INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING (IYGU)

10th Anniversary of the 2016 Opening

Monday, 23rd February 2026

Online Conference
Zoom Link

Organizer:
UNESCO Chair Global Understanding for Sustainability
Friedrich Schiller University Jena

14:00 **Opening**

Achievements of the 2016 International Year of Global Understanding (IYGU)

Welcome Addresses

Prof. Dr. Andreas Marx, President, Friedrich Schiller University Jena
Dr. Roman Luckscheiter, Secretary-General, German Commission for UNESCO

14:30 **Why we need Global Understanding**

Moderation

Prof. Dr. Erika M. Robrahn-Gonzalez (Brazil / Portugal) &
Prof. Dr. Enrique Aliste Alumna (Chile / France)

Prof. Dr. Gordon McBean (Canada), Co-founder of the IPCC, Co-Nobel Prize laureate for peace; former President, International Council for Sciences (ICSU)
Prof. Dr. Luiz Oosterbeek (Portugal), President, International Council of Philosophy and the Human Sciences (CIPSH)
Prof. Dr. Michael Meadows (South Africa / China), Past-President, International Geographical Union; Fellow, Intentional Science Council (ISC)
Prof. Dr. John M. Dudley (France / New Zealand), Executive Director, 2015 UN International Year of Light; 2025 UN International Year of Quantum Science and Technology
Garry Jacobs (USA), President & CEO, World Academy of Art and Science; Chairman, board and CEO, World University
Prof. Dr. Lesley Green (South Africa), Anthropologist, UN Decade of Science for Sustainable Development (2024–2033)
Howard Blumenthal (USA), TV Producer, Disney Channel / Sesame Street; Co-founder of MTV; Founder, Kids on Earth

15:10 **Arts & Global Understanding I**

Andy Innes (South Africa), Musician & Producer; anthropologist and anti-apartheid activist for/with Nelson Mandela as musical director, Johnny Clegg Band

15:20 **Keynotes**

Introduction

Prof. Dr. Paul Shrivastava, Penn State University; President The Club of Rome:
The Quest for Peace for a New Humanity Era

Prof. Dr. Hartmut Rosa, Friedrich Schiller University Jena:
Resonance for Global Understanding

15:50 **Art & Global Understanding II**

Bartu Elci-Ozsoy and his SHARE Ensemble (Turkey / France), Musical Artist, Conductor and Composer; Ambassador of The Jena Declaration (TJD)

16:00 **Panel: Live Discussion**

Moderation
Prof. Dr. Erika M. Robrahn-Gonzalez (Brazil / Portugal)

Art & Global Understanding III

Andrea Green (USA), Composer, Broadway New York
Contribution: *Under the Moon*

Panel discussion with
Prof. Dr. Enrique Aliste Alumna (Chile / France), IYGU Regional Action Center Latin America; Sorbonne Unversity
Margalit Berriet (France), Artist, The Jena Declaration
Bartu Elci-Ozsoy (France), Artist; Ambassador of The Jena Declaration
Prof. Dr. Lesley Green (South Africa), Anthropologist, University of Cape Town
Dr. Joanne Kauffman (USA), The Jena Declaration
Prof. Emer. Aharon Kellerman (Israel), University of Haifa, Israel, former vice-president, IGU
Dr. Wesam Ad Mahoum (Palestine), Global Ambassador for Sustainability
Prof Dr. Maria Paradiso (Italy), International Science Council, Paris
Prof Dr. John Pickles (USA), University of Chapel Hill
Samantha Waki (Kenya), The Grass Company and The Jena Declaration

17:00 **Wrap-Up of the Conference / Conclusions**

Joanne Kauffman & Benno Werlen

17:15 **Art & Global Understanding IV (Outro)**

Andrea Green (USA), Composer, Broadway New York
Contribution: *We're All in This Together*