U7+ Collective Statement on the Importance of Intergenerational Justice

We, the Presidents of the U7+ Alliance of World Universities, acknowledge the current challenges facing youth around the world and the historic role of young people in calling for change and advancing equality and inclusiveness. We recognize that many of our greatest policy challenges are urgent matters of intergenerational justice. We also recognize the unique role of universities as global actors operating at the crossroads of global and local forces and at the crossroads of generations: universities serve as a space where knowledge is transmitted among generations and new, bolder visions for the future are imagined. As students participating in the inaugural U7+ Worldwide Student Forum noted, universities stand as champions of truth and scientific inquiry and are uniquely positioned to shape dialogue and decision-making at all levels of society.

Therefore, we commit to advancing intergenerational justice by responding to issues of global relevance that take the interests and rights of youth and future generations into account. We commit to serving as platforms for open intergenerational dialogue, and to supporting students' development as global citizens and leaders. We also call on multilateral organizations including the G7 and leaders across public and private sectors to join us in working to create new opportunities for mutual understanding and equitable resource sharing across generations. We also advocate for the open exchange of accurate, scientific knowledge, and for the application of that knowledge to addressing local and global challenges within all sectors of society.

Our commitment to promoting intergenerational justice builds on the overall commitments, principles, and actions of the U7+ Alliance, representing our collective efforts in areas that need our attention in order to promote intergenerational justice, including:

- training and nurturing responsible and active citizens;
- addressing the world's environmental issues through research and in leading by example;
- combatting polarization in society and working toward equality and inclusiveness; and
- promoting interdisciplinary research and education and engaging with stakeholders to solve complex global issues.