



Emmy-winning journalist and Canadian Senator join acclaimed leaders to jury the Global Pluralism Award

Ottawa, Canada – June 4, 2020 – **Kim Ghattas**, Emmy-winning journalist; the Honourable **Ratna Omidvar**, Canadian Senator; Ambassador **Annika Söder**, Chair of the European Institute of Peace; and Bishop **Precious Omuku**, Archbishop of Canterbury’s Special Representative on Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa, are among the new jurors of the Global Pluralism Award. The jury of international leaders, chaired by the Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, former Canadian Prime Minister, will select the winners of the 2021 [Global Pluralism Award](#).

The Award recognizes individuals and organisations whose high-impact, innovative initiatives are tackling the challenge of living peacefully and productively with diversity. The Award is a program of the [Global Centre for Pluralism](#), an international research and education centre founded by His Highness the Aga Khan in partnership with the Government of Canada.

“The breath of expertise among the jurors speaks to a core belief of the Centre: promoting pluralism is the work of everyone, from all spheres of life. We are delighted to have these new members join our esteemed jury to select the champions of pluralism who will be awarded the 2021 Global Pluralism Award,” said Meredith Preston McGhie, Secretary General of the Global Centre for Pluralism.

“In these uncertain times, global communities of individuals and organizations continue to work tirelessly and courageously to build bridges across divides and isolation. The jury has a great responsibility to select Award recipients who demonstrate that a more equitable and connected world can emerge from this pandemic,” said the Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, Jury Chair.

The members of the jury represent a range of sectors, including policymaking, peacebuilding, human rights, interreligious dialogue, education, media and civil society. In their own careers, they are actively promoting greater equity and fighting exclusion. Jury members all appreciate first-hand the extraordinary effort it takes to build societies where differences are valued and respected.

The jury will name the three winners of the Award, who will each receive a prize of CAD \$50,000 to further their work in support of pluralism at a ceremony in Ottawa, Canada in the fall of 2021.

The jury includes (alphabetical):

- **The Right Honourable Joe Clark**, former Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of Canada, Canada (Chair)
- **Ambassador Annika Söder**, Chair, European Institute of Peace, Sweden
- **Ms. Kim Ghattas**, Non-resident Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Lebanon

- **Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur**, Director, COMPAZ Foundation & Former Presidential Advisor on Human Rights, Colombia
- **Bishop Precious Omuku**, Archbishop of Canterbury's Special Representative on Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria
- **The Honourable Ratna Omidvar**, Senator, Canada
- **Dr. Siva Kumari**, Director General, International Baccalaureate, United States

The Award is accepting applications and nominations until June 30th at award.pluralism.ca.

For more information:

Calina Ellwand,
Global Centre for Pluralism
+1-613-688-0137
media@pluralism.ca

-30-

BIOS OF 2021 GLOBAL PLURALISM AWARD JURORS



The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, Former Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of Canada (Chair)

Mr. Clark was elected eight times to the House of Commons of Canada, serving as Canada's youngest Prime Minister (1979-1980) and one of the most distinguished Secretaries of State for External Affairs (Foreign Ministers) in Canadian history (1984-1991), then becoming Minister of Constitutional Affairs. Mr. Clark played a key role in some of the defining accomplishments for pluralism in recent history – the Commonwealth campaign against apartheid, the Ottawa conference which agreed on the “two plus four” formula to unite Germany at the end of the Cold War and the negotiation of the Charlottetown Accord in Canada (a complex Canadian constitutional accord among the federal government, the provinces and territories, and indigenous peoples). Today, as he sits on numerous Boards and Foundations, he applies that experience to promoting democracy and encouraging innovation and practical reforms in the developing world.



Ambassador Annika Söder, Chair, European Institute of Peace and former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Ambassador Annika Söder, is the Chair of the European Institute of Peace. She is also a member of the Swedish Women's mediation network, and a member of the group of eminent persons appointed by the UN Secretary General to assist in the 2020 review of UN peace building. Annika Söder served as State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Sweden between 2014 and 2019. In that capacity, she led the government's work on conflict resolution and facilitation, in particular on North Korea and on Yemen. Before that, she was Executive Director of the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation working on UN matters, UN reform, peace building and the SDGs. She has also been a senior manager and ADG of the UN FAO, responsible for external relations, partnerships, interagency affairs and communications. Previously, she served as State Secretary for International Development Cooperation in the Swedish Government and as spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry, and in several positions as foreign policy advisor to prime and foreign ministers.



Ms. Kim Ghattas, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Lebanon

Kim Ghattas is an Emmy-award winning journalist who covered the Middle East for twenty years for the BBC and the *Financial Times*. She is currently a non-resident scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington and she also serves on the Board of Trustees of the American University of Beirut. She is the author of, *Black Wave: Saudi Arabia, Iran and the Forty Year Rivalry that Unraveled Culture Religion and Collective Memory in the Middle East*, and, *The Secretary: A Journey with Hilary Clinton from Beirut to the Heart of American Power*.



Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur, Director, COMPAZ Foundation & Former Presidential Advisor on Human Rights, Colombia

Paula Gaviria Betancur is the Former Presidential Advisor on Human Rights in Colombia, where she led the implementation of the Colombian Strategy for the Guarantee of Human Rights 2014-2034. A lawyer by training, she launched and directed, for more than four years, the Victims Unit, a government entity responsible for reparations for eight million victims of the armed conflict. For this work, the World Bank awarded her the José Edgardo Campos 2016 Collaborative Leadership Award. Ms. Gaviria contributed to the chapter on victims' rights in the final Peace Agreement signed between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP, which granted a leading role to victims in the implementation of the agreement. Previously, she led initiatives with civil society organizations, such as Fundación Social. She served as head of the Communications Division of the Constitutional Court, as well as private secretary of the Ombudsman. She also directed the National Directorate for the Promotion of Human Rights of the Ombudsman's Office. She is now Director General of Fundación Compaz, created by Nobel prize Laureate Juan Manuel Santos, contributing to peace building efforts in Colombia and around the globe.



Bishop Precious Omuku, Archbishop of Canterbury's Special Representative on Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria

Bishop Omuku had a 33-year career in the private sector in Nigeria and the United Kingdom. Five years before retirement, he was ordained a priest and started his vocation with church planting in Lagos, Nigeria. He has held a number of board level, trustee, and governing council positions in industry, academia, community-based, and international financial institutions. In 2014, he joined the Lambeth Palace team as the Archbishop's Advisor on Anglican Communion Affairs, and came into his current position in 2017. He was consecrated Bishop of South Sudan and Sudan in 2016. Bishop Precious is involved with dialogue to end the South Sudan and other conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa.



The Hon. Ratna Omidvar, Senator, Canada

Ratna Omidvar is an internationally recognized voice on migration, diversity and inclusion. In April 2016, she was appointed to the Senate of Canada as an independent Senator representing Ontario. As a member of the Senate's Independent Senators Group, she holds a leadership position as Liaison. Senator Omidvar also served as Deputy Chair of the Special Senate Committee on the Charitable Sector. Senator Omidvar is a Councillor on the World Refugee Council, a Director at the Samara Centre for Democracy and Chair Emerita for the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council. Previously at Ryerson University, Senator Omidvar was a Distinguished Visiting Professor and founded the Global Diversity Exchange. Senator Omidvar was appointed to the Order of Ontario in 2005 and became a Member of the Order of Canada in 2011, with both honours recognizing her advocacy work on behalf of immigrants and devotion to reducing inequality in Canada. In 2014, Senator Omidvar received the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of her contribution to the advancement of German-Canadian relations. She is the co-author of the book, *Flight and Freedom: Stories of Escape to Canada* (2015).



Dr. Siva Kumari, Director General, International Baccalaureate, United States

Dr. Siva Kumari started as the seventh Director General of the International Baccalaureate (IB) in January 2014 and is the first woman to hold the post. Kumari joined the IB in April 2009 as Asia Pacific Regional Director. In May 2010, she was named the first Chief Operating Officer responsible globally for research, university recognition, school improvement and professional development. In this role she also managed the relationship with schools, governments and foundations across the three IB regions: the Americas, Asia Pacific, and Africa, Europe and the Middle East. Prior to joining the IB, Dr. Kumari served a 15-year tenure as the first Associate Provost for K-12 initiatives at Rice University, USA. Reporting directly to the President and the Provost, she oversaw over 80 outreach efforts for the university. She received competitive external National Science Foundation funding, local and national corporate foundation funding, and national and regional awards for her research work in teaching and learning.