



Declaration for Peace among the Islands of the World

(Shinan Islands Declaration)

We, members of the International Small Islands Studies Association and participants at the 20th Islands of the World conference, recognize that, in an era marked by deepening global uncertainty, climate crisis, and war and conflict, islands stand at the frontline where humanity and nature meet, embodying both vulnerability and resilience. We acknowledge that these overlapping crises have direct and profound impacts on islands and their communities, and we affirm our shared responsibility to uphold peace, sustainability, and human dignity. Islands possess unique ecological, cultural, and social values that must be preserved and enhanced for the well-being of present and future generations.

In this spirit, we declare as follows:

1. We affirm the establishment of fundamental international rights that ensure conditions for the coexistence and co-evolution of humanity and nature, enabling all people to pursue well-being and happiness within healthy and resilient island ecosystems, even in the face of the climate crisis and environmental change.
2. We call for the restoration of peace and the protection of human rights in island regions affected by war, disasters, and structural marginalization, and urge strengthened international cooperation to minimize the impacts of conflict and crisis.



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3. We commit to guaranteeing the livelihoods, daily lives, welfare, and education of island residents – who are increasingly vulnerable amid the climate crisis and global uncertainty – and to ensuring equitable access to essential services and opportunities for sustainable and inclusive communities.
4. We recognize islands as leading models in addressing the climate crisis and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 14 “to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”, and related global agendas. We encourage the sharing of island knowledge and practices worldwide.
5. We pledge to conserve the biodiversity and cultural diversity of islands, which are threatened by climate change and human activities, and to promote their wise and balanced use as a foundation for the future of humanity and the planet.
6. We call upon the United Nations to designate an ‘International Day of World Islands’ to raise global awareness of the importance and value of islands and to promote peace and sustainable development.

Adopted in a spirit of solidarity, we dedicate this declaration to advancing enduring peace and sustainable prosperity among the islands of the world.