



# The WorldVoter

the newsletter of

## Vote World Government

— democratic world government through a global referendum —

[www.VoteWorldGovernment.org](http://www.VoteWorldGovernment.org)

Vote World Government President is Jim Stark; Vice President is Ted Stalets

[www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com](http://www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com)

This site, above, is for the new book *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth*

[www.MayorsForWorldDemocracy.org](http://www.MayorsForWorldDemocracy.org)

This site, above, is for the new effort to involve municipal governments in this issue

### Issue #12, February, 2009

(This issue and all previous issues are posted at [www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com](http://www.RescuePlanForPlanetEarth.com))

### Quotes of the month

**For the first time in human history, world government of some sort is now possible.**  
Geoffrey Blainey, eminent Australian historian

**The common good of all nations involves problems which affect people all the world over: problems which can only be solved by a public authority ... whose writ covers the entire globe. We cannot therefore escape the conclusion that the moral order itself demands the establishment of some sort of world government.** Pope John XXIII in the encyclical, *Pacem in Terris*

### News in brief

#### Time to ask for what we need

The time has come to write all 200+ national heads of government in the world, telling them about the VWG plan and asking them to sponsor—or at least co-sponsor—our UN resolution for a global referendum on democratic world government. Letters went out to all UN ambassadors February 11, 2009. Most will be ignored, of course, but if even one national government has the wisdom to respond positively, then a group of national co-sponsors can be developed, and perhaps our dream of a UN-based global referendum can

come true by 2010 or 2011. (Many thanks to Bob, Ted and Brian for financing that large mailing, and to Earleen and Jim for doing the work involved.)

### **Translations of VWG site**

Jouko and Hilikka Dufva, new supporters of VWG, did a Finnish translation of the short version of our site, so we are now “live” in nine languages. As well, Brian Coughlan has financed the translation of our site into Hindi, and Raj Chandola has offered to pay for a translation into Urdu. Thanks. When these are done, we will have covered nine of the top 15 languages in the world as well as German and Hungarian. (Note: We will soon have translations into Hebrew and Farsi.)

### **Letter to editor**

In an effort to reach out to the public, three of our members (Jim, Earleen and Ted) sent off a letter-to-the-editor to more than 400 newspapers. It was published in *The Equity*, a small Shawville weekly, the *Toronto Star* (one of the largest Canadian daily newspapers — see [www.thestar.com/comment/article/574309](http://www.thestar.com/comment/article/574309)), and perhaps elsewhere (we just don't know).

When two responses, both negative, also appeared in the *Toronto Star*, World Federalist Larry Kazdan (a friend of VWG) responded on his WF letter page (see below) as follows:

Readers worried about the establishment of a democratic world government should consider that France and Germany were at war during the time of Napoleon, then again in 1871, again in 1914 and once more in 1939. But today, as part of the European Union, these countries participate in a shared currency, enjoy open borders and elect representatives to a common European Parliament. The threat of a general European war has receded to practically nil.

Today, however, the entire globe faces ecological catastrophe, financial turbulence, and the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. The choice before us is stark: We either devise common governing institutions for the global good, or we end up destroying ourselves.

Note: Larry's letters URL is [www.vcn.bc.ca/wfcvb/wfadvocacyshow.php?note=showall](http://www.vcn.bc.ca/wfcvb/wfadvocacyshow.php?note=showall)

### **American Library Association**

John Kintree wrote a wonderful review of *Rescue Plan for Planet Earth*, calling Stark's book “a triumph [... that] belongs in a class with Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*.” His review is now in the January, 2009 newsletter of the Social Responsibility Round Table (SRRT) of the American Library Association (ALA), a quarterly that goes to about 2,000 librarians in the USA. Well done, John!

### **Two disappointments**

VWG President Jim Stark made a presentation to the MRC, a gathering of the 18 mayors of Pontiac County, Québec. Mayors Joe Squitti and Albert Armstrong spoke in favour of

the idea, but then another mayor went into an angry rant about the “Holy Bible” and how a world government would rob Canada of its sovereignty. In the end, all mayors except Squitti and Armstrong voted against us. That was unfortunate. Heartfelt thanks to Albert Armstrong and Joe Squitti.

On January 29, 2009, the Board of Rotary International met. On the agenda, among many other items, was consideration of the “memorial” sent by the Deep River Rotary Club. It asked RI to endorse the concept of a global referendum on democratic world government. RI made a decision not to support us because we were “political.” (Oddly enough, Rotary was intimately involved in the establishment of the UN!)

### **“Animators” for VWG**

Bob French, VWG’s Ambassador at Large and a lifelong Rotarian, went on a month-long trip to three Central American nations. On January 27, he wrote from Flores, Guatemala:

The folks in developing countries can certainly see how a democratic world government will be of benefit. I would like to recommend that we seek out an “animator” for each country in the world to serve as a liaison with our Board. I am prepared to use the Rotary network to assist.

This is a constructive suggestion, and an offer that VWG must warmly welcome. (Thanks Bob.) If you want to be an “animator” for VWG, let us know, and we’ll set you up. If you can recruit others to be animators, let us know, and we’ll set *them* up.

### **Malaysia connection**

Tun Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, a revered former prime minister of Malaysia credited with the modernization and economic revival of that country, wrote to VWG suggesting that we “join forces.” He heads a foundation dedicated to the criminalization of war. We have written back, welcoming his proposal, and we await his further communication.

### **New article on global governance**

From Josep Ortega’s article in Human Union newsletter: [Writing the Rules for a New World - Today's problems ignore national boundaries. The world needs smart management that does the same](#) (Newsweek, 31/12/2008) by Fareed Zakaria, editor of *Newsweek International* whose column appears in *Newsweek*, *Newsweek International* and *The Washington Post*.

### **New book on global governance**

*The Global Commonwealth of Citizens: Toward Cosmopolitan Democracy*, Daniele Archibugi, 2008, 298 pages. This book critically examines the prospects for cosmopolitan democracy as a viable and humane response to the challenges of globalization. Arising after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the decisive affirmation of Western-style democracy, cosmopolitan democracy envisions a world politics in which democratic

participation by citizens is not constrained by national borders, and where democracy spreads through dialogue and incentives, not coercion and war. This is an incisive and thought-provoking book by one of the world's leading proponents of cosmopolitan democracy.