Report on Civil Society and the 2011 G8 Deauville Summit
Department of Civil Society Studies, G8 Research Group
at Trinity College, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto
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The G8 Research Group is based at Trinity College, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto. It is an international network of scholars, professionals and students interested in the activities of the Group of Eight (G8). Its mission is to serve as leading source of independent research and analysis on the G8, its member states and related institutions in the world.

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Introduction
Since the term “civil society” first appeared in a G8 Summit document at the Halifax Summit in 1995, these organizations have been particularly strategic about their involvement with summit activities. In the past decade, demonstrations and NGO campaigns around the summits have garnered their fair share of media attention, with far-reaching demonstrations becoming increasingly commonplace. According to the University of Toronto’s Peter Hajnal, civil society’s interaction with the G8 can be categorized into four distinct periods: 1981-1994, a “period of the earliest form of dialogue” and interaction; 1995-1997, a “period of formal recognition” by G8 member-states, and; 1998-present, a “period of well-structured cooperation.” By 2006, they were being involved in formal consultations, albeit in a relatively minor capacity. Since then, civil society groups have been a mainstay.

The goal of the 2010-2011 Civil Society Studies Report is to provide an analysis of the strategies used by civil society groups to influence G8 decision-making, particularly in the time leading up to, during, and after the 37th Annual G8 Summit in Deauville, France. To this end, we identified nine (9) civil society sub-groups that perceive G8 lobbying to be an important strategy to their organizational objectives. The sub-groups are:

1. Developmental Non-Governmental Organizations
2. Human Rights Groups
3. Environmental NGOs
4. Faith-Based Organizations
5. Philanthropic Foundations
6. Public Policy Research Institutions (Think Tanks)
7. Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations
8. Educational Campaigns
9. Trade Unions

Some organizations — e.g., Oxfam and World Vision — fall into more than one category. In this report, their activities will be discussed in their relevant sub-groups (i.e., Oxfam’s work on climate change initiatives under “Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations,” World Vision’s participation in the G8 World Religions Summit under “Faith-Based Organizations”).

Note: All figures mentioned in the report are in U.S. dollars.

Research Methodology
The scope of this report was determined using the London School of Economics Centre for Civil Society’s definition of “civil society”:

Civil society refers to the arena of uncoerced collective action around shared interests, purposes and values. In theory, its institutional forms are distinct from those of the state, family, and market, though in practice, the boundaries between state, civil society, family and market are often complex, blurred and negotiated. Civil society commonly embraces a diversity of spaces, actors and institutional forms, varying in their degree of formality, autonomy and power. Civil societies are often populated by organizations such as registered charities, development non-governmental organizations, community groups, women’s organizations, faith-based organizations, professional associations, trade unions, self-help groups, social movements, business associations, coalitions and advocacy groups.
The report assesses civil society’s involvement with the G8 by analyzing strategies used by sub-groups. Each report section was researched according to a standardized set of indicators:

1. The first strategy, **Policy, Press Statements and Utilization of Media**, details how sub-groups used various communications mediums to lobby the G8 and engage with the wider public.

2. The second, **Protests**, takes a look at demonstrations held by civil society sub-groups.

3. The third strategy, **Public Awareness Events and Workshops** pays particular attention to campaigns mounted by civil society groups to lobby G8 member states and create public awareness of their objectives.

3. **Collaborative Efforts** examines cooperation between civil society groups.

4. **G8-Civil Society Initiatives** assesses official G8 engagement with civil society groups, such as formal consultations and special events.

5. Finally, **Summit Outcomes** are a discussion on the overall reaction of individual sub-groups to the G8 Summit.
Developmental Non-Governmental Organizations
Salvator Cusimano and Niamh Fitzgerald

Introduction
Issues surrounding global development have been a constant feature of G8 Summit agendas since the inception of the G8 itself. In recent years, developmental non-governmental organizations have played an integral role in ensuring that these issues are kept on the G8 agenda, in monitoring the G8 member states’ activities, and in pressuring international leaders to adhere to their summit commitments from year to year. Developmental NGOs are often some of the most influential civil society actors in their interactions with the G8, and at past summits they have lobbied G8 leaders to prioritize aid to developing countries and to adopt policies that they perceive to be the most beneficial to long-term, sustainable development.

Developmental NGOs seek to address economic, social and political challenges in developing countries, including the alleviation of global poverty through the provision of Official Development Assistance (ODA) and through other solutions that promote sustainable development and growth.

The wide range of developmental NGOs includes large organizations such as Oxfam, Medecins Sans Frontières, and the Agha Khan Foundation, as well as smaller grassroots organizations. Many of these organizations advocate for and work towards the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Corresponding with the mandates of countless developmental organizations, the MDGs aim to eradicate extreme hunger and poverty, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, achieve universal primary education and develop a global partnership for development, among other goals.\footnote{Millennium Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme. Date of Access: 28 January 2012. http://www.beta.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/mdgoverview.html.} Developmental NGOs often collaborate with other organizations and civil society actors on particular campaigns or movements. For instance, the Jubilee Debt Campaign (which calls for the cancellation of the debts of the Least Developed Countries) is a broad coalition of civil society actors.

Developmental NGOs frequently communicate with the wider public through reports and communiqués that outline their views on a particular matter, explain organizational campaigns, and summarize their recent work and research. They also often utilize the broader media to explicate their ideas and opinions. This work has generated global public awareness of the G8’s work on development. Since G8 leaders are susceptible to public opinion, development NGOs play an important role by spreading awareness about the importance of engagement on development issues at the G8. At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, for example, the Make Poverty History Campaign had a pronounced impact on the G8 proceedings. Hundreds of thousands of people were mobilized and participated in peaceful demonstrations to show their support for the campaign, and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair even remarked: “I can’t think of a campaign that has been so brilliantly organized or struck such a chord with such a large number of people worldwide.”\footnote{Civil Society at the Gleneagles Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 March 2006. Date of Access: 28 January 2012. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/hajnal_060309.html#_ftn11.} Due, in part, to the influence of the campaign, the G8 leaders allocated a sum of USD50 billion towards aid, debt relief and trade over a period of five years, with half going to African states.\footnote{Civil Society at the Gleneagles Summit, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 March 2006. Date of Access: 28 January 2012. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/hajnal_060309.html#_ftn11.} In addition, at the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 made a commitment...
that within five years, life-saving antiretroviral therapy would be available for all HIV-infected people worldwide. Although these promises were a positive development, as of the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit, these and many other promises related to development had not been fulfilled.

With the promises of previous G8 summits left outstanding and unfulfilled, many developmental NGOs viewed the 2011 Deauville Summit as an opportunity for the G8 leaders to recommit to past pledges that had not been realized, including poverty alleviation, combating global hunger, increasing ODA to African countries, and improving maternal and child health in impoverished countries throughout the world. Developmental NGOs additionally pressured G8 leaders to make themselves accountable to the developing countries that they have repeatedly pledged to assist.

The agenda of the 2011 G8 Deauville Summit focused primarily on renewing commitments to freedom and democracy, assisting the Arab states with their transitions to democracy, strengthening already existing partnerships with Africa, addressing challenges presented by the internet, as well as issues of peace and security. The general response from developmental NGOs was critical — although some acknowledged the importance of these issues, the majority expressed concern at the G8’s inability to comply with past commitments related to development promises.

This report will detail the actions of developmental NGOs during the 2011 G8 Deauville Summit and their responses to the outcomes of the summit. Several NGOs utilized print, online and social media to make their opinions known to the broader public. Summit protests, however, were minimal. Many developmental NGOs and other civil society actors were present at the summit itself.

**Summit Participation**

**Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of Media**

In the days leading up to, during, and after the 2011 G8 Deauville Summit, several developmental NGOs released press statements and utilized media sources to convey their appeals, criticisms, and concerns regarding the 2011 G8 agenda and communiqué. Much of the response from developmental NGOs before the summit was critical of the G8’s poor performance on prior commitments, with frequent calls for the fulfillment of these previous promises. Unfortunately, few attitudes changed after the summit, as the majority of developmental organizations castigated the G8 for not recommitting to their previous pledges and questioned whether the G8 would be capable of fulfilling their new commitments as well.

On 17 May 2011, ActionAid published a detailed report entitled “Two Years On: Is the G8 Delivering on its L’Aquila Hunger Pledge?” which assesses the progress of the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative from the 2009 summit. The report states: “ActionAid believes that the

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accountability process is severely undermined by a lack of transparency on how much countries have spent and a lack of consistency in measuring progress and timelines. A few donors — the EU, Germany and Japan — are not even able to account on their expenditure to date and are still only reporting on what they have committed to doing.\(^8\) Germany and Italy were also criticized for their reporting on the progress of items that were unrelated to the initial Hunger Pledge, which was viewed as an attempt to cover up their lack of progress. ActionAid recommended that the G8 improve transparency measures, fulfill their L’Aquila pledges, and increase agricultural aid even further to assist those suffering from the most recent food crises.\(^9\)

The developmental organization ONE published a statement on 18 May 2011, in which executive director Jamie Drummond responded to the Deauville Accountability Report that had been released by the G8 that same day. Drummond stated that rather than ensuring that commitments were followed and measured, “the report released by the G8 attempts to whitewash the shortfalls.”\(^10\) He admonished the G8’s claims of being approximately USD 1 billion per year “short of the annual aid target set at the 2005 Gleneagles summit. According to the globally accepted OECD methodology… the G8 are still over USD 18 billion short.”\(^11\) He further criticized the G8’s “lack of progress” on their commitments on agriculture and maternal and child health, and said that “we cannot allow countries who are breaking promises to the world’s poor hide behind misleading figures.”\(^12\)

The international development organization Oxfam made similar criticisms of the Deauville Accountability Report on 18 May 2011. Oxfam stated that: “In their Deauville Accountability Report, the G8 has massaged the figures… Of the promised $25 billion promised to Africa, only $11 billion has really been delivered.”\(^13\) Spokesperson Emma Seery lambasted the report, saying that it “is not an accountability report, it is a cover up that is deeply embarrassing for the G8 and an insult to the world’s poorest people.”\(^14\) Further condemnation of the report was made by other developmental NGOs, including ActionAid, who accused the G8 of “purposefully fudging its figures to look like it is meeting its commitments,”\(^15\) as well as World Vision, who called for the G8’s accountability reporting to be improved.\(^16\)

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MSF issued a press release on 24 May 2011 that detailed recent findings in Niger, where “mortality rates were observed to be 50 percent lower” amongst children who “received a highly nutritious supplemental food.” Consequently, MSF strongly encouraged the G8 to “commit to ensure that appropriate foods reach vulnerable children” at the Deauville Summit.

On 25 May 2011 — one day before the summit — Oxfam called on the G8 leaders to take an active stance on unfulfilled past promises and to follow through with “their previous commitments to the world’s poor before making new ones.” World Vision wrote an open letter to the spouses of the G8 leaders on 26 May 2011, encouraging them to remember and draw attention to issues of food security, hunger and poverty as they enjoyed the delicious French food that would be served at each of their functions and events over the course of the summit.

On 27 May 2011, at the close of the Deauville G8 Summit, several developmental NGOs released press statements that outlined their views and spoke with various media outlets about the commitments pledged and the issues discussed by the G8 leaders during the summit. At the culmination of the summit, Oxfam released a highly critical press statement presenting their views on the G8’s Deauville Communiqué. The press release commented “the G8 is losing credibility by showing no real decision-making in its Communiqué.” The G8’s recent commitment to support democracy in the Arab Spring was dismissed as “just another batch of empty promises,” based on the fact that already-existing goals to alleviate poverty have yet to be met.

In response to the G8’s pledge to help Arab countries make the transition to democracy, Save the Children released a statement, also on 27 May 2011, reminding the G8 leaders “to stick to pledges for the world’s poor, even as they act to help countries in the Middle East... [because] key pledges to the developing world still ha[ve] to be delivered.” However, the NGO was more supportive of other commitments addressed by the G8, including their strong endorsement of the global immunization summit to be held in London in June 2011, which, “if fully funded... could

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help save four million children’s lives.”\textsuperscript{24} Save the Children also commended the G8’s continued pledge to improve maternal and child healthcare, but warned that this “pledge now needs to be matched by action at the UN Assembly in September, where the leaders must make specific commitments to tackle the shortfall of 3.5 million health workers in poorest countries.”\textsuperscript{25}

More criticism came from Robert Zachritz, government relations director for World Vision US, who chided the G8 leaders for passing up the opportunity to renew their commitments to alleviate hunger.\textsuperscript{26} Similarly, ActionAid’s Luca De Fraia stated: “With the world one failed harvest away from a food crisis, it’s outrageous that the G8 has failed to use this year’s summit as an opportunity to initiate a response… It’s obvious that the G8’s commitments on fighting hunger are not being met fast enough. Barely a quarter of the money they pledged two years ago has been delivered to those who need it.”\textsuperscript{27} Samuel Worthington, president and CEO of InterAction (a coalition of over 190 NGOs), lamented that the “G8 leaders have once again fallen short… [and] I fear G8 development goals will not be met.”\textsuperscript{28}

Even those organizations that did not completely chastise the G8’s Deauville communiqué still offered caveats. For example, although Global Health Council’s CEO Jeffrey Sturchio did commend the G8’s final communiqué for its stance on global health, he remained skeptical, stating that “the communiqué is heavy on rhetoric and light on a demonstration of real improvements in the health of women and children.”\textsuperscript{29}

Furthermore, some developmental organizations requested that the G8 comply with its commitments to development, both old and new, and indicated that they would continue to monitor the G8’s performance. For example, on 27 May 2011, the coalition of civil society organizations Coordination SUD — “a coalition of one hundred and thirty French NGOs”\textsuperscript{30} — and the member organizations of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) coalition made a request of the G8 leaders to fulfill one of their newly-made commitments. The G8 had stated that the new partnership between the G8 and Arab countries and the renewed partnership between the G8 and Africa would involve communication and participation with local civil

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society actors in these regions, and Coordination SUD and GCAP requested that they follow through with this commitment.31

Although the views expressed by developmental NGOs sometimes varied on certain issues, often according to their individual mandates, their overall response was critical of the G8’s compliance on past commitments as well as the 2011 Deauville Communiqué. These opinions were expressed through policy papers and publications on their websites, interviews with the press, newspaper articles, blogs, and various forms of social media including Twitter and Facebook.

Protests
The most widely-covered protest occurred on 21 May 2011 in Le Havre, France, shortly before the summit in nearby Deauville. The protest was organized under the slogan “G8: Dégage,” and included an estimated 4,000 to 8,000 protesters representing various causes.32 Although major civil society actors from the development sector do not appear to have participated in the protest, some participants in the protest articulated development related aims.33 The 21 May protest was relatively peaceful, with minor incidences of vandalism that were rejected by the organizers.34

On 27 May 2011, a French HIV/AIDS organization called AIDES France held a small protest at the G8 International Media Centre.35 The protesters dressed in frilly pink and portrayed themselves as “Miss Promises,” in order to highlight the G8’s failure to deliver on the promises they had made with respect to HIV/AIDS.36

The G8 does not appear to have reacted to these events in any way.

Public Awareness Events and Workshops
Ahead of the Deauville Summit, Oxfam organized a photo-shoot depicting caricatures of G8 leaders playing poker at a casino. This is the latest instalment in the gathering of Oxfam’s “Big Heads,” which have made an appearance for the last six years.37 According to The Sherpa, Oxfam framed the photo-shoot in terms of the G8 “bluffing” on their commitments to aid: “Oxfam is calling on them to reaffirm their Gleneagles, L’Aquila and Muskoka commitments, and setting out an emergency plan to deliver the overall shortfall in aid promised of $19 billion.”38

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Oxfam had other, similarly creative ways of increasing public awareness of the G8 Summit. On 20 May 2011 the group organized a social media campaign on Twitter to draw attention to the fact that the G8 appeared to have suggested that they “delivered almost $18 billion more than they actually have done.”\textsuperscript{39} Oxfam encouraged members of the public to send a message to leaders using the Twitter hashtags #DearG8 and #G8.\textsuperscript{40}

World Vision also got creative with its awareness-raising efforts. On 24 May 2011 the organization issued a press release that asked readers to imagine what the life of French President Sarkozy’s newborn son (with wife Carla Bruni) would be like if the child had been born in Chad.\textsuperscript{41} Drawing attention to the vast disparity in healthcare spending between Western European countries and African nations, and highlighting the effects of diseases like diarrhea, malaria, pneumonia and malnourishment, which are uncommon or unserious in G8 countries, World Vision attempted to raise awareness about the G8’s unfulfilled commitments to child and maternal health.\textsuperscript{42} On 17 May 2011 World Vision produced a creative video that raised awareness about rising food prices and the impact upon families in developing countries.\textsuperscript{43}

**Collaborative Efforts**

Collaborative efforts among civil society actors appear to have been minimal at Deauville. At the protest in Le Havre, representatives from at least 35 diverse organizations were present.\textsuperscript{44} The protests appear to have been coordinated by *La Coalition G8-G20*, which describes itself as having united organizations, unions, and social and citizens movements in order to call for public engagement on the G8-G20 activities in France.\textsuperscript{45} Numerous development organizations were signatories on the coalition, including Action contre la Faim (ACF) and World Vision (France).\textsuperscript{46} *La Coalition* released a list of many demands, including the demand that the G8 impose a mandatory tax upon financial transactions in order to fund the development of countries in the Global South.\textsuperscript{47} InterAction, an alliance of US-based NGOs, also attended the G8 Summit and

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issued statements on its own behalf and on behalf of its members.\textsuperscript{48}

**G8-Civil Society Initiatives**

There does not appear to have been any initiatives between development organizations and the G8 at the Deauville Summit.

**Summit Outcomes**

Overall, development organizations were displeased with the Summit’s outcomes. The groups criticized the G8 for being vague and for continuing to delay on fulfilling their prior commitments, drawing special attention to shortfalls and delays on meeting commitments to food security.

InterAction summarized the positions of some of its members, noting the “disappointing outcome” of the Summit.\textsuperscript{49} InterAction highlighted the fact that only 22\% of the funds for agriculture pledged at the L’Aquila Summit in 2009 have been disbursed, and identified the United States as an especially slow donor for having released barely 5\% of the aid it committed at L’Aquila.\textsuperscript{50} InterAction did cautiously laud a $20 billion aid package pledged at Deauville for Egypt and Tunisia, but noted that details “were sketchy in the final communiqué.”\textsuperscript{51}

Oxfam’s response to the Summit highlighted similar themes. Overall, Oxfam regarded the final communiqué as lacking firm decisions and failing to meet the G8’s own aid targets.\textsuperscript{52} The organization expressed reservations about the fact that the G8 made new pledges to support Arab countries in the wake of the Arab Spring, given their continuing failure to meet their commitments to address poverty in the rest of the world.\textsuperscript{53} Oxfam welcomed the G8’s apparent commitment to increase accountability in extractive industries, but were critical of the fact that the communiqué mentioned “voluntary” reporting: “only mandatory reporting can arm citizens with the information they need to hold their governments accountable, while paving the way for developing country governments to get the fairest deal from rich companies.”\textsuperscript{54}


World Vision expressed concerns over similar issues. Like Oxfam, World Vision drew attention to the G8’s — and in particular, the United States’ — slow disbursement of aid for commitments to reducing hunger. The organization also criticized the G8’s failure to address child and maternal health. World Vision was pleased with statements on accountability and transparency of aid, but maintained that the communiqué was too vague to have an impact. Robert Zachritz, World Vision’s government relations director, expressed urgency at issues related to food and hunger, and maintained that the global recession was no excuse for failing to conduct “interventions... [that] are very cost effective, even in tight economic times.”

Like World Vision and Oxfam, ActionAid criticized the slowness and lack of transparency surrounding the disbursement of agricultural programs.

A number of organizations sought to focus attention on the plight of Africa, especially since the Summit had focused on the Arab Spring. The ONE campaign “criticized the G8 for [not] making any real progress on African development,” and Save the Children warned against allowing an “African winter” to follow the Arab Spring.

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Human Rights Organizations
Yasmin Alabed and Estefania Rueda

Introduction
Human Rights Organizations were key civil society actors at the May 2011 Deauville Summit in France. Their goals included: the delivery of aid promised to developing nations, increasing accountability, continuous support for protesters demanding freedom of speech, and a call to support protesters in the Arab Spring. Amnesty International, Global Call to Action Against Poverty and Oxfam International were primary actors focusing on human rights issues. They released press statements, drafted propositions and worked with other civil society actors through associations such as SUD and the G8G20 Coalition in an effort to produce the best outcomes possible. Overall, human rights organizations felt that the G8 leaders did not concentrate enough on improving equality amongst nations and taking the necessary steps to further promote human rights.

Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media
Human Rights organizations such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Oxfam International, and the International Service for Human Rights released press statements before and after the summit. Specifically, they focused on the need for G8 leaders to address certain states’ human rights records.

Amnesty International released a press statement in May 2011 asking leaders of the G8 to take bold action to support human rights in the Middle East and North Africa.\(^{62}\) They suggested that the Arab Spring signaled the desire of those populations for full recognition of their fundamental human rights.\(^{63}\) Thus, Amnesty International urged G8 Leaders to support the protesters, and to call on certain states to correct their human rights record. Moreover, they believed that G8 leaders should seize the opportunities available to them in the upcoming summit to discuss and promote democracy in the Middle East and North Africa.\(^{64}\)

Oxfam International asked that G8 leaders enact an emergency plan to deliver the aid they have promised, invest in the reduction of global hunger, and promote health and education initiatives.\(^{65}\) Specifically, they asked that G8 leaders focus on the 925 million people who suffer from hunger.\(^{66}\) Moreover, they called for action to promote equality between poor countries and the rich. Oxfam International released a press statement called “Will the G8 be just a ‘social network?’” in 2011 discussing the need for the G8 to commit to their aid money.\(^{67}\)

\(^{65}\)“Oxfam is back in action at the G8 summit.” Date of Access: January 31\(^{st}\), 2012. http://www.oxfam.org/g8-2011
\(^{66}\)“Oxfam is back in action at the G8 summit.” Date of Access: January 31\(^{st}\), 2012. http://www.oxfam.org/g8-2011
Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) is another leading civil society organization that addresses issues related to human rights. On 25 May 2011, GCAP released a document outlining the seven action points required for the G8 to enact in order for increased equality. These action points included: public accountability, women’s rights, increases in quality aid, debt cancellation, trade justice, climate justice, and peace and human security.

One of the most important points outlined in the document was relevant to the increased aid to developing nations. GCAP stated that they should set out an emergency plan to deliver the $19 billion shortfall commitments by 2012. They also called for further investment in human security to prevent conflict and increase peace. GCAP outlined these points in great detail for the G8 Summit. GCAP also demanded the release of political prisoners and for the full respect of human rights in the Middle East.

Thus, many human rights organizations released press statements and documents regarding the G8’s actions prior to the Deauville summit and after it.

**Protests**

Protests are common in every summit, as many civil society actors and individuals participate in visible efforts to demand more from the G8 conference and their political leaders. In the Deauville Summit of 2011, protests occurred in Le Havre. Human rights protesters demanded solutions to the financial crisis, equality of rights, food security, and international solidarity with the Arab protesters.

Around 7000 protesters gathered in Le Havre as an attempt to be heard by the Group of Eight nations. They represented a range of issues including anti-globalization, anti-nuclear, socialist, labour and human rights. In response to the protests, the G8 increased security, and forces were
deployed around the city. More than 12,000 police and military personnel were mobilized around Deauville and marine units were monitored access routes to the north coastal town.

**Public Awareness Events and Workshops**
Not many public awareness events and workshops were organized by Human Rights organizations during the summit. However, the Internet was used throughout the conference as a means of promoting freedom and relaying developments from the conference.

**Collaborative Efforts**
Human rights organizations collaborated with other civil society actors through associations such as Coordination SUD and the G8/G20 Coalition.

Coordination SUD is a French-based coalition of more than one hundred and thirty NGOs that work in different areas such as development, human rights, environmental protection and international solidarity. A special committee was set up by SUD with the purpose of observing the G8 and G20 meetings, coordinating a shared position and carrying out advocacy actions. A paper was released on their website demanding that the French presidency champion six proposals at the G8 and G20. The first of these proposals called on the G8 to “adopt an approach that fosters development based on respect for and attainment of fundamental human rights”. Coordination SUD was also active in collaborating and building networks with other civil society groups, such as CGAP. They expressed that it is important to reflect and build global positions on the G8 and G20 meetings.

The G8/G20 Coalition is comprised of over forty civil society organizations. Signatories include the League of Human Rights (France) and Oxfam (France). Prior to the summit at Deauville they organized an “International Preparatory Meeting” and made a call to mobilize and protest against the G8 summit on the 21 and 22 of May. During the summit they held a concert and on the Sunday an alternative forum at the University of Le Havre to debate issues such as gender inequality, nuclear energy and the Arab spring. This coalition was very active in the

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81 Actualites - En route vers les G8 et G20 français, mobilisations.g8g20, Date of Access: 1 February 2012. http://www.coordinationsud.org/actualite/en-route-vers-les-g8-et-g20-francais/
82 Signataires, mobilisations.g8g20. Date of Access: 27 January 2012. http://www.mobilisationsg8g20.org/english/g8g20-coalition/article/signatories.html
mobilization of civil society organizations, groups and individual citizens. They were also active in releasing press statements, news and materials for the public to use such as posters and flyers.\footnote{Matériel de communication G8 G20, mobilisationsg8g20, 31 March 2011. Date accessed: 27 January 2012. http://www.mobilisationsg8g20.org/g8-degage/materiel-g8/article/materiel-de-communication-g8-g20.html}

They expressed that it is important to reflect and build global positions on the G8 and G20 meetings.

**G8-Civil Society Initiatives**


Ragia Omran, a representative from the Egyptian feminist NGO, The New Women foundation, discussed her response to the G8. She challenged the leaders of the G8 to be “innovative and creative” in their financial aid to the North African countries. She insisted that the aid must not be a “blank check” to governments but rather must be targeted to the specific needs and welfare of the citizens of these nations. She also so she expressed the allocation of the resources must be based on “accountability and transparency”.\footnote{Kate Bruce-Lockhart, Thoughts form Cairo: New Women Foundation responds to communique, 27 May 2011. Date Accessed: 30 January 2011. http://g8live.org/thoughts-from-cairo-new-women-foundation-responds-to-communique/} Finally she expressed her concerns about the human rights abuses that have become a daily reality in Egypt and urged the G8 leaders to go further than their rhetoric on democracy and send a clear message on how they will secure democracy and the attainment of fundamental human rights for all peoples.\footnote{Kate Bruce-Lockhart, Thoughts form Cairo: New Women Foundation responds to communique, 27 May 2011. Date Accessed: 30 January 2011. http://g8live.org/thoughts-from-cairo-new-women-foundation-responds-to-communique/}

**III. Summit Outcomes**

Although human rights actors were pleased with the renewed commitments to health by the G8 and welcomed the Deauville Partnership with North Africa, they were generally disappointed with the outcomes of the Deauville G8 summit.\footnote{NGO's Reaction to Deauville G8, The Sherpa, 27 May 2011. Date Accesses January 26, 2012. http://www.sherpatimes.com/index.php/g8/556-ngos-reaction-to-deauville-g8} Civil society organizations criticized the final communiqué for its vagueness and lack of concrete commitments, and especially took issue with the G8’s use of both OECD figures and its own “massaged” figures in the Deauville Accountability Report.\footnote{NGO's Reaction to Deauville G8, The Sherpa, 27 May 2011. Date Accesses January 26, 2012. http://www.sherpatimes.com/index.php/g8/556-ngos-reaction-to-deauville-g8} Certain groups voiced their concern that the summit was overly focused on making new promises and reports and not on assessing the actual results achieved on the ground on previous commitments.\footnote{US NGOs react to G8 Summit, InterAction, 27 May 2011. Date Accessed January 26, 2012. http://www.interaction.org/article/us-ngos-react-g8-summit} For example, Oxfam International has been critical of the
G8, as they have not been compliant with their commitments to reduce poverty and increase equality.\textsuperscript{93}

Coordination SUD released a press statement at the end of the summit outlying their response. They criticized the French presidency for implementing the same old recipes even though their slogan states “A new world, new ideas”.\textsuperscript{94} They also criticized the G8 insistence to implement a classical liberal approach to development despite the number of crisis the world faces today. They urged the G8 to actually consult civil society in the initiative of the Deauville Partnership as they declared in their communiqué, something they had already failed to do so as expressed by Tarek Benhiba of Fédération des tunisiens pour une citoyenneté des deux rives (FTCR).\textsuperscript{95}

However, Human Rights Organizations praised the inclusion of the Prime Ministers of Tunisia and Egypt were invited to the summit.\textsuperscript{96} This was an important opportunity to promote human rights for these specific states and it was widely supported by the protestors. By allowing these nations to be represented during the summit, the G8 increased its accountability.

\textsuperscript{93} “Oxfam is back in action at the G8 summit.” Date of Access: January 31\textsuperscript{st}, 2012. http://www.oxfam.org/g8-2011


Environmental Non-Government Organizations
Alexandra Robertson

Introduction
The major environmental civil society actors involved in G8 summits are Greenpeace International, the World Wildlife Federation (WWF), Oxfam International, Friends of the Earth International, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and the Climate Action Network.  

At past summits, environmental groups have urged that countries take steps to keep average global temperatures from increasing more than two degrees Celsius. For this to be accomplished, environmental non-government organizations (eNGOs) have demanded the reduction of carbon emissions and the phasing out of fossil fuel use. Groups have also pressured G8 nations to financially assist developing countries in climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. Another demand has been the creation of international institutions that encourage and facilitate the greening of national economies.

During past summits, these groups have made their voices heard through protests, publicity stunts, press releases, and public awareness campaigns. They have attempted to influence summit outcomes through policy proposals and the assessment of domestic environmental records. eNGOs have also engaged with the broader public and its demands through public polls and social media.

Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media
Various eNGOs released policy recommendations and press statements in the month leading up to the summit, as well as during the events in Deauville. The World Wide Fund for Nature (WFF) and Greenpeace each provided comprehensive policy papers, in which both organizations focused on the phasing out of nuclear and fossil fuel energy, investments in renewables, and the reaffirmation of international commitments regarding climate change.

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On May 18, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) released the “G8 Summit in Deauville WWF Policy Brief and Asks.” In this document, the organization outlines four policy recommendations: the creation of new economic indicators and incentives for green growth and sustainable development; phasing out of fossil fuel and nuclear subsidies and investment in alternatives energy alternatives, including renewables, energy conservation, and energy efficiency; strengthening of international commitments regarding climate change mitigation through cooperation with UNFCCC Cancún agreements and building of political momentum in the lead-up to the Conference of Parties in Durban, December 2011; and increasing development aid to provide food, water and energy access to those living in poverty, in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals.

On May 25, Oxfam issued a press release on its website entitled “Will The G8 Be Just A ‘Social Network’?” In the release, Emma Seery, the Deputy Advocacy and Campaigns Director of Oxfam, stated that “we need more than just a ‘status update’ on climate change, so the few minutes G8 leaders will spend on this will need to be very productive.” Specific actions recommended by the release included the creation of a global financial transaction tax to secure funds for climate change mitigation efforts, and the enacting of mandatory reporting legislation concerning the payment of government funds to oil, gas, and mining companies.

On May 25, Greenpeace released the “G8 Climate and Energy Action Checklist.” The report stated that the success of the summit depended on the fulfillment of the following four criteria: the opening of a review process assessing the IAEA’s institutional objectives and the implementation of reforms ensuring the upholding of nuclear safety standards and protection of public health; phasing-out of liability caps on damage caused by third parties in nuclear accidents and the creation of new laws under which the nuclear industry would be fully liable for accidents and pollution; phasing-out of government subsidies for the fossil fuel industry and the construction of frameworks to achieve the targets of 35% renewables by 2020 and 50% by 2030; and moving beyond current international commitments regarding emissions, so that promises to keep global temperatures from rising above 2 degrees Celsius will be kept. The policy paper stated conclusively:

To prevent further climate disaster, our leaders need to honour their commitment to keeping a global temperature rise below 2°C. They can and must take action now. History will judge them by it; our future will depend on it.\textsuperscript{112}

On the same day, Greenpeace also released the press statement, “Greenpeace Urges G8 to Take a Safe Bet on Renewable Energy Instead of Gambling With Nuclear.”\textsuperscript{113} In the release, the organization stressed the importance of G8 leaders “backing a secure future powered by renewable energy.”\textsuperscript{114} To this end, the release provided the following policy recommendations: the phasing out of nuclear energy; ending government subsidies and liability caps for the nuclear and fossil fuel industries; and taking action on renewable energy development, based upon the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change renewables report.\textsuperscript{115} In the release, Executive Director of Greenpeace Kumi Naidoo, stated that:

The ongoing Fukushima crisis has reminded us of the devastating legacy for public health and the environment caused by nuclear disasters. Fukushima tells us that when there is profit to be made, private finance will take a gamble and happily pocket subsidies, but in the event of a nuclear meltdown ordinary people pay both the health and financial costs.\textsuperscript{116}

In addition, Greenpeace released the first lab results of its Japanese marine monitoring investigation during the summit.\textsuperscript{117} In a blog entry on its website, Greenpeace reported that the results indicated: radiation levels 50 times higher than the safety limits; widespread radiation throughout the sea area and accumulation in sea life; high levels of iodine, suggesting continued release of contaminated water from the Fukushima nuclear plant; and levels of radioactivity in fish and shellfish above the legal limit for food consumption.\textsuperscript{118} The organization also called on the Japanese government to: conduct its own comprehensive study of marine contamination;

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publicly release all information pertaining to the leaking of contaminated water; and proactively protect and compensate citizens affected by the nuclear accident.\textsuperscript{119}

In an interview in Deauville during the summit, Greenpeace Executive Director Kumi Naidoo stated:

The G8 is basically a cartel, a self-appointed cartel of eight dominant nations which carry actually the biggest responsibility collectively for climate change and a whole range of other issues. What we are concerned about the G8 is — and if you have a look at the draft communiqués which have been leaked now — that it’s regurgitation every year of the same commitments, re-packaged and re-stated. This is not leadership, this is fraudulence and it needs to be addressed.\textsuperscript{120}

**Protests**

On May 21, 4,000 activists congregated for protests in Le Havre, France.\textsuperscript{121} Le Havre was designated as the central location for the civil society groups not given access to the summit.\textsuperscript{122} Anti-nuclear and environmental groups were among the thirty-five NGOs in attendance.\textsuperscript{123} Global Resistance, an anti-globalization NGO based in the United Kingdom, reported that most of the individuals and groups present were French, with little participation from other domestic or international NGOs.\textsuperscript{124}

**Public Awareness Events and Workshops**

In January 2011, Greenpeace International joined NGOs from around the world to collaborate at the Global G8/G20 Working Group Meeting in France.\textsuperscript{125} The purpose of the meeting was to “share information, pool intelligence, agree on policy strategies, and lay groundwork for coordinated global campaigns and advocacy initiatives.”\textsuperscript{126}


On May 22, a counter-summit was held at the University of Le Havre. Topics discussed by attendees included “nuclear energy and energy choices” and “environmental and social crisis.”

Collaborative Efforts
On May 27, a conference was held by NGOs at the Deauville Summit’s International Media Centre. This conference was organized by Coordination SUD, a French coalition of civil society groups. Catherine Gaudard, a member of Coordination SUD, led the conference. She framed the discussion around comparisons of the demands of NGOs on G8 leaders and the commitments made by leaders during the summit. Gaudard criticized the leaders’ stance on green growth, stating that government regulation of the private sector would be necessary in achieving sustainable growth objectives. Coordination SUD also stated that while discussion of extractive industries by G8 leaders was an important step, practical solutions were absent from the summit.

G8-Civil Society Initiatives
Under the organization of Coordination SUD, forty civil society groups were accredited to attend the summit. These groups were accommodated at the summit’s International Media Summit, where they held a conference on May 27. As the summit was closed off from most NGO participation, summit protests were held in Paris and Le Havre, France. In response to the exclusion of many civil society groups from the summit, Greenpeace Executive Director Kumi Naidoo stated that:

When we look at citizens mobilisation and campaigning against the G8, it is clear why it is so much more difficult, because the leaders of the G8 know that increasingly they are out of step with their own people, they are out of step with global reality and we have seen a tendency for the G8 venues to retreat more and more away from large concentrations of

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people to make it impossible from a security, practicalities or cost, for people to actually come and participate in public mobilisations.\textsuperscript{138}

**Summit Outcomes**

Both Greenpeace and the World Wide Fund for Nature expressed disappointment in the summit outcomes. The G8 leaders were criticized by both groups for not moving forward on climate change commitments, as well as for not implementing the reforms of fossil fuel and nuclear subsidies needed to provide incentives for renewable energy and green growth.

In an interview for TckTckTck.com on the summit outcomes, Kumi Naidoo criticized the lack of action concerning climate change commitments and called for increased public accountability on the part of G8 leaders.\textsuperscript{139} In the interview Naidoo stated:

> The G8 heads of state went to Deauville in search of identity and purpose — they could have found it by tackling energy security, climate change and nuclear safety. But again they were blinded by their fossil fuel addiction and failed to take us towards a safe and secure energy future, free from oil wars, climate chaos and nuclear disasters.\textsuperscript{140}

On May 27, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) released a statement on the summit outcomes entitled “G8 Myopia: Leaders Still Fall Short of Vision for Green Economy.”\textsuperscript{141} In its critique of the summit outcomes, the eNGO stated that the G8 leaders had reaffirmed old commitments but had not committed to new action in the issue areas of climate change mitigation, green growth, and alternative energy; that the G8’s posture on green growth did not incorporate new indicators of growth or reform of fossil fuel subsidies; and that the summit was a lost opportunity for investment into energy efficiency and energy savings.\textsuperscript{142} WWF International Policy Advisor Elise Buckle stated that:

> G8 countries seem to stick a myopic vision of our energy future … The G8 need to shake off the dust covering its old vestige and look into future energy options. The G8 summit missed an opportunity driving the world towards a renewable energy future and setting up the right fiscal incentives for the green economy. A new economic model needs to take into account the limited capacity of the planet to absorb pollution and to provide natural resources.\textsuperscript{143}


Faith-Based Organizations
Carmen Celestini

Introduction
Faith-based organizations (FBOs) offer a voice to diverse communities who they advocate on the behalf of. These communities represent those who are directly or indirectly affected by the policies of the G8 summits. Issues addressed by the faith-based organizations include support to countries to feed themselves based on human rights to food, encouragement for investments in sustainable smallholder food production systems, limiting financial speculation in agriculture produce and reinforcing strategic food reserves, and improving international cooperation on agriculture and food policies. Children’s rights, women’s rights, women’s health care, HIV/AIDS issues and sustainability are core campaign issues. Poverty, water safety, climate change and peace are also at the forefront of FBOs agenda, as well as economic issues.

The United Nations Population Fund Activities define faith-based organizations as follows:

The lines demarcating what constitutes an FBO are blurred in reality because of the fluidity of organizational structures and the diversity in ways in which faith expresses itself. UNFPA categorizes FBOs as:

1. faith-based and/or faith-inspired development organizations (for example Islamic Relief, Christian Aid, Catholic Relief Services and their national, regional and international chapters);

2. interfaith-or multifaith-based organizations that come together for a common cause guided by common values derived from different religious traditions, and provide services that are beyond the scope of a single congregation;

3. local congregations: people who worship together and reach out socially (for example, by organizing food pantries, donations of clothes, in-home visits and assistance to the elderly); and

4. ministries of religious affairs (particularly, but not only, in countries where NGOs may, for whatever reason, find it difficult to register or function) Another definition is: a service providing FBO is defined as a civil society organization of a religious character or mandate engaged in various kinds of service delivery.144

Various methods are used by the faith-based organizations including press releases, response papers, reaction papers, fact sheets, Calls for Actions to their members, blogging throughout the summits, utilization of social media, recommendations to the G20/G8 leaders, and advocacy kits for their member agencies.

Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media
Oxfam, an NGO with faith-based roots, focused their advocacy on food reserves, regulation of

financial derivatives, phasing out incentives to use food for fuel, requesting a new tax on financial transactions (Robin Hood Tax), a new tax on international shipping and climate change.\(^\text{145}\) This advocacy was supported by numerous press releases and briefings on these issues. In support of the Robin Hood Tax and the shipping tax Oxfam released their findings that aid from rich nations was speculated to fall by $9.5 billion by the end of 2012.\(^\text{146}\)

Christian Aid released press releases acknowledging the decision of the G8 leaders for financial transparency. “We are pleased to see the G8’s recognition of the importance of transparency and the tentative support for legal measures for the extractives industry. These powerful countries must follow their thinking through to its logical conclusion — that it’s time to use the law to secure greater openness across the world” stated David McNair, Christian Aid’s Senior Economic Justice Adviser in a press release.\(^\text{147}\) Christian Aid also wrote to Chancellor George Osborne urging him to challenge Switzerland’s anonymous bank accounts.\(^\text{148}\) Prior to the G8 Summit, the organization released a report entitled “Hungry For Justice” which claims that pension funds and investment funds in commodity index funds could be fuelling a rise in world hunger.\(^\text{149}\)

CIDSE is an international alliance of Catholic Development agencies who strive to eradicate poverty and to establish global justice. Their advocacy focuses on development resources, climate issues, food, agriculture, sustainable trade, and human rights. The organization recognized the G8 Leaders commitment for financial transparency.\(^\text{150}\)

ONE, an advocacy and campaigning organization that fights extreme poverty and preventable disease, particularly in Africa who raises public awareness, pressures political leaders to support effective policies and programs. It has garnered attention in part due its association with Bono, the star of U2. Through live blogging on their website ONE reacted in real time to the decisions made by the G8 leaders. In these blogs, ONE representatives voiced their disappointment in the lack of acknowledgement of agricultural issues in the discussions, and the lack of concrete actions on world hunger, and immunization issues.\(^\text{151}\) There were some positive comments. ONE praised the G8 leaders for their work focus on improving financial transparency.\(^\text{152}\)

However, the organization was encouraged that the internet and accessibility were tabled for

151 “Dear G8 Leaders, What if the 2.8 Million Children Dying Each Year were Yours?” May 31, 2011, Accessed 14 February 2012 http://www.one.org/blog/2011/05/31/dear-g8-leaders-what-if-the-2-8-million-children-dying-each-year-were-yours/#more-31473
discussion at the G8 for the first time in G8 history. Despite this positive development ONE was critical of the minimal focus on internet access limiting censorship.153

Tearfund is an international Christian aid and development agency who works to end poverty and injustice globally. The Christian Socialist Movement, Church of Scotland Church and Society Council, The Salvation Army, Speak, Archbishop Rowan Williams, Bishop Desmond Tutu and Reverend Jessie Jackson, Christian Aid, and Unicef have all become supporters of this organization. In response to the G8 Leaders call for more financial transparency, Tearfund issued a press release with the following statement:

Through our Unearth the Truth campaign, thousands of our supporters will call this year for the EU to bring forward legislation that will make this happen. We’re also calling for all G20 countries to follow suit and also to ratify the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) as soon as possible, sending a clear message that corruption will not be tolerated.154

While the organization was pleased that the G8 leaders responded to the needs of transparency they felt the leaders missed addressing universal access to prevention, care and treatment for those affected by HIV.

Save the Children this year released an advertising campaign and companion website launched in conjunction with the G8 Summit in Deauville to highlight how investments in women health workers can save children’s lives. The organization also released a report which outlined their top priorities for the G8 Summit. Food security, an increase in health workers worldwide, vaccinations and immunization issues and increased G8 monitoring of inequities to vulnerable children and women were highlighted in the document.155

World Vision encouraged the G8 leaders to keep their promises made at previous summits regarding the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative and the Muskoka Initiative for Women’s and Children’s Health.156

Protests
On May 25th, prior to the G8 summit Oxfam held an event titled “Let Them Eat Cake”, in front of the Eiffel Tower, where representatives presented the similarities between present day France and 18th Century France. The organization utilized their famous “Oxfam Big Heads” in the

presentation to display the disparities between the rich and the poor citizens of the world.\footnote{157} That same day they held a second event with the “Oxfam Big Heads” called “We’re Calling Your Bluff” where they imitated the G8 Leaders playing poker at a casino. The performance was held to demand that the world leaders keep their promises of $50 billion in aid in 2005, and that aid money has not been delivered.\footnote{158}

Oxfam expertly utilized the internet to promote their recommendations, performances and advocacy, by using Flicker, Youtube, blogging Facebook, Twitter and a website http://www.oxfam.org/g8-2011 specifically for this purpose. They had a call to action of the general public through Twitter to call on the G8 Leaders to re-commit to their promised of aid funding.\footnote{159}

**Protests**

Faith-Based organizations did not appear to be involved in any protests.

**Public Awareness Events and Workshops**

The Interfaith Leaders Summit was held in Bordeaux France in May 23-24, 2011.\footnote{160} The conference was considerably smaller than in previous years with 38 representatives of various faiths from across the globe joining the summit.

In a press release dated May 24, 2011, the interfaith religious leaders called upon the world leaders to act to address issues such as climate change, the worldwide economic crisis, and extreme poverty facing many of the world’s communities.\footnote{161} The religious leaders urged the world leaders to honour their commitments made to the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This call for action was communicated to the leaders of the G8 and G20 through the French Sectary General of the G8 and G20. Secretary General of the Canadian Council of Churches and Co-President of Religion for Peace called upon the G8 and G20 countries to foster an expanded partnership with the religious communities.

The Interfaith Leaders Summit also released a statement at the conclusion of their event. This statement represented the concerns and recommendations the religious leaders requested the G20/G8 leaders address. These included reforming global governance to include low-income countries, by providing a permanent seat to the African Union and to Latin American and Asian Regional bodies.\footnote{162}

\footnotesize{\begin{itemize}
\item 157 Oxfam “Let Them Eat Cake Event” 25 May, 2011, Accessed 12 December, 2011 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lMn_LOMZgWY&feature=plcp&context=C398e0e0UDOEgsToPDskK Hmy19CwQTBTnPno3818bm
\item 158 Oxfam “We’re Calling Your Bluff” 25 May, 2011, Accessed 12 December, 2011 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lMn_LOMZgWY&feature=plcp&context=C398e0e0UDOEgsToPDskK Hmy19CwQTBTnPno3818bm
\end{itemize}}
The statement also included the following message: “Stronger, more inclusive partnerships among governments and other stakeholders are essential to meet today’s challenges. We respectfully used the G8 and G20 to continue to expand and strengthen the needed global response to global challenges.” It also stressed the need for greater compliance of the G8 with their commitments.

**Collaborative Efforts**

French and International NGO’s including FBO’s such as One, CIDSE, and Catholic Committee Against Hunger and Development (CCFD) held a meeting in France prior to the G8 to agree to mobilization plans for the G8. The groups agreed upon key Summit issues to address. These issues included, climate change, support of struggle of Arab countries and struggles against dictatorships worldwide, austerity policies, wealth distribution, challenging capitalism, and the very legitimacy of the G8. A caravan was organized travelling to France to inform the public on the G8 and to explore global financial alternatives. A rally was held on the weekend of May 21st in L’Havre. A street party was planned for the final day of the G8 in Paris.

**G8-Civil Society Initiatives**

There did not appear to be any initiatives between Faith-Based Organizations and the G8 at the Summit.

**Summit Outcomes**

Response by Oxfam to the G8 Summit was focused on what the perceived discrepancy in the financial reporting of aid money recorded by the G8 leaders. “Rather than deliver on their promises, the G8 have cooked the books and massaged their aid figures upwards to cover up their lack of action.” Oxfam claims the G8 have reported delivering almost US$49 billion of the promised $50 billion (2005) but according to OECD, the G8 have only delivered $31 billion.


Philanthropic Foundations
Robyn Walter

Introduction
Philanthropic foundations are non-governmental organizations which seek solutions to a wide variety of global and domestic issues including the improvement of global health, increased access to education, reduction of poverty, and improved living conditions worldwide. What differentiates philanthropic foundations from other humanitarian civil society actors is that they do not instigate their own projects but fund existing ones, working with a variety of governmental and non-governmental partners. These foundations are important sources of funding for various domestic and international organizations. Additionally, philanthropic foundations provide leadership in the creation of government policies, specifically towards development-related issues, working in advisory roles. The most influential philanthropic foundations, most of which are based in the United States, include The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), ONE International, the Rockefeller Foundation, the William J Clinton Foundation and the Belinda Stronach Foundation.

These foundations have played important and vocal roles in past G8 summits. Philanthropic organizations have campaigned for the inclusion of development-related issues on G8 agendas. Additionally, philanthropic organizations, alongside participating governments, have pledged monetary support for G8 initiatives. At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, for example, the BMGF was welcomed alongside the governments of the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland; the six partners pledged US$2.3 billion to the Muskoka Initiative on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. In addition, philanthropic foundations coordinate advocacy efforts by non-governmental organizations at G8 summits and provide accountability reports on the summits.

Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media
Prior to the summit, ONE actively advertised its policy goals on its website. Blogs were posted by various public officials of numerous states, including Cameroon, Senegal, Rwanda and Togo, about the importance of the GAVI and the G8’s commitment to accessible vaccines. Furthermore, ONE published various requests on their website prior to the Deauville summit. The requests to the G8 included investment in agriculture, the fulfillment of L’Aquila promises on aid effectiveness and volume, funding for GAVI, progress on the G8 Muskoka Summit maternal and child health commitments, the promotion of freedom of access to the internet, a reduction in regional and international trade barriers, and investment in human capacity development.

Philanthropic organizations continued to be active during the Deauville summit. ONE was active throughout the summit with blog postings on its website from various correspondents.

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Particularly noteworthy was the foundation’s support for the G8’s commitment to transparency and a reaffirmation of the goals of GAVI alliance.¹⁷¹

**Protests**

Philanthropic foundations were not engaged in any protests.

**Public Awareness Events and Workshops**

Philanthropic organizations did not appear to be involved in any public awareness events or workshops.

**Collaborative Efforts and G8-Civil Society Initiatives**

Philanthropic foundations were active prior to the 2011 Deauville summit, collaborating with one another and with G8 leaders. On 4 April 2011 Bill Gates, co-chair of BMGF, met with French President Nicolas Sarkozy and assisted in outlining the President’s development priorities for the G8 summit.¹⁷² Later that day, Bill Gates and ONE launched the Living Proof Campaign, noting that “France is in a unique and powerful position through the G8 and G20 to keep up the momentum and leadership in building a better world for millions”.¹⁷³ Additionally, the BMGF posted a press release on its website on 24 May 2011 in which Gates called on international leaders to invest in agriculture in the developing world.¹⁷⁴ ONE echoed the BMGF’s active participation prior to the 2011 Deauville summit. ONE worked alongside the BMGF for the launch of the Living Proof Campaign. Although representatives from ONE did not meet with President Sarkozy, their association with the campaign was well known.¹⁷⁵

In addition to the Living Proof Campaign, the BMGF and ONE were vocal about the necessity of support for Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) alliance. In his address to the World Health Assembly on 16 May 2011, Bill Gates called on donor countries to increase their support to GAVI.¹⁷⁶

The advocacy by these foundations, both prior to and during the Deauville summit, drew attention from G8 leaders. The *G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy* iterated the summit’s support for GAVI alliance and recognized its importance. The declaration


also called for a pledging conference of GAVI in June 2011 in London.¹⁷⁷

The Belinda Stronach Foundation was not active during the Deauville summit unlike the 2009 and 2010 summits. Instead, the foundation focused on the G20 summit and the organization of its G(irls) 20 Summit 2011.¹⁷⁸ The Rockefeller Foundation and the William J. Clinton Foundation were not active participants in the Deauville summit.

**Summit Outcomes**

After the Deauville summit, ONE released a comprehensive policy brief entitled “ONE’s Analysis of the Deauville G8 Communiqué: ‘Renewed Commitment For Freedom And Democracy’”. In its brief, ONE commended the G8 for its focus on democracy and transparency especially with regards to the Arab Spring, the G8-Africa Joint declaration and “an endorsement [to put] in place legislation or voluntary standards on revenue transparency”. ONE expressed disappointment in the G8’s commitment to aid, lack of new pledges to development, weak language on health and agriculture as well as a lack of concrete plans. In addition, ONE was disappointed that, with the exception of the UK and the US, the G8 has “performed poorly on meeting their 2005 aid commitments.”¹⁷⁹

The BMGF and ONE were active in the lead up to the 2011 GAVI pledging conference in London. The MBGF, along with the United Kingdom and Liberia, hosted the conference. Bill Gates was confident about the outcome of the conference, noting that “for the first time in history, children in developing countries will receive the same vaccines against diarrhea and pneumonia as children in rich countries”.¹⁸⁰ Over 30 ONE members and supporters campaigned outside the GAVI pledge conference in London, showing their support for the alliance. In addition, ONE collected approximately 300,000 signatures in support of the campaign.¹⁸¹

Other philanthropic foundations appear to have been less active in the period following the G8 Deauville summit. No other policy briefs were released by philanthropic foundations after the G8 Deauville summit.

Public Policy Research Institutions (Think Tanks)
Lindsay Hart

Introduction
Public policy research institutions are non-profit organizations that engage in leading policy research and analysis on pressing global issues.\(^{182}\) There are over 6,000 think tanks across the world.\(^{183}\) These institutions engage in foreign policy and political strategy on a national and an international level from a variety of different backgrounds and perspectives.\(^{184}\)

The Brookings Institution, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), were among some of the leading public policy research institutions and think tanks that covered the 2011 G8 Summit in Deauville, France. These think tanks published press releases, editorials, and policy papers both during and after the summit meetings. The prominent issues at the Deauville Summit included the global economy, Iran’s nuclear initiatives, and global security relations.\(^{185}\)

In the past, public policy research institutions have published highly critical pieces on the G8, particularly since the formation of the G20.\(^{186}\) Many critics assert that the G8 is a limited group of nations, because it only reflects Western ideals\(^{187}\), and, as a result, argue that the G8 should be replaced by the G20.\(^{188}\) These opponents propose that G20 meetings may provide a more suitable atmosphere in order to discuss the reform of international issues, such as climate change and nonproliferation.\(^{189}\) Furthermore, critics argue that due to an increasingly globalized world, discrepancies between agendas at the G8 and G20 summits can lead to conflicting outcomes.\(^{190}\)

Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media

Think tanks advocated for effective political, economic, and social reform and analysis via policy papers and press statements. They discussed the events and results of G8 summits in published reports, editorials, and online blogs.

In preparation for the 2011 Deauville Summit, the Brookings Institution published an editorial that questioned the relevance of the G8 in today’s globalized society.191 The editorial questioned whether or not the G8 promoted “bloc politics” within the international system, as the G8 is comprised of only eight highly developed nations.192 Furthermore, the article discussed the relevance of the G8 in comparison with the emergence of the G20 and critiqued two chief arguments193 for maintaining the G8: that the G8 acts as an “insurance policy” for its members against the failure of the G20 and that the G8 is a useful political tool for liberal and Western democracies.194 This editorial also looks to future G8 meetings and discusses the United States’ role in reshaping the G8 agenda.195

The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) had experts who were online and available for comment throughout the Deauville Summit meetings.196 The analysts kept a close eye on press releases. Furthermore, each expert focused on issues such as the growth of the internet, the green economy, the G8’s partnership with Africa, and the promotion of global peace and security.197

Protests
Think tanks did not appear to be involved in any protests.

Public Awareness Events and Workshops
Think tanks did not appear to be involved in any public awareness events or workshops.

Collaborative Initiatives
In April of 2011, the Brookings Institution hosted on conference on employment. Several civil society groups attended, including the International Trade Union Coalition. The General-Secretary of ITUC, Sharan Burrow, made a speech at the conference that spoke about the trade union priorities for the upcoming summit in Deauville.198

Several think tanks participated in the “Pre-G8 Summit Conference” hosted by the G8 Research Group at the Sorbonne University in Paris on May 23 and May 24.199 These included, The Stanley Foundation, the Korea Development Institute, the Brookings Institution, the Stratford Institute, the Centre for International Public Policy Studies, Chatham House, and the Institut Français des Relations Internationale.200

G8-Civil Society Initiatives
Think tanks did not appear to be involved in any G8-Civil Society Initiative.

Summit Outcomes
In response to the 2011 Deauville Summit, the Brookings Institution published the book, Global Leadership in Transition, by Colin Bradford.201 Bradford’s book is critical of the G8 and examines how the G20 can move forward in order to create a more responsive and effective leadership group in an increasingly globalized world.202 In addition, Bradford’s book contains contributions from over three dozen experts who advocated for the reformation of G20 and G8 meetings.203

The Carnegie Endowment published multiple editorial pieces commenting on peace discussions at the Deauville Summit. One of the editorials focused on the peace process between Armenia and Azerbaijan and the dispute over Karabakh.204 The article discussed why this long-term
conflict has not attracted more global attention, particularly at an event such as the G8 summit.\textsuperscript{205}

The Carnegie Endowment also published an article discussing the developments made between the United States and Russia in terms of economic cooperation.\textsuperscript{206} While the United States would like to see Russia play a greater role in the world economy, both sides would like to continue to accelerate their trade negotiations.\textsuperscript{207} Furthermore, the article outlines Russia’s economic “modernization agenda,” covering sectors such as energy efficiency, nuclear technology, information technology and telecommunications, aerospace, and pharmaceuticals.\textsuperscript{208}

At the end of the 2011 G8 Summit in Deauville, France, the G8 renewed its commitment for freedom and democracy.\textsuperscript{209} Public policy research institutions created a forum for expert and public opinions to critique the G8’s progress via editorials and online discussions. In addition, these institutions provided a critical platform for G8 discussions and developments for the future.

\begin{itemize}
\item[\textsuperscript{209}] “Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy.” \textit{G20-G8 France 2011}. http://www.g20-g8.com/g8-g20/g8/english/live/news/renewed-commitment-for-freedom-and-democracy.1314.html
\end{itemize}
Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations
Mikayla Wicks

Introduction
Humanitarian organizations are an important element of Global Civil Society. Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations are a subgroup within this category, specifically providing humanitarian aid. Such groups do not focus their strategies on advocacy and lobbying, though they may employ these tactics to support their broader goals. These organizations serve several functions, including the provision of essential services in conditions of state deficit and the provision of services in situations of emergency and crisis.

Some of the most well-known and influential Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations include the International Federation of Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), World Vision, Oxfam International, Médecins Sans Frontière (MSF), and CARE International. These organizations maintain a consistent presence at the sites of natural disasters, in refugee camps, and in other situations that demand humanitarian aid and intervention.

These organizations have been vocal in past G8 Summits, upholding the interests of vulnerable communities. The focus of the demands made by Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations include stronger commitments on healthcare, food security, maternal health, sustainability, and education.

Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations were largely disappointed by the 2011 G8 Summit in Deauville, France. This mirrors the sentiments voiced by Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations in response to the 2010 Summit in Huntsville, Canada. While there were hopes that Deauville would help address the shortcomings of the 2010 Summit, it appears that Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations do not believe that this wish has been fulfilled.

Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media
During the Deauville Summit, Oxfam maintained an active presence, lobbying for G8 representatives to uphold their past and future commitments. Oxfam launched a “Keep Your Promises” campaign which focused on G8 accountability failures and included a twitter campaign to exert international pressure on the G8 representatives. This campaign was launched after OECD figures revealed that G8 leaders “failed to deliver on their aid promises and [used] creative accounting to cover their tracks.” Oxfam stated “that the G8’s failure will leave a sad legacy of kids out of school, denied medicines for the sick, and no food for the hungry.”

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A number of statements were made by service-based organizations at the summit and prior to the summit. The IFRC urged the G8 to support “long-term community-based food insecurity prevention programmes” and to “invest more in long-term action as well as in climate-related risks.” Similarly, Oxfam advised G8 countries “to tackle climate change and its impact on the poorest people.” CARE International declared that “on the key issues of aid, debt, trade and HIV/AIDS [in Africa] the G8 have failed to go far enough.” Before the conference, World Vision urged “leaders to meet the Millennium Development Goals and existing G8 commitments.” On May 6th, World Vision publicly submitted a letter to president Obama, calling for him and “to show leadership and act boldly.” World Vision also published a press statement calling for the First Ladies of the G8 to “encourage solutions to hunger and food insecurity with [their] spouses and other G8 participants.” MSF agreed with World Vision in terms of prioritizing children and nutrition supply. On May 24th, MSF stated that “G8 members should commit to ensure that appropriate foods reach vulnerable children.” Oxfam also provided its followers with frequent news updates using its blog.

Some organizations who have traditionally maintained a vocal media presence during G8 Summits were notably quiet at the Deauville summit. The International Federation of the Red Cross in France acted as an official sponsor of Deauville. Their media presence and reporting of the event was conspicuously low. Care International, who made several press statements about the 2010 Huntsville Summit, were also quiet.

Protests
Oxfam staged several stunts featuring “Big Heads” — Oxfam members wearing giant masks depicting each of the G8 leaders’ faces. These protests portrayed the leaders in various ironic situations, and were meant to “frame world leaders as oblivious to the enormous poverty in other parts of the world while [convening] in one of the most beautiful cities for a conference.”

Public Awareness Events and Workshops
Service-Based Humanitarian organizations did not appear to be involved in any public awareness events or workshops.

Collaborate Efforts
There did not appear to be any collaborative efforts amongst Service-Based Humanitarian organizations.

G8-Civil Society Initiatives
There did not appear to be any collaborative efforts between Service-Based Humanitarian Organizations and the G8.

Summit Outcomes
As previously mentioned, many organizations expressed disappointment at the results of Deauville. World Vision declared that the G8 leaders “passed up a chance to renew steps and fulfill funding commitments. Oxfam agreed with this sentiment and expressed that representatives “managed to create an oxymoron out of an opportunity.”\textsuperscript{223} Oxfam further noted that the G8 leaders “[hadn’t] regained their credibility, and [were] unclear on previous promises and new commitments.”\textsuperscript{224} The American NGO network InterAction, of which Oxfam America and World Vision America are members, issued the following statement on May 27\textsuperscript{th}: “when it comes to giving basic, practical milestones, G8 leaders have once again fallen short. We need specifics. It is taking too long to get money out the door and with current budget crises... [we] fear G8 development goals will not be met.”\textsuperscript{225}

World Vision singled the United States out, in particular. On May 27\textsuperscript{th}, World Vision published a statement highlighting the United States and G8’s insufficient commitment to food security: “Regrettably, we are seeing the failure of the United States to move quickly on its promises to fight global hunger, as the G8 accountability report highlights...this is not acceptable given that the U.S. itself introduced and pushed this initiative at the 2009 G8 Summit.”\textsuperscript{226}

Educational Campaigns
Sarah Danuro Wang

Introduction
According to Global Campaign for Education, a leading organization dealing with world education development issues, “education has drifted to the periphery of the agendas of the Group of Eight (G-8) and the Group of 20”.227 While foreign aid for development projects in the Global South is generally discussed at the G8 summits, education is rarely discussed as a stand along topic. The organizations that oversee education development, typically call on G8 countries to match the funding from civil society organizations in hopes of attracting more global attention, initiatives, and innovation to ameliorate the education gap. As former United Kingdom Prime Minister Gordon Brown articulated, G8 leaders have little commitment to the actual deadline of the Millennium Goals that is quickly approaching, and often “break [promises] made to children”.228

In the past year, global education organizations, most notably Global Campaign for Education, added another crucial objective for funding to specifically target post-conflict and emerging nations such as South Sudan.229 While the G8 countries have indeed not fulfilled many of their monetary commitments, the education initiatives carried out by states and transnational organizations are limited in the sense that their effectiveness are hindered by two things: a lack of direct focus on education as education is normally clustered with other issues on poverty, and limited influence on the overall Summit agenda.

Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media
There were no direct press statements addressing the negotiations and outcomes of the Deauville Summit by educational campaign groups. However, in the post-Summit period, Global Campaign for Education published numerous reports as follow-ups to monitor aid agreements. These reports were usually given on behalf of another event (for example IMF-World Bank Meeting in late September, 2011). In a press release preparing for the September 2011 IMF-World Bank Meeting, former British Prime Minister and honorary board member of the Global Campaign for Education Gordon Campbell noted that projections of $16 billion in foreign aid for education development was only responded with $3 billion. Of the eight G8 countries, the most active donors are France and Germany, yet only 10% of their aid goes to education, much of which is set aside not for education development but for post-secondary education exchange.230 Another

report cited that the United States, under the circumstance of intense budget crisis, still spends less than one percent on foreign aid.231

**Protests**
Educational Campaigns were not involved in any protests.

**Public Awareness Events and Workshops**
There were no events held specifically for education development awareness. However, there was an international conference in November 2011, almost half a year after the Deauville Summit. The conference, held in Copenhagen, hosted international heads of states and representatives to discuss the “Global Partnership on Education (GPE)”, formerly known as the Fast-Track Initiative (FTI). Although GPE is an initiative commenced by the World Bank, the conference in Copenhagen emerged because of the fact that the G8 and G20 agendas were “dominated by the ongoing crisis in the euro-zone, recession and global imbalances” to give world leaders a separate forum to discuss education development.232

**Collaborative Efforts**
There were collaborations based on poverty reduction, but collaborations based specifically on education were not found.

**G8-Civil Society Initiatives**
Oxfam, Save the Children, and Global Campaign for Education all delivered reports in the days leading up to and after the Summit. Oxfam used Twitter to post live reports and channel citizen opinions to G8 leaders using #DearG8.233 Both Save the Children and Global Campaign for Education published reports to stay on track with the Summit’s outcomes.

Reports on global education development again had little stand-alone impact on the overall G8 agenda. According to Sherpa Times, a website disseminating news for the “global advocacy and campaigning community”, Global Campaign for Education “was very disappointed that the G8 did not even discuss the issue of education”.234

**Summit Outcomes**
In Section VII (Peace and Security) number 90 of Deauville’s G8 Declaration, there was a mention of G8 solidarity with assisting reforms in Pakistan as the G8 countries indicated, “We acknowledge the crucial importance of education for the economic and social development of Pakistan.”235 While the report does mention “our cooperation programmes,” it is not clear exactly how these programmes are mobilized or financed and in which regions other than Pakistan they

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also operate in. For Oxfam the frustration was evident in the fact that G8 countries often effortlessly do the opposite of what they pledged, as “yes means no, mandatory is voluntary, and broken promises are still worthy of praise”.  

As for the overall 2011 Deauville Summit, there were a lot of clear suggestions (commitment to matching foreign aid) and supporters (from former Prime Minister Gordon Brown to Graça Machel, wife of Nelson Mandela), however education mostly stood in the periphery of decision-making. Education organizations continue to stress higher levels of G8 financial and policy cooperation that are crucial in order to meet the MDGs by 2015 and resolve the global education gap.

236 “Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy.”
Trade Unions
Kate Bruce-Lockhart

Introduction
Trade Unions have consistently been a dynamic contingent of civil society participation at the G8 summits. They represent workers, and thus their main concerns are improving the working conditions of labourers. With the increasing globalization of markets, trade unions have started to shift their activities from a local or national scale to a more international one, resulting in a proliferation of global networks of solidarity for workers’ rights. The leading international trade union — the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) — represents 175 million workers in 151 countries and has 305 national affiliates.238

Trade unions were one of the earliest civil society groups to make their demands known to the G8, with G8-directed advocacy as earlier as 1976.239 In 1997, trade unions made their first formal appearance on the G8 stage, at the G8 Summit in Kobe, Japan, where they advocated for a “social partnership” to fight unemployment and identify the means of balancing flexibility with job security.240 Since then, trade unions have continued to make fervent demands for greater job security, human rights protection in the workplace, a more equal distribution of the benefits of globalization, and better conditions for workers in the Global South. Trade unions have also expanded their interests beyond the traditional scope of labour relations, engaging in issues of climate change, health, and food security, specified within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals.241 They have also been active in protesting, regularly making up a significant portion of protest participants before and during the G8 summits.

With the onset of the worldwide economic crisis, trade unions have become very vocal at G8 Summits. In 2009, they engaged in discussions with G8 leaders at the L’Aquila Summit, with a focus on declining employment as a core issue of global economic woes.242 ITUC, the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) and Global Unions issued a joint statement targeted at G8 leaders entitled “Putting Jobs and Fairness at the Heart of Recovery: The Role of the G8.”243 These concerns, along with those associated with the equitable development and labour in the Global South, have remained focal points of trade union engagement at subsequent summits. In Deauville, job recovery, development aid, and the Arab Spring were the anchoring aspects of the trade union agenda. However, with financial matters and international trade issues being taken up more in the G20 sphere, trade unions seem to be focusing their efforts more on the G20 rather than the G8 summits.

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Summit Participation

Policy Papers, Press Statements and Utilization of the Media
On the eve of the Deauville Summit May 25th, ITUC posted an article on their website targeting G8 leaders. Entitled “G8 Summit Must Deliver on Jobs,” the article urged G8 leaders to end the global job crisis. ITUC General Secretary Sharan Burrow had the following remarks:

Worldwide, employment has still not recovered from the 2008 financial fiasco, and too few governments are taking the jobs crisis seriously…the G8 and the G20 must lead the way to a surge in employment rather than the narrow and destructive focus on spending cuts which some countries are now following.

The Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC), which serves as the primary interface between trade unions and the OECD also contributed to the article, raising their own issues for the G8 to focus on in Deauville. John Evans, TUAC’s General Secretary, expressed his organizations concerns with the destabilizing consequences of growing unemployment across the globe:

The backlash against dictatorships in the Arab countries arose out of the desperation of millions of young people facing a lifetime of unemployment. Many other countries, including democracies, have massive youth unemployment, and much wider social unrest is just around the corner unless governments face up to the task of job creation.

A more detailed outline of ITUC and TUAC demands was made available through a press release issued on May 26th, entitled “Trade Unions Call on G8 Leaders to Put Jobs First.” In the release, the two trade union coalitions urged G8 leaders to put “jobs, human rights and development at the centre of G8 and G20 action frameworks.” There was a strong focus on the Global South, with numerous references to development aid in Africa, the Arab Spring, and the global effects of climate change. In regards to development aid, the press release cited recent numbers from the OEDC Development Assistance Committee, which revealed a $15 billion shortfall in aid promised to Africa by G8 leaders as of 2010.

Arab Spring was another central concern, with the trade unions focusing on the structural conditions leading to such revolutionary changes:

The Arab Spring was ignited by poverty, inequality, corruption and unemployment and born of people’s aspirations for democracy, accountable government, political rights, jobs and social justice. These are the aspirations of people across the world.\(^{251}\)

Warnings of future upheaval were also mentioned, with a particularly dire concern about the rising tide of a “generation of youth blighted by unemployment,” sure to result in “social unrest as people rise up in protest against a bleak future without decent jobs.”\(^{252}\)

Along with these concerns, the press release listed five concrete actions for G8 leaders to act upon at the Deauville Summit. First, it urged that the G8 take the lead within the wider G20 framework to putting employment at the heart of recovery.\(^{253}\) Secondly, it listed a number of measures to assist the countries engaged in the Arab Spring, including providing resources for democratization, tackling inequality and corruption, strengthening business conduct, and buttressing civil society, especially trade unions.\(^{254}\) For development, the trade unions brought up the familiar demand of meeting the UN target of 0.7% of GNP to Official Development Assistance, and strengthening the punitive measures for countries that fail to comply with this target.\(^{255}\) Additionally, they suggested strengthening tax systems and public services in order to enable the realization of the Millennium Development Goals.\(^{256}\)

Climate change was another central concern, with particular emphasis on working towards a binding agreement at COP 17 in Durban, which followed on the heels of the Deauville Summit.\(^{257}\) Finally, the release turned to Japan, calling on G8 leaders to mobilize all the necessary resources to aid the communities damaged by the earthquake, tsunami, and damage to the Fukushima nuclear power plant.\(^{258}\)

Yet another iteration of this list of demands was posted on ITUC’s website.\(^{259}\) This was the most detailed of all, grouping the demands for the French G8/G20 presidency into five overarching categories: restoring growth and job creation, moving ahead on financial regulation and taxation, getting development back on track, and shifting to a more sustainable economic growth model.\(^{260}\) However, the details of each category focused more on the G20 than the G20, indicating trade union’s growing preoccupation with the latter.

In a conference on employment hosted by the Brookings Institution in April, ITUC General-Secretary Sharan Burrow gave a speech that referenced the G8. She articulated the following priorities for trade unions at both the G8 Summit in Deauville and the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in Paris:

For the trade union movement, it is virtually a sine qua non that governments need to operate integrated economic policies that incorporate employment, labour rights — that’s rights that are social rights but also economic tools, environment, social protection and investment programmes into whole-of-government policy; and we believe the same sort of coherence is vital internationally as well.

Another joint press release was issued from the G8-G20 Coalition — consisting of trade unions, social movements and international solidarity organizations — at the World Social Forum held in Dakar, Senegal in February of 2011. The statement, entitled “Put People First, not Finances,” urged civil society actors to

….to turn the G8 and the G20 in France into moments where all struggles converge: struggles against financial opacity and deregulation, the illegitimate debt in the North and the South, against austerity policies and in defence of public services, against false solutions to climate change and in favour of production and consumption models that preserve the planet, against job instability and for decent work, against speculation on raw materials and for food sovereignty, against dictatorships, militarization and colonialism and for the democratic rights of the peoples...

Protests

Trade unions have historically been one of the most engaged in protests both prior to and during the G8 summits. This year was no exception. On February 17th, a number of trade unions participated in the Global Day of Action calling for a Financial Transactions Tax, also known as the “Robin Hood Tax.” Though it was staged in conjunction with the G20 Finance Ministers Meeting in Paris, the protesters were targeting both G8 and G20 leaders. Building and Wood Worker’s International posted an article about the protest on their website which highlighted the need to put pressure on G8 leaders to pay more attention to the Robin Hood Tax:

The French government hold the Chair of the G8 and G20 and are championing the FTT for global public goods, whilst public anger towards the financial sector grows as austerity measures begin to bite.

Trade Union Congress, a UK based trade union, was also involved in the Global Day of Action.267

With the limited accreditation provided to civil society members at the G8 Summit, most protests occurred off the summit site, forty kilometers away in the city of Le Havre. Trade Unions represented one of the largest constituencies of civil society in the pre-summit protests at Le Havre on May 21.268 Prior to the protests, Christian Pigeon, the leader of the French Union Solidaires, remarked that the protests were meant to be “a festive and dynamic demonstration pointing out to the leaders of the world their contradictions.”269

Trade unions joined eight thousand peoples drawn from about thirty-five distinct groups, including human rights, environmental and women’s rights organizations; leftist parties; and anti-nuclear and anti-globalization groups.270 Two of the main areas of criticism at the protests were G8 elitism, and the inability of the G8 to tackle global economic inequality.271 The slogans “G8 get lost”, or “G8 degage” were two of the central messages used.272 Speakers condemned the G8 for failing to redress social inequality, declaring that they were “fed up with the eight puppets who close our plants and close our schools” accusing them of dumping “the old in misery (and) the youth in a mess.”273 One activist criticized the exclusivity of the G8, stating: “If it was the G-182, like all of the countries of the United Nations, then they would be welcome here.”274 Globalise Resistance, a UK-based alliance of civil society groups including trade unions, criticized Le Havre authorities for their suppression of civil society, for allegedly undermining the protests, lying about the number of anticipated protestors, using intimidation tactics, and warning local students to steer clear of protest activities.275

Public Awareness Events and Workshops
On March 26th and 27th, the G8-G20 Coalition, which includes a number of trade unions, hosted a workshop entitled “G8-G20 Mobilisations.”276 The workshop included topics of discussion such as Arab Spring, the nuclear disaster in Japan, partnerships with Africa, green growth, and war and peace. Participating organizations included the Centre d’études et d’initiatives de solidarité

internationale, which promotes the interests of trade unions;²⁷⁷ Solidaire, a French trade union; and ATTAC, an international anti-globalization organization that works closely with trade unions to advocate for stricter regulation of financial markets and better trade relations for developing countries were both involved.²⁷⁸

Collaborative Efforts
Nearly all trade unions acted in collaboration with like-minded groups at the G8 Summit in Deauville. Collective action has become the norm for trade unions at the international level, evident in the creation of coalitions such as ITUC, TUAC, the G8-G20 Coalition and ATTAC. As stated above, these alliances of trade unions and other civil society groups worked together to generate media awareness of salient trade related issues, stage protests in Le Havre, and facilitate workshops to mobilize resistance to the G8.

Numerous trade unions and trade union related organizations are involved in the international campaign for an Financial Transactions Tax, known as “Make Finance Work,” which organized the Global Day of Action leading up to the G8 Summit.²⁷⁹ Trade unions participating in this campaign include including ATTAC International and various national and local ATTAC branches, the Union SNU1-SUD Trésor Solidaires; SOLIDAR, a European civil society coalition including several trade unions; the French Democratic Confederation of Labour (CFDT); the Unión Sindical Obrera, a Spanish trade union; and Solidaridad Don Bosco, another Spanish trade Union.²⁸⁰

Summit Outcomes
Overall, trade unions were disappointed with the outcomes of the G8 Summit in Deauville. On May 30, TUAC issued a press release articulating their response to the summit outcomes.²⁸¹ The article was highly critical, evident in the title “G8 new focus on democracy does not compensate for inaction on social rights, development aid, and climate change.”²⁸² TUAC chastised the G8 for failing to act on their suggestions made prior to the summit, centering on issues of job growth, decent working conditions, human rights and development.²⁸³ It was particularly critical of the G8’s failure to address the job crisis and the improvement of labour rights for marginalized workers.²⁸⁴ Like many other civil society organizations, TUAC pointed out that the G8 has failed

²⁷⁸ http://www.attac.org/en/overview
to live up to its aid promises for Africa as set out at the 2005 G8 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland. There was also major concern about the absence of a reference to freedom of association and ILO labour standards as promoters of democracy and good governance in the final summit communiqué. Overall, TUAC characterized the communiqué as a document of absences:

Reading the Summit’s Declaration, one would not know that the global economy was struggling to emerge from the worst financial and global recession since World War II. Neither did the G8 deliver on development aid, climate change nor on internet regulation — which was given high visibility through a parallel “e-G8” Summit.

Despite these criticisms, TUAC did have some positive assessments of the summit outcomes. These included the focus on the innovation and knowledge economy as a generator of global recovery, the creation of “green” jobs, the “greening of traditional jobs, and the expression of solidarity with Japan. However, it argued that most of these positive developments were overshadowed by other failures of the G8 leaders, such as the lack of a commitment to an emissions-reduction target; little discussion of climate finance or the potential of the Financial Transactions Taxes; and the failure to create a global binding framework for intellectual property rights, data security and privacy on the internet.

TUAC was the only organization with a concrete, publicized response to the summit. As it represents over 58 national trade union centers in 30 OECD industrialized, and is also closely affiliated with ITUC, TUAC’s views likely provide a useful indicator of trade union sentiments more broadly.