

## If I Were the Leader of the World

If I were the leader of the world, the very first thing I would do is open my eyes and breathe deeply. As the responsibility is weighed on my shoulders, I would not view power as a heady wine, but as a solemn obligation to guide human beings to a future of peace, sustainability, and justice. I would not rule with an iron fist but with empathy and a strong sense of justice. I would be the sort of leader who understands that every choice reverberates throughout the ages and that every action taken today either constructs or destroys a better world. I would wake up each morning knowing that the decisions I made would impact not just the wealthiest nations or the biggest businesses, but the lives of every human being on this earth. It's from kids in towns to seniors in cities. If I were the monarch, the challenge would not be how to gain more power, but how to distribute it evenly and use it to heal old wounds, to mend the fabric of society, and to ensure a bright future for all. In the new world that I would create, I would start with three values that would inform all of the choices that I would make: environmental restoration, global equality, and global cooperation.

To begin with, the most pressing crisis of our age is the health of our planet. The planet Earth, as it is today, is teetering on the edge of environmental disaster, and every choice that we make today must have as a priority the restoration of the environment. If I were the world ruler, the most important thing on my agenda would be the planet's health. I would enforce extensive, global policies aimed at curbing climate change, ending the destruction of the environment, and providing the next generations with a habitable planet. The first step I would take would be to end the use of fossil fuels. This would not be immediate but through a long-term planned, publicly announced policy. Countries would all do their part to transition to renewable sources of energy: solar, wind, geothermal, and hydroelectric would be the norm. Oil, coal, and natural gas would be phased out, with all countries agreeing to divest from fossil fuel corporations and invest in green technology. Clean energy would no longer be an environmental imperative; it would be an economic necessity, providing millions of jobs in new industries. No less important would be the saving of our oceans, forests, and natural landscapes. These are the lungs of the earth, and their devastation cannot be permitted to persist. Forests would no longer be cleared for agricultural development or urbanization. Instead, we would prioritize reforestation and ecologically responsible agriculture methods that respect the delicate balance of the ecosystems they enter. Coral reefs, which are dying at an alarming rate, would receive worldwide attention and protection so that they can be preserved for future generations to marvel at and rely on for marine diversity. I would have a very ambitious program to revive biodiversity on our planet. Nature is not the enemy; it's our friend. We would, through conservation, save threatened species and the ecosystems they rely on. The concept of sustainable coexistence would be foremost: every project, every development, would be examined for its environmental effect, and alternatives would be pursued if warranted. Last but not least, I would ensure that every country on the planet, irrespective of their financial status, had access to the resources to counter climate change. That would include offering financial aid to developing nations for the development of clean technologies and environmental rehabilitation initiatives. The idea of a divided world where the rich countries hoard resources

and the poorest countries perish would be a thing of the past. Together, we would lift all nations so that the prosperity of the Earth is a shared responsibility.

Additionally, I would bring universal equity. The world in which we live is just full of inequality—economic, social, racial, and gender. Divisions, resentment, and unhappiness result from inequality. If I were the ruler of the world, I would uproot the pillars that feed inequality and substitute them with policies that institutionalize fairness, access, and inclusion. First, universal healthcare would be a human right, available to everyone, independent of income or geographical location. Healthcare would cease to be a luxury of the rich or a cause for indebtedness for the poor. I would create a global healthcare network where doctors, nurses, and medical experts from around the world would be able to interact and offer services to everyone. Diseases would no longer be able to spread uncontrollably because of a shortage of vaccines or medicines. Mental and physical health would be given equal importance, and there would be a global push towards creating awareness and eliminating stigmas. The second pillar of equity would be education. I would make sure that every child, no matter the richest cities or the most remote villages, would be able to access quality, free education. No child should be restricted by his or her socio-economic background or geographical location. I would collaborate with nations to create curricula that not only address academic achievement but also empathy, critical thinking, and sustainability. It would be an empowerment tool, not only for economic growth but also for the creation of understanding and tolerance between cultures. I would also encourage the creation of free and open-source learning programs so that adults can also have access to learning that enables them to grow, transform, and contribute to society. In gender equity, I would implement international policies that allow women and girls access to equal opportunity, safe environments, and the liberty to make their own decisions.

Lastly, I would battle to end the practice of child marriage, human trafficking, and violence against women. Men and boys would also be taught about issues of equality, and societies would be challenged to shift traditional gender roles to provide for more individual expression and respect for each other. Racial and ethnic discrimination would be eliminated, and an international campaign against racism would be initiated. No longer would any community be discriminated against on the grounds of the color of their skin, their religion, or their ethnicity. Discriminatory laws would be implemented worldwide, and racism or xenophobia in any guise would be deplored. Cultural exchange would be encouraged, with an open mind towards learning other customs and perspectives. The final pillar of my leadership would be the encouragement of global cooperation. The world does not consist of separate countries; it is one interdependent network, where one's actions impact the lives of others. If I were the ruler of the world, I would try to build bridges, not walls, and establish a framework of global cooperation over national interest. First, I would strive to rebuild international institutions such as the United Nations as more democratic, more transparent, and accountable to the people they are serving. The UN Security Council would be revamped to more accurately represent the world we have today. Gone would be the days of only a handful of countries' interests controlling decisions for the whole world at the expense of the voices of the majority. I would create a new international treaty on peace and conflict resolution. War as we know it would be a relic of the past. Diplomatic negotiation, dialogue, and compromise would be the first choice, not war, in resolving

conflict. No more invasions, no more open-ended wars driven by greed or ideology if I were president. Instead, the world would unite to tackle the underlying causes of war: poverty, injustice, and environmental degradation. Together, we would create a more peaceful world where the instruments of war are exchanged for the instruments of diplomacy. The problem of refugees and internally displaced people would be dealt with as a shared global challenge. All countries would open their arms to those fleeing violence, oppression, or climate change. No human being would ever again be permitted to suffer in overcrowded camps or be marginalized due to their status. There would no longer be an "us and them". We would be one global community, united in our humanity. Lastly, I would promote global trade and collaboration that puts social and environmental responsibility first. Corporations would no longer be able to exploit workers or the earth for profits. Corporate greed would give way to a shared prosperity system where firms are incentivized to promote sustainable practices, fair wages, and the well-being of their employees and consumers.

If I were the leader of the world, I would put the needs of all humans first and bring about a future of love, equality, and cooperation. I would put the earth first and make sure all humans and all living beings have a voice and a spot. I would work towards making the world a place that would be worth fighting for, but not for control, just for the good of all of humankind.