

# Rethinking Religion And Politics In A Plural World: The Baha I International Community And The United Nations

The Baha'i International Community (BIC), an influential global non-governmental organization representing the Baha'i Faith, has a longstanding partnership with the United Nations (UN). This collaboration aims to promote peace, unity, and sustainable development worldwide.

## The Bicentennial of the Birth of Baha'u'llah and UN Partnerships

The year 2017 marked the bicentennial of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith. To commemorate this milestone, the BIC launched a global initiative that included strengthening its partnerships with international organizations, including the UN.



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by Julia Berger

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

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## Shared Principles and Common Goals

The BIC and the UN share many common principles and goals. Both organizations believe in:

- The inherent dignity and worth of all human beings
- The importance of promoting peace, understanding, and cooperation
- The need for sustainable development and the protection of the environment
- The empowerment of women and the advancement of gender equality

## Areas of Cooperation

The BIC collaborates with the UN in various areas, including:

- **Peacebuilding:** The BIC supports UN efforts to build peace and prevent conflicts through dialogue, education, and community development.
- **Education:** The BIC promotes the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to education and the empowerment of youth.
- **Economic development:** The BIC encourages the adoption of principles of economic justice and sustainable practices in line with the UN's SDGs on poverty reduction and economic growth.
- **Environmental protection:** The BIC supports UN initiatives aimed at protecting the environment and addressing climate change.

- **Human rights:** The BIC advocates for the protection of human rights and religious freedom, aligning with the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

## **The Role of the BIC as a Non-Governmental Organization**

As a non-governmental organization (NGO), the BIC plays a unique role in the UN system. It provides:

- **Independent perspective:** The BIC's status as an independent organization allows it to provide alternative perspectives and engage in critical dialogue on important issues.
- **Grassroots support:** The BIC has a vast network of grassroots organizations and communities around the world, enabling it to amplify voices and support local initiatives aligned with UN goals.
- **Expertise and knowledge:** The BIC's expertise in areas such as peacebuilding, education, and sustainable development contributes to the UN's decision-making processes.

## **Impact and Achievements**

The BIC's collaboration with the UN has yielded significant results, including:

- **Peace education:** The BIC has developed educational programs that promote peace and unity in collaboration with UN agencies such as UNESCO and UNICEF.

- **Empowering women:** The BIC supports the UN's efforts to advance gender equality through programs aimed at educating and empowering women.
- **Environmental protection:** The BIC has worked with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) to raise awareness about climate change and promote sustainable practices.

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The partnership between the BIC and the UN is a testament to the power of collaboration in creating a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world. By sharing common principles and goals, the two organizations work together to address the challenges and opportunities facing humanity. As the world confronts unprecedented global crises, the BIC and the UN's continued partnership will be crucial in building a future where all people can live in harmony, unity, and prosperity.



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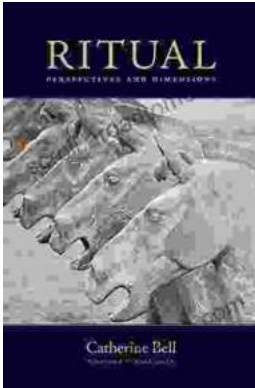
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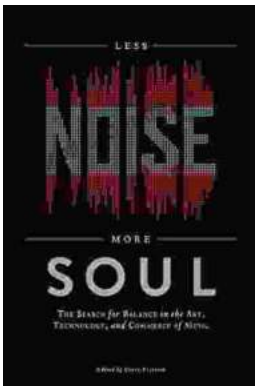
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