

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of a thin, dark brown branch with several dried, brownish leaves. The leaves are elongated and have a slightly curled, papery texture. The background is a light, warm-toned surface with subtle, organic patterns, possibly a piece of aged paper or a natural material. The overall aesthetic is natural and artistic.

Music as Track II Diplomacy

Statement by

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~Robert G. Ingersoll

“Music expresses feeling and thought, without language; it was below and before speech, and it is above and beyond all words.”

~Plato

“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything.”



~ *Marie Wilson – The New York Times*

“There is a time when music becomes the best politics. From its lilting cadences and bursts of staccato to its heartrending twins of harmony and melody, music can be a truly transformative medium and a powerful instrument of human connection.”



Globalized world

- Backlash: national boundaries are blurred
- local, national or regional cultures seem to have been eroding under the pressure of the global markets and new communication technologies
- culture has become „too global“



Global world...

- Fear that globalization means Americanization
- “Global Initiative” Japanese Model
“International cultural exchange serving to form an open global community in which cultural diversity is understood and accepted with tolerance and thereby contributing to international cooperation and world peace” (Kawamura Okabe 2000).

Music is a powerful tool of any such initiative.



Diplomacy and Music

- marginal role
- Not systematically applied in/for intercultural communication, fostering understanding, dialogue among cultures and tolerance
- conflict situations, peace-making and peace-building




The time is now...!

- Cerebral approach in politics is not working!
- Too often actions are taken ignoring language and cultural differences
- Time has come to consider “music” the best “politics”
- Inspire core human values through musical dialogue
- Need to pursue and apply vigorously lessons learnt
- Ensure to create models for social and cultural engagements



The time is now...

- Use music as an accompanying force for political change
- This is called “track II diplomatic efforts”
- It requires unique means, such as dialogue with music to foster understanding, open communication and successful diplomacy (Kim Campbell)




Music as a model for politics...

- Beethoven and Napoleon
- Shostakovich and Gergiev performance-South Ossetia
- Yehudi Menuhin concerts for Bergen-Belsen's victims
- Dizzy Gillespie and Jazz music




Music as a model for social transformations

- NY Philharmonic concert in Pyongyang
- Chinese Conductor Yu Long and Requiem of Mozart



Music can cross cultural barriers

- Live Aid concert in 1985
- Rostropovich and the Berlin Wall
- Bernstein conducting Beethoven's Ode to Joy on remnants of Berlin Wall



Music as an element of political influence

- Hip hop stars Chingy Q and Mc Lyte joint performance with Graham Nash
- “be the change” and voting
- Bono and Bob Geldof initiators of Live Aid
- Importance of Jazz in Russia and China



Bringing ideas to practice

- Yo-Yo Ma and Silk Road Project
- Daniel Barenboim and West-Eastern Divan Orchestra
- Music in ME
- Melody for Dialogue among Civilizations: intellectual forums and multi-cultural concerts



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- We have chosen a practical approach to dialogue and harmony by organizing major multi-cultural concerts with artists from some 80 countries and produced written literature and recordings of events to facilitate further transmission of our messages



**Melody for Dialogue among
Civilizations Association**

www.melodydialogue.org

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“Melody for a Green Planet”

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the United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)

