order to ensure the safety and security of workers involved in GSCs. Merkel identified the consultative process as an integral aspect in shaping the 2015 summit agenda.<sup>214</sup>

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<sup>213</sup> "Dialogue with Civil Society," G7 Germany – The Federal Government, March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel\\_en/Zivilgesellschaft\\_en/zivilgesellschaft\\_node\\_en.html](http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel_en/Zivilgesellschaft_en/zivilgesellschaft_node_en.html).

<sup>214</sup> "Dialogue with Civil Society," G7 Germany – The Federal Government, March 2015. Date of Access: 5 May 2015. [http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel\\_en/Zivilgesellschaft\\_en/zivilgesellschaft\\_node\\_en.html](http://www.g7germany.de/Webs/G7/EN/G7-Gipfel_en/Zivilgesellschaft_en/zivilgesellschaft_node_en.html).

## Education Campaigns

*Joudy Sarraj*

Despite once being at the forefront of the G7/G8's priorities, educational campaigns have not garnered much attention in recent years. At the 2001 Genoa Summit, the G8 affirmed its commitment to global initiatives to achieve universal primary education.<sup>215</sup> The following year at the Kananaskis Summit, the G8 agreed to fast-track education outcomes for a group of over fifteen countries by providing them with significant bi-lateral assistance to deliver primary education to their population. A long-term financial framework to extend action on primary education to countries beyond those included in the latter scheme was also introduced.<sup>216</sup>

This focus on universal primary education was a result of the UN Millennium Summit in 2000 and the global commitment to reduce extreme poverty by setting a series of time-bound Millennium Development Goals, which will expire in December 2015. Universal primary education is one of these targets.<sup>217</sup> As the deadline approaches, a renewed focus on education was expected for the Schloss Elmau summit. There are clear discrepancies between the goals set in 2000 and present realities, as more than 57 million children still do not have access to effective basic education.<sup>218</sup> Yet, G8 donors have significantly reduced spending on education. In 2011, the International Development Association gave less than a quarter of the aid it had given in 2002 for basic education in the Sub-Saharan African region.<sup>219</sup>

This has resulted in the re-emergence of important actors like UNESCO, an organization that was essential to the original Millennium Development Goals. UNESCO recommended the fast track initiative in 2002.<sup>220</sup> It also launched the Education for All Global Monitoring Report, which is released annually and tracks educational progress globally. This year, the EFA Report will be dedicated to the post-2015 agenda, and the creation of new recommendations for the G7.<sup>221</sup> New campaigns have also emerged. The World We Want 2015 is an organization focused on the state of education, sustainability, and other development goals of the post-2015 agenda.

While a dialogue about educational issues has been absent from recent summits, this is not the case at other international forums. The Education World Forum, as well as the Global Education for All Meeting organized by UNESCO, occurs annually. These initiatives are also dedicated to the Millennium Educational goals and the Education for All agreement.

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<sup>215</sup> "Communiqué," G8 Information Center, 22 July 2001. Date of access: 15 February 2015.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

<sup>216</sup> "The Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary," G8 Information Center, 27 June 2002. Date of access: 15 February 2015.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>217</sup> "The Millennium Development Goals Report," UN Millennium Campaign (End Poverty 2015), 15 July 2014. Date of access: 12 February 2015.

<http://endpoverty2015.org/wpcontent/uploads/2014/07/MDG%20Report%202014%20English.pdf>

<sup>218</sup> "2014 GEM Final Statement: The Muscat Agreement," UNESCO, 14 May 2014. Date of access: 19 February 2015.

<http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/muscat-agreement-2014.pdf>

<sup>219</sup> "Schooling for Millions of Children Jeopardized by Reduction in Aid," EFA Global Monitoring Report, June 2013. Date of access 19 February 2015. <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/fs-25-out-of-school-children-en.pdf>

<sup>220</sup> "A New Focus on Education for All," G8 Information Center, June 26 2002. Date of access: 16 February 2015.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/education.html>

<sup>221</sup> "Education Post 2015," EFA Global Monitoring Report. Date of access: 15 February 2015.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/leading-the-international-agenda/efareport/post-2015/>

## Brussels Summit Outcomes

The Brussels Declaration which concluded the 2014 G7 Summit made no specific mention of educational priorities. The declaration condemned Boko Haram's kidnapping of schoolgirls in Nigeria but discussed this incident in the context of terrorism and international security and not as an issue of education.<sup>222</sup> However, the Summit showed a clear commitment to the re-establishment of the Millennium Development Goals in the post-2015 agenda. This means a renewed focus on the eradication of poverty, the promotion of sustainable development, peace, gender equality and human rights. Even though it was not mentioned explicitly, universal primary education is one of these goals.<sup>223</sup>

Active international organizations like ONE were pleased with the outcomes of the Brussels Summit, stating that the Summit delivered clear and commendable objectives on development. Nevertheless international organizations brought attention to the need for G7 leaders to cover more ground at the upcoming Summit, and to address development goals that were missing from Brussels. The International Advocacy Director for ONE, Eloise Todd, also vocalized these concerns, saying: "Today's outcome is good, but next year's summit in Germany needs to do better. We expect the German summit to be the most ambitious and successful yet for development."<sup>224</sup>

Global Partnership for Education, which is a multilateral coalition dedicated to delivering education to all children, was critical of the Summit. Like many issue-based organizations, the GPE criticised the Brussels Summit online through articles on their blog and social media.<sup>225</sup> According to the GPE, G7 countries have a special role to play in setting the scene for educational progress. In 2002, the G8 leaders founded the GPE, the partnership grew out of the "New Focus on Education for All" communiqué of the Kananaskis G8 summit.<sup>226</sup> The GPE would like the G7 to play a direct role in educational initiatives, as it did in the past.

## Schloss Elmau Summit Participation

### Policy Papers, Press Statements and the Press

With the establishment of a viable educational agenda post-2015, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), many civil society organizations and educational campaigns have included the 2015 G7 Summit as an important point on a timeline of development. In reports by EFA<sup>227</sup> and ONE,<sup>228</sup> the Summit was included on timelines outlining how best to attain progress on education post-2015. The Schloss Elmau Summit was cited as an important meeting along with the World Education

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<sup>222</sup> "G7 Brussels Summit Declaration," G8 Information Center, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 14 February 2015. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>223</sup> "What they are," UN Millennium Project. Date of access: 10 February 2015. <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/goals/>

<sup>224</sup> "ONE welcomes progress on key development priorities at Brussels G7 Summit," ONE, 5 June 2014. Date of access: 10 February 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-welcomes-progress-on-key-development-priorities-at-brussels-g7-summit/>

<sup>225</sup> "G7 Needs to Re-Focus on Education for All," Global Partnership for Education, 9 June 2014. Date of access: 10 February 2015. <http://www.globalpartnership.org/blog/g7-needs-re-focus-education-all>

<sup>226</sup> "A New Focus on Education for All," G8 Information Center, 26 June 2002. Date of Access 18 February 2015. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/education.html>

<sup>227</sup> "Education for All 2000-2015: Achievements and Challenges," EFA Global Monitoring Report. Date of access: 10 April 2015. <http://en.unesco.org/gem-report/report/2015/education-all-2000-2015-achievements-and-challenges#sthash.uE47cp1H.dpbs>.

<sup>228</sup> "Poverty is Sexist: Why Girls and Women Must be at the Heart of the Fight to End Extreme Poverty," ONE. Date of access: 3 April 2015. [https://s3.amazonaws.com/one.org/pdfs/poverty\\_is\\_sexist\\_report.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/one.org/pdfs/poverty_is_sexist_report.pdf).



Forum in May, and the UN Summit for the Adoption of Sustainable Development Goals in September. Very little attention was directed towards the G7 in particular.

Education was a key area in ONE's campaign for women's rights, "Poverty is Sexist." The campaign, which included a petition and report raising awareness about poverty and how it disproportionately affects women, was addressed to Chancellor Angela Merkel and the G7. This came in the wake of with Chancellor Merkel's intent to focus on women's empowerment under her G7 presidency.<sup>229</sup> According to the report, education is the most important targeted investment if the G7 wants to ensure women's empowerment worldwide.<sup>230</sup> The "She Matters" Campaign and Parliamentarians Summit in Germany similarly targeted the G7 in its recommendations for increased women's rights via funding for more equitable education.<sup>231</sup>

Despite the lack of dialogue about education leading up to the Summit, and the absence of any educational commitment from the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting in Lubeck (which was key to setting the agenda for the Summit)<sup>232</sup> civil society organizations have been relatively quiet in response.

However, the German G7 Presidency groups within Germany have been apt to target the G7 in recommendations for development, especially with regards to education. In a policy paper, Sustainable Development Solutions Network, a German NGO and think tank, suggested that the G7 should double its contributions to education as a part of annual Official Development Assistance.<sup>233</sup> The paper stated that a drastic move like this would be key for the G7 to regain the international community's lost trust.<sup>234</sup>

#### **Utilization of Social Media**

Education campaigns did not use social media to engage with the G7 or further their summit goals.

#### **Pre-summit Protests**

Education campaigns did not participate in pre-summit protests.

#### **Public Awareness Events/Workshops**

Education campaigns did not participate in, or facilitate public awareness events and workshops.

#### **Collaborative Efforts (NGO Forum and external partners)**

Education campaigns did not engage in collaborative efforts with external partners.

#### **G7-Civil Society Initiatives**

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), along with the G7, jointly created the Charter for the Future — a partnership that aims to reach out to civil society

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<sup>229</sup> "New ONE Report: Poverty is Sexist," ONE, 12 March 2015. Date of access: 3 April 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/blog/new-one-report-poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>230</sup> "Poverty is Sexist: Why Girls and Women Must be at the Heart of the Fight to End Extreme Poverty," ONE. Date of access: 3 April 2015. [https://s3.amazonaws.com/one.org/pdfs/poverty\\_is\\_sexist\\_report.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/one.org/pdfs/poverty_is_sexist_report.pdf).

<sup>231</sup> "The 2015 International G7/20 Parliamentarians Conference," She Matters. Date of access: 2 May 2015. [http://she-matters.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/She-matters-conference-concept-note\\_20152.pdf](http://she-matters.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/She-matters-conference-concept-note_20152.pdf).

<sup>232</sup> "G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Communiqué," G8 Information Center, 15 April 2015. Date of access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin150415.html>.

<sup>233</sup> "G7 must embrace strong commitment towards a sustainable and just world," SDSN, 18 March 2015. Date of access: 10 March 2015. [https://www.die-gdi.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/pdfs/dauerthemen\\_spezial/20150324\\_SDSN\\_Germany\\_Declaration\\_G7\\_Summit.pdf](https://www.die-gdi.de/fileadmin/user_upload/pdfs/dauerthemen_spezial/20150324_SDSN_Germany_Declaration_G7_Summit.pdf).

<sup>234</sup> "G7 must embrace strong commitment towards a sustainable and just world," SDSN, 18 March 2015. Date of access: 10 March 2015. [https://www.die-gdi.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/pdfs/dauerthemen\\_spezial/20150324\\_SDSN\\_Germany\\_Declaration\\_G7\\_Summit.pdf](https://www.die-gdi.de/fileadmin/user_upload/pdfs/dauerthemen_spezial/20150324_SDSN_Germany_Declaration_G7_Summit.pdf).

and ensure that negotiations surrounding development goals reach positive outcomes within the framework of the G7 Presidency.<sup>235</sup>

On a joint website that outlines various areas of development, education is indicated as a human right.<sup>236</sup> The website outlines Germany's commitment to promoting education internationally, universal basic education, vocational education and training, and higher education.<sup>237</sup> Most importantly, the BMZ declared its commitment to the consultation process, necessary to establishing an educational agenda that includes access to education, including: post-primary education, more quality education, and greater equity in education especially for the most disadvantaged sectors in society. The BMZ recognized the importance of the G7 Summit in the process of this consultation in several online posts.<sup>238</sup>

Finally, the BMZ reaffirmed its commitment to multilateral cooperation, such as in its support for the Global Partnership for Education. Germany provides financial contributions to the GPE multi-donor trust fund and supports GPE in-country projects through the provision of experts, and by means of supplementary educational activities of its own.<sup>239</sup>

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<sup>235</sup> "What we do," BMZ. Date of access 12 March 201 [http://www.bmz.de/en/what\\_we\\_do/index.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/what_we_do/index.html).

<sup>236</sup> "Education for All- An International Concern," BMZ. Date of access 12 May 2015.

[http://www.bmz.de/en/what\\_we\\_do/issues/Education/hintergrund/bildungsfoerderungNational/index.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/what_we_do/issues/Education/hintergrund/bildungsfoerderungNational/index.html).

<sup>237</sup> "Education for All- An International Concern," BMZ. Date of access 12 May 2015.

[http://www.bmz.de/en/what\\_we\\_do/issues/Education/hintergrund/bildungsfoerderungNational/index.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/what_we_do/issues/Education/hintergrund/bildungsfoerderungNational/index.html).

<sup>238</sup> "Education for All- An International Concern," BMZ. Date of access 12 May 2015.

[http://www.bmz.de/en/what\\_we\\_do/issues/Education/hintergrund/bildungsfoerderungNational/index.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/what_we_do/issues/Education/hintergrund/bildungsfoerderungNational/index.html).

<sup>239</sup> "Approaches, actors and instruments," BMZ. Date of access: 12 May 2015.

[http://www.bmz.de/en/what\\_we\\_do/issues/Education/formaleGrundbildung/approaches/index.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/what_we_do/issues/Education/formaleGrundbildung/approaches/index.html).

## Philanthropic Foundations and Celebrity Campaigns

*Jasper Lim*

Philanthropic foundations are non-governmental organizations, which seek to provide solutions to an array of global and domestic issues, including: improving the provision of healthcare, providing water and sanitation to the poor, reducing poverty, and increasing access to education. While philanthropic foundations may not initiate and develop their own projects on the above developmental goals, they often collaborate closely with other non-governmental actors, as well as governments, and provide funding for other actors to create or sustain projects. Leading philanthropic foundations include the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and One International.<sup>240</sup> ONE, unlike other international NGOs, was founded by a coalition of eleven NGOs, including Plan USA and Oxfam America, and is funded by foundations, individual philanthropists and corporations.

Historically, these foundations have been vocal at past summits. Philanthropic foundations have worked in close collaboration with other NGOs such as Oxfam International, to put development-related issues on the G7/G8's agenda; for example, urging governments to renew commitments to increase investment in agricultural and rural development.<sup>241</sup> In addition, philanthropic foundations have pledged monetary support for G7/G8 initiatives, alongside participating governments, and help to hold participating governments accountable.

Celebrities closely collaborate with NGOs in raising public awareness on development-related issues. Increasingly, celebrities also participate in advocacy work through social media platforms, such as Twitter, Youtube and Facebook. Celebrities have helped focus media attention on various issues, raise public awareness, and mobilize public support for campaigns led by NGOs on G7/G8-related issues. For instance, the chief celebrity campaigners of ONE International, Bono and Bob Geldof, with support from Jeffrey Sachs, worked to publicize issues concerning poverty and development among the public, prior to the 2010 Muskoka Summit.<sup>242</sup>

Prior to the 2012 Camp David Summit, ONE International launched a public awareness campaign with support from NGOs, such as Save the Children, Oxfam and World Vision, to highlight development-related issues in the lead-up to the Summit.<sup>243</sup> In addition, ONE launched the "Thriving at the G8 Summit" campaign as an effort to call for G8 leaders to "build on the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative" in the run-up to the 2012 Camp David Summit.<sup>244</sup>

Despite the previous impacts and active participations of philanthropic foundations and celebrities with the summitry process, the shift of attention to the G20 summits has been evident. Nonetheless, ONE International continues to keep track of activities of leaders of both G7 and G20 summits.

### Brussels Summit Outcomes

On 8 June 2014, Eloise Todd, the International Advocacy Director of ONE International, determined that the Brussels Summit had a positive outcome, despite low expectations. Given the

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<sup>240</sup> "Report on Civil Society on the 2012 Camp David Summit," G7 Research Group, May 2012. Date of Access: 12 May, 2014. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Camp-David-summit-report.-2012.pdf>.

<sup>241</sup> "Report on Civil Society on the 2012 Camp David Summit," G7 Research Group, May 2012. Date of Access: 12 May, 2014. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Camp-David-summit-report.-2012.pdf>.

<sup>242</sup> "Report on Civil Society on the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit," G7 Research Group, February 2011. Date of Access: 20 April, 2013. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/csed/index.html>.

<sup>243</sup> "Report on Civil Society on the 2012 Camp David Summit," G7 Research Group, May 2012. Date of Access: 2 March, 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Camp-David-summit-report.-2012.pdf>.

<sup>244</sup> "Report on Civil Society on the 2012 Camp David Summit," G7 Research Group, May 2012. Date of Access: 2 March, 2015. <http://www.g8live.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/G8RG.-Camp-David-summit-report.-2012.pdf>.

circumstances of the cancellation of the Sochi Summit, the G7 leaders committed to “clear and measurable objectives for the post-2015 agenda” including, “calling for action on AIDS, and a successful replenishment of the GAVI vaccines initiative in 2015.”<sup>245</sup> Todd also emphasized how vital it was for the leaders to press for the creation of “global standards on project-level reporting of payments from extractive companies to governments in all countries” for the following G20 summit in 2014.<sup>246</sup> Furthermore, Todd highlighted the need for the German-led Schloss Elmau Summit in 2015 to be more ambitious in ending extreme poverty.<sup>247</sup>

Alternatively, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation did not release any press statements or policy briefs in response to the Brussels Summit. Also, there is no evidence that any celebrity campaigns targeted the G7 leaders. Thus, the participation of philanthropic foundations and celebrities was limited.

## **Schloss Elmau Summit Participation**

### **Policy Papers, Statements and the Press**

On 27 January 2015, Michael Elliott, the President and CEO of The ONE Campaign, applauded German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s leadership on GAVI — the international vaccine public-private partnership — alongside other major donor countries and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, on expanding the global vaccines program.<sup>248</sup> Elliott also highlighted the importance of the following themes at the Schloss Elmau Summit: eradication of extreme poverty, preventable diseases, sustainable development and gender equality.<sup>249</sup> Notably, Elliott expressed disappointment towards Japan, the chair of the G7 Summit in 2016, due to their failure to support GAVI.<sup>250</sup>

On 8 March 2015, ONE International released the report, “Poverty is Sexist: Why Girls-and Women Must Be at the Heart of the Fight to End Extreme Poverty”.<sup>251</sup> Eloise Todd, the Global Policy Director of ONE International, explained that failure to put girls and women firmly at the centre of the Sustainable Development Goals will lead to failure in ending extreme poverty by 2030.<sup>252</sup> Todd highlighted that by “giving women farmers the same access to resources as men would drive up productivity and could spare 100-150 million people from a life of chronic hunger” and that “every

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<sup>245</sup> “One welcomes progress on key development priorities at Brussels G7 Summit” One, 5 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February, 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-welcomes-progress-on-key-development-priorities-at-brussels-g7-summit/>.

<sup>246</sup> “One welcomes progress on key development priorities at Brussels G7 Summit” One, 5 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February, 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-welcomes-progress-on-key-development-priorities-at-brussels-g7-summit/>.

<sup>247</sup> “One welcomes progress on key development priorities at Brussels G7 Summit” One, 5 June 2014. Date of Access: 20 February, 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-welcomes-progress-on-key-development-priorities-at-brussels-g7-summit/>.

<sup>248</sup> “ONE Celebrates Massive Expansion of Global Vaccines Programme” ONE International, 27 January 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015 <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-celebrates-massive-expansion-of-global-vaccines-programme/>.

<sup>249</sup> “ONE Celebrates Massive Expansion of Global Vaccines Programme” ONE International, 27 January 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015 <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-celebrates-massive-expansion-of-global-vaccines-programme/>.

<sup>250</sup> “ONE Celebrates Massive Expansion of Global Vaccines Programme” ONE International, 27 January 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015 <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-celebrates-massive-expansion-of-global-vaccines-programme/>.

<sup>251</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>252</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

year a girl spends in school boosts her future income by 10-20%.”<sup>253</sup> In the report, ONE International focused on four issue areas: agricultural development and hunger, health, finance commitments, and G7 leadership on SDGs.<sup>254</sup> In particular, ONE called for the closing of the gender gap in agriculture and health care services, by providing tailored vocational training and hired labour to women.<sup>255</sup> ONE also continued to call for G7 leaders to ensure commitment of spending 0.7% of their gross national income on international developmental aid, with 50% of which delivered in least developed countries.<sup>256</sup>

On 8 April, 2015, in response to the release of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) figures for 2014 by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s Development Assistance Committee (OECD DAC), Adrian Lovett, Europe Executive Director of ONE International, called for the reversal of the €6.7 billion drop in development assistance to the least developed countries, and the allocation of at least 50% of aid to the least developed countries to ensure the provision of basic health care and education services.<sup>257</sup>

### **Utilization of Social Media**

In March 2015, ONE International launched the #WithStrongGirls social media photo campaign on Facebook and Twitter, receiving strong public support and participation by celebrities and other NGOs, including the Malala Fund.<sup>258</sup> Also, on 13 May 2015, ONE International launched the “Strong Girls” song video with nine African artists on YouTube.<sup>259</sup> The song features singers from Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Nigeria and Zimbabwe.<sup>260</sup>

### **Pre-summit Protests**

No protest activities held by philanthropic foundations or celebrities were observed.

### **Public Awareness Events/Workshops**

On 2 March 2015, ONE International launched the “Just Say Yes” campaign, involving its members and youth ambassadors. The ONE members and youth ambassadors met with constituency candidates in the run-up to the British election on 7 May 2015, and sought to persuade the candidates to sign a pledge committing to help fight extreme poverty and preventable disease, with

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<sup>253</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>254</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>255</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>256</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>257</sup> “ONE Reacts to Drop in Aid to Poorest Countries” ONE International, 8 April 2015. Date of Access: 9 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-reacts-to-drop-in-aid-to-poorest-countries/#>.

<sup>258</sup> “Take Action: Poverty Is Sexist – Post Your Photo & Stand with #WithStrongGirls” ONE International, March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/take-action/poverty-is-sexist/>  
Malala Fund, Twitter Post, 13 May, 2015, 6:02 a.m. <https://twitter.com/MalalaFund/status/598473411967324160/photo/1>.

<sup>259</sup> “Strong Girl” ONE Campaign Youtube Channel, 13 May 2015. Date of Access: 15 May 2015. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGvOaGp5M-4>.

<sup>260</sup> “Strong Girl Tactics: One Campaign Song Aims to Strike A Blow for Women” The Guardian, 13 May 2015. Date of Access: 15 May 2015. <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/may/13/strong-girl-one-campaign-song-women-girls-sustainable-development>.

an emphasis on girls and women as the central tenet.<sup>261</sup> The public awareness campaign collected over 35,000 signatures for its online petition — achieving a record of 72% of its intended goal.<sup>262</sup>

### **Collaborative Efforts (NGO Forum and external partners)**

On 15 January 2015, Action/2015, a coalition of over 1000 organizations, including ONE International, was launched to allow organizations to work in partnership to mobilize participants to show their expectations that governments should deliver ambitious and transformative change in upcoming summits concerning the transition to Sustainable Development Goals. Particularly, Action/2015 organized numerous events in May under the umbrella of ‘Day of Global Action’.<sup>263</sup>

On 17 February 2015, Chris Martin, leading vocal of Coldplay, announced that he will curate for the Global Citizen Festival for the 15-year-long campaign of Global Citizen in collaboration with the United Nations to implement the sustainable development goals, including Global Citizen’s G7 Summit event in Germany on 7 June 2015.<sup>264</sup>

On 2 March, 2015, celebrities, including Meryl Streep, Beyonce, Lady Gaga and Angelique Kidjo, among 36 other influential women, signed an open letter addressed to Angela Merkel and Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, the chair of the African Union Commission, to call for urgent action to increase targeted investment in girls and women as part of the Poverty is Sexist campaign.<sup>265</sup>

On 8 March 2015, ONE International launched the “Stand with Girls and Women Everywhere” petition as part of the ‘Poverty is Sexist’ campaign, and has received over 157,500 signatures.<sup>266</sup>

On 2 April 2015, ONE International launched a post-card mail campaign in collaboration with the hybrid postal service provider, Quabb, to express the public’s concern on the fight against extreme poverty.<sup>267</sup> In this campaign, both virtual and physical post-cards could be created. Quabb sponsored the complete printing and postage costs to send the postcards to Merkel during the Schloss Elmau Summit.

### **G7-Civil Society Initiatives**

Philanthropic foundations and celebrity campaigns did not take part in pre-summit preparations, and no special accommodation of these organizations were observed.

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<sup>261</sup> “ONE Asks Politicians to ‘Just Say Yes’ and Stand Up for World’s Poorest” ONE International, 2 March, 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/one-asks-politicians-to-just-say-yes-and-stand-up-for-worlds-poorest/>.

<sup>262</sup> “Tell Your MP: Just Say Yes” ONE International, 2 March 2015. Date of Access: 4 May 2015 <http://www.one.org/international/take-action/just-say-yes/>.

<sup>263</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

“MAY Mobilisation” Action/2015. Date of Access: 12 May 2015 <http://action2015.org/what-were-doing/may-mobilisation/>.

<sup>264</sup> “Chris Martin Will Curate Global Citizen Festival for Next 15 Years” Rolling Stone, 17 February 2015. Date of Access: 15 May 2015. <http://www.rollingstone.com/music/news/chris-martin-will-curate-global-citizen-festival-for-next-15-years-20150217>.

<sup>265</sup> “Poverty Is Sexist” ONE International, 8 March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/press/poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>266</sup> “Stand With Girls and Women Everywhere” ONE International, March 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.one.org/international/take-action/poverty-is-sexist/>.

<sup>267</sup> “You’ve Got Mail, Mrs. Merkel! Quabb Supports ONE.Org’s G7-Initiative of Sending Postcards to Mrs. Merkel Concerning the Fight Against Extreme Poverty” PR Newswire, 2 April 2015. Date of Access: 8 May 2015. <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/youve-got-mail-mrs-merkel-quabb-supports-oneorgs-g7--initiative-of-sending-postcards-to-mrs-merkel-concerning-the-fight-against-extreme-poverty-498416631.html>.

## **G7 Schloss Elmau Summit: Field Research**

During the Schloss Elmau Summit, a group of analysts from the Civil Society Department travelled to Germany as members of the G7 Research Group's Summit Team. While stationed in Berlin for pre-summit conferences, and at the International Media Centre in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, our analysts interviewed representatives from a number of civil society organizations, including: Médecine sans Frontières, Oxfam, Save the Children, and World Vision. The following compilation of articles highlights the advocacy work of these groups, as well as our efforts to assess civil society engagement with the summitry process, through first-hand accounts and observations.

### **Unpacking the Role of Civil Society: A Dialogue with Oxfam Deutschland**

*Alexandria Matic and Estefania Rueda-Torres*

The months leading up to the 2015 G7 Summit cast Schloss Elmau as an important moment for civil society. With an extensive array of forums, scheduled both before and after the Summit, Chancellor Merkel made dialogue with civil society organizations a key component of Germany's G7 presidency. In order to better understand the impact of these efforts, the G7 Research Group spoke with Jörn Kalinski from Oxfam Deutschland. As a leading aid and development organization, Oxfam has had a consistently strong presence at summits, and has witnessed the evolving dynamics of the G7's engagement with non-state actors. Accordingly, our conversation resulted in a number of insights regarding the priorities, accommodation, and role of civil society in the summitry process.

This year, Oxfam geared its efforts towards food security — a broad term that encompasses issues related to agriculture, investment, food crises, and hunger programs. Although the organization welcomed initiatives proposed at the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, the development of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition was met with criticism, after its launch in 2012. As Kalinski highlighted, the Alliance did not take the interests of small farmers into account, nor did it adequately address the role of state and public investment in funding associated projects. Thus, the return of food security to the 2015 G7 agenda represented an opportunity to amend the group's history of insufficient support and an absence of concrete solutions.

As Kalinski explained, efforts to address food security were driven by Chancellor Merkel's focus on climate change. In turn, Oxfam's advocacy became a response to the priorities of the German presidency, and did not encompass a concerted, pre-summit effort to place food security on the leaders' agenda. This reality leads to important questions about the agenda-setting process at summits. For example, when the G7 prioritizes "dialogue" with civil society, to what extent do leaders engage in a conversation among equals? Additionally, how do non-governmental organizations inform leaders' priorities, if at all? Although it is difficult to derive clear-cut answers to either inquiry, Kalinski believes that civil society must always be mindful of a host country's social-political context. In short, local circumstances can both constrain and facilitate civil society engagement.

Beyond interaction with the G7 leaders, the Schloss Elmau Summit also presented an occasion for non-state entities to establish their own advocacy forums. From June 3-4, a broad coalition of actors attended the International Summit of Alternatives in Munich — a platform that Kalinski described as a form of counter publicity, and important opportunity to explore alternative ideas, concepts, and approaches to a range of development issues. These types of partnerships demonstrate that civil society has a unique capacity to operate in two channels simultaneously: by engaging in dialogue with state leaders, and by leading independent frameworks outside of established discussion forums.

When it comes to measuring civil society's overall level of "success" at summits, Kalinski highlighted the relationship between organizations like Oxfam, and the public. From his perspective, civil society serves as an interpreter, deciphering the implications of the commitments made by leaders, and the mechanisms needed to transform them into tangible strategies. In doing so, Kalinski commented that

Oxfam seeks to tell the public whether the G7's promises are new and concrete, or "dressed up" versions of earlier commitments.

Accordingly, the importance of civil society actors at G7 summits cannot be discounted. By occupying a space between leaders, alternative perspectives, and a global community of onlookers, these organizations represent the nexus in which a range of voices can be heard.

### **The Human Stories behind Summit Commitments**

*Delila Bikic*

No one quite captured the spirit of advocacy surrounding the G7 Schloss Elmau Summit as well as photographer Nick Danziger did. Launched in partnership with World Vision, *Nick Danziger: Revisited* documents the lives of individuals affected by poverty, from 2005-2015. As Danziger takes his viewers on a narrative journey, through countries such as Armenia, India, Cambodia, Zambia, and Honduras, the deterioration of the personal is intertwined with the communal, national, and global. In doing so, he reminds us that the world's problems are at the heart of individual well-being.

In 2000, the United Nations member states agreed on achieving eight Millennium Development Goals by 2015, one of which included the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger. Today, already well into 2015, Danziger's exhibit showcases a different reality. One of the photos shows Aida cradling her four daughters in a damp, two-room apartment in Armenia, with no bathroom or electricity. The purchase of clothing on credit, and an inability to eat fruits and vegetables more than once or twice a month, endures as an every day reality that impoverished families like Aida's are forced to contend with. In an interview with the G7 Research Group, Christopher Derksen Hiebert (Policy Director, World Vision International) shared his admiration for Danziger's ability to highlight the human dimension of poverty as a driving impetus behind achieving the Millennium Goals. With each personal narrative, Danziger encourages the viewer to consider how the Millennium Development Goals have the potential to succeed in giving families a better life.

How do stories such as these fit in the larger context of G7 commitment efforts? In their post-summit commentary, entitled "G7 Germany 2015 Summit World Vision Report Card," World Vision cited that despite this year's ambitious summit agenda, the G7 leaders missed an opportunity to address issues affecting the world's most vulnerable children, particularly those living in war and conflict-riddled areas. Moving forward in the post-2015 agenda, it is worth recalling Danziger's depiction of the human stories behind international development commitments. The impact of poverty is felt collectively, penetrating deep into individual lives and beyond communities. Thus, what is perhaps most admirable about Nick Danziger's exhibit is that it evokes hardship while simultaneously investing in hope. It is this juxtaposition that allows his work to send a clear message — summit outcomes can write the next chapter in individual lives and a broader development agenda.

### **Comparing Approaches to Advocacy: An Examination of Civil Society Strategies**

*Alexandria Matić*

While stationed at the International Media Center in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, our field analysts had the unique opportunity to interview a number of NGOs during the Schloss Elmau Summit. By comparing the advocacy efforts of Save the Children, World Vision, and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), our team developed a greater understanding of the nuances embedded in civil society's approach to G7 engagement. In doing so, it became apparent that the summit strategies employed amongst non-government actors reflect the diversity of civil society itself.

In speaking with Julia Schilling (Advocacy Manager, Save the Children Germany), it was evident that Germany's presidency of the G7 Summit cemented strong relationships between the government



and a number of civil society organizations. As she noted, Save the Children began working with politicians months before the Summit in an effort to bring issues related to Ebola, health systems strengthening, and preventative child deaths to the center of the German government. Furthermore, Schilling also underscored the importance of Schloss Elmau as a precursor to the Financing and Development Conference in Addis Ababa (13-16 July 2015), and the creation of a post-2015 development agenda: by committing to substantive political and financial goals, the G7's industrialized countries have the capacity to take the lead in both arenas. As a result, we witnessed civil society's ability to directly engage with national governments, in an effort to simultaneously advocate for their priorities at an international level. With this reality comes an important implication about the G7's role as a development leader, in a broader system of global governance.

The importance of building positive relationships at the state level was also underscored by Chris Derksen-Hiebert (Policy Director, World Vision International), who described World Vision's broader strategy as a "solution-based approach to advocacy." Using the 2010 Muskoka Initiative on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health as an example, he discussed the benefits of bringing civil society, governments, the private sector, and UN agencies together to address development challenges. By finding ways to catalyze money and contribute their expertise, NGOs have much to offer in a process of multi-sector engagement, where Official Development Assistance (ODA) is only one part of potential solutions. In turn, Derksen-Hiebert commended the German government's efforts to accommodate civil society, and expect divergent views, as a "mature approach to citizen engagement."

Despite these positive opportunities for dialogue, our discussion with Philipp Frisch (Coordinator, Access Campaign Germany) and Florian Westphal (General Director) from MSF Germany highlighted the need to address underlying issues in the summitry process itself. Although substantial media centre access was made available, Frisch and Westphal noted that the centre's isolation from the Summit restricted organizations' ability to engage in discussion with G7 leaders and their staff. This is particularly important to organizations like MSF, which prioritized reform of global efforts to strengthen the research and development of new treatments for neglected diseases, as a key advocacy issue at the G7 Summit. In order to adequately respond to international health crises, such as Ebola, G7 leaders must react to diseases before they are considered a threat to their countries, and put the patient back in the center of their actions and plans. As a result, pressuring states to change their perception of national interests takes pressure and direct engagement. Furthermore, the unpredictability of civil society's access into the summit process, both before and after summits, creates long-term accountability challenges: as organizations brace for a different set of circumstances in each G7 host country, their capacity to follow up with leaders, and verify whether promises made during previous G7 summits were kept, is a continual challenge. In turn, MSF emphasized the importance of using the summits to raise discussions of key health topics to an international level, and put pressure on G7 countries to live up to their commitments.

Whether organizations were pleased with the level of civil society engagement at Schloss Elmau, or identified key areas for improvement, all agreed that non-government actors need to be included in the summitry process. For Save the Children, this translated into government-level interaction, and efforts to impact an unfolding development agenda at the international level, together with partners. From the perspective of World Vision, engagement is best facilitated when civil society works in partnership with government to pursue common goals. Finally, MSF saw the need for greater direct engagement and opportunities to enhance accountability. The resulting picture of civil society suggests that advocacy is a layered process that benefits from the diverse perspectives of an expansive development community.