World Economic Forum

As the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation, the World Economic Forum brings together the world's foremost CEOs, heads of state, ministers and policy-makers, experts and academics, international organizations, youth, technology innovators and representatives of civil society in an impartial space with the aim of driving positive change.

The Forum is centred around a vision of 'A Global Economy that Works for Progress, People and Planet.' In the words of WEF founder, Klaus Schwab, such an economy requires "a form of capitalism in which companies do not only optimize short-term profits for shareholders, but seek long term value creation, by taking into account the needs of all their stakeholders, and society at large."

According to media coverage given to the World Economic Forum, the more familiar impression might be that, at best, it is a talking shop for powerful corporations and vested economic interests, and at worst an organized force opposing the development of a sharing economy that works for all. While these are undeniable aspects of the Forum, a deeper look also reveals the stage the annual meeting, regular gatherings and publications provide for NGOs, charities and other civil society movements to promote more enlightened interests and goodwill initiatives. Also where so many world leaders and influential people from every sector of society gather, an opportunity exists for the Hierarchy's influence to work behind the scenes.

The Cycle of Conferences initiative exists for just such opportunities as this – to act as an intermediary, a channel, to ground and amplify the will-to-good from the Hierarchy and to seed the proceedings with these energies. In the book, *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, it is said that this work of attempting to bring major world conferences under the impact of the will-to-good began when the allied forces had won World War II and "a powerful first ray activity—the activity of will or purpose—was swinging into action. The Christ, as the Leader of the Forces of Light, empowered the Ashrams of the Masters upon this Ray to strengthen the hands of all disciples in government and politics to enlighten the various national legislatures. If effective, the 'Cycle of Conferences and of Councils,' which was being initiated by the statesmen of the world, would thereby be brought under the direct guidance of Those in the Council Chamber at Shamballa Who know the Will of God."

This is likely to be an ongoing process that is taking place behind the scenes at today's world conferences such as the annual World Economic Forum meetings in Davos. For while the main focus of the Forum is, naturally enough, economics, it also encompasses world politics and the attempt to enlighten various national legislatures is certainly a goal of Klaus Schwab, the founder and chairman of the World Economic Forum.

When we look behind all the rhetoric of Davos, we find a growing nucleus of goodwill ready to be fanned into a flame. The smaller, background events on the programme – such as the <u>Davos Peace Walk</u> (Set against the backdrop of the World Economic Forum's theme, 'Rebuilding Trust,' the walk aligns personal tranquility with the broader goal of nurturing trust and empathetic collaboration in

international relations.), the Evolution of Mental Health Panel Discussions which include an exploration of "the fusion of ancient wisdom and western medicinal practices", and the session on Climate & Nature: Seed Capital Needed ("To fast track a net-zero, nature-positive economy requires philanthropic and development support that are early-stage, risk-taking and catalytic."). All sessions like this, and there are many, help focus the world's attention on areas of crisis and possible ways forward for the well-being of all. Undeniably, much remains to be done at the WEF and many of the international conferences to address the inevitable bias of those who hold the power in the status quo. Although often falling short of public expectations, world conferences bring together all humanity – the good, the bad and all the shades of gray inbetween. With the growing power and influence of enlightened public opinion, conferences are more likely to produce constructive and effective outer results even though they may seem to take a long time to manifest. The Cycle of Conferences is an opportunity to participate in the amplification and acceleration of this process and to support the significant number of people of goodwill who attend and strive to improve the world for all its peoples.