



**UNAOC**  
United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

**IN FOCUS**

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# UNAOC organizes Youth Event as Part of its 8th Global Forum



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*“There is a need to reset and reorient the United Nations, to make the entire system of the United Nations work not just for young people but also with young people. I emphasize this because that is exactly what the High Representative also spoke to - we need to work in partnership with young people...”*

**Jayathma Wickramanayake, the United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth**

The **Youth Event: #UNAOCyouth** during the **8th UNAOC Global Forum** provided a platform for amplifying the voices of youth. It brought together more than 100 young leaders from 60 countries, between the ages of 18 to 35, who have partnered with UNAOC over the past ten years. Alumni were past participants of the Fellowship Programme, the Intercultural Innovation Award, PLURAL+, Summer Schools, Youth Solidarity Fund and Young Peacebuilders.

The keynote speaker, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, spoke about the recently-launched Youth 2030: The Envoy recalled the long process of developing and launching the Youth Strategy but stated that the current challenge now involved implementation. She shared her views and advice with the participants on how best they could

support implementation of the Strategy. Underscoring the importance of not just communicating with young people, but truly engaging with them as partners, Ms. Wickramanayake was excited to receive recommendations from the young people in attendance.

Mr. Ahmad Alhendawi, Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, moderated discussions between youth speakers on the importance of youth empowerment in local communities, highlighting good practices stemming from UNAOC’s partnership with youth leaders.

In his opening remarks, UNAOC High Representative, Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, credited the young participants as the organization’s ambassadors within



their communities with their work helping UNAOC advance its mission of building bridges between cultures.

Mr. Alhendawi then moderated the first panel on peacebuilding using intercultural and interreligious dialogue, with Amira Ali Elmallah (Egypt), Severin Stalter (Germany) and Abiodun Rufus Unegbu (Nigeria). The youth speakers discussed their work with religious leaders, the importance of intercultural exchange and working with migrant children. They thanked UNAOC for providing seed funding, capacity building and a platform which allowed youth and youth-led organizations to share their stories and gain greater visibility.

Breech Asher Harani (Philippines), Kay Sabrina Lee (Australia) and Alejandra Corvalán Maira (Chile) presented a video production showcasing the achievements of youth alumni working in the area of media and new technologies.

Mr. Alhendawi returned to moderate the panel on prevention of violent extremism, with Syed Ali Abbas (Pakistan), Nicole Bannister (United States of America) and Deniza Georgieva (Bulgaria). All youth speakers emphasized the importance of engaging young people in prevention of violent extremism, underscoring the importance of

developing local solutions to drivers of radicalization within communities. The importance of events like the 8th UNAOC Global Forum was addressed as a platform for creating a culture of peace.

In the final segment of the event, Ms. Wickramanayake discussed the recommendations generated by the youth participants in the preparatory session with facilitators from across the UN system. In addition to recommendations for the UN, Olaoluwa Abagun (Nigeria), Mamoun Mahayni (Syria), Monica Ibrahim (Egypt) and Christine Fyvie (South Africa) also spoke about ways that youth can be involved. The Envoy on Youth closed the event by highlighting the importance of amplifying and institutionalizing the work done by young people around the world.

UNAOC partners, including the Government of Finland, BMW Group and Agencia Extremeña de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo delivered interventions from the floor. The event was emceed by youth alumni Melchi-Zedek S.P. Dologbay (Liberia) and Sally Itani (Lebanon).



## #UNAOCyouth Preparatory Session for Developing Recommendations on Implementation of Youth 2030: the UN Youth Strategy

A preparatory session was held on 18 November preceding the Youth Event: #UNAOCyouth at the 8th UNAOC Global Forum. Alumni had also worked together online leading up to the Global Forum, particularly in preparing recommendations for how they could support implementation of Youth 2030: the UN Youth Strategy.

During the preparatory session, discussions were moderated by facilitators from within the UN system, including the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, UN Women (Regional Office for the Arab States) and the Integrated Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for Somalia.

Representatives from among the alumni were able to present the recommendations that they had developed to the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth at the Youth Event: #UNAOCyouth. Following the Global

Forum, alumni are again working together online to prepare a summary report of their recommendations which will inform UNAOC and the UN on how Youth 2030: the UN Youth Strategy can be implemented.



# The Global Forum in Review: Perspectives from Youth

By Nicole Banister | @theycallmebanz

When I received the invitation to participate in the UNAOC 8th Global Forum at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, I was ecstatic. I immediately felt the same infectious energy amongst the youth participants at the Forum as I did alongside my UNAOC Fellowship cohort the year prior. Rare are the opportunities when a myriad of accomplished young people representing distinct geographies and diverse backgrounds have the chance to connect with one another, let alone with 1,000 leading international decision makers.

That is the indelible magic of UNAOC. The UN Alliance of Civilizations has always recognized the importance of creating inclusive spaces – bringing folks together across languages, ethnicities, religions, and nationalities – with the fundamental belief that society's greatest ills can and will be solved through intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding.

During the Youth Event on the first day of the Global Forum, I served as a panelist on the role that grassroots actors play in preventing violent extremism. As an international master trainer on sexual health, I spoke about how radicalization toward gender-based violence can be prevented, but requires targeted interventions for youth with the presence of informed, caring peer mentors who challenge harmful narratives.

As UNAOC convenes powerful and diverse stakeholders who contribute strategies to address the world's most pressing issues, it's imperative to continue soliciting the perspectives of young people like me. When you foster the trust of young people and integrate them into decision-making processes, you empower them. They become resilient in the face of intolerance and become leaders for high-impact change. The 8th UNAOC Global Forum empowered me and my peers to partner for peace and inclusion, and it was my privilege to share the experience alongside some of the most inspired and proactive young minds of my time.



By Selim Cherkaoui

As a UNAOC Fellow from 2018, I was offered the chance to join the 8th UNAOC Global Forum and meet approximately one hundred young emerging leaders from all over the world in New York City. We could share our views, exchange opinions and analysis on issues of concern such as violent extremism among young people and the role of global youth in preventing and combating this scourge. That goes without saying, the experience was very enriching. That kind of rare days brought in my life to build great relationships with people from Bhutan to Liberia, in one and the same room!

The Global Forum also provided an opportunity to participate in workshops and learn more about initiatives launched by UNAOC such as the Intercultural Leaders platform. UNAOC workshops were co-organized with various UN Departments including the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism. As P/CVE front-line practitioner working in prisons, I was very thankful to meet UNOCT officials. By personally meeting young individuals incarcerated for offences related to violent extremism, seeking to bring my experience from the ground to senior officials was very beneficial. I see it as a positive contribution to a bottom-up approach. Meeting UN representatives and decision-makers such as the UNOCT Under-Secretary General was definitely the cherry on the cake. USG Voronkov directly put me at ease. I could share with him my experience and some best practices. We mainly address how the UN can help local actors to prevent youth from violent extremism and strengthen youth resilience initiatives.

With five other colleagues, we were interviewed by the UN News French Radio. Fabulous experience! We commonly shared our views on the role the UN can play towards youth in a changing world. Young leaders are the best placed to influence other youth in the pursuit of sustainable peace, and the UN can help to strengthen youth leadership for this role.



# Young Peacebuilders: Giving visibility to the power of youth



*“For me, the YPB programme is many things but, above all, it is the safe space for young people’s peace journey. There is no single way to build peace. We are all different and our peacebuilding trajectories and contexts as well. That is why it is important to have a space to learn how to create safe spaces for young people — a place where leadership is developed with the support of mentorship”*

**Shadi Rouhshabaz, Iran, Young Peacebuilders Participant**

Nineteen committed young women and men from 12 countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region have successfully completed UNAOC’s Young Peacebuilders programme, implemented in collaboration with Generations For Peace and with the generous support of the Agencia Extremeña de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AEXCID). This peace education initiative supports youth leaders between the ages of 18 and 25 in gaining peacebuilding skills while bringing visibility to their actions and projects towards the promotion of diversity and dialogue.

Following intense online and face-to-face training and the guided implementation of peace initiatives in their communities, the young civil society leaders reconvened during the final symposium in Amman, Jordan on 20 and 21 September.

The presented peace initiatives, which the young leaders implemented with the professional support of UNAOC’s



trainer’s team and which target approximately 2,500 direct and 16,000 indirect beneficiaries in the MENA region, reveal the progress the young peacebuilders made throughout the programme and demonstrate the power of peace education.

*Continued on page 8*

## PEACE INITIATIVES IMPLEMENTED BY UNAOC YOUNG PEACEBUILDERS

### PRÉVENTION DE L'EXTRÉMISME VIOLENT

Le 28 et 29 Juillet 2018 · Médiathèque de la  
Fondation Mohamed VI

**Strengthening actors of change:** *informing students about the dangers of violent extremism in Morocco; teaching social activists in Libya how to decrease ethnic tensions between communities.*



**Using innovation and creative approaches:** *promoting urban development based on solidarity, respect and peace in Lebanon; organizing peace film festivals in Yemen; broadcasting messages of dialogue on Algerian radio; and creating a mobile application for active citizenship in Jordan.*



**Creating safe spaces for:** *political youth movements in Iraq, youth mentors in Iran and adolescents with their parents in Palestine.*

## Young Peacebuilders (continued from page 7)

By showcasing this inspirational youth-led peace work to the attending audience, including UN agencies (UNDP, UN Women, UNESCO, UNFPA), civil society organizations (Search for Common Ground, Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies) and government representatives (Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Youth), the symposium also provided a platform to bridge the gap between youth-led peace initiatives and decision makers. Attendants provided very positive feedback and were inspired when hearing how young peacebuilders tackle certain conflicts and tensions in society. One of the participants was immediately invited to present his work to the Ministry of Culture that same week, as well as to facilitate a workshop for fellow youth. UNAOC has long recognized the important and positive contribution of youth and youth-led organizations in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts, responding to the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2250 and 2419 on Youth, Peace and Security, and the Secretary-General's Plan of Action on Preventing Violent Extremism



Another important achievement of the project is the creation of a regional and worldwide network of young peacebuilders who will all become part of the UNAOC Intercultural Leaders platform. They will join an impressive list of civil society activists that make up our UNAOC alumni. Let us continue to support young people's involvement in shaping lasting peace.



# In Review: Youth Solidarity Fund 2018 Edition

*The Youth Solidarity Fund (YSF) provides seed funding and capacity-building to youth-led organizations who propose projects that demonstrate innovative and effective approaches to intercultural or interfaith dialogue, thereby fostering peaceful and inclusive societies.*

## 📅 July:

Six youth-led organizations based in Africa and Asia were selected to receive seed funding of up to USD 25,000 for the purpose of implementing projects with innovative and effective approaches to intercultural dialogue and interfaith harmony. The six organizations were chosen out of 717 applications from 79 countries. The designated project coordinators are four young women and two young men aged 23 to 29 years old.



## 📅 August:

UNAOC organized a capacity-building workshop in Nairobi, Kenya for YSF 2018 edition recipients. It was attended by representatives of all six selected organizations. The overall aim of the workshop was to develop skills, which could be used for strengthening the implementation of funded projects, as well as building the capacity of their organizations in the future. The participants also had the opportunity to network with each other and with similar initiatives based in Nairobi.

## 📅 November:

Five YSF recipients attended the 8th UNAOC Global Forum held at UN HQ in New York, where they were able to network with other young leaders, as well as meet with government representatives, policy makers, experts and UN officials. This included the opportunity to present recommendations for the implementation of Youth 2030: the UN Youth Strategy to the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth.



**3,745**  
BENEFICIARIES

**89%**  
YOUTH



**332,912**

INDIVIDUALS DIRECTLY & INDIRECTLY IMPACTED

## 📅 December:

Activities concluded for six projects supported under the YSF 2018 edition. These projects directly impacted 3,745 beneficiaries, of which 89% were youth. In total, project activities directly and indirectly impacted 332,912 individuals in the Central African Republic, Georgia, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, South Africa and Sri Lanka.

# Spotlight: Impact of Youth-Led Organizations



Organization:	Association URU
Name of the Project:	Speak Love
Project Coordinator:	Kessy Ekomo Soignet, Age 28
Country:	Central African Republic

**Association URU** and their “**Speak Love**” project created a safe space where young people from different social and religious backgrounds came together to understand the concept of hate speech. Through training, youth were equipped with the tools for preventing and countering hate speech, as well as learning how to encourage awareness raising activities in their local community. The project directly affected 455 young people.



*“The activities throughout the project from myDunoon made me understand the core roots of the discrimination issues I’ve been facing. I was able to identify where it started and find ways to overcome them - which I was unable to do before because I never understood the nature of the problems.”*

**Carmel Nsita, Age 18 from the Democratic Republic of Congo**  
Project Beneficiary of myDunoon



Organization:	Institute for Youth Development
Name of the Project:	The Lives of Others
Project Coordinator:	Tilebaldy uulu Eliizar, Age 26
Country:	Kyrgyzstan

The **Institute for Youth Development** implemented the “**Lives of Others**” project to address interethnic tensions, especially in the rural areas of Kyrgyzstan where issues are exacerbated due to greater socio-economic challenges. The organization coordinated a nationwide peace camp, supported local initiatives by young people, and conducted a youth exchange between host families. Overall, the project directly impacted 2,280 individuals, of which 1,980 were youth.

Organization:	myDunoon
Name of the Project:	Who is Your Neighbour
Project Coordinator:	Christine Fyvie, Age 29
Country:	South Africa

**myDunoon** organized a short film course and competition in Dunoon township, where local and migrant youth were trained in film-making. After going through the training, the youth created short films based on the theme “**Fighting Xenophobia - Who is My Neighbor**” which were screened to the community. Overall, the project directly impacted 35 individuals through their workshops and training sessions, and indirectly impacted more than 700 beneficiaries.

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Perkumpulan Pamflet Generasi</b>
<b>Name of the Project:</b>	<b>Dimming the Hidden Fire: Youth Collaboration to Counter Extremism</b>
<b>Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Akbar Restu Fauzi, Age 24</b>
<b>Country:</b>	<b>Indonesia</b>

**Perkumpulan Pamflet Generasi** implemented the project “**Dimming the Hidden Fire: Youth Collaboration to Counter Extremism**” to create tolerance narratives through open dialogues between youth from majority and minority religious groups, that were promoted on social media. The project directly impacted 352 individuals, of which 319 were youth. Through the course of the social media campaign, more than 300,000 users were engaged on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube.

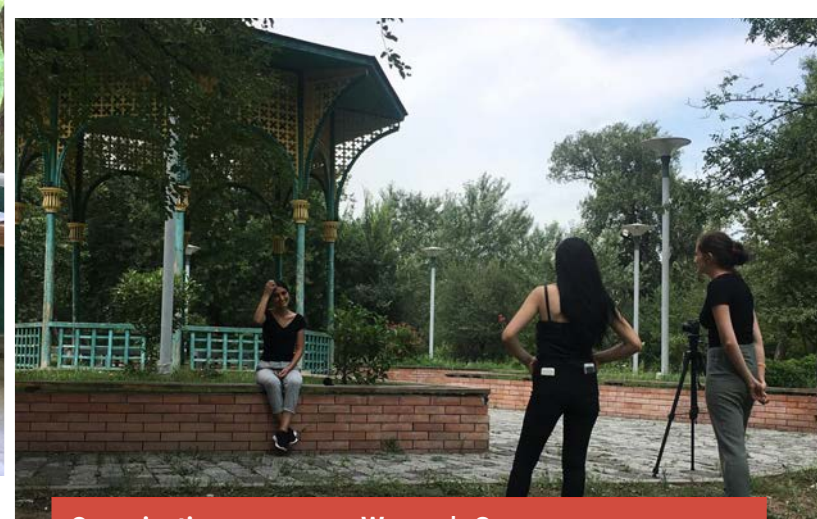


*“Through the Youth Camp, I learnt more about the other religions outside the six officially recognized by the government. Some of the participants are from Ambon and I had the opportunity to find out more about the conflict between Muslims and Christians in that region.”*  
**Amalia Fildzah Adhani**  
 Project Beneficiary of Perkumpulan Pamflet Generasi



<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Sri Lanka Unites</b>
<b>Name of the Project:</b>	<b>Strategic Peace Education for Youth</b>
<b>Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Neluni Tillekeratne, Age 26</b>
<b>Country:</b>	<b>Sri Lanka</b>

Through implementing their “**Strategic Peace Education for Youth**” project, Sri Lanka Unites developed a curriculum and teaching manual to further the reconciliation effort in Sri Lanka following the end of the civil war. The project directly impacted 505 young people who participated in teacher training, workshops and events, and expects to roll out the curriculum in 200 schools throughout 2019.



<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Women’s Gaze</b>
<b>Name of the Project:</b>	<b>Building Intercultural Bridges</b>
<b>Project Coordinator:</b>	<b>Gvantsa Khonelidze, Age 24</b>
<b>Country:</b>	<b>Georgia</b>

**Women’s Gaze** and their “**Building Intercultural Bridges**” project encourages solidarity between activists who support gender equality, especially from different religious groups. The organization produced story-telling and myth-busting videos involving minority youth. Action plans for collaboration were supported both online and offline to address the diverse realities faced by religious minorities. The project directly impacted 40 young women, with another 16,000 engagements occurring online.

# 2018 FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME:

## *Fostering Youth Resilience to Prevent Violent Extremism and Build Sustainable Peace*



*"Having the opportunity to connect with cause-driven young leaders across the globe and learning about their work has inspired me to continue the work I do on the ground!"*

**Christine Goussous (Jordan)**



Thanks to the financial contribution of the Government of Germany, as well as the support of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Morocco and Qatar, and the League of Arab States, the UNAOC Fellowship Programme enabled young professionals and civil society leaders from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and their counterparts from Europe and North America (EUNA) to discover one another's region and to address issues related to intercultural and interfaith dialogue.

The EUNA cohort traveled to Egypt, Morocco, and Qatar from 29 August to 12 September 2018, while the MENA cohort traveled to Germany, Spain and the United States of America from 30 September to 14 October 2018. Each visit was designed to expose Fellows to a multitude of cultural, religious, political and societal aspects of the country visited and to provide them with the opportunity to experience cultural immersion while interacting with a wide range of local actors and partners. Fellows had in-depth, interactive discussions with representatives of various international organizations, government officials, religious leaders, journalists, academics and civil society actors.

This year, activities and discussions of the Fellowship programme focused on the theme "Fostering Youth Resilience to Prevent Violent Extremism and Build Sustainable Peace," and UNAOC selected Fellows for their professional achievements in the field. Throughout their journey, Fellows had the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about various ways of furthering the involvement of youth in the global effort to prevent extremism and build sustainable peace.

Highlights of the programme included meetings with representatives of the World Bank Group, the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Mohammed VI Institute, the Al-Azhar Islamic Institution, and the Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue, among many others.

Following the trip, Fellows wrote final reports on issues related to the theme of the Fellowship, basing their remarks, conclusions, and recommendations on observations made and knowledge acquired during their trip.

## Interview with UNAOC Fellow Victoria Martin de la Torre, author of “Europe, a Leap into the Unknown: A Journey Back in Time to Meet the Founders of the European Union”



2011 UNAOC Fellow Victoria Martin de la Torre and Martin Schultz, President of the European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium, November 2014

### Q: What is your book about?

It is a non-fiction story that focuses on the five founding fathers of the European Union, Jean Monnet, Robert Schuman, Konrad Adenauer, Alcide De Gasperi and Paul-Henri Spaak. Together they succeeded in making real what others before them had only dreamed of: uniting the European people. Through their debates and conversations the reader learns about all the difficulties they faced when they launched the revolutionary project to share national sovereignty and create a completely new political community. In the wake of the Second World War, they called for creative forces to change things and imagine new ways of living together

### Q: What discussions are you hoping to trigger with your book?

I want to show the power of people in changing history. There is no pre-determined or automatic destiny. It is in our hands and I believe that it was the conviction and the determination of the founding fathers that allowed them to turn historical rivalries between European countries into a long-term peace project. I also want us to reflect on what Europe has become and figure out how to deal with its diversity today. What would the founding fathers do? How would they react to growing nationalism and populism? What would they say about the lack of solidarity among European countries and the lack of solidarity with refugees?

### Q: When and why did you decide to write this book?

In 2008, I left my job as a journalist in Spain and moved to Brussels where I started working at the European Parliament as a press officer. I was quite disappointed by the bureaucracy and the lack of idealism of some colleagues. I also realized that most Europeans don't know anything about the founding fathers. Most of the books about the construction of Europe are boring and technical. I decided to write the book that I would have loved to read. I decided to use quotes, conversations, and personal anecdotes so that the characters would come to life. So far the book has been published in English and Spanish, and I am currently working on a Norwegian, an Italian and a French version.

### Q: What's next for you?

I have a passion for dialogue and diversity. I've started a Ph.D. because I want to reflect on how intercultural dialogue today could help us build a community in line with the vision of the founding fathers. Europe has changed a lot since their time and diversity today is very different, particularly religious diversity. I am very interested in the role of Islam in Europe. I hope this will lead to a second book.

# 2017 MENA Fellow Aya Chebbi appointed the first ever African Union Youth Envoy



2017 MENA Fellow Aya Chebbi has been appointed the first ever African Union Youth Envoy in November 2018. According to the communique on her nomination, Ms. Chebbi's appointment follows the African Union's decision to work on empowering young people across Africa and harness their potential by mobilizing them in the achievement of the Agenda 2063. Ms. Chebbi is an award-winning peace activist and renowned blogger. Her passion for youth empowerment intersects with her vision for peace. She was selected among hundreds of applicants, following a transparent and competitive process led by a panel of representatives of the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, Regional Economic Communities and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. As part of her mandate, and in support of the Commission's efforts, the Youth Envoy will serve as spokesperson of the African



*African Union Youth Envoy Ms. Aya Chebbi (center) during the 2017 Fellowship Programme*

youth to the relevant African Union decision-making bodies. She will work in close collaboration with the Youth Advisory Council to engage youth organisations across the continent as well as relevant African Union entities.

Ms. Chebbi was selected in 2017 to participate in the UNAOC Fellowship Programme, which focused on "The role of media and civil society in combatting hatred and fostering inclusion".

## PEACEapp: SURVIVAL Awarded in Spain

Last December SURVIVAL, a gamified app developed following UNAOC's PEACEapp workshops in Algeciras (Spain) and Tangier (Morocco), was recognized with a Special Mention Award by the Andalusia Awards on Migration, an initiative of the Regional Government of Andalusia (Spain). This is the second award for SURVIVAL, after it received in 2017 the Accion Magistral Award for the promotion of social values in a ceremony presided by Queen Letizia of Spain.



# 2018 Marked the 10th Anniversary of PLURAL+



“

*“Participating in PLURAL+ has motivated us to continue working for more social inclusion in our communities. PLURAL+ has broadened our horizons, it has given us more ideas and more energy to work for a better world.”*

**Baneet Pukhrbham, PLURAL+ 2018 International Jury Award winner**

PLURAL+, the youth video festival focusing on migration and social inclusion, celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2018. To mark this milestone, PLURAL+ 2018 Awards Ceremony was held as a Gala Dinner at the UN Delegates Dining room on November 19th as part of UNAOC's 8th Global Forum.

The event was attended by 400 guests, including Forum participants and official delegations, PLURAL+ partners and awarded young media makers. The three International Jury award-winning videos and the Special Award for the Prevention of Xenophobia were screened and celebrated during the event.

All PLURAL+ 2018 award-winning videos can be watched here: [pluralplus.unaoc.org/plural2018](http://pluralplus.unaoc.org/plural2018).



# Intercultural Innovation Award partners with Accenture to host a Capacity Building Workshop in Australia



The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the BMW Group in collaboration with Accenture hosted the second capacity building workshop for the ten most recent recipients of the Intercultural Innovation Award in Melbourne, Australia from 22 to 27 July 2018. The training sessions were designed to enhance the long-term effect and sustainability of their projects, such that their initiatives can expand and replicate in other contexts.

Leveraging on Accenture's expertise, the first part of the workshop was focused on leadership and measuring impact. Attendees received training on leadership, social styles, and design thinking, and learned about a variety of practical tools to effectively assess and evaluate the impact of their projects. The second part of the week was

focused on organizational culture and managing change, with participants learning interventions for building a strong organization and how to make the transformation happen.

In addition to the training sessions, participants visited Cultural Infusion, a Melbourne based organization and an Intercultural Innovation Award Alumni that promotes understanding of different cultures across communities. Participants also visited two social enterprises working on empowering Indigenous communities and youth.

The training in Melbourne is part of the one-year support provided to recipients of the Intercultural Innovation Award.



## Spotlight on Intercultural Innovation Award Recipients

### Recipients from the Intercultural Innovation Award receive the 2018 UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize

UNESCO awarded two Intercultural Innovation Award alumni, Wapikoni mobile and The Coexist Initiative with the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize in Paris, France on 16 November 2018. The Prize, which is awarded every two years on the occasion of the International Day of Tolerance, honors individuals and institutions for their exceptional efforts to promote tolerance and non-violence.

President and Founder of Wapikoni mobile, Manon Barbeau, was recognized for the activities carried out through the organization such as educational workshops and film screenings that provide youth with the opportunity to promote indigenous cultures, languages and identities through audiovisual creation. The Coexist Initiative, represented by its founder Wanjala Wafula, received the prize for its promotion of gender equality, social justice and human rights with the goal to end violence against women in Kenya.



### The founder of Young Leaders Entrepreneurs speaks at the 2018 One Young World Summit

Ahlem Nasraoui, Founder of Young Leaders Entrepreneurs, was selected to participate at the One Young World Summit held from 17-20 October 2018 at The Hague, Netherlands. The Summit gathers youth leaders from around the world and encourages them to make lasting connections that create positive change through their innovative solutions. Ahlem spoke during the 'Poverty Alleviation Plenary Session' on the impact of their project, Unleash Tunisia Venture Bus which received the Intercultural Innovation Award in 2017, and their efforts to empower youth by providing them with entrepreneurship opportunities through skills training and capacity building.

*"We have visited sixteen vulnerable communities and offered entrepreneurship training to young people on a variety of topics from soft skills to the creation of a business plan, this has enabled them to create employment for themselves and for other young members of their communities. Conflict in Tunisia and other parts of the globe can be conquered by a spirit that offers hope, education and inclusion"*

**Ahlem Nasraoui, Founder of Young Leaders Entrepreneurs**

## Spotlight on Intercultural Innovation Award Recipients

### The Safecity Toolkit launched to raise awareness on sexual violence

Two Intercultural Innovation Award alumni organizations, Red Dot Foundation (Safecity) and On Our Radar, have joined forces to develop a digital toolkit to tackle sexual violence with the financial support of UNAOC and the BMW Group. The collaboration brings together Safecity's experience in crowd mapping sexual violence in public spaces and On Our Radar's specialization in communications bringing to light stories from individuals and communities around the world. As a result, the Safecity Toolkit aims to raise awareness on the issue of sexual violence, human rights and the spectrum of abuse in order to encourage women and girls to break silence and report cases of violence through this platform.



The Safecity Toolkit is comprised of three sections; the 'Listen' section includes audio stories from survivors; the 'Learn' section provides relevant statistics, information and international legislations on these issues, and the 'Lead' section encourages action from the individual to report a case. The Safecity Toolkit was launched at the Urban Thinker Campus on Creating a Resilient and Inclusive City in Mumbai, an initiative of UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign.



### Unistream launches their 20th Entrepreneurship Center



Unistream, a recipient of the Intercultural Innovation Award, reached another milestone with the launch of their 20th Entrepreneurship Center in Abu Krinat. It is Unistream's third center located in the Bedouin sector of Israel, one of the most marginalized and poorest areas. The Unistream Entrepreneurship Center provides life-changing opportunities to the community by teaching the youth entrepreneurial and social leadership skills to help change the course of their lives and contribute to society as leaders of social change. The center was opened in partnership with the Head of the Authority of the Development and Settlement of Bedouin in the Negev.

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*UNAOC aims to improve understanding and cooperation among nations and peoples across cultures and to reduce polarization at local and global levels. It helps develop more inclusive societies, in which diversity is experienced as an asset.*

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