

# Please Sign Onto the ‘Millionaires for Humanity’ Letter

**Purpose:** The “Millionaires for Humanity” letter is intended to ensure that the international conversation around addressing the effects of the COVID-19 crisis includes a legitimate commitment to reducing global inequality and an acknowledgement that substantial, permanent tax increases on millionaires and billionaires and greater international tax transparency are essential elements of any viable long-term solution.

See the global sign-on letter [HERE](#).

**Premise:** By adding your name to this letter, you will join millionaires and billionaires from across the globe who want to do their part to repair the enormous human and economic damage caused not just by COVID-19, but also by decades of wealth concentration and destabilizing levels of inequality. Signers understand that charity, however generous, is incapable of solving the world’s problem. Rebuilding the world with a new, fair, and more just vision for humanity requires a financial commitment from the wealthy through taxes.

The signers of this letter recognize the unique power - and profound responsibility - that people of wealth have to engage directly and publicly in this critical fight, and are eager to both express their support for higher taxes on themselves and to challenge their fellow elites to do the same. In a world where the wealthy hold a disproportionate amount of influence over public policy, building a critical mass of wealthy supporters for this basic framework is essential.

**What’s Next?** The current plan is to release the letter ahead of the G-20 Finance Ministers meeting conference in mid July with a significant media push that will include social media, op-eds, and other tools.

**How Do I Sign?** It’s simple! Just email Dylan Dusseault, Director of International Outreach for the Patriotic Millionaires, at [dylan@patrioticmillionaires.org](mailto:dylan@patrioticmillionaires.org) with your name and country of origin or residence by July 8th, 2020. Please indicate if you are willing to speak to the media.

*\*\*For the purposes of this letter, we define ‘millionaire’ as someone with either \$1 million in annual income or \$5 million in assets. Signers are simply adding their name to this letter and will not be expected to join or fund any organization. Signers who would like to get more involved are invited to participate in on-going discussions about how to most effectively translate the vision articulated in the letter into reality.*

**Background:** Recognizing the existential threat posed by historic levels of global inequality, in early 2020 a group of 180 millionaires from 14 countries released a letter at the World Economic Forum in Davos demanding higher taxes on m/billionaires and greater international tax transparency to address economic disparity.



Going by “[Millionaires Against Pitchforks](#)”, the signers included: Sudanese-British Telecommunications magnate and founder of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation **Dr. Mo Ibrahim**, Dutch former Unilever CEO and “Imagine” founder **Paul Polman**, American venture capitalist **Nick Hanauer**, British screenwriter and director **Richard Curtis**, American heiress and film producer **Abigail Disney**, New Zealander founder of The Warehouse Group **Sir Stephen Tindall**, and British actor and screenwriter **Simon Pegg**.

**Media Impact:** Millionaires Against Pitchforks drew significant media attention, with over 100 press hits in North America, Europe, and parts of South America and Africa. Coverage included: [CNBC](#), [Variety](#), [The Times of London](#), [The Daily Mail](#), [The Guardian](#), [The CBC](#), [Toronto Star](#), [Radio France Internationale](#), [Les Echos](#) in France, [Het Nieuwsblad](#) and [NL Metro](#) in Belgium, [Borsen](#) in Denmark, [Het Financieele Dagblad](#) in the Netherlands, and much more.

### What organizations are currently involved in helping to circulate the letter?

- **Patriotic Millionaires:** Proud “traitors to their class,” Patriotic Millionaires are high net worth Americans, business leaders, and investors united in their concern about the destabilizing concentration of wealth and power in America.
  - Contact: Dylan Dusseault ([dylan@patrioticmillionaires.org](mailto:dylan@patrioticmillionaires.org))
- **Oxfam International:** Oxfam is a global organization working to end the injustice of poverty. They help people build a better future for themselves, hold the powerful accountable, and save lives in disasters.
  - Contact: Adam Musgrave ([AMusgrave@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:AMusgrave@oxfam.org.uk))
- **Human Act:** Human Act is a world-wide development organization focused on demonstrating that poverty is not a natural state, and that global goods can be distributed for the global good.
  - Contact: Louise Heegaard ([lh@humanact.org](mailto:lh@humanact.org))
- **Club of Rome:** The Club of Rome was created to address the multiple crises facing humanity and the planet. Drawing on the unique, collective know-how of our 100 members – notable scientists, economists, business leaders and former politicians – we seek to define comprehensive solutions to the complex, interconnected challenges of our world.
  - Contact: Till Kellerhoff ([tkellerhoff@clubofrome.org](mailto:tkellerhoff@clubofrome.org))
- **Tax Justice UK:** Tax Justice UK campaigns for a fairer, more progressive UK tax system.
  - Contact: Robert Palmer ([robert@taxjustice.uk](mailto:robert@taxjustice.uk))
- **Bridging Ventures:** Bridging Ventures is bringing people together across boundaries to restore the future. We are working with activists, economists, artists, faith communities and businesses to drive a healthy, just and peaceful recovery.
  - Contact: Rajiv Joshi ([raj@bridgingventures.com](mailto:raj@bridgingventures.com))



## To Our Fellow Global Citizens:

As Covid-19 strikes the world, millionaires and billionaires like us have a critical role to play in healing our world. No, we are not the ones caring for the sick in intensive care wards. We are not driving the ambulances that will bring the ill to hospitals. We are not restocking grocery store shelves or delivering food door to door. But we do have money, lots of it. Money that is desperately needed now and will continue to be needed in the years ahead, as our world recovers from this crisis.

**Today, we, the undersigned millionaires and billionaires, ask our governments to raise taxes on people like us. Immediately. Substantially. Permanently.**

The impact of this crisis will last for decades. It could push half a billion more people into poverty. Hundreds of millions of people will lose their jobs as businesses close, some permanently. Already, there are nearly a billion children out of school, many with no access to the resources they need to continue their learning. And of course the absence of hospital beds, protective masks, and ventilators is a painful, daily reminder of the inadequate investment made in public health systems across the world.

The problems caused by, and revealed by, Covid-19 can't be solved with charity, no matter how generous. Government leaders must take the responsibility for raising the funds we need and spending them fairly. We can ensure we adequately fund our health systems, schools, and security through a permanent tax increase on the wealthiest people on the planet, people like us.

We owe a huge debt to the people working on the frontlines of this global battle. Most essential workers are grossly underpaid for the burden they carry. At the vanguard of this fight are our health care workers, 70 percent of whom are women. They confront the deadly virus each day at work, while bearing the majority of responsibility for unpaid work at home. The risks these brave people willingly embrace every day in order to care for the rest of us requires us to establish a new, real commitment to each other and to what really matters.

Our interconnectedness has never been more clear. We must rebalance our world before it is too late. There will not be another chance to get this right.

Unlike tens of millions of people around the world, we do not have to worry about losing our jobs, our homes, or our ability to support our families. We are not fighting on the frontlines of this emergency and we are much less likely to be its victims.

So please. Tax us. Tax us. Tax us. It is the right choice. It is the only choice.

Humanity is more important than our money.

*Signers*



## The Signers

Frank Arthur (US)  
Richard Boberg (US)  
Dr. Mariana Bozesan (DE)  
Bob Burnett (US)  
Ronald Carter (US)  
Xandra Coe (US)  
James Colen (US)  
Cynda Collins Arsenault (US)  
Richard Curtis (UK)  
Alan S. Davis (US)  
Pierce Delahunt (US)  
Abigail Disney (US)  
Tim Disney (US)  
John Driscoll (US)  
Karen Edwards (US)  
Stephen R. English (US)  
Andrew M. Faulk, M.D. (US)  
Rick Feldman (US)  
Mary Ford (US)  
Patricia G. Foschi (US)  
Blaine Garst (US)  
Molly Gochman (US)  
Jerry Greenfield (US)  
Karen Grove (US)  
Ron Guillot (US)  
Catherine Gund (US)  
Christina Hansen (DE)  
John Michael Hemmer (US)  
Wei-Hwa Huang (US)  
Diane Isenberg (US)  
Ross Jackson (DK)  
William H. Janeway (US)  
Frank H. Jernigan (US)  
Kristina Johansson (UK)  
Richard (Ted) LaRoche (US)  
David Lee (US)  
Kristin Luck (US)

Amy Mandel (US)  
Ané Maro (DK)  
Patricia Martone (US)  
Thomas McDougal (US)  
Gemma McGough (UK)  
Marie T. McKellar (US)  
Judy L. Meath (US)  
Terence Meehan (US)  
Frans Meijer (NL)  
Diane Meyer Simon (US)  
John O'Farrell (US)  
Gary Passon (US)  
Morris Pearl (US)  
Judy Pigott (US)  
Stephen Prince (US)  
Sophie Robinson Saltonstall (US)  
Bonnie Rothman (US)  
Michael Rothman (US)  
Guy Saperstein (US)  
Cédric Schmidtke (DE)  
Eric Schoenberg (US)  
Robert Schram (NL)  
Thomas Schulz (DE)  
Antonis Schwarz (DE)  
Stephen Segal (US)  
Djaffar Shalchi (DK)  
Charlie Simmons (US)  
Barbara Simons (US)  
Gary Stevenson (UK)  
Karen Stewart, PhD (US)  
Julia Stone (US)  
Sandor Straus (US)  
Mark Thomas (US)  
Arthur Strauss, MD (US)  
Ralph Suikat (DE)  
Alexandra Theriault, MD (US)

Sir. Stephen Tindall (NZ)  
Sidney Topol (US)  
Claire Trottier (CA)  
Sylvie Trottier (CA)  
Dale Walker (US)  
Scott Wallace (US)  
Diana Wege (US)  
Terry Winograd (US)  
Carol Winograd (US)  
Bennet Yee (US)  
Amy Ziering (US)

