

Glossary of terms

Bribing and corruption. This indicator is taken from the survey of business executives that forms part of the Institute for Management Development's World Competitiveness Yearbook. Respondents are asked to what extent bribing and corruption exist in the economy.

Control of Corruption Index. This index measures perceptions of corruption, conventionally defined as the exercise of public power for private gain, and perceived as a failure of governance. A higher score in this index represents better control of corruption. The index is comprised of a range of measures from various sources, from the frequency of 'additional payments to get things done', through the effects of corruption on the business environment, to measuring 'grand corruption' in the political arena – the tendency to engage in 'state capture'.

Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI). This measures corruption in the public sector and defines corruption as the abuse of public office for private gain. The CPI makes no effort to reflect private sector fraud. The index is based on surveys compiled by Transparency International from other organisations that tend to ask questions about the misuse of public power for private benefits, with a focus, for example, on bribing of public officials, taking kickbacks in public procurement, or embezzling public funds, etc. Surveys consulted:

- Economist Intelligence Unit (Country Risk Service and Country Forecasts)
- Gallup International (50th Anniversary Survey)
- Institute for Management Development (World Competitiveness Yearbook)
- Political & Economic Risk Consultancy (Asian Intelligence Issue)
- Political Risk Services (International Country Risk Guide)
- World Development Report (private sector survey by the World Bank)
- World Economic Forum & Harvard Institute for International Development (Global Competitiveness Survey).

Consumption of renewable energy per capita. Energy consumption is the amount of energy consumed by each country, divided by its population estimate. Energy consumption means the total amount of primary energy consumed from all energy sources, including losses through transportation, friction, heat, and other inefficiencies. Specifically, consumption equals indigen-

ous production plus imports, minus exports, plus stock changes, minus international marine bunkers. The values presented are calculated by the International Energy Agency (IEA) using an energy balance methodology based on the calorific content of energy commodities. The indicator in our record is a summary of two IEA indicators: energy consumption by source: renewables (excluding hydroelectric); and energy consumption by source: hydroelectric. Renewables excluding hydroelectric includes energy from primary solid biomass, thermal solar, photovoltaic solar, wind, biogas, liquid biomass, tide, wave, and ocean. Hydroelectric includes the energy content of the electricity produced in hydro-power plants. Hydro output excludes output from pumped storage.

Emissions. Emissions refer to the release of greenhouse gases and/or their precursors, and aerosols into the atmosphere over a specified area and period of time.

Environmental conservation treaties. Our record includes 220 treaties in the following categories: animal species protection/management; environmental conservation (general); fishing, management/use of harvestable fish; forest conservation, management/exploitation; hunting, management/use of harvestable species; marine resources conservation/management; natural resources and nature conservation; plant species protection/management; renewable energy sources and energy conservation; soil conservation/management; water resources conservation/management.

Foreign direct investment (FDI). Investment to acquire a lasting management interest (10 per cent or more of voting stock) in an enterprise operating in an economy other than that of the investor. It is the sum of equity capital, reinvestment of earnings, other long-term capital, and short-term capital as shown in the balance of payments. FDI stock is the value of the share of capital and reserves (including retained profits) attributable to enterprises based outside the domestic economy, plus the net indebtedness of domestic affiliates to the parent enterprise. UNCTAD FDI stock data are frequently estimated by accumulating FDI flows over a period of time, or adding flows to an FDI stock that has been obtained for a particular year.

Full-time equivalent employment. Indicates total employment in terms of full-time jobs. Part-time employment is converted into full-time jobs and added to the number of full-time jobs, based on country-specific conventions.

Gross domestic product (GDP). Total domestic expenditure of a country, minus imports, plus exports of goods and services.

GDP per capita, PPP. GDP per capita based on purchasing power parity (PPP). GDP PPP is gross domestic product converted to international dollars using purchasing power parity rates. An international dollar has the same purchasing power over GDP as the US dollar in the United States. Data are in current international dollars.

Gini index. Measures the extent to which the distribution of income (or, in some cases, consumption expenditures) among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Lorenz curve plots the cumulative percentages of total income received against the cumulative number of recipients, starting with the poorest individual or household. The Gini index measures the area between the Lorenz curve and a hypothetical line of absolute equality, expressed as a percentage of the maximum area under the line. Thus, a Gini index of zero represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality.

Gross national income (GNI). Formerly known as gross national product or GNP. The sum of value added by all resident producers, plus any product taxes (less subsidies) not included in the valuation of output, plus net receipts of primary income (compensation of employees and property income) from abroad.

Human Development Index (HDI). A composite index based on three indicators: longevity, as measured by life expectancy at birth; educational attainment, as measured by a combination of adult literacy (two-thirds weight) and the combined gross primary, secondary, and tertiary enrolment ratio (one-third weight); and standard of living, as measured by GDP per capita (PPP US\$).

Infant mortality rate. The probability of dying between birth and exactly one year of age times 1,000.

Internally displaced persons (IDPs). Individuals or groups of people who have been forced to flee their homes to escape armed conflict, generalised violence, human rights abuses, or natural or man-made disasters, and have remained within the borders of their home country.

International NGOs. These are currently active, autonomous non-profit making organisations with operations or activities in at least three countries (or members with voting rights in at least three countries), a formal structure with election of governing officers from several member countries and some continuity of activities. Notably excluded are obviously national or bilateral organisations, informal social movements and

ad hoc bodies, and international business enterprises, investment houses or cartels and other obvious profit making bodies. Irrelevant are size, importance, degree of activity, financial strength, political or ideological position, field of interest or activity, location of headquarters and language.

Internationally oriented NGOs. These are national, currently active, autonomous, non-profit making organisations with various forms of international activity or concern such as research, peace, development or relief. They may also include national bodies which have relations with international organisations, where these international organisations list them in conjunction with truly international bodies. They may also be organisations which appear from their titles to be international. This criterion includes organisations having consultative status with United Nations and other intergovernmental organisations.

International telecom. Outgoing traffic refers to the telephone traffic, measured in minutes per subscriber, either line or cellular mobile, that originated in the country with a destination outside the country.

Main telephone lines. Telephone lines connecting a customer's equipment to the public telephone network.

Meetings. These are meetings organised or sponsored by 'international organisations' (INGOs, internationally oriented NGOs and IGOs) that appear in the Union of International Associations' *Yearbook of International Organizations*, and other meetings of significant international character. Excluded are purely national meetings, as well as those of an essentially religious, didactic, political, commercial or sporting nature and meetings with strictly limited participation, such as those of subsidiary (internal) statutory bodies, committees, groups of experts etc, and corporate and incentive meetings.

Merchandise trade. Includes all trade in goods. Trade in services is excluded.

Multidimensional scaling (MDS). A multivariate data analysis method, MDS encompasses a collection of methods that show the underlying structure of relations between entities by providing a geometrical representation of them. In MDS the relation between a pair of entities on a set of traits (variables) is translated into a proximity measure, and a selected algorithm reduces the number of dimensions in the data to a two- or three-dimensional diagram. For example, in the Introduction of this Yearbook we illustrate how countries are related to each other in terms of four variables, in a graphical plot with two dimensions. Countries most similar to each

other will be placed in close proximity on the plot, while countries very dissimilar from each other will be far apart. For further reading see Bartholomew, David J., Fiona Steele, Irini Moustaki and Jane I. Galbraith (2002). *The analysis and interpretation of multivariate data for social scientists*. London: Chapman & Hall/CRC. For a brief overview online see: www.mathpsyc.uni-bonn.de/doc/delbeke/delbeke.htm#0

Net primary school enrolment ratio. An indicator of the level of education in countries, listing the number of students enrolled in a level of education that are of official school age for that level, as a percentage of the population of official school age for that level.

Network. Interpersonal or inter-organisational ties that reflect structural or legal relations, information flows and other exchanges. Network analysis seeks to identify and explain patterns in complex networks, and how these influence behaviour.

Official development assistance (ODA). Official development assistance and net official aid record the actual international transfer by the donor of financial resources or of goods or services valued at the cost to the donor, minus any repayments of loan principal during the same period. ODA data are comprised of disbursements of loans made on concessional terms (net of repayments of principal) and grants by official agencies of the members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD, by multilateral institutions, and by certain Arab countries to promote economic development and welfare in recipient economies listed as 'developing' by DAC. Loans with a grant element of at least 25 per cent are included in ODA, as are technical cooperation and assistance.

Passengers carried. Air passengers carried include both domestic and international aircraft passengers.

Peacekeeping forces. Military personnel and civilian police serving in United Nations peacekeeping missions.

Political rights and civil liberties. An indicator of the levels of democracy in countries around the world. Real-world rights and freedoms enjoyed by individuals, as a result of actions by both state and non-governmental actors, are based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Scores range from one, the lowest degree of freedom, to seven, the highest (we modified them from the original index scores which are reversed, for the sake of clarity).

Public sector or government. All branches of the government, including the executive, judicial, and administrative and regulatory activities of federal, state, local, or regional political entities; the terms 'govern-

ment' and 'public sector' are used synonymously.

Public sector payments. Include grants and contracts, ie. direct contributions by the government to the organisation in support of specific activities and programmes; statutory transfers, ie. contributions by the government, as mandated by law, to provide general support to an organisation in carrying out its public programmes; and third-party payments, ie. indirect government payments reimbursing an organisation for services rendered to individuals (eg. health insurance, 'vouchers', or payments for day care).

Private giving. Includes foundation giving, including grants from grant-making foundations, operating foundations, and community foundations; business or corporate donations, which includes giving directly by businesses or giving by business or corporate foundations; and individual giving, ie. direct contributions by individuals and contributions through 'federated fundraising' campaigns.

Private fees and charges (or 'programme fees'). These include four types of business or commercial income: fees for service, dues (eg. membership charges), proceeds from sales of products, and investment income.

Refugee. As defined by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, a person is a refugee if she/he qualifies under the Arrangements of 12 May 1926 and 30 June 1928 or under the Conventions of 28 October 1933 and 10 February 1938, the Protocol of 14 September 1939 or the Constitution of the International Refugee Organisation. For further information see www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home

Transnationality Index (TNI). The average of three ratios: a corporation's foreign assets to total assets, foreign sales to total sales, and foreign employment to total employment.

Transparency of government. This indicator is taken from the survey of business executives which forms part of the Institute for Management Development's World Competitiveness Yearbook. Respondents are asked to what extent their government communicates its policy intentions clearly and publicly.

Total military personnel. Active duty military personnel, including paramilitary forces if those forces resemble regular units in their organisation, equipment, training, or mission.

Total trade. The sum of the market value of imports and exports of goods and services.

Tourists. Visitors who travel to a country other than that where they have their usual residence for a period

not exceeding 12 months and whose main purpose in visiting is other than an activity remunerated from within the country visited.

Voice and Accountability. An index comprised of a number of indicators measuring various aspects of the political process, civil liberties and political rights. These indicators measure the extent to which citizens of a country are able to participate in the selection of their government, as well as the independence of the media to monitor those in authority and hold them accountable for their actions.

Volunteer input. Calculated by converting the total volunteer hours into full-time equivalent employment, multiplied by the average wage for the group, industry, or the economy as a whole.

CHRONOLOGY

CHRONOLOGY OF GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY EVENTS

Compiled by Jill Timms

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Introduction to the chronology

This section of the Yearbook provides an alternative type of record to the tables and statistics in the data programme. The purpose of the chronology is to offer an account of diverse global civil society activities and landmark events. This year it covers a longer time span than in previous Yearbooks, extending from January 2003 to the end of April 2004, and includes events whose theme, participation or outcome are judged to have been significant. Our criteria for inclusion continue to be refined, as global civil society develops. Often records of global civil society activity are limited to available statistics of NGO activity, membership, funding and so forth, which restricts information to a particular type of civil society organisation and to certain sources. This chronology takes a different approach, seeking to prioritise events that are not reported in the mainstream media, that occur worldwide rather than only in the West, and that fall under a broad definition of global civil society activity. To achieve this we rely on a network of correspondents around the world, who report on events and activity within their countries and regions (see the next section for information on how you could contribute).

The chronology presented here is not a comprehensive list of every global civil society action or event. Indeed, as the number of events increase each year, we are able to include a selection of the most significant, and those most under-represented in standard indicators of global civil society. Space constraints and the welcome growth of activity mean we are continually refining the criteria for inclusion; nonetheless the chronology provides an insight into the depth and range of actions, and indicates the types of activity perceived as most significant by our correspondents. For example, this year's chronology highlights the proliferation of social forums, regional and thematic, although space limitations prevent us from covering them all. An extended version of the chronology is on our website, www.lse.ac.uk/depts/global/yearbook. We are keen to use the data creatively and, with your assistance, we hope to develop its collection, collation and presentation in order to ensure that this alternative record continues to help our understanding of global civil society.

Invitation to contribute to the Global Civil Society Yearbook

The contributions of our team of Global Civil Society correspondents provide the basis for this chronology, and to each we again offer our thanks. Each year we expand the team, and this has allowed us to include entries from over 70 countries, even in this edited version. The Yearbook always includes an invitation to readers to join the team, and this year we are particularly interested in your feedback as we embark on a development programme.

In return, each contributor has the opportunity to influence the project, is acknowledged in the Yearbook as a Global Civil Society correspondent, receives a complimentary copy and, of course, our thanks. We contact correspondents on a regular basis for information about events and actions taking place in their

country, sphere of activity or region. This year, in particular, we would also welcome feedback on the past and present chronologies, details of how you use the data, other information that you would find useful, or ideas for further development. If you would like more information about being a Global Civil Society correspondent, or to offer feedback, please contact us via the website mentioned above. We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your contribution to this important project.

Global Civil Society events, January 2003–April 2004

January 2003

2–7 January The First Asian Social Forum is held in Hyderabad, India. Fifteen thousand people take part in over 300 seminars, workshops and other events – the first time that the social forum process has occurred in this region and on this scale. There are organisational and technical difficulties, and the events are mainly India-centric, which is not helped by problems with visas, especially for Pakistani delegates, but organisers view this as a learning process.

5–9 January In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Second African Social Forum takes place, involving people and organisations from 40 countries. The forum discusses how the African Social Forum has strengthened since the last meeting. There is a consensus that African unity and social integration are fundamental and that civil society action is needed to work towards these, especially against the adoption by the African Union of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) as the paradigm for the continent's development.

6 January In Bahrain, a sit-in of 70 women at the Ministry of Justice calls for a unified civil-status law, the right to housing, the raising of the marriage age to 22 for both women and men, and women's right to divorce.

10 January Protests in San Francisco mark the deadline for the registration process imposed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) on US temporary residents from 20 countries. Protesters say that there have been arrests and interrogations of hundreds of people who have complied with the order to give their fingerprints,

names and other details. This applies to all men aged 16 years and above who were born in Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Lebanon, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The protests are organised by a multitude of ethnic and religious groups.

11–12 January In Rabat, Morocco, the NGO Initiative to Support Iraq coordinates a sit-in at the UN headquarters. This is followed by a mass march of 10,000 people in solidarity with Iraq and Palestine, involving over 50 trade unions, political parties and NGOs.

16–19 January The Second Pan-Amazonic Social Forum takes place in Belem, Brazil, bringing together a wide range of people and focusing on environmental issues and preparations for the Third World Social Forum.

18 January The weekly Wednesday rally of former 'comfort women', who were forced to serve as sexual slaves for Japanese soldiers during the Second World War, marks its 11th anniversary in front of the Japanese embassy in downtown Seoul. A dozen comfort women, along with civic activists and supporters, stage the 540th rally to call for an official apology and compensation from the Japanese government.

21–23 January The first Global Assembly of Peasant Farmers' Organisations takes place in Porto Alegre as groups gather there in preparation for the Third World Social Forum. This is organised by Via Campesina.

23–28 January The Third World Social Forum takes place in Porto Alegre, Brazil, attended by 100,000 people attend from 123 countries, making it the largest social forum to date. A quarter of participants are young people. Highlights include the speech of the new Brazilian president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva (known as Lula), witnessed 50,000 people, and the controversial visit by Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez, whose rally was kept separate from the official forum in keeping with the WSF commitment to remaining non-governmental.

24 January Following pressure and boycott campaigns from a range of international civil society organisations, Nestle drops its \$6m claim against the Ethiopian government.

31 January In Grenoble, France, 8,000 protesters demonstrate against the arrest of ten activists

charged with destroying genetically modified plants.

February 2003

13 February The Korean Truth Committee on the Vietnam War, a civil society group, announces the opening of a citizen-funded peace park to pay tribute to victims of the Vietnam War. Finance for the Han-Viet Peace Park in Vietnam has been collected by a range of organisations to repent for the atrocities allegedly committed by Korean soldiers during the Vietnam War. More than 100,000 South Koreans helped raise 150 million Korean Won. A 20-member Korean delegation and about 500 Vietnamese officials and citizens attend the opening ceremony.

15 February This is claimed to be a global day of mobilisation against the war in Iraq. One of the largest demonstrations takes place in Barcelona, with two million people besieging the city centre to protest the war and also the environmental damage caused by the Prestige oil tanker, which sank off northern Spain in 2002. In Dublin up to 100,000 people march to voice their opposition to military action against Iraq. Numerous smaller protests are held in cities and towns throughout Ireland. In Berlin, 500,000 people protest, including some ministers of the federal government, making this the biggest demonstrations in Germany since the Second World War. Throughout France protests are held, including a 600,000-strong march in Paris.

17–18 February In Bolivia a strike organised by the country's largest union, Central Bolivian Workers Union, ends in riots, with at least 33 dead.

19 February Rallies are staged simultaneously in 11 cities, including Seoul, Tokyo, Osaka and Vancouver, to protest against the imprisonment of North Korean defectors detained in China. The NGO Exodus 21 coordinates this action and the protest in front of the Chinese consulate in the Republic of Korea.

20 February In Venezuela, the strike leader and prominent entrepreneur, Carlos Fernandez, is placed under house arrest to await trial on charges of rebellion, treason and sabotage, after his involvement in the organisation of protests that resulted in a two-month strike, which forced the suspension of oil exports.

23 February One million people take part in demonstrations in Madrid, under the banner 'Never Again', to protest against the environmental catastrophe created by the sinking of the Prestige oil tanker. A system of volunteers cleans the coastline on a daily basis and plans to continue doing so until the end of the year.

24–25 February Due to deteriorating social conditions and government privatisation plans in Algeria, thousands of workers from many sectors agree to a national strike.

26 February A Korean NGO, the People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD), announces its intention to file a lawsuit against Microsoft, the US software giant, to seek reparation for damage caused by an Internet attack on 15 January.

28 February Over 30 University of Chicago students and 20 day labourers from Union Latina participate in a one-day hunger strike outside the University of Chicago's Taco Bell restaurant, in solidarity with farm workers on hunger strike outside Taco Bell headquarters in Irvine, California. The strike, organised by the Anti-Sweatshop Coalition, is in response to the annual hunger strike of farm workers representing the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, which wants Taco Bell to take responsibility for the sweatshop conditions in the Florida fields where its tomatoes are picked.

March 2003

8 March Protests throughout the world take place on International Women's Day. In Italy, traditional celebrations include the giving of fragrant and long-lasting mimosa flowers, symbols of peace and light, to mothers, sisters, daughters, wives and friends. Women in many countries mark the day by protesting peacefully against the war in Iraq.

10 March The Initiative for the Protection of Women's Rights (IDPF) reveals that seven out of ten Moroccan women suffer from domestic violence, and half of them do not report it.

10 March The Landless Movement and other agricultural social movements set up a camp in front of Monsanto's research buildings in the city of Uberlândia, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Under the tag 'Brazil Free of Transgenic Organisms', the camp lasts for six months.

13–15 March ATTAC Germany organises protests against privatisation and the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) in 50 German cities. In

Göttingen, symbolic shares of public sector properties, such as bridges, are distributed to passers-by; in Munich the *Stachus* (public space) is temporarily privatised; and in Marburg protesters chain themselves to the fountain in the market square shouting 'Water belongs to all!'

16–23 March At the Third World Water Forum in Japan, US\$180 billion is pledged to cut by half the number of people without access to drinking water and sanitation. International civil society groups argue that the pledge is motivated by self-interest – construction companies will profit from the ensuing work.

17 March In Bahrain, the Arab National Conference launches a large-scale campaign to consolidate the international forces against the war in Iraq. The campaign includes gratitude messages to France, Germany and Turkey, as well as letters to Security Council members praising anti-war efforts and denouncing those governments that support the war.

18 March In Cuba, 26 independent journalists who had established two underground publications, are imprisoned, an action unprecedented in the 44 years of Castro's rule. The international NGO, Reporters Without Borders, mounts a worldwide petition to campaign for their immediate release.

20 March Despite strong civil society protests internationally, the US-led war to topple Iraqi president Saddam Hussein officially starts when American missiles are launched against targets in Baghdad. Around the world, anti-war activities are stepped-up.

30 March A concert for peace is held in Barcelona, bringing out 40,000 people to peacefully proclaim their opposition to the war in Iraq.

April 2003

4–5 April The Third International Citizens Meeting is organised by the UNESCO Chair on Peace and Human Rights and the City Council in Barcelona, under the title 'Towards a new form of citizenship: alternatives to single discourse.'

5–6 April The First Hungarian Social Forum is held in Miskolc, northeastern Hungary. Discussions include the role of Hungarian soldiers in the Iraq war and initiatives to encourage the development of social forums throughout eastern Europe.

7 April In Oakland, California, local police fire non-lethal bullets, sandbags and concussion grenades against some 500 anti-war protesters who assemble by the Port of Oakland. One of the activist groups involved is the San Francisco-based Direct Action to Stop the War. The protesters assemble at the port because one of the nearby shipping companies is handling war supplies.

12 April In Rome, 300,000 people demonstrate against the war in Iraq, an action organised by the Italian Stop the War, in cooperation with international peace groups.

18 April In Srinagar, Kashmir, 20,000 people gather at a rally to hear Indian prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee speak of the possibility of peace with Pakistan. This is seen, at least in part, to be a result of civil society pressure for the resumption of peace talks. Both countries also agree to play cricket after a gap of 15 years.

22 April In the Algerian city of Tiziozo, the largest tribal region, 10,000 people come out to the streets: the nation is divided between defenders of the Arabic- and French-speaking traditions. The protest is sparked by a dispute over which alphabet will be used – the Arabic or Latin – to write the Berber language, which became a national language the previous year.

25–27 April The Uppsala Social Forum takes place, the fourth social forum in Sweden to date, with 3,000 participants from 63 organisations. The possibility of establishing a Nordic regional forum is discussed.

May 2003

1 May International Labour Day becomes a platform for anti-war protests. This includes Athens, where 7,000 protesters gather, some burning American flags outside the US embassy. In Berlin, large protests eventually end in riots against the well-prepared police. In Britain, protests are peaceful in spite of the heavy policing, indicating that trouble has been expected. In Bulgaria, 5,000 protesters call for the resignation of the government because of its failure to improve the economy. China is forced to cancel its celebrations, which are among the largest national Labour Day events in the world, due to the SARS virus. In Cyprus, Greek and Turkish residents celebrate May Day together for the first time in 30 years. Throughout Russia rallies are held calling for an increase in wages and

student stipends, and for better social provision. In Turkey, demonstrators clash with police, causing riots in the capital, Istanbul.

6 May Lawyers representing 30,000 rainforest people in Ecuador file a suit against Chevron Texaco, claiming that the company has destroyed their homeland by dumping huge quantities of toxic waste and crude oil over a 20-year period.

6–9 May In San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, delegates from 28 countries meet to express their will to maintain their autonomy and to defend their territories and resources. They also celebrate the resistance experiences in Latin America and the Caribbean, such as the expulsion of US Marines from Vieques. They stress the need for peace, social justice and the demilitarisation of the region, and emphasise the need to draw more attention to human rights issues in the area. The meeting was organised by the Call of the Excluded, Movement for the Peoples of the Americas, Jubilee Americas, Non-violence International and the Chiapaneca Network Against Neo-liberalism.

7–9 May The Stockholm Social Forum and the Skane Social Forum take place.

10 May The Belgium Social Forum is held in Brussels.

11–12 May In Mexico, meetings are held by groups against the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to coordinate the civil society actions planned to coincide with the WTO summit, which is to be held in Cancun in September.

22 May Former Sudanese president Major Sawar Addahab meets with the wife of John Garang in Cairo at a brainstorming session that brings Sudanese and Egyptian NGOs together. The meeting was organised by the national NGO Center for Population and Development (NCPD) with the aim of promoting the unity of Arab and African peoples and building trust among local communities. Ninety Sudanese NGOs participated (65 from northern Sudan and 25 from southern Sudan) as well as 45 Egyptian NGOs.

29 May –1 June The Austrian Social Forum is held in Hallein, Salzburg.

June 2003

1–3 June Around 150,000 protesters demonstrate against the meeting of the G8 in Evian.

7–10 June The first-ever Portuguese Social Forum is held in the country's capital, Lisbon.

16 June China admits that small cracks have appeared in the controversial Three Gorges Dam – for which more than 1,200,000 people will eventually have been moved – and which international civil society groups have campaigned against.

16–20 June A thematic social forum, conceived at the Third World Social Forum, is held on Democracy, Human Rights, War and Drug Trafficking. This takes place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, a country where more than 270,000 people have died as a result of the drugs trade since 1991. The forum brings together diverse global civil society groups to discuss these issues, and organises action around the impact of illegal drug trafficking at local and global levels.

20–22 June In Thessaloniki, the first Greece Social Forum is held, which marks the culmination of civil society protests throughout Greece's presidency of the EU. An international protest march is held, joined by people from growing movement of local social forums throughout Greece.

20–25 June At the Ministerial Conference and Expo on Agricultural Science and Technology in Sacramento, California, Trade, Agriculture and Environment Ministers from 180 WTO member states are faced with activists from a variety of organisations including Via Campesina, the Organic Consumers Association, and Biodevastation, which together invited activists from all nations to come to Sacramento and resist corporate domination of the world's food supply.

21–23 June International women's and children's rights groups hold a three-day conference on legal instruments for the prevention of female genital mutilation. Held in Cairo, it brings together representatives from 28 Arab and African countries and includes the Italian Association for Women in Development, No Peace without Justice and the Egyptian National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM). The conference receives support from the EU Commission and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The Grand Imam of al Azhar and a representative of Pope Shenouda attend, as well as the Chair of the UN Commission for the Rights of the Child.

26 June The WTO holds an unofficial mini-ministerial meeting in the Red Sea resort of Sharm al Shaikh.

NGOs, including Greenpeace, are invited to the conference but are not participants in the talks behind closed doors. They are, however, allowed on the premises of the venue.

29 June The first ever gay pride march in India is held in Calcutta.

July 2003

1 July A peaceful protest involving 500,000 people takes place in Hong Kong in opposition to the national security legislation (Article 23 of the Basic Law, the mini-constitution of Hong Kong). Campaigners believe it is a serious threat to freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. As a result, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) government defers the second reading of the bill.

6 July After worldwide controversy between church groups supportive and opposed to the appointment of gay clerics, and involving human and gay rights groups, canon Jeffery John, a gay celibate priest in the Church of England, withdraws his nomination to be appointed the Bishop of Reading, England. He would have been the first openly gay bishop in the Anglican Church. He is later appointed Dean of Reading Cathedral.

15 July Following the campaigns of human rights and civil liberties activists, the Syrian president pardons hundreds of prisoners. He also orders an end to the judicial pursuit of lawyer Haitham al Malih, head of the Syrian Human Rights Organisation, and three of his colleagues, who were to appear before a military court facing charges related to their activities in the field of human rights.

16 July An Internet site is launched for the World Campaign for in-depth Reform of the System of International Institutions, www.reformcampaign.net. The site is intended to collect pledges in support of the Campaign Manifesto, to be submitted at the United Nations General Assembly in 2006, in order to promote reform of the international system.

18 July In Brazil, a judge is seen to support the campaign of activists against homelessness by suspending the eviction of 4,000 members of the Workers Without a Roof Movement, who are squatting on a 20-hectare plot owned by Volkswagen in São Paulo.

21–24 July The Fourth Foro Mesoamericano – Campaign Against the FTAA – takes place in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Participants focus on strategies to resist and reverse neo-liberal policies.

23 July Trade unions in Colombia call for a worldwide boycott of Coca-Cola's products amid allegations that the company has employed militias to murder nine union members in the past 13 years.

23 July In Juarez City, Chihuahua, 40 Mexican and international NGOs, as well as observers from the UN, meet with the ministers of the Interior and Social Development, the national judicial authorities, the governor and the mayor, to demand an end to the violence against and murder of women and children in the city.

28–30 July During a WTO meeting in Montreal, Quebec, ahead of the organisation's full-scale September 2003 conference in Cancun, hundreds of protesters from across Canada and beyond come to protest, some smashing storefront windows of multinational brands.

August 2003

6 August Demonstrations and protests take place against social security reform in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil. They are attended by 80,000 civil servants, with some protesters breaking windows in an attempt to invade the Government Palace.

9 August In Chicago, Illinois, 1,500 immigrant workers and their allies rally in preparation for the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride in late September.

9–10 August In Larzac, France, 150,000 people demonstrate against GATS and the genetic modification of food.

20 August Human rights activists mourn the death of the Brazilian diplomat Sergio Vieira de Mello. He was the top UN official in Iraq and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and had served in conflict areas worldwide. He died when the UN headquarters in Baghdad was bombed.

23 August In Chicago, Illinois, over 1,000 citizens from 60 organisations gather at Federal Plaza to participate in a rally organised by the Chicago Coalition Against War and Racism (CCAWR). The lobby for an end to the occupation of Iraq and return of troops.

24–26 August In Macedonia, representatives of civil society from both Serb and Albanian communities in Serbia meet as part of a Partnerships for Peace Project, with the aim of initiating dialogue between young leaders and creating a tolerant and democratic atmosphere for the talks.

September 2003

5–7 September In Cancun, Mexico, a Universal Forum for Biodiversity is held to bring together civil society groups in order to consolidate views on trade, property rights and biodiversity. Groups stress their opposition to patents on living beings and to the privatisation of natural resources. They also express their concerns about the violation of indigenous peoples' rights and the impact of free trade on their communities. The forum is promoted mainly by Friends of the Earth, Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC), Traditional Doctors from Chiapas, and other organisations.

7 September Under the banner 'Take off your hands, Brazil is our land', the ninth Cry of the Excluded protest takes place, with marches organised by a range of social movements throughout Brazil.

8 September Peru's government releases a report by a truth commission on the deaths of more than 69,000 people between 1980 and 2000. The report, which mostly blames a Maoist rebel group, Shining Path, also states that the armed forces and two supposedly democratic governments share responsibility for human rights violations; and that the majority of Peru's powerful political class turned their backs on the suffering and deaths of Peru's Quechua-speaking Indians. Blame is also placed upon Vladimiro Montesinos, head of intelligence under President Alberto Fujimori, for organising torture and disappearances. The report is criticised by those implicated, such as former military chief, Roberto Clemente Noel, who accuses commission members of being Marxists with connections to Shining Path.

8–9 September Civil society groups in Mongolia work with international organisations to host the International Civil Society Forum's Fifth Conference of the New or Restored Democracies. This takes place in Ulaan Baatar, the capital of Mongolia.

8–9 September A thematic Social Forum for Global Social Rights takes place in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

9–15 September In Cancun, Mexico, the International Forum for Indigenous and Campesino takes place. Delegates from at 33 countries join to express their concerns about the increasing impoverishment of the agricultural sector. Delegates from Spain, US, Thailand, Greece, Canada, South Africa, The Philippines, Holland, Portugal, Honduras, Haiti, Mozambique, Dominican Republic, Belgium, Japan, Korea, Panama, Cuba, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico demonstrate their rejection of free trade. The forum is mainly promoted by the National Indigenous Congress of Mexico, The Landless Movement of Brazil, UNORCA de Mexico, The Assembly of the People of Thailand and the National Family Farm Coalition. At the same time, 3,000 peasants representing grassroots organisations worldwide, arrive in Cancun.

10 September In Stockholm, the Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh is assassinated. The perpetrator, Mijailo Mijailovic, a 25-year-old Swede of Serbian origin, stabs her as she shops at a department store in downtown Stockholm. Lindh, well known for her commitment to human rights, freedom and peace, is mourned worldwide.

10–14 September The Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the WTO is held in Cancun, Mexico, surrounded by thousands of civil society activists. For the first time, the WTO allows the participation of civil society groups, which express their serious concerns about globalisation and free trade; and campaign for neglected rural areas. The WTO is also accused of being undemocratic, anti-development and obsolete. Particularly critical are organisations such as 'Our World is Not For Sale', Public Citizen, and the International Forum against Globalisation, as well as Food First, among many others. Parallel to the formal meeting, several direct action groups rail against the police. A Korean peasant leader, Lee Kyung Hae stabs himself to death. His chest is inscribed with 'The WTO kills peasants'.

13 September Following the suicide of Lee Kyung Hae, farmers and civic activists seek to pressure the Korean government to withdraw its representatives from the WTO meeting. Representatives of farming and civic groups warn they will take further 'provocative' actions if the government does not call back its negotiators from the Cancun talks.

Protests supporting this call are held around the world.

14 September The WTO summit in Cancun collapses after a walk-out by African countries. The trade talks see a new group of militant developing countries, led by Brazil, India and China, flexing their negotiating muscles for the first time.

19–21 September The Swiss Social Forum takes place in Friburgo, Switzerland.

20 September The Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride starts across America, bringing joining together trade unions, immigrant civil society groups, and community and student organisations. Modelled on the Freedom Rides of the 1960s civil rights campaigns, immigrants, their families, other workers and their allies board buses from ten major cities to ride across the US, making hundreds of stops along the way, to protest against and draw attention to the injustices of immigration legislation. Activists call for reform of immigration law, the right of immigrants to form unions, have driving licences, and an end to the deportation of Arabs, Muslims and undocumented immigrants. The rides will go to Washington DC to lobby the government and culminate in protests in New York.

25–26 September The Nigerian Women Social Forum takes place in Niamey, Nigeria.

26–28 September The themed Universitarian Social Forum takes place in Asuncion, capital of Paraguay.

October 2003

9–11 October The first Zimbabwe Social Forum takes place in the capital, Harare, described by the organisers as a People's Forum for Peace, Reconstruction and Prosperity. The forum adopts a charter of principles based on 'no to capitalism, no to globalisation and no to any form of domination'.

9–12 October The Fifth Assembly of the Peoples' United Nations on 'Europe and the world: the role and responsibilities of Europe in the world', is organised by Tavola della Pace, a coalition of hundreds of civil society groups. Two hundred and fifty representatives of global civil society, from 150 countries, meet for three days with 400 Italian participants. The event ends in a 15-mile march from Perugia to Assisi, with 500,000 people protesting against the war in Iraq, and for a different European policy.

10–12 October The Second Uruguayan Social Forum takes place in Montevideo.

17 October In Bolivia, Carlos Mesa, a political unknown, takes over the presidency after a month-long revolt by the country's Indian majority. The former president and a key US ally, Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada, flees in the wake of violent protests against the American-backed drive to wipe out crops of the staple coca leaf, and against plans to export natural gas to the US. An estimated 74 people are believed to have been killed in this period.

17–19 October This weekend an array of social forums take place around the world. The Second Sao Joao Social Forum takes place in Sao Joao del Rei, Brazil. The Alberta Social Forum takes place in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The Majorca Social Forum takes place in Palma, Majorca. The First Irish Social Forum takes place in Dublin, Ireland.

23 October Hundreds of Saudis participate in a demonstration to mark the opening of the kingdom's first human rights conference, and the proclamation by the Saudi government that it would hold its first legislative elections.

31 October–2 November The Norwegian Social Forum takes place in Oslo and simultaneously the Denmark Social Forum takes place in Copenhagen.

November 2003

1 November In Berlin, a broad coalition of left-wing groups, trade unions and ATTAC mobilise more than 100,000 people for a demonstration against the welfare reforms of the German federal government.

4–5 November Students in universities all over Germany launch 'strikes'. Over a period of weeks they organise demonstrations and seize academic and governmental buildings, demanding more money for education.

5–6 November In St Julien, Malta, the fourth Euro-Mediterranean Socio-economic Summit takes place. Trade unionists, employers, farmers, civil rights activists, members of NGOs from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Israel, Italy, France, Greece, Jordan, Luxembourg, Malta, Palestine, Portugal, Spain, Syria and Turkey, meet in Malta to promote institutions of social dialogue, a greater involvement of civil society in Euro-Mediterranean relations, and a balance between economic progress and social development.

6-9 November The Brazilian Social Forum takes place in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

7-9 November The Thematic Second Health Social Forum is held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

9-10 November The African Social Forum takes place in Lusaka, Zambia.

12-16 November The Second European Social Forum takes place in Paris, France. This is held in 130 locations, mainly in the outlying areas of Saint Denis, Bobigny and Ivry. Fifty thousand people register for the event and more than 100,000 take part in the march on the closing day, which is dedicated to peace and opposition to the war in Iraq.

20-23 November The Paraguayan Social Forum takes place in the country's capital, Asuncion.

21-23 November The Aotearoa Social Forum takes place in Wellington, New Zealand.

25-26 November The Regional Forum of Civil Society against Hemispheric Integration meets in Mexico City, attended by 71 civil society organisations from 21 countries of the Americas. They discuss their position vis-à-vis the coming Summit of the Americas, to be held in January 2004, in Monterrey, Mexico. The event is organised by the Mexican Network against Free Trade, Civic Alliance, Canadian Foundation for the Americas, and the Interamerican Network for Democracy, with observers from the governments of Mexico, US and Canada, as well as from the Interamerican Development Bank, the World Bank and the Organisation of American States.

25-27 November The Ivory Coast Social Forum takes place in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

26-29 November The Central Africa Social Forum is held in the capital city of Bangui.

27-29 November The Global Progressive Forum brings together more than 500 policy makers, leaders and representatives of NGOs, trade unions, businesses and academia from around the world in Brussels. Organised by the Parliamentary Group of the Party of European Socialists and the Socialist International, civil society organisations such as Oxfam International, Third World Network, World Wide Fund for Nature, UBUNTU Forum, Médecins du Monde, and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions take part. The Forum addresses three main goals: turning globalisation into a peace-building process, making globalisation a

sustainable process for present and future generations, and ensuring that globalisation works for all.

28-30 November The Euro-Mediterranean Forum is held in Naples, stressing the importance of paving the way for cultural exchange and a dialogue between cultures. It is attended by 300 representatives of civil society organisations in the Mediterranean region.

December 2003

5 December Civil society organisations, governments, and volunteers celebrate International Volunteer Day (IVD) to recognise the contribution made by volunteers to the strengthening of civil society.

13-14 December Hundreds of Arab and international activists throughout the world meet in Cairo under the slogan 'Yes to resistance in Palestine and Iraq: No to capitalist globalization and US hegemony.'

13-14 December The second Cairo anti-war rally, organised by the International Campaign against Zionist and US Occupation, attracts 1,000 activists. It brings together international figures, political and trade union activists, writers, journalists, artists, and defenders of human rights from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe and the United States in a common struggle against imperialism and capitalist globalisation, US hegemony, Zionism and racism, and for a more humane and just alternative.

14 December In Brazil, senator Heloisa Helena, congresswoman Luciana Genro, and congressmen, Joao Batista and Joao Fontes, are expelled from the Partido dos Trabalhadores (PT). Labelled the 'radicals', they are against the neo-liberal reforms promoted by the Brazilian government. Many politicians and civil society activists protest against their expulsion.

16-17 December The Somalian Social Forum takes place in Mogadishu, Somalia.

18-20 December The Senegal Social Forum takes place in Dakar, Senegal.

21 December Civil society institutions affiliated to the African Union meet to discuss the charter of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the Union. The meeting is attended by civil society representatives from member countries who have an official consultative relationship with the

Union, as per its charter. The Economic, Social and Cultural Council consists of 50 civil society organisations selected from all member states, in addition to representatives of the economic groups in diaspora.

21 December Many protests are organised in Paris against the government decision to ban the wearing of religious clothing in French state schools, including the Islamic Hijab, Jewish yamulke, and 'excessive' Christian crosses. The controversy draws the attention of civil liberties and religious groups around the world.

22 December Human Rights Watch criticises a peace agreement that gives rebels and soldiers temporary immunity from prosecution for atrocities committed against civilians during Burundi's 10 year civil war (1993-2003), in which more than 200,000 people died.

January 2004

2 January Political parties and civic groups condemn Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's New Year's Day visit to a controversial shrine honouring Japan's war criminals, and demand that the government take a strong stand on the issue.

4-5 January The Social Forum for Another Mali takes place in Bamako, Mali.

9 January The Final Court of Appeal in Hong Kong rules against the Town Planning Board on the Wanchai Reclamation Phase II project because it failed to comply with Section 3 of the Protection of the Harbour Ordinance. This is a major victory for the Society for the Protection of the Harbour and international environmental groups, which have been campaigning together. It is seen as an example of the strength of civil society when it uses legal methods.

12-13 January The Pakistan Social Forum takes place in Lahore, Pakistan.

16-21 January The Fourth World Social Forum is held in Mumbai, India, the first time the event has been hosted outside Porto Alegre. One hundred thousand people from 132 countries register at the event, with strong representation from groups of all backgrounds across India. For the first time an organised counter-event, Mumbai Resistance 2004, is held directly opposite site of the main forum. Mumbai Resistance 2004 is critical of the social forum process.

February 2004

4-8 February The Third Pan-Amazon Social Forum takes place in Ciudad Guayana, Venezuela.

8 February Three South Koreans who returned home after years of captivity in North Korea go to Tokyo to testify before the Japanese parliament. The Citizen's Coalition for Human Rights of Abductees and North Korean Refugees, which helped organise the visit, said the former abductees were invited by Japan as part of a government effort to raise public awareness and support in resolving North Korea's abduction of Japanese citizens.

16 February The Federation of Egyptian Industries hosts the formal launch of the Global Compact – the UN Initiative on Corporate Social Responsibility – in Egypt. Two hundred delegates representing the private sector, academics and civil society groups attend the launch.

28 February Disruptions occur at the shareholders' meeting of Samsung Electronics, where the People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy, one of the most active shareholders' rights groups in Japan, attend for the first time in three years.

March 2004

4 March After scientist Hwang Woo-suk's breakthrough in cloning human cells was announced in early February, at least ten civil society groups, including the Citizens' Movement for Environmental Justice, join the campaign against Hwang's nomination for a Nobel Peace Prize.

13 March Spontaneous demonstrations take place in Spanish cities and towns, and among Spanish expatriate communities, in protest at the terrorist attacks that devastated the country prior to the general elections.

13 March Seventy thousand people from more than 500 civic organisations gather in Kwanghwamun, South Korea, to demand an annulment of the National Assembly and the impeachment of the President. Similar rallies are witnessed in Kwangju, Pusan, Taegua and other major cities across the country.

17 March Simultaneous demonstrations in seven countries mark South Korean comfort women's 600th Wednesday rally in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul. Many Asian comfort women, who were compelled to serve as sex slaves for Japanese soldiers during the Second World War,

and their supporters, gather simultaneously in Japan, Taiwan, the US, Germany, Belgium and Spain.

20 March An international day of action for peace is marked around the world on the anniversary of the start of the war in Iraq. For example, in Italy, a million people participate in a protest organised by the Italian Stop the War committee. There are also several general strikes and large trade union demonstrations. The main theme of the action is a call for troops to be withdrawn and for sovereignty to be returned to the Iraqi people.

21 March In Washington DC a peaceful vigil is held at which the names of all the US military personnel killed in Iraq are read out, together with names symbolising the Iraqi dead. This reading is repeated hundreds of times.

21-25 March 'Acting Together for a Just World', the CIVICUS fifth biennial World Assembly, takes place in Gaborone, Botswana.

April 2004

1 April In Nepal, 50,000 people protest against King Gyanendra on the streets of Kathmandu, calling on him to restore regular democratic processes and parliamentary life, which has been suspended for

18 months. The majority of the protests are peaceful but this marks the start of more than 20 days of demonstrations.

3-4 April The Finnish Social Forum takes place in Helsinki.

7 April Hundreds of protesters, including people from international peace groups, take part in demonstrations against the building of the barrier wall under construction by the Israeli government to keep Palestinians out. If completed, the wall will run for 640km (397 miles) through the West Bank. During the protest campaigners try to prevent construction workers cutting down olive trees to make way for the wall in Bidou, near Jerusalem.

21 April Mordechai Vanunu is released from Ashkelon prison in Israel, where he has been a prisoner since 1986 after he alerted the international press to the existence of Israel's nuclear weapons. Systematic international civil society campaigns, coordinated by the Campaign to Free Vanunu and for a Nuclear Free Middle East, are credited with Vanunu's release.

26 April International environmental activists led by Greenpeace block a shipment of genetically modified (GM) foods in Port Kemble Harbour, New South Wales, Australia, for eight hours.