Mercy International Association

MERCY GLOBAL ACTION NEWSLETTER

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GREETINGS FROM THE MERCY GLOBAL ACTION OFFICE!

Dear Friends of Mercy Global Action -

As we celebrate Easter, we are invited once again into the heart of our Christian story – a story rooted in suffering, transformation and hope. In this Jubilee year of hope we draw inspiration from the resilience of communities around the world,- those who continue to strive for justice, dignity, and peace in the face of adversity. At Mercy Global Action, we see hope everyday; in the voices of women advocating for their rights, in the protection of our common home, and in the global movement of people working for systemic change.

The resurrection is a call to action. It invites us to be bearers of hope, to rise with courage, and to accompany one another with mercy as we build a more compassionate and just world.

May the promise of Easter renew our spirits, strengthen our resolve, and remind us that hope, deeply rooted in mercy, has the power to transform the world.

With every blessing for this Easter Season
Angela Reed
Head of Mercy Global Action
Mercy International Association

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At the United Nations

THROUGH OUR ECOSOC LENS...

- ***MGA World Social Summit Task Force to begin soon***

Expressions of Interest are open for the upcoming MGA World Social Summit Task Force, to commence in late April/early May 2025. The Task Force will focus on issues relating to poverty eradication, decent work, and social inclusion ahead of the Second World Summit for Social Development (4-6 November 2025), and provide recommendations and actions for concrete advocacy.

Selection will be based on a range of perspectives, including different knowledge and levels of expertise, geographic locations, cultural background and other lived experiences. If you would like to join, or know someone who might be interested, please sign up here or share.



- ***Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to Focus on Rights & Agency***

The 24th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) will take place from Monday, 21 April, to Friday, 2 May 2025. The UNPFII serves as a platform for Indigenous Peoples to raise issues, share their perspectives, and participate in decision-making on topics such as culture, environment, health, human rights, and economic and social development. The Forum continues to play a crucial role in ensuring that Indigenous voices are heard and their rights are protected through dialogue, collaboration, and global visibility. The theme this year will be: "Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within United Nations Member States and the United Nations system, including identifying good practices and addressing challenges."

The NGO Mining Working Group is hosting a series of side events during the UNPFII. While most of them are in person, you're invited to join "Extractives, Critical Minerals and Land Grabbing from the Lens of the Indigenous Peoples" which will be held online on Tuesday, 29 April from 1:15pm-2:45pm (New York time). Flyer | Concept Note | Zoom Registration

MELF TAKEOVER



Jessica Marshall (Australia)



MELF Cohort 4 at CSW in New York



Sarah Terry (Left) and Jessica Marshall (Right) attending a panel at CSW

"This month, Cohort 4 of MELF have descended onto New York for our 2nd immersion. With a number of engagements, one profound highlight and a bucket list opportunity for many of us was going to the United Nations Headquarters for the Commission on the Status of Women Conference. This is the 69th conference and the 30th anniversary since the Beijing Declaration which was a visionary document that set out to achieve equal rights of all women and girls. There is still much to do.

The theme 'For All Women and Girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment,' challenges us to keep in the front of our minds, women and girls, worldwide, and keep striving for gender parity in politics, within policies and in our organisations and homes. Over the course of the week, we have been fortunate enough to attend various sessions held by the UN, NGOs and civil society, including the International Women's Day (IWD) event and Townhall meeting held by the UN Secretary-General, who is a man championing for women's rights. Some of these sessions challenged us, while others inspired us. Sessions highlighted ongoing struggles of gender equality, particularly in the areas of education, economic empowerment and gender based violence. Women's voices have been heard where in their countries, they are silenced. To have heard their stories has been a truly humbling experience. There is much reflection to be had as we put into reality these discussions into our own contexts. One thing is for certain, true progress requires grassroots and systemic changes.

I love that the UN was set up as a symbol of peace and a beacon of hope. In this Jubilee Year, where we are pilgrims of hope, we continue to be and promote peace and hope, which we need more than ever, especially for our next generation!"

Jessica Marshall (Australia)
MELF Cohort 4

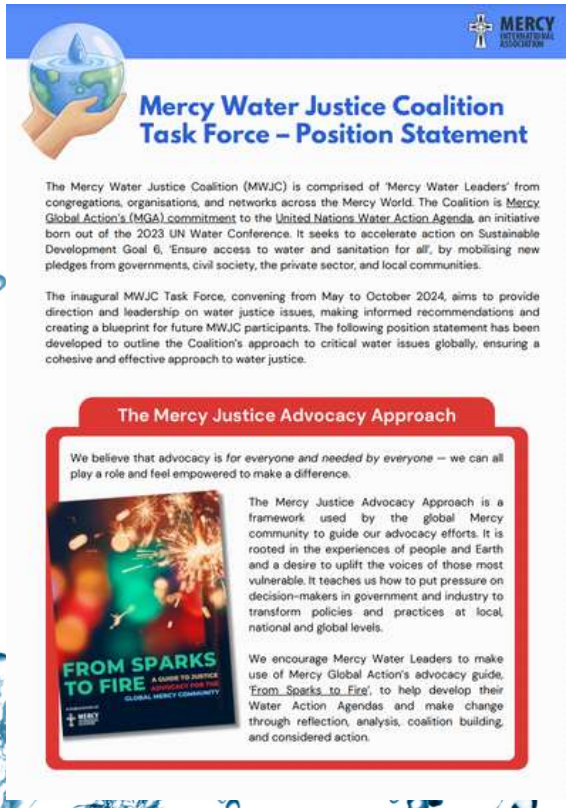
All Images: MGA

- *Mercy Water Justice Coalition forms Executive Team*

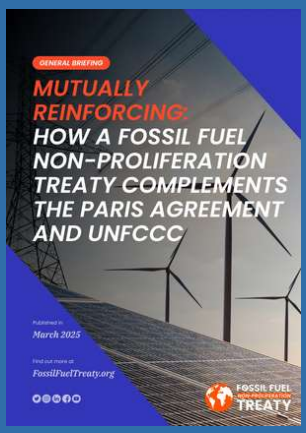
Mercy Global Action is pleased to announce **Kate Anderson**, **Alexis Stephens** and **Angela Reed** as the Inaugural Executive Team for the Mercy Water Justice Coalition. To find out more about the Coalition see **here** and to join please see **here**.

Read up on the Coalition's work by clicking the images below.





USEFUL RESOURCES:



Briefing on Fossil Fuel Treaty



JCoR Guide to the 24th Session of the UNPFII


OPINIONS

The Return of Landmines: A Symbol of Eroding Global Norms

Opinion by Elena Bertozzi • *April 16, 2025*

LEAVE A COMMENT

The Return of Landmines: A Symbol of Eroding Global Norms


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UPCOMING EVENTS & INTERNATIONAL COMMEMORATIONS

- April 22: International Mother Earth Day
- April 24 - 30: World Immunization Week
- April 24: International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace
- April 26: International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day
- April 28: World Day for Safety and Health at Work
- May 3: World Press Freedom Day
- May 8: Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives During the Second World War
- May 16: International Day of Living Together in Peace
- May 21: World Day for Cultural Diversity and Dialogue and Development

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