



Terms of Reference for the WUN Global Policy Research Group – WUN 2018

(Draft for Development – John Hearn, Executive Director, WUN)

Introduction. The WUN Global Policy Research Group (GPRG) was proposed by Renmin University of China in late 2016. According to WUN practice with such proposals, a mapping study was carried out, with 14 WUN Universities wishing to engage. A working group was established at the WUN meetings in May 2017 in New York to develop the group. A steering group is being developed with representatives of member universities. A conference was co-hosted by WUN with Renmin University in March 2018, at which a step-one launch of the group was completed. A step two launch will be in Perth at the WUN Presidents Forum, focusing WUN engagement with global policy frameworks. This Term of Reference (TOR) provides a draft platform for implementation, and a guideline for the priorities and work plan to be developed at the Perth meetings.

Reference Papers: There has been extensive development and wide enthusiasm for this WUN –GPRG:

1. Minutes of teleconferences and strategic development discussions during 2017-18;
2. Report of the Renmin-WUN Conference ([link to the report](#))
3. Summary report of the post conference WUN delegates meeting on development and implementation (attached).

WUN-GPRG. Terms of Reference:

1. The GPRG will include WUN Partners and WUN-Plus expertise as appropriate to the programs.
2. Priorities and projects will be identified when they are beyond the capacity of individual members.
3. Priority is in engaging the Group with the international policy frameworks (SDGs, BRI, Paris-COP)
4. Regional Policy Frameworks are highly relevant, including Africa 2063, Indo Pacific, EU global
5. WUN will form alliances with other groups as necessary to focus on relevant challenges
6. WUN will engage with geopolitical change (BREXIT, USA, China) in exploring policy options.
7. WUN will focus on evidence based policy, and on research gaps and questions.
8. WUN will respect and develop cultural understanding towards harmony in global policy.

Next Steps. These terms of reference are a first step for engagement with the WUN Global Challenge Groups, Global China and Africa Groups; and WUN Knowledge partnerships with international agencies (OECD, WHO, UNESCO, British Council etc) to turn strategy into practical programs. These discussions will proceed at the GPRG planning dinner in Perth on 21 May 2018.