



Alternative Perspectives & Global Concerns (AP-GC)

Organization in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council since 12 January 2019.

Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns has been registered as a federal Not-for-Profit Corporation in Canada. Corporation registration number is 902630-4.

January 12, 2019, APGC was granted Consultative Status by ECOSOC.

Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns
<https://apgc.ca>
Report to ECOSOC: Period 2019-2022

Introduction

Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns was created in 2008, registered as a not-for-profit corporation in 2014, and was granted Consultative Status by the UN ECOSOC on 12 January 2019. Global concerns are defined by the UN as those that “transcend national boundaries and cannot be resolved by any one country acting alone”. These issues include, but are not limited to, violation of human rights; concerns on democracy; international law and justice; poverty and inequality; climate change; decolonization. Those issues must be responded to with alternative visions beyond the mainstream outlooks.

Alternative approaches are those that go beyond the predominant utilitarian, individual interest-based attitude. They are cross-cultural and set a dialogical bridge between philosophical/ethical arguments and public deliberation. This bridge-making character of alternative perspectives is best manifested in our world’s cultural heritage, which is an antidote to the major threats our common humanity is facing: excessive individualism, unbridled hedonism, and nihilism.

Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns is committed to:

- Dialogue over common goods, humanization of social relations, and quality of life.
- Exploration of new insights from people with different disciplines.
- Openness to implementation of these insights when faced with global challenges.
- Policy-oriented counselling to both national and international institutions, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and the private sector.

To realize these commitments, AP-GC aims at:

- Advancing a network of engaged and responsible people who are interested in putting their skills and insights into the service of public benefit.
- Publishing and disseminating books and articles which reflect the societal interaction mentioned above.
- Facilitating a global forum to work together with the shared interests to analyze, respond and provide practical solutions for global concerns.
- Providing advisory counselling for organizations in charge of or interested in responding to global concerns.
- Initiating training programs, workshops, and conferences related to alternative perspectives and global concerns.

Why Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns?



Brainstorming

Initiating international experts events to discuss alternative and effective solutions to global concerns.



Networking

Advancing a network of engaged and responsible people who are interested in putting their skills and insights at the service of the common good.



Knowledge-building

Publishing and disseminating books and articles which reflect the societal interaction mentioned above.



Education

Designing and implementing constructivist educational and training programs to address global challenges



Counseling

Providing policy-oriented counseling to both national and international institutions, governmental and non-governmental organizations,



Data Banking

Creating a rich and categorized data bank to be used in the immediate conditions when the international community needs authentic thinkers and experts.

To undertake its mission, 2019-2022 was a productive period in the life of Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns. APGC experienced a series of important developments and events giving new directions to the life of the network. Here is a short report on what has been done over the last four years.

Part One: Organizational Developments

1. The constitution of the organization was amended and approved on the 5th of July 2019.
2. The new website of AP-GC was launched in 2020 (ap-gc.net). The website was hacked two times severely. Now, it is operating properly.
3. Now the geographical diversity of the network expands over, Australia, India, Iran, Turkey, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, France, Canada, USA, Austria, Colombia, Nigeria, Brazil, Greece, Cameroon, France, Zimbabwe, Kazakhstan, Botswana, and South Africa.

Part Two: Publications

The Network has continued publishing books on global concerns from the perspectives of human rights, global ethics, Democracy, and global development:

1. The members of the network have completed and published several books:
 - Masaeli, M. (2022). *Principle of Humanity in Human Rights: A Timeless Aspiration for Emancipation*. Farsi language. Ottawa, Canada, APGC Publication.

- Masaeli, M. (2022). *An Introduction to Freedom and Human Rights in International Political Theory*. Farsi language. The Hague, Netherlands: Iran Academia Press. In Farsi language.
- Anozie, U.S. (2022). *The Hermeneutics of Person, Belongingness and Diverse Philosophies*. Generis Publishing.
- Schlosser, U. (2002). *Dicionário Neológico de Parafenomenologia*. Editares.
- Sneller, R. (2021). *Perspectives on Synchronicity, Inspiration, and the Soul*. Cambridge Scholars.
- Masaeli, M. & Sneller, R. (Eds.). (2020). *The Return of Ethics and Spirituality in Global Development*. Antwerp. Belgium: Gompel and Svacina.
- Masaeli, M. & Sneller, R. (Eds.). (2020). *The Response of Mysticism to Religious Terrorism; Sufism and Beyond*. Antwerp. Belgium: Gompel and Svaina.
- Masaeli, M. et al. (Eds.). (2020). *Faith in Democracy*. Antwerp, Belgium: Gompel and Svaina.



2. The upcoming books:

- Masaeli, M. et al. (Eds.). (2023). *Wellbeing in African Philosophy: Insights for a Global Ethics of Development*. Lanham, MD 20706, Verenigde Staten: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Masaeli, M. et al. (Eds.). (2023). *Beauty in African Thought: Critique of the Western Idea of Development.*, Lanham, MD 20706, Verenigde Staten: Rowman & Littlefield.

- Masaeli, M. (2023). *Radical Approaches on Human Rights*. Ottawa, Canada: APGC Publication.
- Masaeli, M. (2023). *Foundations of International Human Rights Law*. Ottawa, Canada: APGC Publication.
- Masaeli, M. (2023). *Identity and Meaning of Life in Human Rights Culture*. Ottawa, Canada: APGC Publication.

Part Three: Educational Activities

3. A Master's course in 10 weeks entitled "Theories of Violent Conflicts" was initiated and presented in Farsi language for people of Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan. The course by Mahmoud Masaeli started in September 2021 and ended in December of the same year. This not-for-profit initiative absorbed attention of 40 students, seven of them with Ph.D. from Iran and Afghanistan. The textbook for this course is in the process of being completed.
4. "Education, Empowerment, and Human Development" is a one-year initiative prepared for academic and policy-oriented purposes in Afghanistan. This initiative consisted of four master's level courses:
 - An introduction to Development: Concepts, Theories, and Challenges
 - Theories of Development
 - Afghanistan and Challenges of Development in the Condition of Globality
 - Domestic Development in Afghanistan: Perspectives and Challenges.

Unfortunately, with Taliban's re-emergence in Afghanistan this project stays on hold.

5. "International Law in Theory and Practice" is another course initiated for people of Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan. The main purpose of the course is to provide a critical perspective in understanding of the fundamentals of international law. However, the revolt of Iranian people against the Islamic regime, and the continued presence of Taliban in Power, this course was postponed as well. All notes, PowerPoint slides, and instructions and guidelines have already been prepared. The course will be given in March 2023.



Part Four: Seminars

1. AP-GC has initiated and organized seminars and workshops:

- Initiated and organized 56 seminars around the pandemic situation. Annex 1.
- Initiated and implemented 13 workshops on Research Method in Farsi language for people of Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan.
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, New Perspectives in Human Rights Research
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, How to Write a Good Essay on Human Rights?
 - Sasan Habibvand, Criticism and Self-Cultivation
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, Reason, Reasonable, Wisdom
 - Massoud Frasatkah, Interdisciplinary Perspectives Research
 - Mohammad Reza Sargolzaee, Brain, Cognitive Biases, and Critical Thinking
 - Ahmad MohgammadPour, Philosophical Foundations and Scientific Principles of Methodology
 - Massoud Frasatkah, Interdisciplinary Perspectives Research: Case of Afghanistan
 - Hamid Massoudi, How to Design a Questionnaire in Social Research?
 - Seyyed Ali Asghar Soltani, Academic Writing Paragraph Writing
 - Mustafa Naseri, Writing a Convicting Research Proposal

- Seyed Ali Asghar Soltani, Academic Writing Essay Writing
 - Ahmed Mohammadpour, Method Philosophical and Practical Foundations in Research Method
 - Initiated and organized 5 seminars on the topic of recent Trends in the Social Sciences and Humanities.
 - Rico Sneller, Does Reason Saves Humanity?
 - Stanley Uche Anozie, Hermeneutics of Belonging
 - German Bula, The Voice of the Voiceless in Social Sciences
 - Ulisses Schlosser, Philosophy of Anti-Imprisonment
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, What is Reason? Where is Reason?
 - Initiated and organized 10 seminars entitled Creative dialogue.
 - Willem du Gardijn and Meera Chakravorty, Mystery (keter/crown).
 - Maria Garavito and Eric Verbugt, Wisdom (chokhmah).
 - Natalia Abdel Fattah and Hans Gerding, Understanding (binah).
 - Stanley Anozie and Evelien van Leeuwen, Love (chesed).
 - Susan Bhayat and Ulisses Schlosser, Discipline (gevurah).
 - Iman Ibrahim and David Beth, Beauty (tiferet).
 - Gianluigi Segalerba, Victory (netzach).
 - Rico Sneller and Amira Fayyad, Splendour (hod).
 - German Bula and Barbara Miller, Foundation (yesod).
 - Hans Leewens and Ann Van Sevenant, Kingship (malkuth) and government.
 - Three workshops for Intellectual Dialogue, Ottawa.
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, Humanity and Capacity to Understand
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, Reasonableness, Character, and Social Behaviour
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, Reason, Reasonableness, Wisdom
 - Two seminars on The Condition of Fragility for Afghanistan.
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, Afghanistan and the Condition of Fragility
 - Mahmoud Masaeli, Structural Causes of Fragility in Afghanistan
2. TV and radio talks on human rights issues and questions in Farsi language:
- Bi-weekly talks and debates about the human rights situation in Iran and Afghanistan on Mihan TV, California.
 - Weekly talks on human rights reflections, Radio Farsi, Ottawa, Canada.
3. Upcoming Conferences:
- A joint conference "Africa in the Global Community: Landmarks, Setbacks, Contributions and Developments" University of Nigeria, Nsukka, 25th May 2023.

- Proposed a conference to Lebanese University of Beirut about the topic of “Culture of Peace: Responding to an Account of Evil”, to be held in April 2023.

At a Glance

Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns is a global think tank network concentrated on alternative perspectives of global ethics, humanist spirituality, culture, identity, and human rights.

19 International conferences on global challenges

106 International seminars on global challenges

55 Scholars and experts from 22 countries in all continents

34 Scholarly books to enhance a genuine knowledge about alternative perspectives on global concerns

- Founded by Dr. Mahmoud Masaeli in 2008. Today, APGC comprises of scholars and researchers, social activists, journalists, and managers from private and public sectors networked to offer creative solutions to the persistent global challenges into service of promoting our common humanity. Scholars from Canada, France, the USA, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Turkey, Colombia, Bolivia, Nigeria, Iran, and South Africa, Uganda, Brazil, Zimbabwe, England, Nepal, and Greece, Cameroon, Uganda have joined the network.
- Alternative Perspectives and Global Concerns (APGC) is a federally incorporated not-for-profit organization in Canada. The corporation registration number is 902630-4.

Part Five: Some Proposals for Members and Friends of AP-GC

The following ideas are suggested to our friends and colleagues at AP-GC with the aim of creating a proactive collaboration and further promoting the activities of the network:

1. We welcome all suggestions regarding the vision and mission of AP-GC.
2. Please send a short report of the events in your institutions along with pictures taken in the event. These reports will be published on our website.
3. We can re-publish your already published essays on the website.
4. You may organize events in your institutions or host events suggested by AP-GC.
5. Your published books can also be posted on the website.
6. Your generous financial support alleviates the burden of expenses incurred by us.

Part Six: How to Contribute?

We welcome all of those who believe in the mission and vision of AP-GC. You can join us as a friend or a member.

You may assist us in our technical needs, present AP-GC to your colleagues, host events in your institutions, or assist us in the financial needs. We need \$2200 to publish 3 more books (please see part 2 above) and cover the cost of hosting our website by Blue Host for a three-year term. In our website we add your name, picture, and the amount paid.

Sincerely,

Mahmoud Masaeli, Ph.D.

President.apgc@gmail.com

<https://ap-gc.net>