

**The New York Public Library - Stephen A. Schwarzman Building  
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the

## **World Committee for a World Constitution Convention records**

1959-1962

MssCol 18268

Compiled by Cate Putirskis, April 2011

### **Summary**

**Creator:** World Committee for a World Constitution Convention

**Title:** World Committee for a World Constitution Convention records, 1959-1962

**Size:** 2.94 linear feet (7 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of the World Committee for a World Constitution Convention.

**Abstract:** The World Committee for a World Constitution was established in 1959 in Denver, Colorado. The purpose of the World Committee was to collect signatures from political leaders in every nation in support of the formation of a worldwide constitution. These efforts culminated in 1963, when the First Preparatory Congress for the World Constitutional Convention was held in Denver. The records of the World Committee for a World Constitution are composed primarily of correspondence promoting the worldwide constitution cause and requesting signatures from world political leaders in support of the cause. Additionally, this collection also contains a small amount of documentation of the committee's campaign planning, including files on travel and publicity. Materials range in date from 1959 to 1962.

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**Preferred citation:** World Committee for a World Constitution Convention records, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

### **Creator history**

The World Committee for a World Constitution was established in 1959 in Denver, Colorado. The purpose of the World Committee was to collect signatures from political leaders in every nation in support of the formation of a worldwide constitution. The World Committee approached this effort primarily through mailings, but some members of the committee also traveled throughout the world to campaign for support of the World Constitution cause. These efforts culminated in 1963, when the First Preparatory Congress for the World Constitutional Convention was held in Denver. Since the time of the First Preparatory Congress, this group has continued to meet, most recently under the name World Constitution and Parliament Association.

### **Scope and content note**

The records of the World Committee for a World Constitution are composed primarily of correspondence promoting the worldwide constitution cause and requesting signatures from world political leaders in support of the cause. Additionally, this collection also contains a small amount of documentation of the committee's campaign planning, including files on travel and publicity. Materials range in date from 1959 to 1962.

### **Key terms**

#### **Subjects**

Constitutional conventions -- 20th century  
International organization -- Societies, etc -- 20th century  
Petitions

#### **Names**

World Committee for a World Constitution  
Convention  
World Constitution and Parliament Association

### **Events**

First Preparatory Congress for the World  
Constitutional Convention

## Container list

### **Series I: Campaign Planning, 1961-1962** (0.5 box)

The Campaign Planning series contain notes, correspondence, and other assorted records pertaining to the coordination of activities to promote the World Constitution cause and to gather signatures for the constitution.

#### Campaign trips

- b.1 f.1 Clayton, Bruce, 1962
- b.1 f.2 Coate, Lowell, 1962
- b.1 f.3 Lombardi, Ralph, 1962
- b.1 f.4 Conferences, 1961-1962
- b.1 f.5 Publicity, 1961-1962

### **Series II: Correspondence, 1959-1962** (6.5 boxes)

The Correspondence series contains the World Committee's general correspondence with individuals and organizations about the committee's causes, as well as outgoing and incoming letters pertaining to requests for heads of state and other prominent world figures to sign the World Constitution.

#### **II.A: General Correspondence, 1959-1962**

- b.1 f.6 Aali, Jamiluddin, 1961-1962
- b.1 f.7 College paper ad responses, 1962
- b.1 f.8 Countries, 1962
- b.1 f.9 Ewbank, John, 1962
- General
- b.1 f.10 1959-1960
- b.1 f.11 1960 June-December
- b.1 f.12 1961 January-July
- b.2 f.1-4 1961 August-December
- b.2 f.5-6 A-K, 1962
- b.3 f.1-3 L-Y, 1962
- b.3 f.4 Joint action letters to supporters, 1962
- b.3 f.5 Local support, 1962
- b.3 f.6 Organization support, 1961-1962
- b.3 f.7 Requests for delegations, 1962
- b.3 f.8 Were, Clement, 1961
- b.3 f.9 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 1962
- b.3 f.10 Women's International Strike for Peace, 1962

#### **II.B: Requests for Signatures, 1960-1962**

##### First mailing, 1960-1961

- b.3 f.11 A-B
- b.4 f.1-6 C-S
- b.5 f.1-2 T-Z
- Supporters, 1962
- b.5 f.3-8 A-I
- b.6 f.1-8 J-Z
- b.6 f.9-10 Refusals, 1961-1962

**Series II: Correspondence** (cont.)

**II.B: Requests for Signatures** (cont.)

b.7 f.1-4          Signers, 1960-1961