



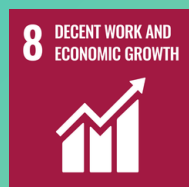
# The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 14 TO 23 JULY, 2025-NEW YORK



**Society of the Sacred Heart at the UN**

## Introduction

The HLPF is a platform to share experiences and initiatives on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by participating states—including Voluntary National Review (VNR) countries—the UN system, and other stakeholders. This year, country reports focus on successes, challenges, and lessons learned to strengthen SDG implementation, particularly SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14, and 17. The forum gathered ministerial and high-level government representatives, UN officials, academics, experts, and members of Major Groups and other stakeholders.



## Theme of the forum

Advancing Sustainable, Inclusive, Science- and Evidence Based Solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for Leaving no one Behind



UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres at the opening ceremony

## Countries participating

Among the 35 countries that presented VNR reports were 6 where the Society of the Sacred Heart is present: India, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Malta, and the Philippines.

## Main Achievements of the HLPF on SDG 3, 5, 8, 14 & 17

### 35% of SDG's are on track:

- Reduction in maternal and infant mortality
- Increased vaccination coverage
- Girls in STEM are increasing
- Promotion of green technologies, etc.

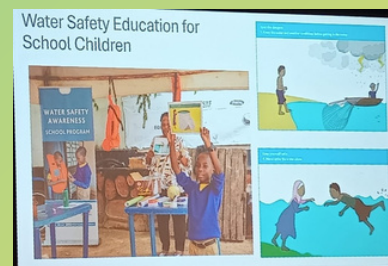


## Major Challenges

- Climate fragility, Biodiversity loss
- Gender equality is under threat
- COVID-19 pandemic
- Rising Geo-political tension
- Food insecurity
- Digital inequality, etc.



**Over 99% of attending states recommitted to multilateralism!**  
SDG implementation is within reach.



Side Event on Water Safety Education



**Benefit of HLPF to Religious congregations**

- They gain insight into global challenges and use VNRs data to identify where their services are most needed.
- The HLPF shows how local issues often connect to global systems.
- Various congregations started viewing their ministries through the SDG lens.



NGO Delegates debriefing on HLPF at the Justice Coalition of Religious (JCOR) office.





# Personal Experiences & Closing of the 2025 HLPF



Global Unity!

Noellina, RSCJ - Roma



On July 22, 2025, I had the privilege of visiting the United Nations headquarters in New York City. There is a total of 195 beautiful flags you can't miss on arrival! The place symbolizes global unity, and I'm grateful to Sr. Margaret Mwarili for making this visit possible.

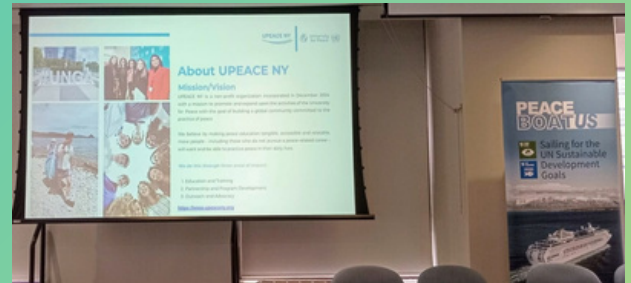
I attended various sessions on climate but one, presented by youth from the Peace Boat, touched me deeply. This program allows young people to travel the world by ship, learning about climate change's impact on the environment and oceans. The voyage blends sustainable tourism, lifelong learning, cooperative projects, and advocacy! It's a powerful peace innovation that fosters connection, human rights, and sustainable development.



Entrance of UN Headquarters - New York - Flags of all UN Member States



Margaret & Noellina together at a HLPF session



Side Event on Peace Boat

What truly inspired me was the commitment of member states to act in solidarity and unity—fostering collaboration through science, technology, and a shared vision. Their dedication to transforming aspirations into tangible outcomes, and their collective pursuit of a more unified global community, was deeply motivating. The reaffirmed pledges to uphold the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), maintain strong partnerships with the United Nations, and the shared belief that achieving the SDGs is not only possible but within our grasp, offered a renewed sense of hope and purpose.

Margaret - UN-NGO Representative



Inspired by the level of commitment!



Apolline: UN-NGO office's intern

The strong energy of civil society!



Side event on: 'Unpaid Care at the Core: A Catalyst for Achieving the SDG'

Even though I attended online, I felt part of a key UN conference! All the previous events we had joined were preparations for this moment—the reviews of member states and their progress on SDGs. You could sense the strong commitment from civil society, energized by the many side events focused on justice and the SDGs. I also interpreted in French during a side event, and felt proud to help share the work of NGOs with a global audience.



HLPF closing ceremony

The 2025 HLPF closed in the evening of 23, July, 2025.

**6000 participants!**

**+4000 VNR reports!**

**Stay Tuned for more updates!**



<https://rscj-jpic.org/about/un-ngo-office>



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New York City