



**RISING
LEADERS
MAGAZINE**



SECOND EDITION

VOICE OF CHANGE STORIES OF IMPACT

Where Passion Meets Action: Stories of Global Changemakers

Welcome to Rising Leaders Magazine, your window into a world of innovation, courage and empowerment. In this issue, we celebrate young leaders, visionaries and trailblazers who are transforming communities, challenging norms and shaping a brighter, more inclusive future.



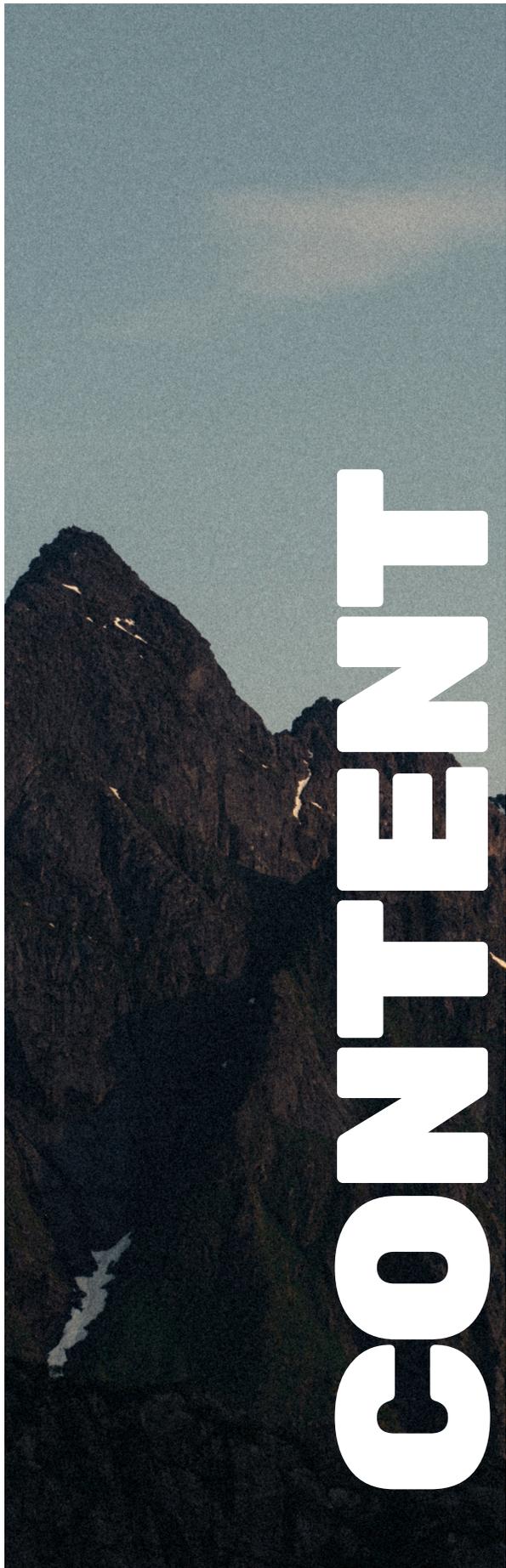
Inside This Issue

-  Inspiring stories of youth leaders from 20+ countries.
-  Global initiatives in education, sustainability, technology, and social justice.
-  Travel features showcasing destinations that empower and inspire.
-  Expert insights on leadership, collaboration, and innovation.

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“Leadership is not a title—it’s the courage to act, the empathy to understand, and the will to empower others.”

Turn the page, be inspired, and join the movement. Your journey to making a difference starts here.



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FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the 2025 issue of Rising Leaders Magazine! Our mission is to celebrate youth, innovators, and changemakers who are shaping a brighter, more inclusive world.

In this issue, you'll meet inspiring leaders from across the globe—individuals transforming education, sustainability, technology, and social justice. Their stories remind us that leadership isn't about titles—it's about courage, empathy, and the drive to make a difference.

We hope these pages ignite your passion, spark new ideas, and empower you to take action. Every voice matters, every effort counts, and every reader here has the potential to be a catalyst for positive change.

Let this magazine be your guide, your inspiration, and your call to action. Together, we can shape a world where empowerment, innovation, and compassion lead the way.

— *The Editorial Team*



GLOBAL CORRESPONDENCE

Rising Leaders Magazine proudly connects, collaborates, and shares stories worldwide. Our editorial offices and correspondents are active in:



UNITED STATES



UNITED KINGDOM



SWITZERLAND



**UNITED ARAB
EMIRATES**

Through this global presence, we bring voices, insights, and inspiration from every corner of the world—because leadership, empowerment, and impact know no borders.

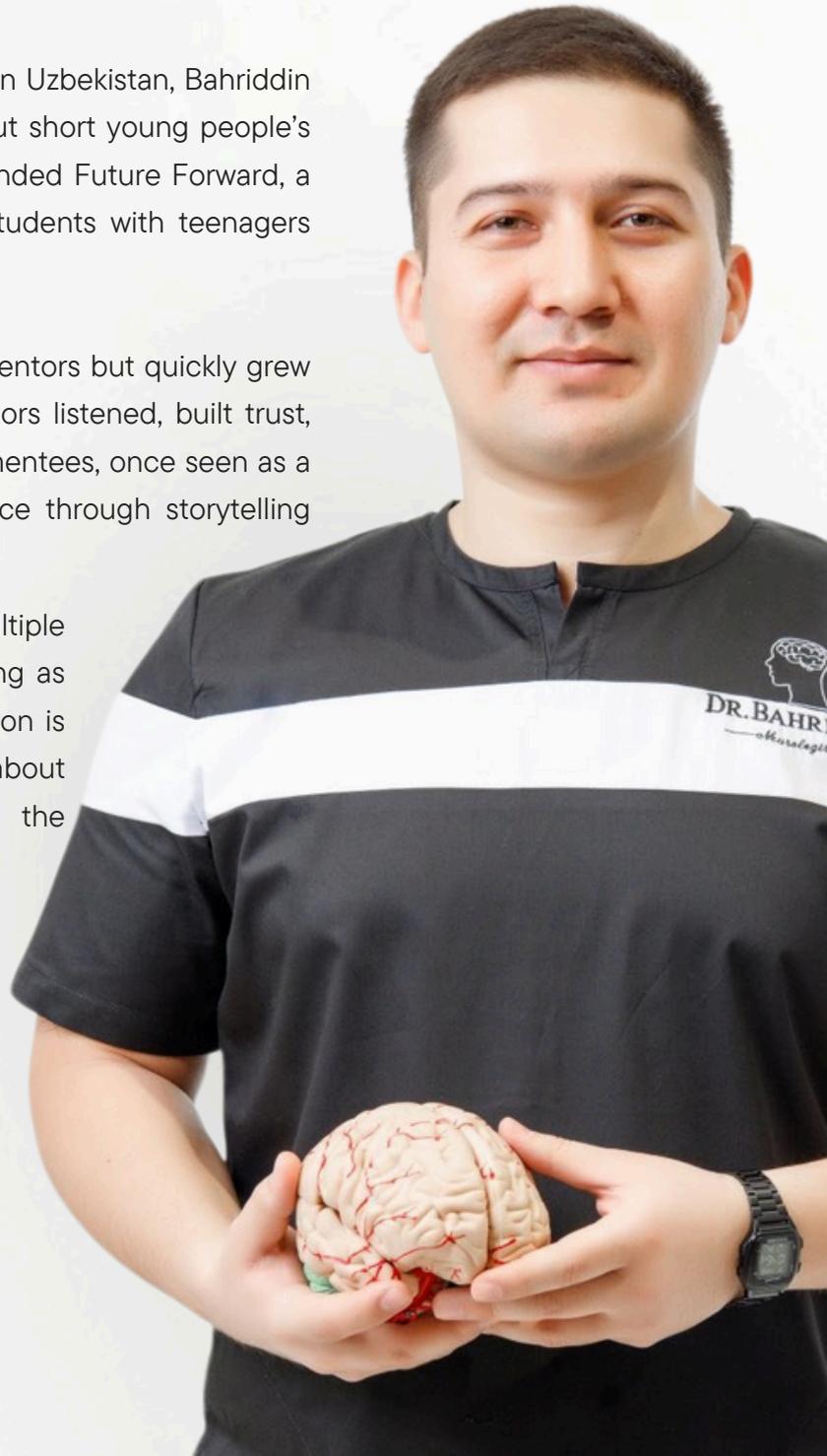
Bahriddin Bahriyev - Uzbekistan

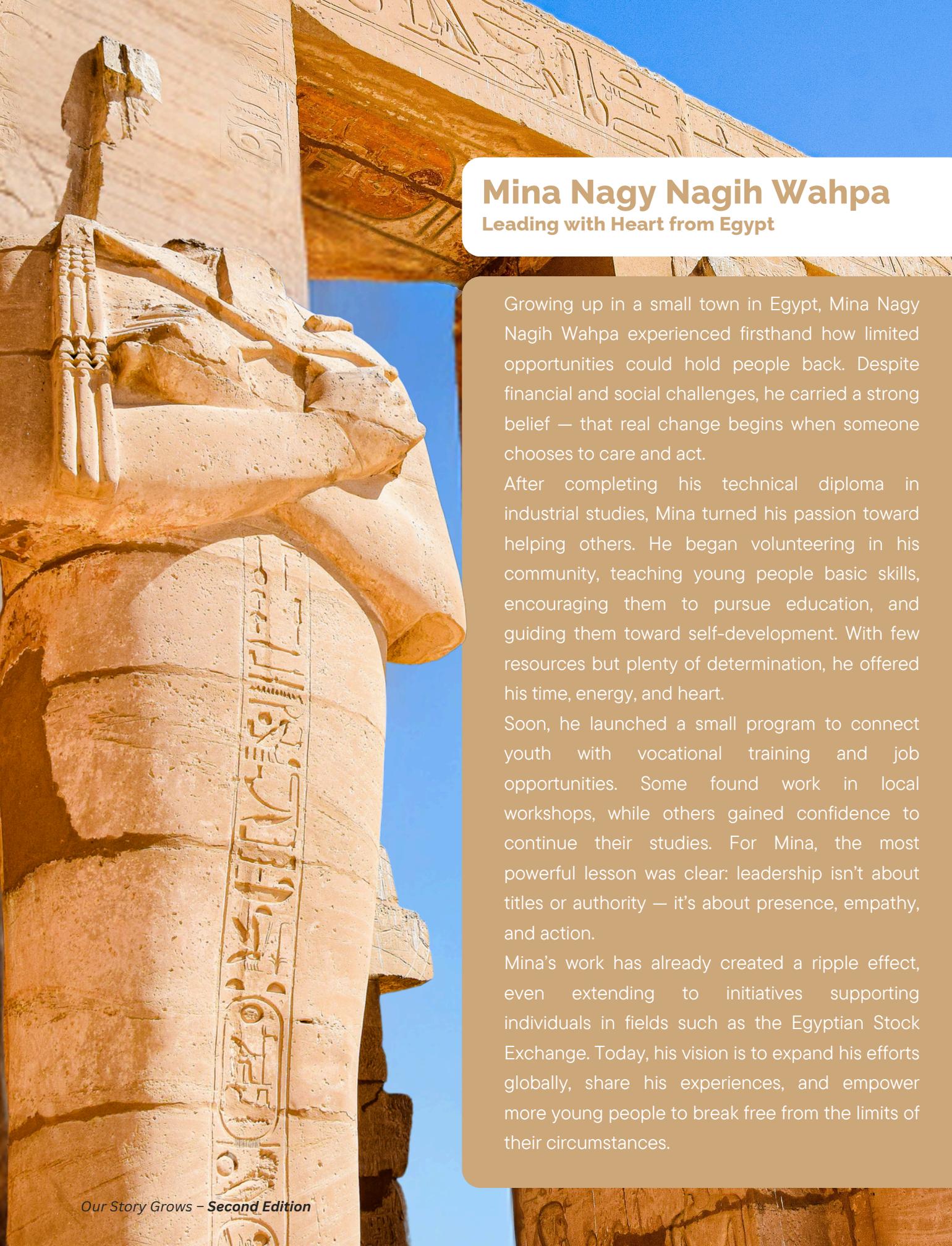
Future Forward: A Story of Empowerment from Uzbekistan

Growing up in a low-income neighborhood in Uzbekistan, Bahriddin Bahriyev saw how limited guidance often cut short young people's dreams. Determined to change that, he founded Future Forward, a mentorship program that pairs university students with teenagers from underprivileged communities.

The initiative began with just a handful of mentors but quickly grew into a movement. Beyond academics, mentors listened, built trust, and inspired resilience. One of Bahriddin's mentees, once seen as a "troublemaker," discovered his creative voice through storytelling and went on to win a youth writing award.

Today, Future Forward operates across multiple schools, with some former mentees returning as mentors themselves. For Bahriddin, the lesson is clear: leadership is not about titles — it's about presence, empathy, and giving others the courage to believe in themselves.





Mina Nagy Nagih Wahpa

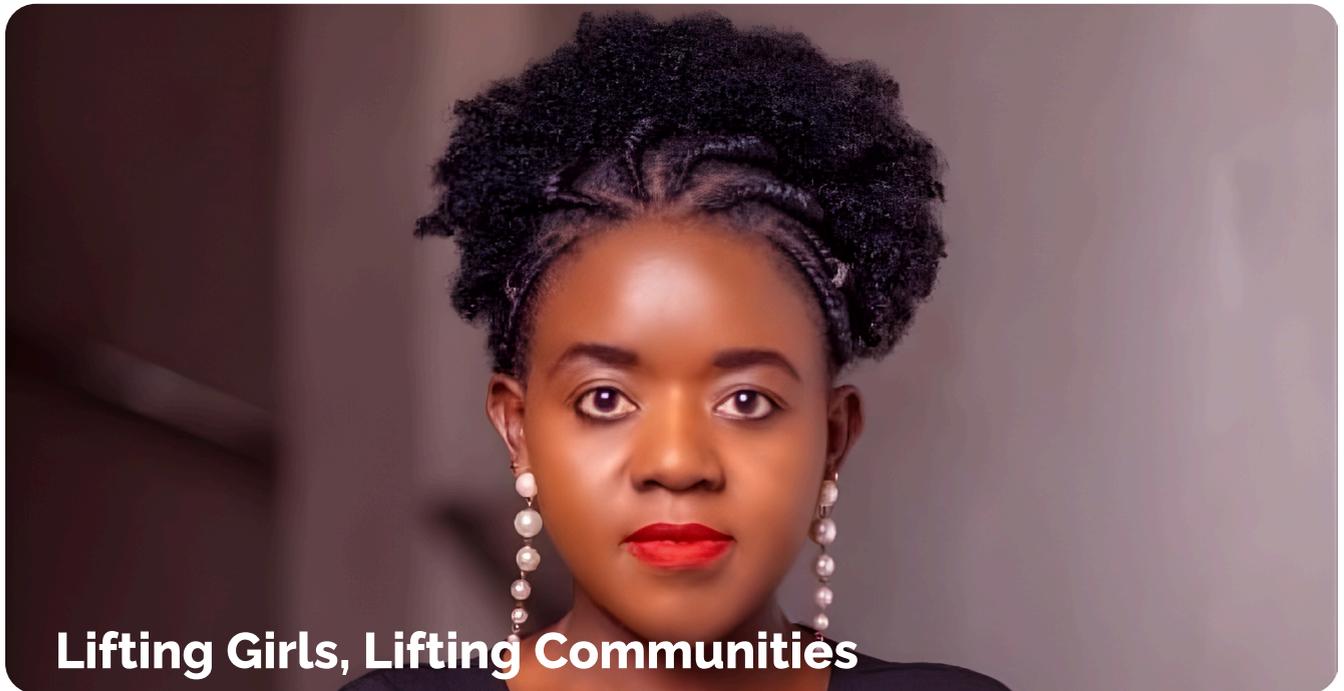
Leading with Heart from Egypt

Growing up in a small town in Egypt, Mina Nagy Nagih Wahpa experienced firsthand how limited opportunities could hold people back. Despite financial and social challenges, he carried a strong belief — that real change begins when someone chooses to care and act.

After completing his technical diploma in industrial studies, Mina turned his passion toward helping others. He began volunteering in his community, teaching young people basic skills, encouraging them to pursue education, and guiding them toward self-development. With few resources but plenty of determination, he offered his time, energy, and heart.

Soon, he launched a small program to connect youth with vocational training and job opportunities. Some found work in local workshops, while others gained confidence to continue their studies. For Mina, the most powerful lesson was clear: leadership isn't about titles or authority — it's about presence, empathy, and action.

Mina's work has already created a ripple effect, even extending to initiatives supporting individuals in fields such as the Egyptian Stock Exchange. Today, his vision is to expand his efforts globally, share his experiences, and empower more young people to break free from the limits of their circumstances.



Elizabeth Jumah

Born in rural Kenya, Elizabeth Jumah grew up where girls were silenced, denied education, and married too young. Refusing that fate, she chose to fight for change.

As leader of the Wema Bukembe Development Organization (Wema BDO), she has empowered over 2,000 girls through education, sports, and vocational training. Her initiatives include the Wema Girls Cup, which empowers 350+ girls through football and leadership, and the Wema Technical Training Institute, where women gain skills in ICT, baking, plumbing, and masonry.

Elizabeth also spearheaded Africa's first School of Forest Farmers, training women in climate-smart farming and feeding hundreds of children.



“When a girl is empowered, she doesn't just rise — she lifts an entire community.”



Defying Odds Inspiring Future Engineers

Satyam Pathania

Growing up in Jammu, India, Satyam Pathania dreamed of joining an IIT — a pinnacle for any engineering aspirant. Coming from a modestly ranked college, the odds seemed stacked against him. But Satyam refused to let circumstances define his future.

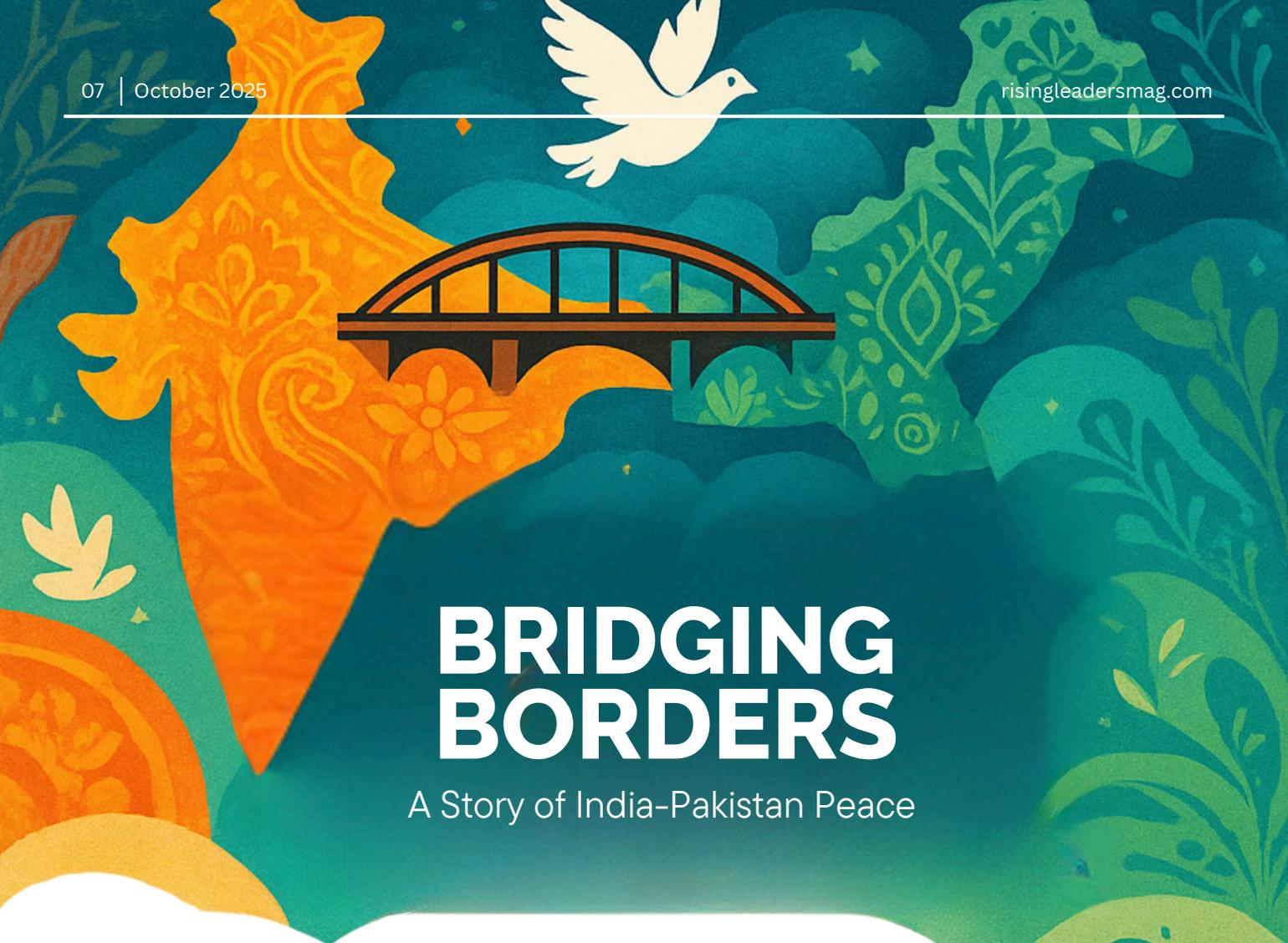
He immersed himself in cybersecurity, building honeypots, network analyzers, and intrusion detection systems, while guiding others to strengthen their digital defenses. His dedication caught the attention of IIT Jammu, who invited him to deliver a lecture on ethical hacking and host a workshop for top engineering students.

Standing before India's brightest minds, Satyam realized a powerful truth: your beginnings don't dictate your destiny — your courage, skill, and perseverance do. His journey is a testament to chasing passion relentlessly and turning dreams into milestones.

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Where you start doesn't matter. What matters is how far you're willing to go

”



BRIDGING BORDERS

A Story of India-Pakistan Peace

For decades, India and Pakistan have shared a complex history, often marked by conflict. Yet, beyond the headlines, countless stories of collaboration, dialogue, and friendship quietly unfold, showing that peace is possible when individuals choose connection over division. Grassroots initiatives, youth exchanges, and cultural programs are fostering understanding between communities across the borders. Students, artists, and entrepreneurs from both nations are working together on projects that celebrate shared heritage, promote education, and tackle common challenges like climate change and public health.

These efforts remind us that peace is not just the absence of conflict — it is the courage to build bridges, one relationship at a time. Small acts of

understanding ripple outward, proving that even longstanding divisions can be healed through empathy, dialogue, and shared purpose.



JetBlue Airways

JetBlue Airways connects more than cities — it connects people and opportunities. Through JetBlue For Good, the airline drives disaster relief, education, and community programs. From scholarships and mentorships to playgrounds and recovery missions, JetBlue empowers communities worldwide, proving that travel can inspire hope, create opportunity, and transform lives



jetBlue

United Kingdom: Inspiring Global Change

A photograph of St Paul's Cathedral in London, featuring its large dome and classical architecture. A red double-decker bus is visible on the street in the foreground. The sky is clear and blue.

The United Kingdom has long been a hub for innovation, education, and humanitarian leadership. Through initiatives in science, technology, climate action, and global education, the UK empowers communities worldwide. By fostering collaboration, supporting sustainable development, and inspiring future leaders, it proves that influence goes beyond borders — creating opportunities, driving change, and uplifting lives across the globe.

Global Youth: Driving Change

Youth from around the world are inspiring change, empowering communities, and leading initiatives in education, climate action, and social innovation — proving that one generation can transform the future.



Doreen Nakamanya: “Teweyagaliza Wekka” – Thinking of Others



Orphaned young in Uganda, Doreen Nakamanya turned her hardships into hope. Inspired by “Teweyagaliza Wekka” — always think of others — she founded Elpis Nea Foundation to support village children lacking education and resources. Through her work, Doreen empowers young minds to learn, grow, and reach their full potential.

Ahmad Nabil Nasyiri: Empowering Change from Anywhere



Growing up in a quiet town in Indonesia, Ahmad Nabil Nasyiri never imagined standing on an international stage. Selected as a fully funded delegate at the Changemakers Summit 2025 in Baku, he represented Indonesia alongside fellow youth committed to creating impact.

Ahmad believes that change doesn't require big cities — it can start anywhere, even from small villages, with vision, purpose, and action. He highlights the power of social media, especially Instagram, to educate, connect communities, and mobilize movements. His story inspires young people to start small, collaborate, and lead with courage.

Empowering Change from Indonesia

From a quiet town, Indonesian youth are proving that change can start anywhere. Leveraging vision, courage, and tools like social media, they educate, connect communities, and inspire global impact, showing that even small voices can transform the world.



Un Thailand: Empowering Change Globally

UN Thailand drives initiatives that empower communities, promote education, and advance sustainable development. By fostering collaboration and supporting local leaders, it inspires global action, showing that collective effort can transform lives and create a more equitable, hopeful world.



A portrait of Nigar Shirinova, a young woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a light-colored, vertically striped blazer over a white top. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a gentle smile. Her arms are crossed, and she is wearing a watch on her left wrist.

Nigar Shirinova: Empowering Youth Through Education

Nigar Shirinova from Azerbaijan combines her expertise as a project manager with her passion for youth empowerment. From leading projects to representing Azerbaijan at global platforms like the Women Deliver Conference and Global Youth Parliament, she has championed accessible and inclusive education.

Through mentorship, professional development programs, and soft skills training, Nigar empowers young people — especially girls — to lead with confidence, think critically, and drive positive change. For her, youth are not just tomorrow's leaders; they are catalysts of change today.

Dilnoza Jumaniyazova: Empowering Through Learning

Dilnoza Jumaniyazova from Uzbekistan proves that success is defined not by beginnings, but by vision and perseverance. At 12, she learned English and Turkish, seeing language as a bridge to opportunity. By 16, she entered the National University of Uzbekistan, mentoring peers and guiding younger students to reach their potential.

Her journey continued at the University of Sunderland, London, where she earned her MBA with merit. Today, Dilnoza designs transformational learning programs for global hospitality brands, fostering leadership, inclusion, and growth. Her story is a testament to courage, persistence, and the power of sharing knowledge to inspire change.



Baku: Inspiring Change Globally

Baku, Azerbaijan is a city of innovation and culture, empowering communities through education, technology, and sustainable development. By fostering creativity and collaboration, Baku inspires youth and leaders worldwide, proving that vision and purpose can drive global impact.



Dr. Aisha Sharif Ansari: Transforming Education, Empowering Leaders



Growing up in Hyderabad, Pakistan, Dr. Aisha Sharif Ansari was never the loudest voice in the room—but her quiet determination would carry her to global platforms and transformative leadership in education. From her early days in science labs to earning a PhD in Change Management, she has blended scholarship with purpose, shaping institutions and inspiring individuals.

At SZABIST University, she transformed systems with innovation and empathy, mentoring students, faculty, and staff to embrace change. Internationally, she has presented research on digital transformation, moderated tech panels, and led initiatives like the Community Change Hackathon in Baku, empowering participants to become active changemakers addressing societal challenges like climate change, youth unemployment, and poverty.

Dr. Ansari believes leadership is measured not by titles but by the lives you touch. Through education, mentorship, and human-centered innovation, she proves that real change begins with empowering others to lead, creating impact from classrooms to communities and across the globe.

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Growth is intentional. Change is collaborative. Every voice matters.

A tall, illuminated tower with a green top, set against a sunset sky. The tower is the central focus of the image, with its base and upper sections glowing with light. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a vibrant orange and red near the horizon. The tower's structure is intricate, with multiple levels and a central shaft. The top of the tower is a small, dome-like structure with a green glow. The overall scene is a striking contrast of light and color.

Pakistan: Inspiring Change Globally

Pakistan is driving global impact through education, innovation, and youth empowerment. By fostering leadership, supporting sustainable development, and promoting collaboration, the nation inspires communities worldwide, showing that vision, resilience, and purpose can transform lives and shape a better future.

Nilufar Alimukhamedova: Dreams Through Determination

Nilufar Alimukhamedova from Uzbekistan turned her childhood dream of traveling to Egypt into reality through hard work and perseverance. At 21, she earned her first job, embarking on her first trip to Baku while learning, growing, and gaining valuable skills.

Nilufar believes the universe rewards persistence and that happiness comes from within. Her journey reminds us that goals require patience, effort, and self-belief, and every step forward brings us closer to achieving our dreams.





Maria Rahib: Inspiring Change Through Connection

Maria Rahib from Morocco was selected as a delegate for the Changemakers Summit Baku 2025, where she connected with passionate young leaders from around the world. Through discussions on youth leadership, SDGs, and cultural understanding, she discovered the power of collaboration and small initiatives.

Maria left inspired, equipped, and ready to act, realizing that **true leadership is about connection, courage, and contribution**. Her experience reinforced that even small efforts, when shared and multiplied, can create meaningful and lasting impact.

MOROCCO

Morocco empowers communities through education, innovation, and youth leadership. By fostering collaboration, supporting sustainable development, and amplifying voices of change-makers, the country inspires action worldwide, showing that determination, creativity, and shared vision can transform lives and communities.

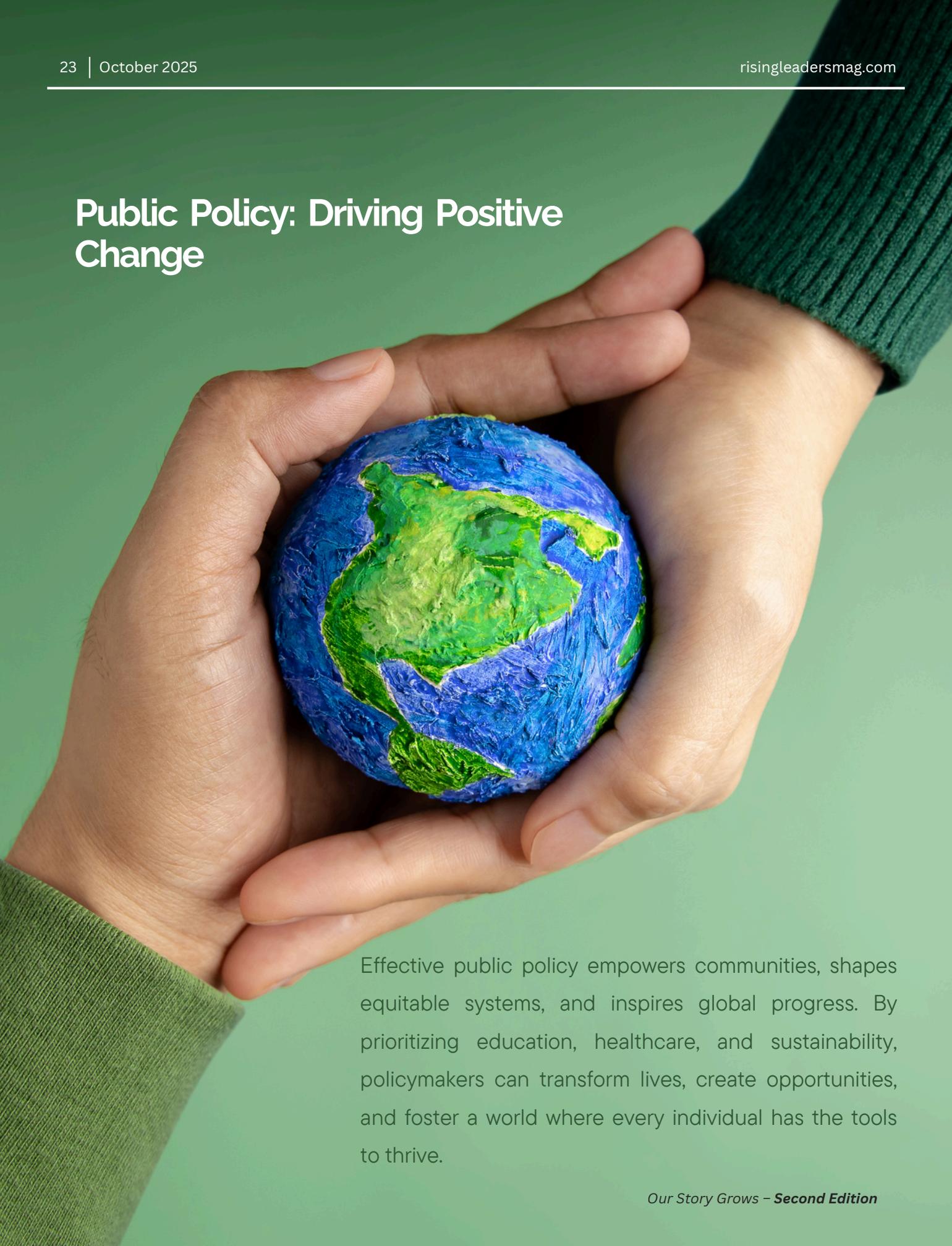


Sustainability: Empowering a Better Future

Sustainability inspires global action by empowering communities to protect the planet, innovate responsibly, and embrace renewable solutions.

Through collaboration, education, and conscious choices, it shows that individuals and nations can create lasting, positive impact for generations to come

Public Policy: Driving Positive Change



Effective public policy empowers communities, shapes equitable systems, and inspires global progress. By prioritizing education, healthcare, and sustainability, policymakers can transform lives, create opportunities, and foster a world where every individual has the tools to thrive.



Learning to Lead: How Education Empowers the World

Education transforms lives and inspires communities worldwide. By fostering knowledge, critical thinking, and creativity, it empowers individuals to overcome challenges, drive innovation, and lead with purpose, proving that learning is the foundation for a brighter, more equitable future.

AI for Good: Empowering the Future

Artificial Intelligence is transforming the world by empowering communities, enhancing innovation, and solving complex problems. By unlocking new possibilities in healthcare, education, and sustainability, AI inspires action, drives progress, and helps create a more equitable, impactful future.



Sana Ismail: Redesigning Education to Empower

Sana Ismail from Jordan turned personal struggle into a mission to transform education. Once limited by rigid systems and low self-esteem, she now empowers children and teens, advocating for classrooms that build confidence, creativity, and leadership. Inspired by innovative learning, Sana is challenging outdated methods and championing teachers as architects of growth, proving that every student deserves to feel seen, capable, and empowered to shape their own future.





Paris: A City of Inspiration and Empowerment

Paris inspires the world through art, culture, and innovation. Beyond its iconic landmarks, the city empowers creators, thinkers, and leaders to dream boldly, collaborate globally, and drive change. Paris proves that imagination, resilience, and vision can transform communities and spark progress across borders.

Top 10 Tourist Destinations to Explore in 2025

Travel is more than seeing new places—it's about expanding your perspective, connecting with diverse cultures, and discovering the power within yourself to embrace the world. These top destinations for 2025 promise not only breathtaking sights but also transformative experiences that inspire, empower, and leave lasting impact.

1



Kyoto, Japan

Step into serene gardens and ancient temples that teach mindfulness and harmony.

2



Reykjavik, Iceland

Witness nature's raw power while embracing sustainability and eco-conscious living.

3



Lisbon, Portugal

Feel the vibrant culture, history, and creativity that fuels global innovation.

4



Cape Town, South Africa

Connect with rich heritage and breathtaking landscapes that ignite courage to explore.

5



Baku, Azerbaijan

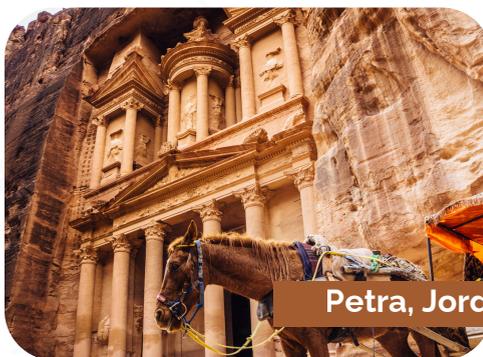
Experience a fusion of tradition and modernity, inspiring cultural curiosity and collaboration.



Havana, Cuba

Celebrate resilience, art, and music, discovering the human spirit's transformative power.

6



Petra, Jordan

Stand among ancient wonders that remind us of human ingenuity and perseverance.

7



Queenstown, New Zealand

Challenge yourself with adventure sports, building confidence and daring to dream

8

9

Be inspired by architectural genius and vibrant community energy.



Barcelona, Spain



Marrakech, Morocco

10

Explore colorful markets and traditions that teach connection, creativity, and empathy.

“

Every journey is a lesson: travel empowers us to see the world differently, embrace new ideas, and recognize our own potential to make a difference.

Northern Ireland 2025: Inspiring Change

Northern Ireland blends stunning landscapes, rich history, and vibrant culture. From the Giant's Causeway to Belfast's innovation hubs, it inspires visitors to dream boldly, embrace adventure, and see how communities can transform through courage, creativity, and collaboration.



Ponum Humza: Championing Inclusion and Empowerment

Ponum Humza from Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan, transforms lives through communication and social work. At AKRSP, she designs campaigns to empower communities, while volunteering to support persons with disabilities. Through awareness, therapies, and inclusive programs, Ponum has shifted mindsets, inspired participation, and built sustainable change. Her story proves that passion, persistence, and empathy can break barriers, empower marginalized communities, and create a world where everyone belongs.



Bernice Antoine: Leading with Empathy and Sustainability

Bernice Antoine from Trinidad and Tobago turns lessons of empathy into global impact. Inspired by her mother's act of generosity, she became a youth leader, sustainability advocate, and founder of Planet Plate, an AI-powered app reducing food waste and empowering marginalized communities. Bernice's work proves that values-driven decisions, inclusivity, and compassion can transform lives, bridge gaps, and create a more sustainable, equitable world.



Judge Frank Caprio: Compassionate Justice in Action

Judge Frank Caprio (1936–2025), affectionately known as “the nicest judge in the world,” transformed the courtroom into a space of empathy and fairness. From humble beginnings, he became a beacon of kindness, touching lives through his televised show *Caught in Providence*. His legacy reminds us that true justice is rooted in understanding, compassion, and the unwavering belief in human dignity.



Leadership & Decadence

It is common practice for leaders around the world to craft narratives and present compelling stories in order to capture people's attention and secure their support. This is natural for a leader, who often finds himself in that role because of the choices of others and the dynamics of the environment in which he lives—and sometimes operates.

“Operates,” because at times a leader may be forced to leave the territory he once controlled, yet still continues to exert influence through media or private communications from afar. A leader will always face both supporters and opponents, but what truly shifts the balance of credibility are real events and undeniable facts.



Trying to limit people's access to reality or manipulating public opinion—whether locally or internationally—is ultimately a waste of energy. It costs money, loyalty, and above all, the trust of people who, deep down, rarely wish to go down with the ship (as its captain should) when times get rough.

A true leader knows when to reinforce his narrative, and when silence speaks louder than words. He understands that public opinion is a third force in the equation, alongside supporters and opponents. Many remain undecided, withholding judgment. But once the masses begin to polarize and show interest in the figure of the leader, their weight can decide his status: will he remain a leader to some, or not?

So, if you find yourself in a leadership role, do not rush into risky statements or frame reality with overly strong positions. Lead first with actions, then add words only to clarify your decisions. Let authentic events—not staged ones—speak for you.

History is filled with leaders who overestimated their charisma, believing they could say whatever they wished and people would simply believe. Time has shown otherwise. Even when people initially display “anchoring bias” or “unconditional support” for a leader, they eventually shift once reality proves stronger than words.

Rubina Bano: Leading Change with Purpose

Rubina Bano is a driving force in Pakistan's development sector, with over 15 years of experience advancing gender equality, youth empowerment, governance, and health. At the Aga Khan Development Network, she champions the use of evidence and community voices to design programs that deliver lasting, sustainable impact.

Her leadership journey spans the USAID Dairy Project, advisory roles with leading international organizations, and the development of a pioneering MERL system for the Government of Punjab.

Guided by her conviction that "true change starts with empowering people and fostering learning," Rubina continues to shape initiatives that accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals and inspire inclusive, transformative growth.



Harsh Gurnal – A Voice for Change

Born in Ferozepur, Punjab, Harsh Gurnal grew up as a shy child once too quiet to be noticed. Over time, resilience turned his silence into strength. From winning a scholarship at Lovely Professional University to launching his podcast The Harsh Horizons, Harsh has built platforms to inspire and educate.

A published poet and researcher in post-colonial studies, he uses literature to challenge beauty norms, promote inclusivity, and spark dialogue. In 2025, he represented India at the Changemakers Summit, showcasing his vision for social impact. Soon to begin teaching at Akal Academy, he aims to bring quality education to rural youth.

Harsh's journey proves that even the quietest voices can rise to inspire the world.



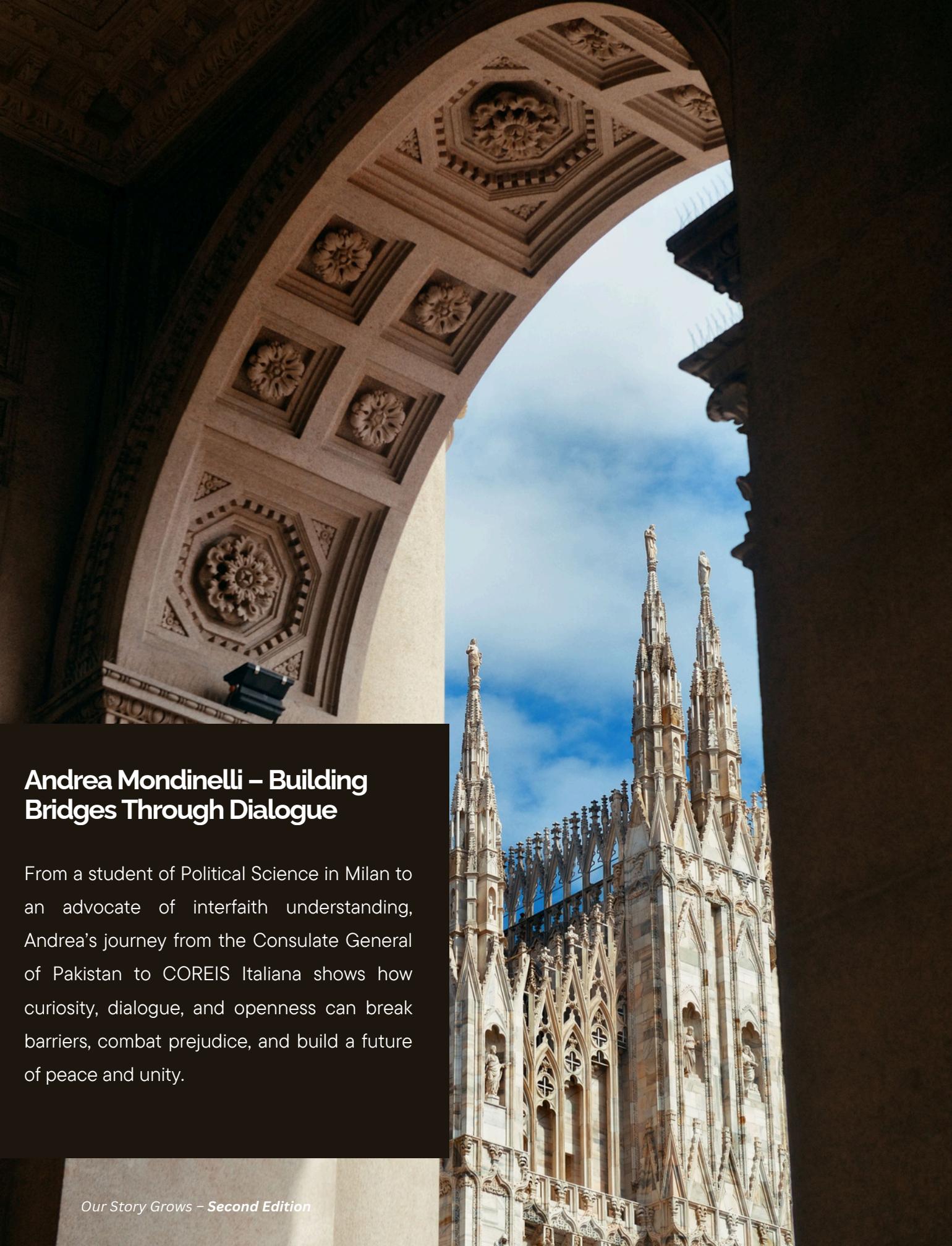
Standing with Gaza

In Gaza, countless families continue to face unimaginable hardship—lives disrupted, homes destroyed, and dreams deferred. Yet, amidst the devastation, the resilience of the Palestinian people shines as a symbol of courage and hope.

We stand in solidarity with Gaza, amplifying their voices and reminding the world that every child deserves peace, every family deserves safety, and every community deserves the right to live with dignity.

Let us not turn away—let us unite in compassion, advocacy, and action for a free and peaceful Palestine.





Andrea Mondinelli – Building Bridges Through Dialogue

From a student of Political Science in Milan to an advocate of interfaith understanding, Andrea's journey from the Consulate General of Pakistan to COREIS Italiana shows how curiosity, dialogue, and openness can break barriers, combat prejudice, and build a future of peace and unity.



Aynur Mahmudova – Driving Azerbaijan’s Energy Transition

From offshore engineering to renewable innovation, Aynur Mahmudova bridges Oil & Gas expertise with climate responsibility. As a PhD researcher and Co-Lead of WiRE Azerbaijan, she champions clean energy, gender equity, and sustainability—proving that true leadership transforms systems and societies for a just and resilient energy future.

Choaib Mebdoua – Youth Voice for Global Change



At the EduTourism Changemakers Summit 2025 in Baku, Choaib Mebdoua joined global young leaders to explore how education and cultural exchange can drive sustainable change. He returned inspired to act locally, collaborate globally, and champion youth-led solutions for a more inclusive, equitable future.

Qosimova Muborak – Giving Dreams a Voice in Uzbekistan

Through creative teaching and mentorship, Qosimova Muborak empowers students—especially girls—to speak up, dream bigger, and believe in their potential. From language clubs to the Changemakers Summit Baku 2025, her journey proves that lasting change often begins in a single classroom, with a single voice.



Luna Abdel Akher – Storytelling for Change

Inspired by her journalist mother, Luna Abdel Akher has become a voice for justice through media, advocacy, and creativity. From women's empowerment campaigns to founding EMEAR for environmental and animal rights, she shows how storytelling can amplify unheard voices and drive meaningful social transformation.

EGYPT

The Egyptian pyramids stand as timeless wonders, showcasing the brilliance of ancient civilisation and reminding us of humanity's enduring quest for greatness.



A Gathering of Minds, A Future of Impact

The One World Vision Conference Austria 2026 will be held in Vienna from 3rd to 6th January, uniting visionary people from diverse backgrounds and offering them a platform to serve as global leaders in Europe.





Lern-Fair – Learning Without Barriers

Lern-Fair e.V. empowers disadvantaged students in Germany through free tutoring, bridging educational gaps with compassion and volunteerism. By pairing helpers with learners, they transform lives one hour at a time—proving that education is not just about knowledge, but about opportunity, inclusion, and community.

Together, We Rise Beyond Borders ✨

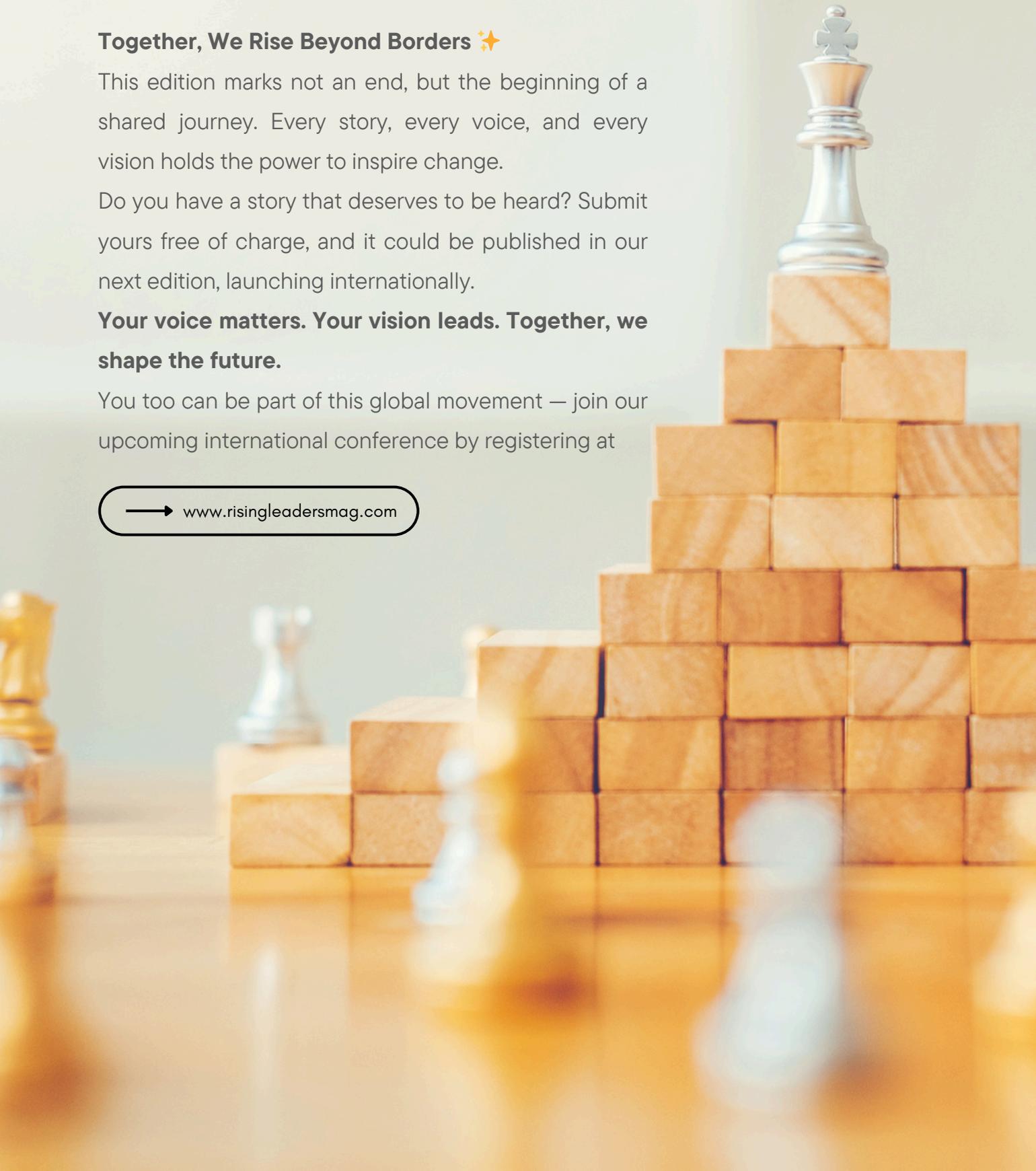
This edition marks not an end, but the beginning of a shared journey. Every story, every voice, and every vision holds the power to inspire change.

Do you have a story that deserves to be heard? Submit yours free of charge, and it could be published in our next edition, launching internationally.

Your voice matters. Your vision leads. Together, we shape the future.

You too can be part of this global movement — join our upcoming international conference by registering at

→ www.risingleadersmag.com





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Conference Austria
2026**

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