



TRUST FOR PEACE INITIATIVE

CULTIVATING AFOVIA

From Fear to Trust and Peace

First Launch Communication Package

Invitation to the First Circle

Dear friends and fellow citizens,

This initiative has been triggered by the serious concern currently shared by citizens across the world: wars are continuing, human suffering is deepening, global risks are escalating, and immense resources that could serve life are being consumed by destruction.

This concern is not abstract. Behind every prolonged conflict are people who are frightened, displaced, bereaved or deprived of the future they had reason to expect. Their suffering asks more of us than sympathy. It asks whether we have the courage to reconsider the habits of thought that allow conflict to continue.

We recognise the extraordinary difficulty faced by our diplomats and leaders. They must protect people, respond to danger and negotiate amid political pressure, historical grievances and profound mistrust. Our purpose is not to lecture or preach to them, nor to claim possession of a particular solution. It is to ask whether citizens and civil society can contribute some fresh air and out-of-the-box thinking: a disciplined willingness to review assumptions and explore possibilities that established processes might leave outside the room.

Why Trust

Fear and insecurity are often treated as reasons for defensive preparation. Yet one side's defence can appear to the other as preparation for aggression. Fear then produces mistrust; mistrust produces countermeasures; and each countermeasure confirms the fear that created it. Wars may begin for many reasons. But if fear, mistrust and insecurity remain after the original causes have been obscured, must the vicious cycle continue in the service of retaliation, pride and the search for an absolute victor and an absolute loser? Or can we preserve the dignity of all sides, prevent the bitterness of humiliation, recognise the victory of **PEACE ITSELF**, and open paths towards win-win solutions—sustainable coexistence, new bridges and possible synergies for the benefit of all concerned?

Trust is not credulity. Afovia is not recklessness or denial of danger. Both require prudence, verification and realistic safeguards. They ask whether unnecessary, inherited or deliberately cultivated fear can recede enough for dialogue, familiarity and credible cooperation to grow.

A Civic Agora and Living Laboratory

The Trust for Peace Initiative is an emerging, independent and non-partisan civic platform. It is conceived as a Dialectic Agora and an Evolving Living Laboratory where citizens, diplomats, historians, strategists, scientists, artists and people of practical experience can examine the factors that increase fear or build trust.

In an interdependent world, access to food, water, energy and vital resources need not depend only upon conquest or exclusive possession. Cooperation, shared development, transparent safeguards and equitable exchange can sometimes provide greater and more durable security than domination. This possibility deserves rigorous examination rather than automatic dismissal.

Our Immediate Hope

Through this letter, we express a modest but urgent hope: that, with the help of its recipients and their wider circles, this spirit of reviewing inherited assumptions may reach our representatives, diplomats and leaders in time to contribute constructively to major international discussions—to help stop the guns, bridge and reconcile differences between peoples, restore social cohesion and enable a return to normal, everyday life.

We do not presume to offer ready-made solutions. We hope to bring onto their radar a civic encouragement: to create, alongside necessary negotiations over positions and interests, some space for fresh thinking about the fears, insecurities and failures of trust that perpetuate conflict.

We believe that peace cannot be left only to the moment when violence has already begun. Peace, too, must be prepared: through relationships, habits of dialogue and forms of security that do not depend upon permanent fear.

An Invitation to Participate

We are forming a First Circle of initiating participants. At this stage, participation carries no legal, financial or organisational commitment. We ask only for your honest thoughts and feedback. Question the proposal, sharpen its language, identify its weaknesses, suggest people or institutions that should be involved, or help with the practical foundations and advice required for responsible growth.

If this concern speaks to you, we ask you not merely to endorse it, but to help us test it, deepen it and carry it forward.

A brief response is sufficient: I would like to become part of the First Circle, followed by any thought, question or reservation you wish to contribute.

Please reply to **trustforpeace.initiative@gmail.com**.

Please note: This reply address will become operational from the afternoon of Tuesday, 22 September 2026.

P.S. Alongside this invitation, we are sending a short list of issues, questions and points that may serve as starting places for our first meetings and communications. They indicate the initial field the Initiative proposes to explore: how we may decrease mistrust, increase trust and help prepare the ground for peace.

We also include invitations for expert advice on the institutional registration and protection of the Initiative, and for the design of the welcoming electronic home that will host our communications and joint efforts.

A brief summary of the Initiative's first public announcement is included for your information.

With appreciation and hope,

Emmanouil Vordonis Initiator, Trust for Peace Initiative

Indicative Issues and Questions to Be Explored in the Proposed Dialogue

The Trust for Peace Initiative does not begin with predetermined answers. It begins by reopening questions that inherited assumptions, institutional habits and the pressures of immediate events may have prevented us from examining deeply enough.

- 1. What if mistrust is not our safest defence, but one of our greatest shared dangers?**
- 2. What if the fear and insecurity intended to protect one side inevitably deepen the fear and insecurity of the other?**
- 3. Are today's negotiations addressing only the conduct of wars, or also the fears, grievances and failures of trust that allow them to continue?**
- 4. Can lasting security be achieved against one another, or must it ultimately be built with one another?**
- 5. Are victory and peace always the same destination? If not, which one are our strategies actually pursuing?**
- 6. Which inherited assumptions continue to imprison diplomatic thinking, and which of them should now be courageously reviewed?**
7. Can citizens and civil society help leaders articulate possibilities that political pressure and institutional routine frequently leave unspoken?
- 8. Which fears, insecurities and failures of trust continue a war after its original causes have been overtaken by retaliation, pride or the search for victory?**
- 9. What credible and reciprocal steps could reduce fear without asking either side to surrender legitimate security?**
- 10. What if peace must be prepared as deliberately, patiently and seriously as war?**
- 11. In an interdependent world, must access to land, energy, water and vital resources still depend upon territorial control, or can cooperation, shared development and equitable exchange provide greater security?**

These are not rhetorical questions. They define an open field of inquiry, dialogue and practical exploration. We invite citizens, diplomats, scholars, institutions and leaders to examine them with realism, intellectual courage and a shared sense of responsibility.

Invitation for Expert Advice on Registration Protection and Institutional Establishment

An invitation to legal, institutional and intellectual-property specialists to advise on the Initiative's registration, protection and responsible establishment.

We seek a professional collaborator, or a small coordinated team, to translate an emerging civic initiative into a coherent identity and an appropriately constituted entity while preserving its open, human and non-partisan character.

Working Identity

- English name: Trust for Peace Initiative
- Defining phrase: Cultivating Afovia
- Explanatory line: From Fear to Trust and Peace
- Description: A Dialectic Agora and an Evolving Living Laboratory
- Field of inquiry: the factors that lead from fear and mistrust toward trust, cooperation and peace

The definitive English and Greek names, acronym, logo, domains and legal form must be professionally reviewed before registration.

Requested Scope

1. Review the naming hierarchy in English and Greek and identify linguistic, reputational or registration risks.
2. Conduct proportionate name, domain and trademark clearance and advise on protection in Greece, the European Union and, if justified, internationally.
3. Compare suitable Greek non-profit structures and recommend a legal form, governance model and registration sequence.
4. Protect and document authorship of the founding texts, dialogue formats, recordings, visual material and future creative projects.
5. Define transparent acknowledgement of the initiator, human contributors and ChatGPT as an AI interlocutor and thinking partner, with human responsibility retained.
6. Ensure that domains, accounts, credentials, source files and licences are owned by the Initiative or an authorised representative.

Please propose a phased scope, timetable and fee structure; identify the specialists required; provide relevant examples; and flag any immediate concern about the name, legal form or order of implementation.

Proposed contact: trustforpeace.initiative@gmail.com

Invitation to Website Designers to Create Our Electronic Home

An invitation to website designers and digital specialists to propose a small, secure and expandable electronic home for the Initiative.

We seek a web professional to create a calm, credible and internationally accessible website. The first version should be economical and easy to manage while allowing later development into a carefully moderated digital Agora.

Phase One: Essential Website

1. A home page with a concise purpose, the key questions and a clear invitation to join the First Circle.
2. Pages explaining Afovia, trust, the Dialectic Agora and the Living Laboratory.
3. An organised archive for foundational texts, activities, images, audio, video and podcasts.
4. A simple expression-of-interest form with privacy consent, secure storage and export.
5. A contact page, professional email, basic privacy-respecting analytics and a bilingual-ready structure.
6. Simple administration, clear handover instructions and excellent performance on phones, tablets and computers.

Phase Two: Moderated Agora

The Agora should not begin as an uncontrolled public chatroom. It should become a moderated space for questions, short texts, responses and comments under defined themes, with editorial approval, participation principles, reporting tools and the option of private or invitation-only circles. Facilities for online meetings, polls and shared events may be added progressively.

Security, Ownership and Proposal

The design should be calm, elegant, accessible and mobile-first. Hosting, backups, restoration, anti-spam protection, role-based access and GDPR-compliant privacy procedures are essential. All domains, accounts, credentials, licences, source files and documentation must be handed over to the Initiative or its authorised representative.

Please provide the proposed platform, site map, phased deliverables, timetable, fixed and recurring costs, maintenance terms, relevant examples and identified risks. The guiding principle is small, secure and expandable: enough to begin responsibly without unnecessary complexity.

Proposed contact: **trustforpeace.initiative@gmail.com**

The Hydra Beginning

Optional note to accompany the First Circle invitation when the recording is included.

The first public expression of the ideas behind the Trust for Peace Initiative took place during the closing reflections of a small shipping conference on Hydra in September 2026.

Beginning with Thucydides, the address considered a recurring mechanism of conflict: fear creates suspicion; suspicion produces defensive preparation; preparation is interpreted as aggression; and fear grows again. It asked whether this pattern should be treated as an eternal law, or whether trust can also be deliberately cultivated through dialogue, familiarity, credible safeguards and cooperation.

Hydra and the maritime setting offered an appropriate point of departure. The sea teaches independence and interdependence at the same time. Ships reach safety not in isolation, but through shared rules, dependable signals, mutual awareness and respect for those crossing the same waters.

The recording is shared not as a formal institutional statement, but as the living moment in which the invitation first entered public conversation.

The recording of the Hydra address may be shared separately.