

## The Elders' reflection on the US Presidential Election

**London, 9 November 2016**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Following the presidential election in the United States, The Elders believe that the ideals, magnanimity and empathy of their Founder, [Nelson Mandela](#), offer a model of ethical leadership for the new Administration.

As Mandela said at his trial under the apartheid regime in South Africa in 1964:

*"I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities."*

[Kofi Annan](#), Chair of The Elders, said:

*"The people of the United States have elected Donald Trump as their next president. Mandela's words remind us all that effective leadership requires vision, humility and openness; they provide a model for all heads of state and government to follow worldwide."*

[Gro Harlem Brundtland](#), Deputy Chair of The Elders, added:

*"Today's world faces challenges that can only be solved by coordinated global action, from climate change to fighting terrorism. The United States remains an indispensable actor and its support for effective international institutions, treaties and frameworks is as vital as ever."*

The Elders was founded by Nelson Mandela in 2007 to tackle global issues and to work for peace and human rights.

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## **About The Elders**

The Elders are independent leaders using their collective experience and influence for peace, justice and human rights worldwide. The group was founded by Nelson Mandela in 2007.

The Elders are [Martti Ahtisaari](#), [Kofi Annan](#) (Chair), [Lakhdar Brahimi](#), [Gro Harlem Brundtland](#) (Deputy Chair), [Hina Jilani](#), [Ricardo Lagos](#), [Graça Machel](#), [Mary Robinson](#) and [Ernesto Zedillo](#).

[Ela Bhatt](#), [Fernando Henrique Cardoso](#), [Jimmy Carter](#) and [Desmond Tutu](#) are Elders Emeritus.

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## **Find out more**

For biographies of the Elders, blogs, photos, videos and more information about their work please go to [www.theElders.org](http://www.theElders.org).

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