

Global citizenship is the need of the hour



**DATELINE
DOHA**

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GLOBAL CITIZENS comprise people who regard humanity as their greatest religion and believe in creating 'One World'. The future of humankind is dependent on those people who believe that they are a citizen of planet Earth first and then of the country they were born in.

As global inter-connectivity increases, individual responsibility grows in direct proportion to the expanding social nexus. The foundation of a borderless world lies in the minds of people. Gov-

ernance and transparency play a vital role in combining the best global practices to create a homogenised environment. The foundation of 'One World' is identifying these best practices which can be recognised across multicultural civil societies.

Global citizenship upholds the individual as the cornerstone of society, with the freedom of individual choice being the key to social empowerment. In today's dynamic times, flexibility and adaptability are the hallmarks of global citizenship, leading to optimism for the future. The key dimensions of global citizenship are social responsibility, global awareness and civic management.

Global citizenship aims to empower people to lead their own action. Along with the knowledge and values that they have gained

from learning about global issues, people need to be equipped with the necessary skills to give them the ability and confidence to be pro-active in making a positive difference in the world. Global

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citizenship believes that each individual has the power to change things. In our interdependent world, global citizenship encourages us to recognise our responsibilities towards each other and learn from each other.

The Internet revolution is not only globalising economic and social life, it is also unbundling the relationship between geographic territory and state sovereignty that operated for the last couple of centuries across the world. Modern technology is creating a single world culture. As a result, for most people, in many domains, national borders matter less than they used to. The highly developed world wide web enables us to broaden our view of the world. Most of the world's citizens live and work in a globally interdependent economy but have little representation in deci-

sion-making on issues that affect people, independent of country borders. This lack of empowerment is particularly problematic in the face of major challenges such as reducing the inequalities of wealth within and among countries and dealing with the risks of climate change to more equally share global prosperity. A global citizenship should aim for more policies to focus on the above challenges.

The world requires social solidarity and getting people to start acting like global citizens is the best way to accomplish this. We have a duty to protect each other as humans. Every challenge in the world, every global conflict whether it takes place hundreds of thousands of miles away, or next door, is a global one. It'll take a global effort with global citizens to stop them.

The goals of liberty, equality and the pursuit of happiness can bring together people from all over the world, which is why it's important to be a global citizen because borders are meaningless. One doesn't need to actually travel outside their own country to be a global citizen; they can do it simply by having a human conscience and learning about the world from a global perspective.

We, as citizens of the world will create a global consciousness for what is right and what is wrong. And in terms of what is right, human rights will always prevail. Humanity comes first before anything else. This is the priority for people around the world, and this is the goal and importance of being a global citizen.

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