



Press Statement

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The G20 summit in Cannes failed to deliver a fair and sustainable solution for debt crises

Civil society organizations across the globe expressed their disappointment with the outcome of the G20 summit in Cannes. Once again, world leaders get their reasoning wrong when addressing problems of government debt.

Eric LeCompte, Executive Director of Jubilee USA Network – one of the campaign’s member organizations – said: “We lost an opportunity at the summit in Cannes to strengthen the international financial system to end the international debt crises. This G20 circus has left us thoroughly unprepared to deal with future crises and has now lost a critical moment to react.”

Despite the fact that the ongoing sovereign debt crisis in the Eurozone has brought the global financial system close to a collapse, the G20 seems to not yet acknowledge the complete failure of the global system in dealing with sovereign debt crisis in a fair and lasting manner.

We therefore urgently call on all countries within and outside the G20 to set up a global fair and transparent workout mechanism for government debt. The policy of pushing austerity on countries, whilst bailing private banks from their reckless lending has failed in Europe just as it has before in Latin America and Africa. Instead, a system independent of both creditors and debtors is urgently needed to reduce the debt burden of countries in crisis.

International bodies such as the UN conference on the global financial crisis, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) along with leading academics and civil society organisations, including members of [the Defuse the Debt Crisis](http://www.defusethebtcrisis.org) and Jubilee USA Network have proposed guidelines for such a process, which the international community should urgently take up. Otherwise the world will stumble into the next crisis like it stumbled into that of Mexico 1982, East Asia 1998, Russian 1999, Argentina 2001, Iceland 2009, Greece and Ireland 2010 and many more.”

[For more information, please see www.defusethebtcrisis.org](http://www.defusethebtcrisis.org) or www.jubileeusa.org.