
Consciousness and Climate Change



Sister Jayanti Kirpalani, UK

Main representative of the Brahma Kumaris to UN, Geneva.

Director for Brahma Kumaris in Europe and the Middle East.

For over 50 years, Sister Jayanti has been an emissary for peace with a vision and experience that is truly spiritual and global. She travels the world as a keenly sought-after speaker and broadcaster who sees erosion of spiritual values being at the heart of the humanity's present dilemmas. Since 2009, she has led the Brahma Kumaris delegation to the UN Climate Change Conferences and spoken internationally about the spiritual perspectives relevant to climate change. She advocates the need to return to spiritual love and respect—for the self, for all human beings, for all life forms and nature. She believes this love and respect should sit at the foundation of our lives. <http://bkjayanti.org/>



Golo J. Pilz, Germany/India

Advisor to Brahma Kumaris on Renewable Energy

Head of India-One Solar plant

Golo of German origin has studied Raja Yoga meditation since 1984. He lives most of the year at the BK spiritual headquarters in Mount Abu, India. Since the early 90s, he has played a key role in establishing the Brahma Kumaris as one of the major users of renewable energies in India. Recently, Golo has directed the construction of India One, a 1MW solar thermal power plant. This innovative R&D project was partly sponsored by the German (BMUB/GIZ) and Indian Governments (MNRE). Golo advocates sustainable solutions through an ethical and value-based approach. He is an experienced presenter and participates regularly in UN Climate Conferences.



Sonja Ohlsson, Denmark

Designated Contact Point to the UNFCCC

International Coordinator, Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

Sonja Ohlsson is the national coordinator of Brahma Kumaris in Denmark and has practised Raja Yoga meditation since 1986. She is a meditation teacher with the Prison and Probation service in Copenhagen. In 2009 she was instrumental in developing the BK Environment Initiative in order to meet the need for a higher environmental awareness within the BK community and to add the inner dimension to the discussions at the UN climate change and biodiversity conferences.



Valérie Bernard, Switzerland

NGO Representative of the Brahma Kumaris to UN, Geneva

Valérie is the coordinator of the Brahma Kumaris (BK) centre in Geneva. She has been actively involved in the ecological movement since Rio 1992, promoting sustainable development and raising public awareness about the forces that drive climate change. She creates tools to lift awareness to advance the standing of women, promote fair relationships with our environment, resolve workplace disharmony and through interfaith gatherings, broaden cultural understanding. She has made her home in six countries, including Costa Rica, France, and Chile and continues to build bridges of understanding between cultures.

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Carolin Fraude, Germany - Berlin

Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

Carolin holds a Diploma in Educational Science and worked in EU projects to develop informal learning arrangements. She has been practicing Raja Yoga meditation since 1998 and coordinates BK activities nationally and locally in Hamburg and Berlin. Since 2013 she has been part of delegations to UN conferences at the Commission on the Status of Women and UNFCCC. Carolin explores the process of transformation towards sustainability. She brings together stakeholders of science, politics, social entrepreneurship, and spirituality to further the understanding of these processes.



Julia Grindon-Welch, USA

NGO Representative for the Brahma Kumaris to UN, New York

Julia has been a Brahma Kumaris' representative to the United Nations in New York since 1993. In this capacity, she has explored and developed values-based and spiritual dimensions within UN policies that hold practical relevance for peoples' lives. Since 2009 she has been part of the BK delegation and organizing core-team to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Sustainable Development Conferences since 2002. Julia is Co-Chair of the Values Caucus at the UN and a member of the Working Group on Climate Change associated with the Committee on Sustainable Development (CSD). Locally a member of GreenFaithNYC.



Gabrielle Martin, New Zealand/Australia

Since 1984 Gabrielle has practised Raja Yoga meditation daily and brings this spiritual dimension to her work as a strategic planning specialist in social development in both Government and NGO contexts. She utilises empowering transformational methodologies working with people, projects and planning. Born in New Zealand, she now lives in Australia where she is the Head of Programs & Events with the Brahma Kumaris. In this capacity she has managed sustainable culturally-empowering service delivery in South Pacific countries. She is particularly interested in building collective resilience through spiritual sustainability.



Guillermo Simó, Spain

Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

Vice-President of the Brahma Kumaris Association in Spain and member of the National Coordination Team of the Association. He coordinates also the activities of the Association in Madrid. Teacher of meditation and self-development for the Brahma Kumaris for more than 30 years.

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María Moreno, Spain

Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

President of the Brahma Kumaris Association in Spain and member of the Spanish National Coordinating Team since 2008. She is very active in the education and practical implementation of values underneath sustainability and environmental impacts. She has been teaching in the university quality management and innovation management in organizations for 42 years, and she is currently directing an ambitious research project about sustainability and impacts of the organic agro-food industry in Spain. She believes respect for people and all life forms and nature can drive an innovative way of management the organizations for a better future.



Marta Matarin, Spain

Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

Marta Matarin has been studying Raja Yoga and teaching meditation with the Brahma Kumaris since 1985. She is a member of the National Coordinating Team in Spain. She has been volunteering her time in the activities of the Brahma Kumaris in Spain and other parts of the world. She has been actively involved in interfaith initiatives mainly in Catalonia and in other parts of Spain. Brahma Kumaris in Barcelona has participated for more than 20 years in events related to the International Day of the Earth and promoting activities about caring nature and environment.



Maria Jesus Aguilar Montero

Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative

Maria has been student and member of the Brahma Kumaris Association in Madrid for 3 years. She facilitates in broadcasting and publicity. She has been the US representative of Antena 3TV, working as Director of Production and International Sales for AURUM / EONE one of the subsidiaries of the Zeta Group in Spain and UK.