

Presentation of the “Peace4Culture Global Call” Action Plan

Thursday, 5 May 2022 – New York, UNHQs, Conference Room 11

The “Peace4Culture Global Call” Action Plan underpins the interdependence of peaceful relations and the safeguarding of cultural and religious heritage. Culture defines and reflects identity and highlights the difference between people and communities. The vast majority of people on earth are members of a faith or spiritual community. And although each has their own traditions and convictions, they share together common values such as compassion, humility and respect for others regardless of their religion, race, culture or gender.

The “Peace4Culture Global Call” initiative equally highlights the universality of cultural religious heritage sites as symbols of our shared humanity. In this context, the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites, developed by UNAOC in 2019, emphasizes the sanctity and universality of religious sites which are symbols of our identity and shared humanity. It is noteworthy to recall the United Nations Security Council resolution 2347 of 2017, which stresses that “*the unlawful destruction of cultural heritage, looting and smuggling of cultural property in the event of armed conflict, including by terrorist groups, and attempts to deny historical roots and cultural diversity can fuel and exacerbate conflicts and impede post-conflict national reconciliation, thus undermining the security and stability, governance and social, economic and cultural development of affected states*”. The “Peace4Culture Global Call” emphasizes that strengthening intercultural and interreligious dialogue serves as a viable tool for advancing sustainable peace and stability. At the same time, sport and art are powerful vectors for promoting diversity, inclusivity and mutual respect. They are a universal language that break taboos, bridge barriers as well as inspire and connect.

Programme

10:00AM-10:10AM	Welcoming remarks by H.E. Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos , Under-Secretary-General, UNAOC High Representative
10:10AM-10:25AM	Presentation of the “Peace4Culture Global Call” Action Plan by H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov , Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, followed by the signature of the Action Plan
10:25AM–11:00AM	Panel discussion “ <i>Pathways to Durable and Sustainable Peace</i> ”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Feridun Hadi Sinirlioğlu, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations • H.E. Mr. Agustín Santos Maraver, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations • Professor Mike Hardy, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, UK
11:00AM–11:25AM	Interventions from the floor and Q&A session
11:25AM-11:30AM	Closing by H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov , Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and H.E. Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos , Under-Secretary-General, UNAOC High Representative

Moderator: **Ms. Nihal Saad**, Chief of Cabinet of the UNAOC High Representative

Note: the event will be conducted in English.