



UNAOC
United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

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United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

730 Third Avenue, 20th Floor,

New York, New York 10017

☎ Phone: +1-929-274-6217

📠 Fax: +1-929-274-6233

✉ Email: contactaoc@unops.org

The High Representative receives UNAOC co-sponsors Spain and Turkey at the UNAOC office in New York



Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu and Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, H.E. Mr. José Manuel Albares

On the margins of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the High Representative for UNAOC received delegations of the two co-sponsors of UNAOC, namely the governments of Turkey and Spain led respectively by **Turkish Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu** and **Spanish Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. José Manuel Albares**.

The meeting took place in the office of UNAOC in New York. The trilateral meeting focused on the progress made in implementing the **Action Plan of the High Representative for UNAOC**, covering the 2019-2023 period, as well as the new initiatives and programmes launched during the past fifteen months. Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE), advancing intercultural and interreligious dialogue and mediation in identity-based conflicts featured in the discussions. (22 September)



The Foreign Ministers of Spain and Turkey seized the opportunity to meet with UNAOC staff. The co-sponsors reiterated their continued support for UNAOC and the High Representative's initiatives.



THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE HOLDS A SERIES OF BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS

The High Representative for UNAOC held a series of bilateral meetings to discuss UNAOC avenues of collaboration and future projects and activities, including with the **Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Spain, Turkey, Venezuela, Portugal, Qatar, Malta, Armenia and Serbia**. Mr. Moratinos also met with **H.E. Abdullah Al-Mouallimi, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the UN**; **Mr. Amre Moussa, Former Secretary General of the Arab League and Former Foreign Minister of Egypt**; **Ambassador Nasser Kamel, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean (UFM)**; and **Mr. Rovshan Muradov, Secretary-General of the Nizami Ganjavi International Center**, to discuss the work of UNAOC in promoting intercultural and interreligious dialogue globally. (20-30 September)



H.E. Mr. Félix Plasencia, Minister of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs Venezuela



H.E. Mr. Augusto Santo Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal



H.E. Mr. Nasser Kamel, Secretary General of UFM



H.E. Mr. Soltan bin Saad Al-Muraikhi, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar



H.E. Mr. Hon. Evarist Bartolo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta



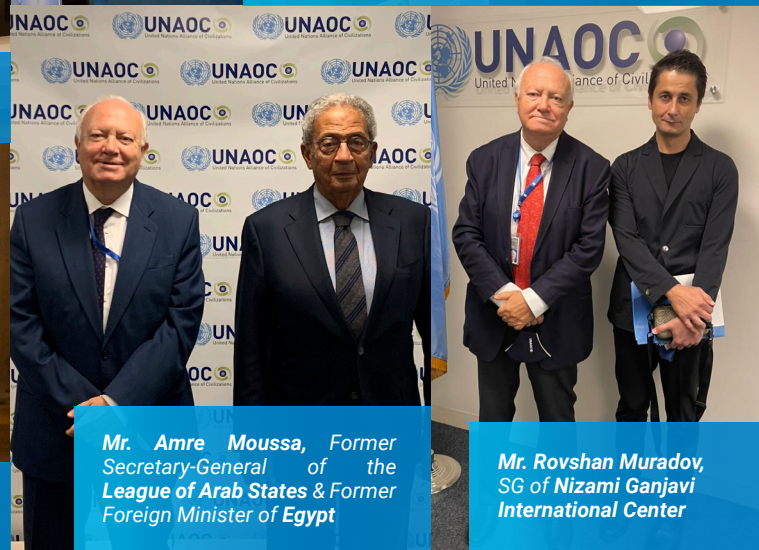
H.E. Abdullah Al-Mouallimi, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



H.E. Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia



H.E. Mr. Nikola Selakovic, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia



Mr. Amre Moussa, Former Secretary-General of the League of Arab States & Former Foreign Minister of Egypt

Mr. Rovshan Muradov, SG of Nizami Ganjavi International Center



His Virtue Sheikh-ul-Islam Allahshukur Pashazadeh, Chairman of the Caucasus Muslims' Board

H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov, Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan, and Dr. Salim M. AlMalik, Director General of ICESCO

H.E. Mr. Khaled Bin Ali Bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs of Bahrain

H.E. Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam, SG of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity, and Mr. Adama Dieng, Fmr UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

The High Representative for UNAOC participated in the opening ceremony of the **G20 Interfaith Forum** in Bologna, Italy, and addressed the **Ministerial Session on Education and Religious Diversity**. On the margins of the forum, Mr. Moratinos met with the **Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan**, H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov, and the **Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO)**, Dr. Salim M. AlMalik, to discuss trilateral cooperation between ICESCO, UNAOC and the Baku Process, notably on the **#Peace4Culture global campaign**, which the partners launched together to promote intercultural dialogue.

Mr. Moratinos also met with **H.V. Allahshukur Pashazade, Chairman of the Religious Council of the Caucasus**, as well as **H.E. Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam, Secretary General of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity**, and **Mr. Adama Dieng, Former UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide**, to discuss joint collaboration for the implementation of the Human Fraternity Document. Prior to leaving Bologna, the High Representative met with **H.E. Mr. Khaled Bin Ali Bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs of Bahrain**, to discuss renewed joint cooperation. (12-14 September)

#WeThe15

“The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations is honoured to join the **global human rights movement #WeThe15**. I hope that our **collective efforts** will contribute to **end discrimination** against persons with disabilities and foster a more **inclusive society** where, despite our differences, we can all **live together peacefully as one humanity**.”

HIGHLIGHTS

UNAOC joined the global human rights movement **#WeThe15**, which aims to end discrimination towards persons with disabilities and act as a global movement publicly campaigning for disability visibility, accessibility, and inclusion. “I hope that our collective efforts will contribute to end discrimination against persons with disabilities and foster a more inclusive society where despite our differences, we can all live together peacefully as One Humanity,” the High Representative for UNAOC said in a statement. (10 September)



UNAOC and Fundación Mujeres Por Africa organized an interactive webinar on **"Women and Mediation in Intercultural and Interreligious Conflicts"** as part of their joint initiative, **Women's Alliance for Peace**, to support the role of women as peace mediators and negotiators in conflicts with a sociocultural and religious dimension. **Women mediators** from **Mali** and the **Central African Republic** participated in the discussion. They explored the socio-cultural challenges in the multidimensional crises in both countries with a focus on the challenges that women mediators face at the local level. (14 September)



The High Representative for UNAOC, H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, delivered remarks in a video message at the **High-Level Forum on the Culture of Peace** entitled **"The Transformative Role of the Culture of Peace: Promoting Resilience and Inclusion in Post-Covid Recovery"**. In his statement, Mr. Moratinos emphasized the importance of taking result-oriented actions towards uprooting all forms of discrimination and eliminating inequalities. "We need to promote diversity and nurture a culture of peace by broadening the space for intercultural and interreligious dialogue. A culture of peace should be nurtured through strengthening mutual respect and protecting the dignity of all members of society," he said. (7 September)



To kick off the 76th session of the UN General Assembly, the High Representative for UNAOC addressed the **High-Level Meeting of the Nizami Ganjavi International Center**. In a session entitled **"What Does Peace and Security Stability Mean in the 21st Century?"**, Mr. Moratinos emphasized the importance of strengthening mutual respect and protecting the dignity of all members of society to nurture a culture of peace. "With crises, a window of opportunities opens up [...] We should reset the button to recommit to work together in solidarity, unity, and compassion as One Humanity", he said. (20 September)



PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS



As part of the **#DigitalGamesForPeace** challenge organized by UNAOC, the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), and the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP), **22 game developers and researchers** in the fields of peacebuilding, prevention of violent extremism, and intercultural dialogue aged 18-35, were shortlisted for the second phase of the programme for a chance to develop innovative ideas on the use of games for peacebuilding (find their profiles here: <https://mgiep.unesco.org/gamesforpve-shortlisted-participants>). The selected participants recently came together for an induction session. (17 September)

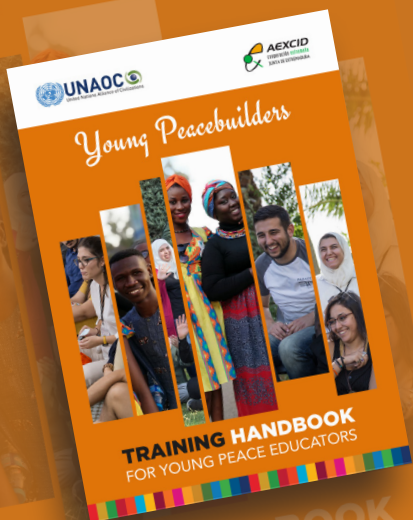


The five recipients of the **Youth Solidarity Fund (YSF)** of UNAOC participated in two workshops conducted by Search for Common Ground focusing on **"Understanding and Communicating Impact"** (7 September) and **"Sustainable Youth Leadership"** (21 September).

They benefited from the personal insights of various experts in the field. In addition, on **International Day of Peace**, UNAOC highlighted the work of YSF recipients on social media in the field of peacebuilding, thus providing visibility to their activities and projects. (21 September)



UNAOC and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) announced the members of the **2021 International Jury** of their joint initiative, the **PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival**: **Mahen Bonetti** (Sierra Leone / USA), Founder and Executive Director of the African Film Festival, Inc.; **Sophie Boutros** (Lebanon), Filmmaker and Executive Director of the Mohammed Bin Rashid School for Communication at the American University in Dubai; **Cindy Carcamo** (USA), Staff Writer (immigration) at the *Los Angeles Times*; **Paul Marvucic** (USA), Head of Product Marketing for Europe, the Middle East and Africa at TikTok; **Harry Roselmack** (France), Director, Journalist and Author; and **Myriam Vidriales** (Mexico), Director of Communication and Marketing for Latin America at Grupo Planeta.



UNAOC is preparing to launch the **Young Peacebuilders "Training Handbook for Young Peace Educators"**, a collection of practical recommendations and hands-on peace education tools used in the four successful editions of UNAOC's Young Peacebuilders programme.

Designed for young civil society leaders worldwide to enhance the competencies of their fellow young peacebuilders, this handbook aims to support the growth of networks of young leaders equipped with the needed skills to build inclusive, cohesive, and peaceful societies.



UNAOC's global Call to Action **#forSafeWorship** to safeguard religious sites and worshippers worldwide is in full swing! This new UNAOC communications campaign engages the global community in taking concrete actions to contribute to implementing the UN Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites, developed by UNAOC. Visit www.forsafeworship.org for a chance to watch inspiring multimedia stories from across the globe, and make sure to submit your own story about your special sacred place!