

THE EARTH UNION GOVERNANCE CHARTER

(This document to be further developed and upgraded by Global Citizens and founders of the Earth Union.)

Purpose: The proposed “governance charter” is the constitutional framework for a gradual Political Union of nations culminating in the formation of The Earth Union. It is designed to be narrow in power, strong in law, democratic in legitimacy, and deliberately difficult to expand without renewed consent from member states and their citizens.

The central idea

The Earth Union does not replace nations. It creates common authority only where nations have expressly agreed that a problem is genuinely global and cannot be solved adequately by national action alone. Everything else stays national, regional or local.

The whole design in three points:

1. TEU authority is global where humanity genuinely needs one voice.
2. TEU and sovereign nations share authority where cross-border problems require common minimum rules but national implementation remains appropriate.
3. National sovereignty remains intact wherever diversity can exist without seriously harming other nations or violating the agreed fundamental-rights floor.

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Part A — Scope, definitions and constitutional principles

The Earth Union does not govern ordinary daily life, write school curricula, regulate religion, determine family law, run police or courts, or collect taxes from individuals or companies. Those fields remain with member states except where the narrowly defined Fundamental Rights Charter is actually breached.

Key constitutional terms

Term	Meaning
Member State	A sovereign state that has ratified this Charter and for which the relevant competences are in force.
Global Citizen	A citizen of a Member State who participates in TEU democratic processes. The term does not replace or create a new nationality.
Conferred competence	A specific function expressly granted to TEU in this Charter or in a later ratified amendment.
Shared competence	A field in which TEU may set common minimum rules or cross-border obligations while states choose domestic implementation.
Rights floor	A closed constitutional list of minimum protections that all Member States and TEU institutions must respect.
Region	For accession and ratification, one of the geographic regions listed in the Ratification Schedule adopted with this Charter.

Five rules behind every TEU power

1. **Conferral** — TEU may act only within powers expressly granted by this Charter. No residual, inherent or implied global authority exists.
2. **Subsidiarity** — outside the narrow exclusive tier, TEU acts only when the objective cannot be sufficiently achieved nationally, regionally or locally and can demonstrably be better achieved together.
3. **Proportionality** — TEU must use the least centralized effective instrument: information, coordination, common standards, financial support, binding rules, and only then direct central administration if genuinely indispensable.
4. **Reversibility** — legislation and shared competences are periodically reviewed. Ordinary laws may sunset; removal of a constitutional competence itself requires the Charter-amendment procedure.
5. **No self-expansion** — no institution, court, executive or emergency power may create a new competence. A new competence requires Charter amendment and national ratification.

Important distinction. The competence test can interpret the boundary of an already-conferred power or support a proposal to amend the Charter. It can never create a power that the Charter did not confer.

Part B — Seven competence tests

Hard cases sit between the obviously local and the obviously planetary. To stop constitutional drift, every proposed TEU act must pass the following test. The burden of proof is on the institution asking to act.

#	Test	Question	Consequence
1.	Cross-border harm	Can one state's action seriously harm people or systems in other states?	Strengthens the case for TEU action.
2.	Collective-action necessity	Would the problem remain unsolved if any state could simply refuse to cooperate?	Strengthens the case for common rules.
3.	Need for one rule	Would incompatible national rules defeat the agreed objective?	May justify a stronger common function if already conferred.
4.	Human dignity	Is a specifically listed Charter right actually at risk?	Permits enforcement of the rights floor — nothing more.
5.	Catastrophic cross-border risk	Could failure create irreversible, transnational or civilization-scale harm within a competence already listed?	Supports stronger action inside that competence; otherwise, an amendment is required.
6.	Local knowledge and diversity	Do culture, language, geography or legitimate local preference call for different answers?	Strengthens the case for national authority.
7.	Proportionality	Could coordination or minimum standards achieve the objective without central control?	Use the least centralized effective power.

Tie-breaker. When reasonable doubt remains, authority stays national. Serious cross-border consequences do not automatically move power upward; they justify TEU action only where a relevant competence has already been conferred.

National-parliament early warning

Before a Tier 2 law is adopted, national parliaments receive the proposal and its subsidiarity statement. If reasoned objections are submitted by at least one-third of national parliamentary votes within eight weeks, the proposal must be reviewed and either amended, withdrawn or publicly justified. If objections reach a simple majority, the proposal may proceed only after both TEU chambers expressly confirm that subsidiarity is satisfied. This borrows the mechanics of the European Union's subsidiarity procedure but gives the objection process a direct place in the TEU Charter.

Part C — Schedule of powers

The schedule is authoritative. Competence is conferred over specific functions, never over broad subject areas. The more specific entry governs if two entries appear relevant.

Tier 1A — Founding exclusive competences

Function	TEU decides	Member States keep
Inter-member aggression	Binding prohibition on aggressive force between Member States; standards for lawful self-defense and TEU-authorized collective action.	States retain armed forces, internal security and lawful individual or collective self-defense.
Charter disputes	Final interpretation of this Charter and validity of TEU acts.	States and citizens retain broad standing to challenge TEU action.
Disputes under conferred competences	Compulsory peaceful adjudication or arbitration for disputes arising under this Charter.	States choose counsel, present evidence and use any appeal/review procedure established by the Court Statute.
TEU institutions	TEU elections, appointments, budget, procurement, integrity and civil-service rules.	States and citizens participate through the Council, Assembly and oversight bodies.

Tier 1B — Dormant exclusive competences requiring later activation

These are not automatically transferred at founding. Each requires a separate Activation Protocol ratified under the same threshold used for a new competence.

Function	TEU role after activation	Member States keep
Weapons of mass destruction	Verified freeze, reduction, inspection and eventual prohibition arrangements for nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.	Ordinary lawful defense consistent with the activated protocol.
Fully autonomous lethal weapons	Common prohibition of systems that select and engage human targets without meaningful human control.	Other defense research and procurement, subject to applicable law.
Planetary geoengineering	Authorization, prohibition, monitoring and liability for deliberate large-scale intervention in the global climate system.	Domestic adaptation and ordinary environmental policy.
Collective-security force generation	Pooled standby or other common enforcement capability once the constitutional and legal prerequisites in Part F are met.	National armed forces except for capabilities specifically committed by treaty.

Tier 2 — Shared competences

TEU may set common minimum standards, objectives or cross-border duties. Member States decide how to implement them and may always provide stronger protection where compatible with the Charter.

Subject	TEU may set	TEU may not take over
Fundamental-rights implementation	Monitoring, remedies and procedures to enforce the closed rights floor in Part G.	Broader national rights, domestic courts and remedies.
Climate stability	Common measurement, reporting, cross-border obligations and collectively agreed targets.	Energy mix, domestic taxes, technology choices and implementation.

Transboundary environment	Rules for pollution, ecological harm and shared river or sea systems that cross borders.	Purely domestic land use, local air policy and municipal waste.
Pandemic preparedness	Surveillance, prompt notification, data/sample sharing, interoperability and minimum emergency protocols.	Hospitals, clinical practice, staffing and health-system design.
High-risk frontier technology	Minimum safety duties for systems capable of catastrophic or material cross-border harm; incident reporting and testing for the largest systems.	Ordinary software, domestic digital markets and most technology regulation.
Cyber conflict / shared infrastructure	Rules against cross-border cyberattack, notification duties and protection of agreed shared infrastructure.	Domestic networks, cybercrime policing and national-security systems.
Transnational crime / terrorism	Extradition principles, joint-investigation frameworks, asset tracing and evidence cooperation.	Ordinary criminal law, prosecution, sentencing and police powers.
Refugees / displacement	Humanitarian minimum standards and burden-sharing mechanisms voluntarily agreed by members.	Admissions numbers, integration and citizenship.
Disaster relief	Standby coordination, mutual assistance and logistics interoperability.	Domestic disaster management and territorial control.
International trade	A fair common framework and dispute settlement only for trade functions specifically conferred.	Domestic industrial, commercial and competition policy except agreed cross-border rules.
Systemic financial stability	Rules addressing genuinely systemic cross-border risk and coordinated crisis response.	Monetary policy, national banking supervision, taxation and domestic credit.
International tax cooperation	Transparency, information exchange, anti-avoidance and anti-evasion cooperation.	Tax bases, rates, exemptions and collection; TEU cannot levy or harmonize taxes without Charter amendment.
Food / water emergencies	Emergency coordination and common rules for transboundary waters or international food crises.	Agriculture, irrigation, local water allocation and food policy.
Cross-border health / product safety	International disease-control and product-safety standards where cross-border necessity is demonstrated.	Domestic medical practice, licensing and health-service organization.
Cross-border infrastructure	Technical and interoperability rules for networks that physically or digitally cross borders.	Construction, ownership, tariffs and operation inside national territory.
Development cooperation	Common programs and transparent standards directed at extreme deprivation and agreed human-development floors.	Domestic welfare, redistribution and economic policy.
Areas beyond national jurisdiction	Cooperation on the high seas, deep seabed, outer space and Antarctica only to the extent consistent with existing international law and treaties.	Territorial sovereignty and lawful rights/jurisdiction in territorial seas, EEZs and continental shelves.

Tier 3 — TEU support only

Field	Permitted TEU support
Education and curricula	Scholarships, exchanges, comparative research; no curriculum-setting.
Culture, heritage and arts	Conservation funding and exchange; no regulation of cultural identity.
Religion and belief	Interfaith dialogue and research only; no doctrinal or regulatory power.
Language	Documentation and endangered-language support at national request.
Health-system organization	Technical assistance, training and voluntary purchasing consortia.
Sport, youth and civic participation	Exchange, funding and voluntary standards.
Scientific research and open knowledge	Shared facilities, research funding and open-access infrastructure.
Public-administration capacity	Training, peer review and anti-corruption technical support at national request.

Tier 4 — Powers that stay with Member States

TEU has no legislative competence in these fields, subject only to the closed Fundamental Rights Charter and the specifically conferred cross-border functions listed above.

Subject	Who decides
Constitution / form of government	National, subject to accession commitments and the rights floor.
National identity / constitutional structure	National.
Ordinary criminal law / sentencing	National.
Civil, contract and property law	National.
Police, prisons and public order	National / local.
National courts / legal profession	National.
Family and personal law	National, subject only to the rights floor.
Education and curricula	National / local.
Language and official languages	National / local.
Religion / religious institutions	National / local, subject only to the rights floor.
Culture / holidays / heritage	National / local.
Healthcare delivery	National.
Welfare / pensions / social insurance	National.
Housing / planning / building law	National / local.
Land ownership / land use	National / local.
Agriculture / fisheries in national jurisdiction	National except specifically conferred cross-border functions.
Local / national transport	National / local.
Local government	National.
Internal administration / civil service	National.
Tax bases, rates and collection	National.

Labor law / industrial relations	National, subject only to the rights floor.
Domestic development / industrial policy	National.
Citizenship / nationality	National.
Immigration admissions	National.
Internal national security	National except specifically conferred cross-border security functions.

The rule that stops whole fields being swallowed. TEU never receives a subject such as “health”, “security” or “the environment” as a single block. It receives defined functions: for example, pandemic notification may be shared, hospitals remain national; interstate aggression may be common, ordinary policing remains national.

Part D — Institutions, representation and democratic participation

Institution	What it does	Hard limit
Council of Nations	One representative per Member State; one state, one vote. Protects sovereign equality.	Cannot legislate alone, create competences or grant any permanent veto.
Assembly of Humanity	Directly elected by citizens. Seats use degressive proportionality under Constitutional Schedule 1.	Cannot legislate alone or alter representation by ordinary law.
Executive	President and Cabinet administer law and budget. President requires a majority of the Assembly and 60% of the Council in the same ballot.	Cannot legislate, create powers, extend emergencies or deploy force outside Part F.
Global Court	Independent Trial and Appeals Chambers with compulsory jurisdiction over TEU law and conferred disputes.	Cannot create competence, decide outside jurisdiction or be removed for unpopular judgments.
Rights and Constitutional Commission	Receives complaints, monitors the rights floor and refers cases to the Court.	Cannot issue final judgments.
Auditor-General / Integrity Authority	Audits spending, procurement, asset declarations and corruption risks; publishes independently.	Cannot be censored by the Executive or chambers.
Electoral and Democratic Standards Commission	Runs TEU elections and verifies membership standards.	Does not supervise ordinary national elections.
Citizens’ Initiative / Deliberative Forum	Verified cross-border initiatives compel hearings and reasoned responses; citizens’ assemblies examine long-term questions.	Cannot enact law by itself.
Competence Review Panel	Publishes annual subsidiarity/proportionality reviews and tracks Tier 2 reviews.	Cannot finally decide jurisdiction; the Court does that.

Assembly representation

Constitutional Schedule 1, adopted with this Charter, must fix the seat formula, minimum and maximum representation, reapportionment cycle and constituency rules before the first election. Those rules may be changed only by Charter amendment, never by ordinary legislation. The principle is population-based representation moderated by degressive proportionality so that the largest countries have more seats but small states are not erased.

Recall

An Assembly member may face recall after the first year of a term if a petition is signed by at least 20% of registered voters in the relevant constituency. Recall succeeds by a majority of votes cast with at least 40% turnout. Only one recall vote may be held against the same member in a term, and none in the final six months.

Part E — Law-making, courts, enforcement and finance

How laws are made

- A proposal may come from the Executive, at least 10% of either chamber, or a certified Citizens' Initiative meeting the Charter threshold.
- Both chambers must pass identical text. If they disagree, a joint conciliation committee produces a compromise; if either chamber rejects it, the proposal fails.
- There is no executive veto. The Executive administers law; it does not possess a unilateral power to block legislation adopted by both democratic chambers.
- If an annual budget is not adopted on time, the previous year's budget continues month by month at one-twelfth per month until agreement, preventing shutdown leverage.

Voting thresholds

Decision	Threshold
Ordinary law in an existing competence	Majority of Assembly + at least 60% of Council.
Budget, sanctions, or major redistribution	At least 60% of Assembly + two-thirds of Council + published fiscal-impact statement.
Collective-security authorization	Two-thirds of both chambers + independent legal finding + conflict-of-interest exclusions + time limit + mandatory review.
Emergency confirmation / renewal	Two-thirds of both chambers.
New competence / activation of Tier 1B	Two-thirds of both chambers + national ratification by at least two-thirds of Member States representing at least two-thirds of TEU population; any constitutionally required national referendum also applies.
Charter amendment affecting rights / institutions	Same as above, plus Global Court certification that the amendment does not abolish democratic government, judicial independence or the non-derogable rights core.
Compulsory TEU revenue	Always treated as a Charter amendment; never ordinary legislation.

Court structure and standing

The Court Statute, adopted with the Charter, fixes the number of judges, regional balance, merit-based appointment, non-renewable terms, recusal, removal for serious misconduct, interim measures, remedies and the division between Trial and Appeals Chambers. Standing belongs to Member States, either chamber of a national parliament, a defined Assembly minority, TEU institutions, and persons directly and individually affected by a TEU act.

Enforcement and finance

The enforcement ladder: The normal rule is graduated, predictable and overwhelmingly non-military. A higher rung requires a reasoned finding that lower measures are inadequate or have failed. The sequence may be accelerated only under Part F where immediate action is strictly necessary to respond to armed attack, genocide or imminent catastrophic harm.

1. Court declaration and published compliance timetable.
2. Court-authorized financial penalties or withholding of TEU funds otherwise due.
3. Temporary suspension of specified state-government voting or program privileges. Citizens retain Assembly representation and access to the Court.
4. Coordinated diplomatic, trade or asset measures expressly authorized by both chambers.
5. Collective-security action only under Part F.

Money — intentionally modest at the beginning

- TEU is initially financed by assessed contributions from Member States using a published capacity-to-pay formula.
- The maximum assessment ceiling is fixed in Constitutional Schedule 2 at ratification and cannot be raised by ordinary law.
- TEU may not impose, harmonize, levy or collect any tax on a person or company unless the Charter is amended and nationally ratified under the highest threshold.
- Budgets, contracts, grants and beneficial ownership above a published threshold are disclosed. The Auditor-General may publish adverse findings without clearance.
- Unspent general-budget funds normally return to contributors or reduce the following year's assessments; any reserve fund must be specifically authorized and capped.

Why this matters. An institution asking for taxing power before it has demonstrated competence and integrity is unlikely to earn public trust. Fiscal authority should follow legitimacy, not precede it.

Judicial financial consequences are not theoretical: the EU experience shows that binding court judgments can be backed by lump-sum and periodic penalties for continued non-compliance. TEU borrows the principle, not the EU's exact machinery.

Part F — Defense, self-defense and collective security

This is the hardest part of the Charter because a political union is meaningless if members can wage discretionary war against one another — yet a global security authority can itself become dangerous. The answer is gradual activation, strict law and divided control.

The founding rule

Member States renounce aggressive force against one another. They retain their armed forces and the inherent right of individual and collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs. Defensive measures must be reported immediately to TEU and remain subject to judicial review. The emergency right continues until TEU and, where applicable, the United Nations have taken effective measures sufficient to address the attack.

Consensual deployments

Training missions, disaster assistance, evacuations, exercises, peacekeeping and other deployments requested or consented to by the host state are not treated as prohibited aggression, provided they comply with the Charter, host-state consent and applicable international law.

Collective-security authorization

- Available only for aggression, genocide or comparably grave threats expressly defined by law.
- Requires two-thirds of both chambers and an independent legal finding.
- A directly involved Member State does not vote in the Council on its own case; its citizens do not lose representation in the Assembly merely because their government is involved.
- Any mandate is specific, proportionate, time-limited and independently inspected. Renewal requires the same threshold.
- No ordinary TEU law is enforced militarily.

Relationship with the UN Charter

For as long as Member States remain bound by the United Nations Charter, TEU security action must be consistent with it. Article 51 preserves individual and collective self-defense after armed attack until the Security Council has taken necessary measures. Article 53 also restricts enforcement action by regional arrangements without Security Council authorization. TEU therefore cannot make otherwise unlawful force lawful merely by internal vote; where UN authorization is legally required, it must be obtained.

No standing army at founding

During early phases, authorized operations rely on voluntarily contributed or pre-agreed national contingents. A pooled standby capability can exist only after a separately ratified Tier 1B protocol defines command, parliamentary control, financing, inspection and liability. WMD integration likewise requires a phased verification-and-disarmament protocol rather than immediate transfer of nuclear authority on accession.

Part G — Fundamental rights, guardrails and emergencies

Human rights: a floor, not a template

The rights floor is written directly into the Charter rather than treated as an ordinary Tier 2 policy competence. TEU may monitor and enforce it, but ordinary majorities cannot enlarge it into a general power over education, religion, family or social policy.

Non-derogable core

- Protection against genocide, slavery and servitude, torture and cruel or inhuman treatment.
- Recognition as a person before the law; no retroactive criminal liability.
- Freedom of thought, conscience and belief, including the freedom to adopt, change or reject a belief.

Protected but qualified rights

- Equality before the law and protection against gross discrimination.
- Freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.
- Protection against arbitrary detention and basic due process before an independent tribunal.

Qualified rights may be limited only by law, for a legitimate purpose, and only where necessary and proportionate. Emergency derogation from a qualified right must be strictly required by the situation, time-limited, reviewable by the Court and consistent with other international obligations. The non-derogable core may never be suspended.

Seven guardrails against drift

1. New competences require Charter amendment and national ratification.
2. No general flexibility clause permits action simply because TEU considers it useful.
3. National parliaments possess the early-warning subsidiarity procedure in Part B.
4. Tier 2 legislation is periodically reviewed; individual laws may sunset. A competence itself disappears only through Charter amendment.
5. An annual subsidiarity and proportionality report publishes every serious competence challenge.
6. Member States, national parliaments, Assembly minorities and directly affected persons have standing to test TEU action.
7. Competence is drafted by function, never by entire subject field.

Emergencies

The Executive may declare a provisional TEU emergency only where delay would cause serious cross-border harm. It expires after fourteen days unless confirmed by two-thirds of both chambers. Once confirmed, emergency powers last no more than six months and terminate automatically unless renewed by the same threshold after fresh judicial review. After two consecutive renewals, any further extension also requires approval by two-thirds of Member States through their national constitutional procedures.

Part H — Membership, associate status, suspension and withdrawal

Full membership: A candidate must demonstrate acceptance of binding jurisdiction in conferred fields, constitutional compatibility, peaceful dispute settlement, the rights floor, credible competitive elections or equivalent constitutional accountability, judicial independence, fiscal transparency, anti-corruption safeguards, data and identity protections, and parliamentary consent. A state is not excluded because it is poor: financial contributions are assessed according to capacity to pay.

National constitutional design remains national, but full membership requires the minimum democratic and rule-of-law commitments voluntarily accepted by joining TEU.

Associate status: A state not yet ready for full membership may become an Associate Member by treaty. It may participate in agreed programs and selected Tier 2 functions, accept Court jurisdiction for those functions and send non-voting observers to the Council and Assembly. It does not vote on TEU legislation or elect full Assembly members until accession is complete. Associate status is a pathway, not a rejection.

Suspension: Serious and persistent breach may lead to temporary suspension of specified state-government privileges under the enforcement ladder. Suspension never removes the rights floor, access to the Court, citizens' Assembly representation, or the right to withdraw.

Withdrawal: A Member State may withdraw in accordance with its own constitutional requirements. It notifies TEU; the parties negotiate an orderly agreement covering contributions, staff, programs, data, assets, security commitments and transition. Membership ends when the agreement enters into force or, failing agreement, two years after notification unless both sides extend the period.

Withdrawal ends future obligations but does not erase liabilities, judgments or proceedings arising from conduct before withdrawal takes effect, nor obligations expressly designed to survive withdrawal, such as confidentiality, accrued debts or a separately ratified disarmament transition. A former member may later reapply through the normal accession procedure.

Part I — Relationship with the United Nations and existing treaties

TEU does not dissolve or replace the United Nations or existing treaty organizations. It is designed to coexist with them and to add a constitutional layer of binding law only among states that voluntarily ratify this Charter.

Treaty compatibility

- TEU institutions must interpret this Charter consistently with Member States' existing international obligations wherever reasonably possible.
- If a genuine treaty conflict arises, it is resolved under applicable international law, not by an automatic "more protective rule" test.
- For UN members, Article 103 of the UN Charter provides that Charter obligations prevail over conflicting obligations under other international agreements.
- UN Security Council decisions can be binding under Article 25. TEU therefore should be described as adding compulsory regional/constitutional machinery among its members, not as the first source of binding international law.
- Where existing regimes already work — for example in the law of the sea, outer space, Antarctica, health or trade — TEU should build on them rather than duplicate them.

Areas beyond national jurisdiction

The high seas and deep seabed are governed by the law of the sea; an Exclusive Economic Zone is not sovereign territory and retains important freedoms for other states. Antarctica has its own treaty system and preserved territorial positions. The Arctic is not a single "global commons." TEU therefore uses legally specific categories rather than treating all polar or maritime areas as ownerless global territory.

Why this still differs from the present system

The distinctive TEU proposition is not that existing international law has no binding rules. It is that participating states would accept a limited constitutional order combining directly elected citizen representation, sovereign-state representation, compulsory adjudication inside conferred fields, and predictable consequences for non-compliance — without giving any state a permanent veto.

Part J — Multi-generation implementation and activation

The Political Union is the final constitutional layer of a broader Earth Union process. Spiritual Union and Economic Union develop in parallel: the first enlarges the moral circle of belonging; the second demonstrates practical solidarity and shared benefit; the political layer grows only when those foundations have earned trust.

Phase	What exists	Political meaning
0 — Movement	Civil-society, research and interfaith network; voluntary Global Citizenship; audited development initiatives.	Charter debated publicly; rights floor, representation formula and contribution ceiling stress-tested.
I — Founding coalition	At least ten willing states from several regions sign a limited treaty.	Tier 1A plus only the founding slice of Tier 2 enters into force; Court jurisdiction matches that slice.
II — Limited constitutional union	Council, elected Assembly, Court, audit and rights bodies operate routinely.	Additional Tier 2 functions activate only through the agreed activation procedure; first competence reviews occur.
III — Deeper solidarity and collective security	Economic Union projects, enforcement and common standards show sustained compliance.	Selected Tier 1B protocols may be ratified: WMD verification/reduction, autonomous-weapons controls, limited pooled security capability.
IV — Mature Earth Union	Federal characteristics exist only where generations of consent have matured.	Competence expands only by amendment and ratification; national identity and ordinary domestic government remain protected.

How the three unions progress in phases

The pathway is milestone-driven, not date-driven. Each phase begins when the previous institutions have earned legitimacy and member societies are willing to accept the next transfer of authority.

Phase	Spiritual	Economic	Political
0 — Human-family movement	Interfaith and ethical dialogue; voluntary declaration of one human family	Connect existing public-good networks, philanthropy and digital public goods	Civil-society movement, research network, voluntary global citizenship
I — Founding coalition	Participating communities affirm equal dignity and freedom of conscience	A Global Development Compact and audited fund focused on the human floor	10–30 willing states from several regions sign a limited treaty
II — Limited constitutional union	Cross-border civic education strengthens human-family identity	Common rules on transparency, anti-corruption and digital public infrastructure	Council of Nations plus directly elected Assembly; Global Court with binding jurisdiction
III — Deeper solidarity and collective security	The human-family principle enters civic culture	Larger shared budget and a stronger development floor	Graduated enforcement becomes routine; pooled standby peace capability
IV — Mature Earth Union	Legitimate diversity within an internalized common ethic	Substantial fiscal solidarity for genuinely global public goods	Federal features only where consent has matured

Activation rule

No dormant competence starts merely because time has passed. Each activation requires the threshold stated in Part E and a published readiness assessment covering legal safeguards, financing, judicial capacity, democratic legitimacy and interaction with existing international law.

What can be done before any treaty

- Publish the Charter and invite line-by-line criticism from citizens, constitutional lawyers, parliaments and civil-society organizations.
- Run the competence test against real disputes and publish cases where the test points against TEU authority.
- Draft Constitutional Schedules 1 and 2 — representation and finance — before asking any state to ratify.
- Establish transparent Economic Union development projects and open-contracting standards that demonstrate practical benefit without requiring political union.
- Convene interfaith and ethical dialogue through the Spiritual Union while protecting freedom of conscience and non-belief.
- Obtain constitutional opinions in diverse candidate states identifying which transfers would require national constitutional amendment or referendum.

Part K — Ratification and entry into force

The founding treaty enters into force when ratified by at least ten states from no fewer than four geographic regions and together representing at least 5% of world population, each acting under its own constitutional procedures with express parliamentary approval. A state whose constitution requires a referendum for the proposed transfer of authority must hold one. At founding, only Tier 1A and the expressly named founding slice of Tier 2 operate. Tier 1B remains dormant. Additional Tier 2 functions and all Tier 1B powers require later activation under Part E. Gradual adoption is not a compromise; it is the design.

Annex 1 — Power-sharing summary

Tier	In one sentence
Tier 1A — founding exclusive	Non-aggression between members; Charter interpretation; compulsory peaceful settlement inside conferred fields; TEU institutional law.
Tier 1B — dormant exclusive	WMD transition; autonomous lethal weapons; planetary geoengineering; pooled collective-security capacity — only after separate ratification.
Tier 2 — shared	Rights enforcement, climate, transboundary environment, pandemics, high-risk technology, cyber, crime, refugees, disasters, trade, systemic finance, tax transparency, food/water emergencies, cross-border standards/infrastructure, development cooperation, selected areas beyond national jurisdiction.
Tier 3 — support only	Education, culture, religion, language, health-system organization, youth, science/open knowledge and administrative capacity.
Tier 4 — national	Constitution, ordinary civil/criminal law, courts, police, family law, schools, language, religion, culture, health delivery, welfare, land, agriculture, taxation, labor law, citizenship, immigration and internal national security — subject only to the agreed rights floor and specific cross-border functions.
Tie-breaker	If the Charter does not confer the function, TEU cannot act. When doubt remains inside a shared competence, the less centralized effective solution prevails.

Annex 2 — Constitutional precedents and primary sources

- EU Treaty Article 5 — conferral, subsidiarity, proportionality
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/teu_2016/art_5/oj/eng
- EU Treaty Article 4(2) — national identity / national security
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/teu_2016/art_4/oj/eng
- EU Protocol No. 2 — national-parliament subsidiarity procedure
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:12016M/PRO/02>
- TFEU Article 352 — EU flexibility clause, deliberately not adopted here
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/tfeu_2016/art_352/oj/eng
- TEU Article 50 — withdrawal precedent
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/teu_2016/art_50/oj/eng
- Council of the EU — qualified majority —
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/how-does-the-council-vote/qualified-majority/>
- European Citizens' Initiative — https://citizens-initiative.europa.eu/how-it-works_en
- UN Charter Articles 25, 51, 53 and 103 — <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text>
- International Court of Justice — declarations accepting compulsory jurisdiction
<https://www.icj-cij.org/declarations>
- UNCLOS — EEZ and maritime rights —
https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf
- Antarctic Treaty System — <https://www.ats.aq/>