Don't give in to "fear and anger"

The world's youth have been warned not to give in to "fear and anger" but to face the challenges of a world in turmoil.

That's the view of the UN High Representative of the Alliance of Civilizations, Nassir Abedlaziz Al-Nasser, speaking at a global forum on inclusivity being held in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

At the forum Mr Al-Nasser called on young people and world leaders to work together to prevent violent extremism.

May Yaacoub reports from Baku.

According to the High representative of the Alliance of civilizations, Nassir Abedlaziz Al-Nasser, the forum's theme, "Living Together in Inclusive Societies: A Challenge and A Goal", is significant and timely, for various reasons.

Speaking today at the opening press conference, of the 7th UNAOC Global Forum in Baku, Azerbaijan, Al-Nasser explained that the turmoil we face in this world can make us weak and powerless, fearful or angry, warning from the consequences of giving in to those sentiments:

"The consequences of giving in, may be a rise in xenophobia, exclusion and marginalization of those groups of people we feel endangered by, be it economically, ethnically, or religiously. When having a look at the darkest points of the history of humanity, we know what such reactions can ultimately lead to."

Al-Nasser noted that the 7th Forum will interweave the notion of inclusive societies with another UN core theme, that of the "prevention of violent extremism", saying that "preventing violent extremism requires more patience and time than countering terrorism", in addition, it requires "addressing the conditions conducive to its birth and growth".

Over the course of three days, the Forum will address a variety of conditions, affecting media, migration, education, and youth.

The Forum will also help promoting and creating global and cross-sector partnerships as a major step towards inspiring the world to work for inclusion, peace, and justice to implement and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

May Yaacoub, United Nations.

Duration: 1’55"