**Global Student Government President Platform Statement**

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The Global Student Government (GSG) continues to be the best hope for improving student democracy around the world and reversing the twenty-first century trend of student government retrenchment and collapse. Despite the disadvantages that this trend poses, the GSG now approaches the end of its first year of operation. While the GSG has a stable foundation and has established base infrastructure, it must scale up its activities to meet the needs of students around the world.

**1. Expanding the GSG Membership Base and Improving the GSG Membership System**

While many organizations have joined the GSG as part of its founding coalition or after it was founded, there are still student governments out there that would benefit from GSG membership. Outreach needs to be scaled up to reach these student governments, especially in areas of the world where student government collapses have been the most rampant. This would likely require expanding GSG social media and developing a more comprehensive external communications strategy.

The GSG needs more organizations to make use of the membership system so the GSG can increase its capacities. Right now, it is subsisting off of the bare minimum mainly from contributions from the International Association for Political Science Students. The other GSG member organizations need to contribute their share so the GSG can do all it was envisioned to do. Getting more member organizations to contribute may involve reconceptualizing the GSG membership system.

**2. Continuing Student Advocacy Efforts**

The GSG obtained multiple consultative statuses with various international organizations and coalitions. Now, the GSG can begin focusing on navigating these channels to advocate for students, as well as providing members with opportunities to contribute to GSG advocacy initiatives. Furthermore, the GSG will soon be eligible to apply for consultative statuses in ECOSOC and UNESCO, which will help it expand its advocacy activities even further.

**3. Exploring Possibilities for Service Provision**

Now that the GSG is up and running, it has the potential to provide services to improve the quality of life of individual students within its member organizations. Whether this involves discounts, professional development opportunities, academic opportunities, etc., the GSG should explore ways it can make a difference for students in the day to day.

**4. Building and/or Rebuilding Student Democracy Around the World**

Some areas of the world do not have student governments to represent them, due to organizational collapses or other socio-political factors. We need to provide these areas with extra attention so their students can be represented. This will involve working with grassroots student movements to establish national and regional student democracies. It will not be an easy process, but it is a necessary one to ensure that the GSG’s voice is as holistic and representative as possible. Now that the GSG is established, it will be easier to implement these kinds of initiatives.

**5. Supporting the Student Press**

Just as there are challenges affecting student governments, there are also challenges facing student journalism. Student journalism is important for helping inform students about the GSG and other levels of student government. The GSG should focus on establishing communications with student journalists to discuss ways the GSG can support the student press while respecting its independence.