

## UPF Melbourne, Australia's International Day of Families Webinar

Greg Stone  
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Melbourne, Australia -- In commemoration of the UN International Day of Families 2020, the Melbourne chapter of UPF-Australia held a webinar on May 16 on the topic, "Alleviation of Poverty vs. Elevation of Human Potential."

Dr. Shahid Yamin, executive chair and co-founder of the Global Opportunities Commercialisation (GOC), spoke of the importance of having the right mindset with respect to the alleviation of poverty. "We need to infuse individuals and families with a mindset that they can be economically empowered. This mindset will help create universal peace and harmony," he said.

Dr. John Bellavance, vice president of UPF-Australia, spoke about "Investing in Families." The COVID-19 pandemic brings into sharp focus the

importance of investing in social policies protecting the most vulnerable individuals and families. It is families who bear the brunt of the crisis, sheltering their members from harm, caring for out-of-school children and, at the same time, continuing their work responsibilities. Families have become the hub of intergenerational interactions that support us in this crisis.

On May 23, Dr. Yamin and Dr. Chris Sotiropoulos, CEO and also co-founder of the GOC, joined the ranks of Ambassadors for Peace in Australia. Their biographies follow:

### **Dr. Shahid Yamin**

As executive chairman and co-founder of the Global Opportunities Commercialisation (GOC), he developed the concept of "Smart Institute" for developing the appropriate technology base for entrepreneurs in poorer regions of the world. The GOC executive team strongly believes that social and economic empowerment are the drivers of peace in the world.

### **Dr. Chris Sotiropoulos**

CEO and co-founder of the GOC, principal at Legal and International Commercial Services, which provides legal services in the commercialisation of innovation, covering international agreements, and other services. He also is the co-founder and director of APAC Health. He has dedicated his life to improving humanity through his passion for healthcare, commercialisation, legal services, and participation in charitable organizations and social enterprises.

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