





## About the Committee

The Committee for a Democratic U.N. (Komitee für eine demokratische UNO, KDUN) is a non-partisan and charitable association registered in the district of Gross-Gerau in Germany, near Frankfurt am Main. KDUN supports a stronger participation of the citizens in the United Nations and other international organizations. The Committee's membership consists, *inter alia*, of scientists, parliamentarians, persons in public life, non-governmental organizations and committed citizens.

### Board 2004-2006

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 Tilman Zülch, Human Rights Activist

### Permanent Assistants

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 Susanna Chiti, Italy Project Assistant  
 Ana Maria Crepaldi, Brazil Project Assistant  
 Geline Fuko, Tanzania Project Assistant  
 Jana Hassel, Fundraising Assistant  
 Keiko Hatch, Campaign Assistant  
 Max Senges, Co-ordinator for Internet Governance  
 Bianca Zammit, Campaign Assistant

### Member Organizations

Equilibriismus, Munich  
 Society for Threatened Peoples, Göttingen  
 Society for Future Models and System Criticism, Münster  
 International Progress Organization, Vienna  
 Terra One World Network, Berlin  
 Association of World Federalists of Switzerland, Bern

### Memberships

KDUN is member of "CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation" in Johannesburg, Associated Member of the "World Federalist Movement-IGP" in New York and Adherent Organization of "UBUNTU: World Forum of Civil Society Networks" in Barcelona.

Cover photo: U.N. Building in New York 2005. © UN/DPI.  
 This page: The members of the KDUN Board and Advisory Council.

## Preface

In February 2004, the Committee for a Democratic U.N. (KDUN) was founded in Stuttgart after a one-year preparation phase. KDUN is committed to an all-embracing and long-term perspective. In accordance with its Declaration of Principles, the members of KDUN feel “united in the vision of a world in which the rule of law, democracy, subsidiarity, federalism, human rights and peace are globally institutionalized and guaranteed.” It is the goal of KDUN to contribute to the accomplishment of this vision. In order to do so, we start from a broad notion of democracy, which encompasses both political and social participation, in other words, fair economic opportunities.

Many non-governmental organizations are already working on these issues. However, in order to cope with the global challenges ahead, we consider the better inclusion of citizens as paramount, especially in international decision-making structures. In KDUN’s view this would have a positive effect on all areas of international policy and, consequently, on national policy as well. It would release civil society powers and would contribute to a revitalization of democracy at all levels. The Committee for a Democratic U.N. was founded because in our view, concrete action with regard to political participation at global level was largely absent. Now that KDUN

has been active for two years, this impression has been confirmed. People from all over the world contact us, because they cannot find other cooperation partners. As a result, our activities have become more and more international.

We have decided to focus mainly on one goal: the establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations.

This report covers the activities of the Committee up to the end of 2005. With very few financial means, we were able to achieve that the proposal to set up a U.N. Parliament has been taken up politically again and that the debate has been given new impetus. Together with our partners all over the world, we want to start an international campaign for the establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations in the upcoming years. We are inspired by the success of efforts to set up the International Criminal Court and the anti-landmines campaign.

This report equally is intended to stimulate your support for our initiative.

Yours,



Andreas Bummel  
Chairman



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In 2005 the U.N. celebrated its 60th jubilee.

*“The association supports the democratization and strengthening of the U.N. System and of all Global Governance processes.”*

From the KDUN Statutes.



Participants of the KDUN meeting on 7 February 2004, in Stuttgart.



The World Federalist Movement-IGP accepted KDUN as an Associate Member in 2005 in Brussels.

## About the Committee

### Foundation

Preparations for the foundation of the Committee started at the beginning of 2003. The ground-work team met for the first time in February 2003 in Frankfurt am Main and again in September in Stuttgart, Germany. Its founding assembly took place on 7 February 2004 in Stuttgart. The Statutes were adopted and the first Board was elected. The mandate and programmatic basis of the Committee were laid down in a Declaration of Principles. The headquarters of the organization is Nauheim in the district of Gross-Gerau close to Frankfurt am Main, Germany. KDUN is registered under No. 51246 at the district court in Darmstadt and is recognized as a charitable body by the tax office in Gross-Gerau.

### Organs of the organization

The highest organ of the organization is the General Meeting, which is convened at least every second year. The General Meeting elects the Board, which makes all decisions in the intervening period. The Board nominates from its members the Executive Board, which executes and coordinates daily business. The Board met twice in 2004 and three times in 2005, each time in Germany. An Advisory Board was set up on foot of a Board resolution. At present the Advisory Board has 29 members who support the goals of

the Committee in their respective professional areas and advise the Board.

### Cooperations

The institutional members of KDUN are fixed interfaces with other organizations of civil society. Six NGOs with a total of around 8,000 members have joined to date. In addition, KDUN itself is a member of three international NGOs: in December 2004, KDUN became a member of the NGO network UBUNTU. At its meeting in November 2005 in Brussels, the Council of the World Federalist Movement-IGP accepted the admission of KDUN as an associate member. In December 2005, KDUN joined the NGO CIVICUS. Apart from this, the Committee works with numerous other organizations on a project basis.

From February 2004 to April 2005, the Committee acted under the patronage of the Club of Budapest. This cooperation was discontinued at the request of the Committee.

### Individual Membership and Sponsorship Circle

Anybody who actively participates in KDUN's work can become a full member. As of 31 December 2005, KDUN had 15 full members in addition to the members of the Advisory Council. Moreover, one can join the Committee's Sponsorship Circle, which is being set up at the moment.

## For a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations

### Strategy paper

The establishment of a U.N. Parliament (United Nations Parliamentary Assembly, UNPA) is KDUN's main objective. In July 2004, the Strategy Paper "Developing International Democracy - For a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations" was finalized and adopted by the Board. The members of the Advisory Board were consulted during the drafting phase. The Strategy Paper discusses the main aspects of the UNPA proposal and draws 13 firm conclusions which provide the underlying guideline for the Committee's political activities. On 3 September 2004, the Strategy Paper was presented to the public at the Federal Press Office in Berlin and the event was reported by press agencies and daily newspapers. KDUN advocates two possible ways to establish a UNPA: 1. as a new institution in accordance with Art. 22 of the U.N. Charter, or 2. through a transformation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The Strategy Paper aims to stimulate discussion anew and to mobilize political support. To this end, since August 2004 the Strategy Paper has been distributed internationally to selected individuals in politics, business and civil society. With the support of the Apfelbaum Foundation

and Terra One World Network, it was published as a German-English paperback book in May 2005. Around 800 books, and many more electronic copies, have meanwhile been sent out. Between September 2004 and December 2005 alone, the Paper was downloaded more than 2,000 times from the Committee's website. The Paper is meanwhile available in five languages while an executive summary is available in nine.

Following the publication and distribution of the Strategy Paper, the Committee received a substantial quantity of relevant feedback and was able to establish contacts for follow-up activities. The Director of the Executive Office of the U.N. Secretary-General, for example, "highly welcomed" the Strategy Paper.

### Swiss initiative

On 9 February 2005, an Open Letter to the U.N. Secretary-General, which had been signed by 101 Members of the 200-member Swiss National Council as well as by 7 members of the Council of States, was presented at a press conference in Bern. In the letter, the establishment of a UNPA was recommended. The parliamentarians encouraged the U.N. Secretary-General to "introduce the idea of a Parliamentary Assembly at the U.N. into the reform debate and to refer this suggestion to the governments of the U.N. member states for further discussion."



Press conference with KDUN representatives in Berlin, September 2004: Ursula Lietz, MP, Josef Winkler, MP, Andreas Bummel, Claudia Kissling and Petra Ernstberger, MP (left to right).

Ursula Lietz resigned from the Advisory Council after leaving parliament in 2005.



Press conference in Bern, February 2005: Andreas Bummel, Hanspeter Bigler and MPs Remo Gysin and Rosemarie Zapfl-Helbling (left to right).



The European Parliament reiterated its support for the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly in June 2005.



Press conference in Brussels, September 2005: Jo Leinen, MEP, Andreas Bummel and Angelika Beer, MEP (left to right).

This initiative was implemented by the Swiss representation of KDUN, the Swiss Society of Threatened Peoples, and by Swiss National Councillor Remo Gysin, a member of the KDUN Advisory Council. The initiative was covered by all of the leading Swiss daily newspapers. As a result, support for the UNPA proposal was voiced by the Federation of Swiss Protestant Churches in May 2005 and by the Swiss United Nations Association in June 2005.

#### Hearing in Berlin

Representatives of KDUN presented the UNPA concept at a joint meeting of the Sub-Committee on U.N. Affairs of the Foreign Affairs Committee and the IPU delegation of the German Bundestag on 14 February 2005. Elements of the concept were introduced into the report of the Sub-Committee to the Foreign Affairs Committee. Members of the KDUN Advisory Board in the German Bundestag were involved in a variety of ways. In 2005, shortly before the election campaign for the early general elections started, the plenary adopted a resolution on the issue in mid-June. KDUN was critical of the fact that the report takes the IPU as the only option for the establishment of a UNPA. The German Bundestag was largely in agreement with the Federal Foreign Office on this issue.

#### Liberal International

In May 2005 in Sofia, the Congress of the Liberal International (LI) adopted a motion of the German Group of the LI calling for the establishment of a UNPA. The LI supports the creation of a UNPA through Art. 22 of the UN Charter as well as through a transformation of the IPU. Members of KDUN were involved in this process.

#### European Parliament

In June 2005, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on U.N. reform, which explicitly recommended the foundation of a UNPA. In this resolution, the European Parliament stated that “the Parliamentary Assembly should be vested with genuine rights of information, participation and control”. KDUN Advisory Board members and European Parliamentarians Armin Laschet, Jo Leinen and Elmar Brok decisively contributed to this success. The European Parliament in this way reiterated its support for the setting up of a UNPA for which a resolution had already been adopted in 1993.

On the occasion of the opening of the 60th U.N. General Assembly in New York, KDUN organized a press conference with the members of the Advisory Council and European Parliamentarians Jo Leinen and Angelika Beer in September 2005 in Brussels. At the press conference, the European Parliament’s call to set up a Parlia-

mentary Assembly at the U.N. was once again underlined.

#### Alliance 90/The Greens

In their election program for the early Bundestag election adopted by the Federal Delegates Conference in July 2005, Alliance 90/The Greens pronounced themselves in favour of “the establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly as a consultative body for the United Nations”. The initiative to include this passage in the manifesto was led by KDUN member Thorsten Sterk and was supported, *inter alia*, by KDUN Advisory Council member Josef Winkler, MP.

#### German United Nations Association

In December 2005, the General Meeting of the German United Nations Association (Deutsche Gesellschaft für die Vereinten Nationen, DGVN) passed a resolution to support the call for a UNPA. The appeal is part of a catalogue of demands for U.N. reform, which is directed at the German Federal Government and the Bundestag. The resolution states, *inter alia*, that “in the view of the DGVN, parliamentary participation and control at the level of the U.N. should be institutionalized within the U.N. system in the medium-term, in the form of a Parliamentary Assembly.” The position on a UNPA was added in response to a motion from KDUN Advisory Council member Christoph Moosbauer and

KDUN Chairman Andreas Bummel.

#### Appeal and conference planned

KDUN started to collect first signatures for an “Appeal for the establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations” during the reporting period. The Appeal exists in several languages and has already been transmitted electronically to more than 8,000 people. Numerous parliamentarians, academics and people in public life from more than 50 countries have signed. The Appeal and the list of first signatories is to be published at the beginning of 2007.

In addition, a meeting was convened in Bern in December 2005, in order to discuss the possibility of organizing an international Parliamentary Conference in Geneva on the Establishment of a UNPA. The Conference is planned for October 2007.

### **Bundestag Poll on the Establishment of a UNPA and an Intervention Force**

Between mid-March and the end of April 2005, KDUN launched a poll among members of the 15th German Bundestag on the establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly at the U.N. and a permanent U.N. Intervention Force. 599 members of the Bundestag party groups were addressed and asked to answer seven questions. Of the parliamentarians addressed, 61 (10.2 %) responded

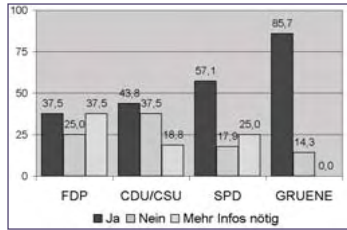


KDUN representatives participated at numerous events, gave lectures and convened workshops, for example in Bad Hersfeld, Bremen, Dresden, Eisenach, Gummersbach, Copenhagen, Münster and Neuss.

In the picture: KDUN Advisory Council members Prof. Hans Köchler (left) and Armin Laschet, at that time MEP (right), at an event of the Union of European Federalists on U.N. reform in Brussels, December 2004. In the middle: the then UEF Secretary-General Bruno Boissière.



In June 2005 KDUN representative Hanspeter Bigler (2nd from left) participated at a conference on the establishment of a "United Nations People's Assembly" in San Francisco.



Survey in the Bundestag, 2005: Answers to the question "Do you personally think that steps towards the establishment of a U.N. Parliamentary Assembly are useful?", by parties (in percent of total answers).

to the questionnaire.

The survey was meant to help KDUN to better assess the chances for political support of both projects within the German Bundestag and to sensitize parliamentarians to the topics of the poll. In summary, the poll overall shows that the majority of parliamentarians across all party groups are open to both reform proposals. However, almost all party groups need to be much better informed. The detailed report can be downloaded from the Committee's website.

## Internet Governance

On the occasion of the World Summit on the Information Society from 16 to 18 November 2005 in Tunis, KDUN published a Position Paper on Future Internet Governance. In the Paper, KDUN pleads, inter alia, for the development of an "Internet Charter" which would define democratic principles and standards for the administration and use of the Internet and enshrine the basic rights and obligations of users. Max Senges, who coordinates the issue of "Internet Governance" within KDUN, presented the Paper in Tunis.

## Politically Supported Initiatives

### U.N. Intervention Force

In acute emergency situations, the U.N. must be in a position to act independently of its member

states in military and humanitarian terms. Therefore, KDUN supports the proposal to set up an Intervention Force on permanent standby under the command of the U.N.

### Global Marshall Plan

KDUN supports the initiative for a Global Marshall Plan for a worldwide eco-social market economy, since it recognizes the fact that overcoming extreme poverty and the wealth divide throughout the world represents a key precondition for a firmly grounded democratization of international relations.

### Democratic Control of the IMF and World Bank

KDUN backs the call for submission of the activities of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to effective parliamentary control. Therefore, it joined the "International Parliamentarians' Petition for Democratic Oversight of the IMF and World Bank".

### Reform of the International System

The goal of the UBUNTU "World Campaign for In-Depth Reform of the System of International Institutions" is a better inclusion of all relevant actors in a democratic Global Governance. The Manifesto of the Campaign calls for a world conference on the reform of the system of international institutions.

## Earth Charter

The text of the so-called Earth Charter reflects to a great extent the vision of KDUN. The Committee supports the initiative.

## Initiative Pro UNCOPAC

The initiative advocates the foundation of a United Nations Commission on Peace and Crisis Prevention (UNCOPAC).

## Communication

### Press releases

Apart from the above mentioned press conferences in Berlin, Bern and Brussels in 2004 and 2005, the Committee for a Democratic U.N. distributed press releases at an average rate of one every second month. In addition to following up on the main project for a UNPA, statements on the expert report of the Cardoso Panel on the relationship of the U.N. to civil society, on the reform of the U.N. Security Council, on the report of the Independent Commission of Inquiry into the “Oil for Food”-Program as well as on the issue of “Internet Governance” were released. In the press releases, many KDUN Advisory Council members took the floor.

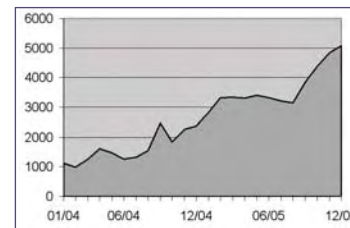
### Website

The Committee has set up an Internet presence at [www.uno-komitee.de](http://www.uno-komitee.de). This page contains

comprehensive and daily-updated information on KDUN and its activities. The KDUN website includes an extensive collection of documents on the parliamentarization of the U.N. A first provisional version went online during the preparatory phase in March 2003. In October 2003 and in January 2005, a full revision and redesign took place. The website meanwhile offers information in eleven languages, mainly, however, in English and German. In terms of registered sessions, there were an average 37 visitors per day to the KDUN website in January 2004. By December 2005, the number of visitors had more than quadrupled to reach 169 per day.

### Newsletter

Since October 2003, KDUN has published an occasional electronic newsletter, which informs about developments in UN reform and the activities of KDUN. Meanwhile, the newsletter has more than 200 subscribers. The 15th edition was released in December 2005.



Number of visitors to the KDUN website (sessions per month).

	2003	2004	2005
<b>Income</b>			
Membership dues	0.00 €	0.00 €	460.00 €
Donations for general purposes	160.00 €	1160.00 €	3774.50 €
Donations for projects	0.00 €	0.00 €	4000.00 €
Interest-free loans	741.18 €	478.69 €	114.45 €
Other	0.00 €	0.00 €	293.80 € <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>901.18 €</b>	<b>1638.69 €</b>	<b>8642.75 €</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Office material	199.84 €	342.37 €	297.74 €
Project material	0.00 €	0.00 €	3286.50 €
Project-related travel costs	0.00 €	0.00 €	1034.33 €
Website and domains	416.93 €	256.20 €	185.58 €
Press releases and conferences	0.00 €	440.12 €	860.24 €
Governance meetings	193.10 €	0.00 €	23.20 €
Repayment of loans	0.00 €	600.00 €	449.87 €
Others	91.31 € <sup>2</sup>	0.00 €	42.60 € <sup>3</sup>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>901.18 €</b>	<b>1638.69 €</b>	<b>6180.06 €</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>0.00 €</b>	<b>0.00 €</b>	<b>2462.69 €</b>
<b>Remaining liabilities</b>	<b>741.18 €</b>	<b>619.87 €</b>	<b>114.45 €<sup>4</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> Book sales, reimbursements, interests.

<sup>2</sup> Literature, software, travel costs.

<sup>3</sup> Membership dues.

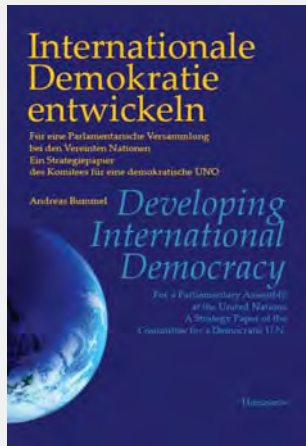
<sup>4</sup> Liabilities of € 170.00 taken over in 2003 were waived in 2005.

## Financial statement

The table opposite indicates the income and expenditure of the Committee for a Democratic U.N. for the preparatory year 2003 and the first two financial years. The accounts were approved by an internal auditor.

As the figures testify, the Committee works in an extremely cost-effective manner. To date, the Committee has not operated its own office nor invested in office infrastructure. This reflects the network character of KDUN. Up to now, the activities of the Committee have been exclusively based on decentralized, voluntary work of the officers, staff and collaborators in their own offices using their own technical means. In this way, more than 3,000 hours of unpaid work have been completed to date and much expenditure, e.g. for travel, was incurred privately, without charging it to the KDUN account.

The Committee has, however, now reached an upper limit with regard to its voluntary network structure. Significantly greater financial means will be required in future in order to respond fully to increased international demands and opportunities.



### More information

Comprehensive information on the concept of a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations is to be found in the KDUN Strategy Paper “Developing International Democracy”, published in May 2005 at Horizonte Publishers, ISBN 3-89483-104-9 or on the net at [www.uno-komitee.de](http://www.uno-komitee.de).

*“This strategy paper explains in an exceptionally tangible and realistic way what the path to international democracy could look like.”*

Jo Leinen, MEP, President of the Constitutional Committee in the European Parliament

*“This paper is one of the most important and comprehensive contributions to this vital issue in the last twenty years.”*

William R. Pace, Executive Director of the World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy

### Contact and publisher

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Rochelle Paul. As at 16 January 2006.

لجنة تحقيق ديمقراطية الأمم المتحدة

VÝBOR PRO DEMOKRATICKOU OSN  
KOMITEE FÜR EINE DEMOKRATISCHE UNO  
COMMITTEE FOR A DEMOCRATIC UN  
COMITÉ POR UNA ONU DEMOCRÁTICA  
DEMOKRAATLIKU ÜRO KOMITEE  
DEMOKRAATTISEMPI YK -KOMITEA  
COMITÉ POUR UNE ONU DÉMOCRATIQUE  
ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΓΙΑ ΕΝΑ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΟ Ο.Η.Ε.  
BIZOTTSÁG A DEMOKRATIKUS ENSZ-ÉRT  
COMITATO PER UN ONU DEMOCRATICA  
民主的な国連に するための委員会  
민주 유엔 위원회  
COMITÉ VOOR EEN DEMOCRATISCHE V.N.  
KOMITEEN FOR ET DEMOKRATISK FN  
COMITÉ PARA UMAS N.U. DEMOCRÁTICAS  
KOMITET NA RZECZ DEMOKRATYCZNEJ ONZ  
КОМИТЕТ ЗА ДЕМОКРАТИЧЕСКУЮ ООН  
COMITETUL PENTRU UN ONU DEMOCRATIC  
KOMISIA ZA DEMOKRATICKÉ SN  
ДЕМОКРАТИК В. М. КОМИТЕСИ  
民主联合国促进委员会

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*“I support the efforts of the Committee for a Democratic U.N. because more citizen participation at the U.N. is urgently necessary.”*

Boutros Boutros-Ghali,  
former U.N. Secretary-General

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*“The call for a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations has my support.”*

Emma Thompson,  
Academy Award recipient