

## **Help us open up the opaque UN Secretary-General selection process**

New research by the [1 for 7 Billion](#) campaign shows that just three countries could block proposals supported by the vast majority of UN member states to improve the secretive and undemocratic process to select the UN Secretary-General.

A new Secretary-General is due to be appointed next year. There is growing momentum at the UN to change the current process, in which just five countries – the permanent members of the UN Security Council – hold sway over the appointment. At present, there is no formal job description, no selection criteria, no timetable or official list of candidates. Backroom deals are common.

Our research shows that of the UN's 193 member states, only [China, Russia and USA oppose any form of change](#). As veto-wielding members of the Security Council, these countries could block reforms that are crucial to securing the best person for the job.

### **Public scrutiny is vital**

*1 for 7 Billion* is dedicated to making the Secretary-General selection process open, fair and inclusive. Today we launch an [interactive map](#), displaying the levels of support voiced by UN member states for a better process.

In the absence of official UN resources, the campaign has also drawn up a list of [confirmed and rumoured candidates](#) for the position, in an effort to improve transparency.

Regardless of the outcome of reform efforts at the UN, there is much that can be done from the outside to improve the process, through public scrutiny.

### **Your help**

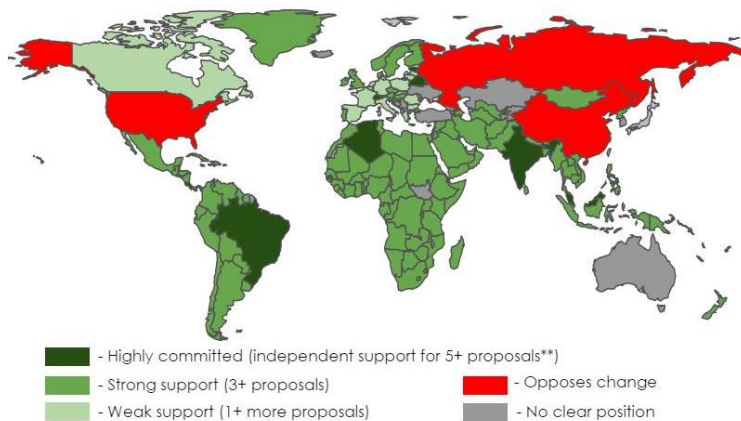
*1 for 7 Billion* is calling on journalists at the heart of United Nations to speak up on this issue and provide scrutiny on countries' positions and on the candidates under consideration.

We need your help to assess whether states are standing by their professed commitments, including on refraining from seeking promises from candidates in return for their support, and to shine a spotlight on the records of those standing for the post.

Click on the image below to view the map of support on the 1 for 7 Billion website:

# Map of Support

Where do countries stand on our proposals to reform the UN Secretary-General selection process?  
Hover your mouse over the map to find out...



Incorporating country positions on up to seven [proposals tabled by the campaign](#), the map is an evolving document, designed to encourage states to speak openly about their positions on the appointment process.

## **Now is the time to act**

[Candidates are already coming forward](#). Closed discussions began in the Security Council recently. The General Assembly is due to adopt a resolution on this issue in September. Now is the time for action to improve the process in time for the appointment in 2016.

## **Who we are**

The [1 for 7 Billion](#) campaign represents over 150 civil society organisations worldwide, with more than 170 million members in all UN regions. The campaign believes that the world deserves a fair, open, inclusive and – above all – merit-based process that allows all states to select from the world's most competent women and men.

Climate change. Conflict. Terrorism. Pandemics – the United Nations is needed now more than ever and it needs the best-qualified candidate to rise to this challenge.

This map is a collaborative work by the [United Nations Association – UK](#) and the [World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy](#).

## **Contact**

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