

NORTHWEST SOCIAL FORUM — 2004

Charter of Principles

1. The NWSF is an open space and process created for the development of ideas and exchange of experiences among participants. We acknowledge the interconnections and interdependence of individuals, organizations, and communities in creating an inclusive and democratic society.
2. NWSF stands in opposition to the process of globalization commanded by global corporations and by governments, and local and international institutions that serve those corporate interests. The NWSF seeks to ensure that globalization in solidarity with the peoples of the world will prevail as a new stage in world history. It seeks a globalization that respects universal human rights, the environment, and rests on democratic international systems and institutions in the service of social justice, equality, and the sovereignty of peoples.
3. The NWSF brings together and links individuals, organizations, and communities, but does not intend to be a body representing the Northwest. Therefore, no one is authorized to express positions claiming to be those of the NWSF nor of all its participants.
4. Organizations or groups that participate in the NWSF have the right to declare and act on decisions made while participating in the event and the NWSF will undertake to circulate those decisions without censure or ownership of those decisions.
5. The NWSF upholds respect for human rights, the environment, democracy, peace, creativity, equality, and solidarity among peoples, and condemns all forms of domination and/or subjugation of one person or people over another.
6. The NWSF recognizes a universal history of resistance to the domination and oppression of disenfranchised peoples, and is committed to creating alternatives to exclusion, dehumanization, and social inequality.
7. No political parties or military organizations may participate in the NWSF as such; individuals may participate in their personal capacity if they accept the principles of the Northwest Social Forum and the World Social Forum.
8. The NWSF is committed to pluralism and diversity. We welcome all peoples irrespective of race, class, gender, national origin, immigrant status, sexual orientation, religion, age, ethnicity, or physical/mental ability, provided they abide by this Charter of Principles.