

## 9th UNAOC Global Forum in Fez, Morocco (22-23 November 2022) “Towards an Alliance of Peace: Living Together as One Humanity”



📷 View photos and videos of the #FezForum by visiting <https://fezforum.unaoc.org>

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) convened its **9th Global Forum**, which was hosted by the Kingdom of Morocco in the historic city of Fez, from 22-23 November 2022 under the theme “Towards an Alliance of Peace: Living Together as One Humanity”.

The international event brought together over **2,000 participants** from **136 countries**, including high-level officials, political leaders, multilateral organizations, civil society representatives, religious leaders, faith-based organizations, youth leaders, media entities, and a wide range of other stakeholders.

The Forum kicked off with a message from **His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco**, followed by the Official Opening Ceremony.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, **H.E. Mr. António Guterres**, addressed the Opening segment. “Together, we can build an alliance of peace that spans the global and the local to meet the tests of our time. If we recognize diversity as richness; if we invest in inclusion; and if we make sure that all of us – regardless of race, descent, origin, background, gender, religion, or any other status – can live lives of dignity and opportunity,” he said.

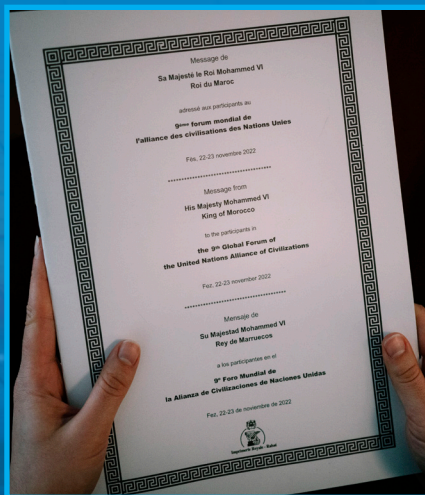
In his concluding remarks at the Closing Ceremony, **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for UNAOC, declared the Global Forum a resounding success.

### In this edition of UNAOC News Flash:

Page 1	9th UNAOC Global Forum
Page 17	High Representative's Official Visit to Iraq
Page 19	International Conferences and Events
Page 21	VII Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions
Page 23	Preparations for the #FezForum
Page 25	High-level Bilateral Meetings During UNGA77
Page 28	#UNGA77 Side Events
Page 29	Sport for One Humanity
Page 29	PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival
Page 30	Programming Highlights







His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, addressed a message to all participants of the 9th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), which was held on November 22 and 23 in the historic city of Fez. The Royal Message was read by **H.E. Mr. André Azoulay**, Special Advisor to His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

The UNAOC Global Forum was preceded by the reading of a Royal Message by **H.E. Mr. André Azoulay**, Special Advisor to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Morocco, and was officially opened by **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.

Addressing high-level officials, political leaders, heads of multilateral organizations, religious leaders and faith-based organizations, civil society representatives, youth, and media entities, Mr. Moratinos said, "...The Alliance of Civilizations can serve as a platform to facilitate understanding, comprehension, and respect for each of our cultures and civilizations. (...) In short, the Alliance of Civilizations must become an Alliance of Civilizations for Peace."

**H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres**, United Nations Secretary-General, also delivered remarks at the Opening Ceremony, along with the two co-sponsors of #UNAOC since its inception – the governments of Türkiye and Spain, represented by **H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, and **H.E. Ms. Pilar Cancela Rodríguez**, Secretary of State for International Cooperation of Spain. (22 November)



*H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos,  
High Representative for UNAOC*



*H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres,  
United Nations Secretary-General*



*H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Minister of Foreign  
Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye*



*H.E. Ms. Pilar Cancela Rodríguez, Secretary  
of State for International Cooperation of Spain*



## Voices of the Wise: Pathways to Peace and Living Together in Mutual Respect



**H.E. Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero,**  
Former President of Spain



**H.E. Ms. Aminata Touré,**  
Former Prime Minister of Senegal



**H.E. Ms. Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga,**  
Former President of Latvia



**His Virtue Sheikh-ul-Islam Allahshukur Pashazade,**  
Chairman of the Caucasus Muslims' Board, Azerbaijan



**H.E. Mr. Amre Moussa,**  
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Former  
Secretary-General of the League of Arab States



**H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa,** President of the 73rd  
Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Former  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ecuador



**H.R.H. Princess Rym Ali,**  
President of Anna Lindh Foundation, Jordan



**H.E. Mr. Mladen Ivanic,**  
Former President of Bosnia and Herzegovina

In a special session entitled “**Voices of the Wise: Pathways to Peace and Living Together in Mutual Respect**”, distinguished speakers, including former heads of states and governments, addressed the 9th UNAOC Global Forum and emphasized the urgent need of building an alliance of peace.

H.E. **Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero**, Former President of Spain and co-founder of #UNAOC, expressed optimism. “Humanity has shown us continuous potential for moral progress,” he said. “I dream of a generation, not in the far distant future, that will completely abandon war and violence in international relations.”

Other distinguished speakers who delivered keynote remarks included **H.E. Ms. Aminata Touré**, Former Prime Minister of Senegal; **H.E. Ms. Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga**, Former President of Latvia; **His Virtue Sheikh-ul-Islam Allahshukur Pashazade**, Chairman of the Caucasus Muslims’ Board, Azerbaijan; **H.E. Mr. Amre Moussa**, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Former Secretary-General of the League of Arab States; **H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa**, President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ecuador; **H.R.H. Princess Rym Ali**, President of Anna Lindh Foundation, Jordan; and **H.E. Mr. Mladen Ivanic**, Former President of Bosnia and Herzegovina. (22 November)

Watch “Voices of the Wise: Pathways to Peace and Living Together in Mutual Respect”:

<https://fezforum.unaoc.org/voices-of-the-wise/>



## High-level Ministerial Meeting of the UNAOC Group of Friends



During the 9th UNAOC Global Forum, a **high-level Ministerial Meeting of the UNAOC Group of Friends** was convened and co-chaired by **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and **H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates.

The United Nations Secretary-General, **H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres**, delivered remarks, followed by the two co-sponsors of UNAOC, Türkiye and Spain, represented by **H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, and **H.E. Mr. José Manuel Albares**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, respectively.

The meeting also featured interventions by Member States and International Organizations (Members of the UNAOC Group of Friends) at the level of Ministers and Deputy Ministers, as well as Heads of International Organizations and Deputy Heads level.

The participants of the High-Level Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends reaffirmed their support to the High Representative and to the Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomed UNAOC initiatives and projects. (22 November)



**H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**,  
Under-Secretary-General and High  
Representative for UNAOC



**H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita**, Minister of  
Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation  
and Moroccan Expatriates



**H.E. Mr. António Guterres**,  
Secretary-General of the United  
Nations



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



**H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu**,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the  
Republic of Türkiye



## High-level Ministerial Meeting of the UNAOC Group of Friends (continued)



**H.E. Mr. Dritan Abazović,**  
Prime Minister of Montenegro and  
interim Minister of Foreign Affairs



**H.E. Mr. Jean Asselbom,** Minister of Foreign  
and European Affairs & Minister of Immigration  
and Asylum, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg



**H.E. Mrs. Aïssata Tall Sall,** Minister of  
Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad



**H.E. Mr. Mamadou Tangara,** Honorable  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, International  
Cooperation and Gambians Abroad



**H.E. Mr. Mohamed Salem Merzoug,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation  
and Mauritians Abroad



**H.E. Mr. António Vitorino,**  
Director General of the International  
Organization for Migration (IOM)



**H.E. Mr. Riad Al-Malki,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and  
Expatriates of the State of Palestine



**H.E. Mrs. Najla Elmangoush,** Minister  
for Foreign Affairs and International  
Cooperation of the State of Libya



**H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye Diop,** Minister  
of Foreign Affairs and International  
Cooperation of the Republic of Mali



**H.E. Dr. Salem Bin Muhammad Al-Malik,**  
Director General of ICESCO



**H.E. Dr. Ahmed Awad Ahmed Binmubarak,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Yemen



**H.E. Mr. Abdallah Bouhabib,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and  
Emigrants of the Lebanese Republic



**H.E. Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar,**  
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs  
of Pakistan



**H.E. Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç,**  
Director General of IRCICA



**H.E. Mr. Simeón Oyono Esono Angue,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation  
of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea



**H.E. Mrs. Olivia Ragnaghnwendé  
Rouamba,** Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
Regional Cooperation and Burkinaabe  
Abroad of the Republic of Burkina Faso



**H.E. Mr. Rui Alberto De Figueiredo Soares,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Communities  
and Defense of the Republic of Cabo Verde



**H.E. Dr. Ahmed Fakak Al-Badrani,**  
Minister of Culture, Tourism and  
Antiquities of the Republic of Iraq



**H.E. Ms. Noura Al Kaabi,**  
Minister of Culture and Youth  
of the United Arab Emirates



**H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov,** Minister of  
Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan



## High-level Ministerial Meeting of the UNAOC Group of Friends (continued)





## #FezForum Plenary (Interactive Thematic Debate): "Role of Religious Leaders in Promoting Peace, Coexistence and Social Harmony"

Prominent religious leaders, representatives of faith-based organizations, as well as politicians and UN officials stressed the role of religious leaders in fostering social cohesion at a high-level Plenary Session of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum in Fez, Morocco.

Entitled "(The) Role of Religious Leaders in promoting peace, coexistence and social harmony", the interactive thematic debate highlighted the mobilizing capacity of religious leaders and the responsibility they bear vis-a-vis the trust of the communities they serve.

Ms. **Asma Lamrabet**, Euro-Arab Chair of Gender Studies, summed up the discussion as such: "Today, in our individualist world, paradoxically, there is an emergence of the loss of spirituality. But the values of respect, peace and compassion are all parts of our traditional faiths."



Prominent religious leaders and representatives of faith-based organizations added their voices to the discussion, including: **H.E. Judge Mohamed AbdelSalam**, Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Elders; **Dr. Ahmed Abbadi**, Secretary General of Rabita Mohammadia of the Ulemas of the Kingdom of Morocco; **H.E. Mr. Faisal Bin Muammar**, Former Secretary-General of KAICIID; **Prof. Rabbi Richard Marker**, Former Chair of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations and the Elijah Board of World Religious Leaders; **Mr. Bulat Sarsenbayev**, Chairman of the Nazarbayev Center of Kazakhstan; **Ms. Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati**, Secretary-General of the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance; **H.E. Mr. Serge Berdugo**, President of Jewish Communities of Morocco and Ambassador at Large of His Majesty King Mohammed VI; **Rabbi Pauline Bebe**, Jewish Reform Community of Paris, Founder of EMOUNA Interreligious program at Sciences Po Paris; and **Ms. Asma Lamrabet**, Euro-Arab Chair of Gender Studies. **Mr. Adama Dieng**, Former UN Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, Expert on Human Rights in Sudan, moderated the discussion. (23 November)





## #FezForum Plenary (Interactive Thematic Debate): "Deep Dive: Efforts in Preventing and Combating Violent Extremism (PCVE) against the Backdrop of New and Emerging Threats"

During a high-level Plenary Session of the 9th Global Forum in Fez, Morocco, political leaders and UN officials underscored the importance of a collective approach to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism, which pose a persistent and evolving threat to international peace and security.

Against a backdrop of new and emerging threats, it's clear that these challenges cannot be faced through a single solution or approach. Identifying effective actions requires a collective effort by the international community.

It is within this context that UNAOC organized a plenary session entitled, "**Deep Dive: Efforts in Preventing and Combating Violent Extremism (#PCVE) against the backdrop of new and emerging threats**".

Distinguished panelists included: **Mr. Farid Asri**, Director of the Centre for Anthropological and Social Studies at the International University of Rabat; **H.E. Mr. Tzipi Livni**, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel; **H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir**, President of the 75th Session of the UN General Assembly and Former Minister of European Affairs of Türkiye; **H.E. Mr. Boris Tadic**, Former President of Serbia; **H.E. Ms. Eka Tkeshelashvili**, Deputy Prime Minister of Georgia; **Mr. Christian Karembu**, Renowned Professional Football Player of Real Madrid fame; **Mr. Mohamed El Sanoussi**, Executive Director of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers; and **H.E. Ambassador Mr. Manuel Montobbio**, Chair of the Rapporteur Group on External Relations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The session was moderated by **Mr. David Chikvaidze**, Chief-of-Cabinet, Office of Director-General of United Nations at Geneva. (23 November)





# UNAOC Youth Event: “An Intergenerational Dialogue: The Future They Want”



**Mr. Victor Ochen**, Founder and Executive Director of AYINET was the Master of Ceremonies of the event

Within the framework of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum in Fez, Morocco, UNAOC organized a Youth Event comprised of a series of preparatory activities facilitated by key experts, and culminating in an **Intergenerational Dialogue** entitled “**The future they want**”, at the Euromed University of Fez.

Featuring **more than 250 young leaders from over 90 countries** who are alumni and/or current beneficiaries of UNAOC projects and initiatives, as well as local Moroccan youth, the Youth Event provided a platform for #UNAOCyouth to engage with high-level decision-makers.

During the Intergenerational Dialogue, UNAOC programme alumni engaged with senior officials and global decision-makers, and presented their perspectives on three thematic discussions, including: “Combating discrimination and intolerance based on religion or belief anchored in human rights”, “Creating Safe Spaces: Countering and addressing hate speech on social media”, and “Investing in youth: Building peace through sport”.



**Prof. Mustapha Bousmina**, President of the Euromed University of Fez, welcomed the international youth participants to his university.

The high-level guest speakers included **H.E. Mr. Miguel Moratinos**, the High Representative of the UNAOC; **Mr. Adama Dieng**, former UN Special Advisor on Genocide Prevention; **Mr. Gilles Poux**, Mayor of La Courneuve; **Mr. Viacheslav Fetisov**, Legendary Ice Hockey Champion; and **Mr. Christian Karembeu**, World Renowned Professional Football Player of Real Madrid fame.

Meanwhile, youth representatives included **Mr. Mike Gabriel** (Sri Lanka, Intercultural Innovation Hub alumnus); **Ms. Radwa Sakr** (Egypt, UNAOC Fellow); **Mr. Joao Maciel** (Brazil, PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival recipient); **Ms. Thaly Muriel Eman** (Italy, EDIN participant); **Ms. Hiba Boujnah** (Tunisia, UNAOC Fellow); **Mr. Mounir Amani** (France, News Generation Against Hate participant); **Ms. Kamilia Bantla** (Morocco, EuroMed student); **Ms. Vera Al-Mawla** (Lebanon, UN Global Sports Programme participant); **Ms. Ivana Pranjić** (Croatia, UN Global Sports Programme participant); and **Mr. Soufiane Zarraa** (Tunisia, UN Global Sports Programme participant). (23 November)



**PANEL 1 | Combating Discrimination and Intolerance Based on Religion and Belief Anchored in Human Rights**



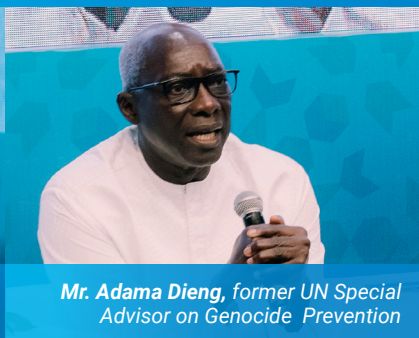
**PANEL 2 | Creating Safe Spaces: Countering and Addressing Online Hate Speech on Social Media**



**PANEL 3 | Investing in Youth: Building Peace through Sport**



**USG Mr. Moratinos**, High Representative for UNAOC



**Mr. Adama Dieng**, former UN Special Advisor on Genocide Prevention



**Mr. Gilles Poux**, Mayor of La Courneuve



**Mr. Viacheslav Fetisov**, Legendary Ice Hockey Champion



**Mr. Christian Karembeu**, World Renowned Professional Football Player





## Youth Preparatory Sessions at the Euromed University of Fez

As a prelude to the 9th Global Forum, UNAOC hosted a one-day preparatory event on Monday, 21 November 2022, for youth participants to facilitate learning, sharing and partnership-building with international stakeholders.

Hosted by the **Euromed University of Fez** and facilitated by key experts from various fields, the full day of activities were designed to maximize the young leaders' experience and contributions to the main Forum. The young leaders participated in a series of breakout sessions that mirrored the overarching theme "Towards an Alliance of Peace: Living Together as One Humanity" and the sub-themes.

The gathering brought to light youth perspectives and insights on issues related to promoting citizenship education and sport for development, combating religious discrimination and hate speech online, and changing narratives about migration and role of women peacebuilders, among others. (21 November)





## #FezForum Breakout Sessions

UNAOC organized a total of eight Breakout Sessions over the two days of its 9th Global Forum in Fez, Morocco. The parallel sessions were interactive discussions on timely topics such as migration narratives, combating discrimination and intolerance, the role of women in mediation, sport as a vector for peace, and a range of other issues relevant to the UNAOC mandate. (22-23 November)

### Breakout Session 1: "UNAOC-IOM PLURAL+: Balancing Migration Narratives Through Programming"



**Speakers:** Ms. Viviane Ogou Corbi, Founder of Puerta de Africa; Mr. Ado Hasanović, Film Director; Mr. Stefano Castro, El Parque Collective; Mr. Walid Alnabahin, Human Rights Activist & Founder of MediaShow Initiative; Mr. Alessandro Girola, UNAOC Programming Coordinator (*Moderator*)

### Breakout Session 2: "An Africa with a Strong Cultural Identity, Common Heritage, Shared Values and Ethics"



**Speakers:** H.E. Amb. Maged Abdelaziz, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the UN; Mr. Adama Dieng, Former UN Special Advisor on Prevention of Genocide; Mr. Mohamed El Sanoussi, Executive Director of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers; Ms. Magdalen Amomy, Country Director of Grassroots Reconciliation Group; Ms. Rita Ezenwa-Okoro, Founder of Street Project Foundation; Prof. Mostapha Bousmina, President of the EUROMED University (*Moderator*)

### Breakout Session 3: "Forging a New Social Contract: Combating Discrimination and Intolerance Based on Religion or Belief Anchored in Human Rights"



**Speakers:** H.E. Mr. Petar Stoyanov, Former President of Bulgaria; H.E. Amb. Ismail Hakki Musa, Personal Representative of OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Intolerance & Discrimination against Muslims; Ms. Mona Makram Ebeid, Former Parliamentarian, Egypt; Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative of OSCE on Combating Antisemitism; Prof. David Feldman, Director, Birkbeck Institute for the Study of Antisemitism, University of London; His Grace Cardinal Cristobal Lopez Romero, Archbishop of Rabat; H.E. Mr. Abdelaziz Al Twaijiri, Former Secretary-General of ICESCO; Mr. Daniel Holtgen, Director of Communications and Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General, Council of Europe; Ms. Tracey Petersen, Manager, The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme Education Outreach Section; Mr. Jamil Kabbara, Writer, Board Member of the Foundation Ousseimi (*Moderator*)

### Breakout Session 4: "Mediation in Cultural and Religious Conflicts: Women the Forgotten Peace-Makers"



**Speakers:** H.E. Ms. María Teresa Fernández de la Vega, President, Mujeres por África; H. E. Ms. Oumou Sall Seck, Ambassador of Mali to Germany; H.E. Ms. Farida Jaidi, Member of the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network; H.E. Ms. Bintou Founé Samaké, Former Minister, President of Women in Law & Development in Africa; H.E. Ms. Félicité Ko Ngana, President of the Network of Women Parliamentarians and Ministers of Central African Republic; Ms. Chantal Solange Touabéna, Coordinator, Network of African Woman Leaders; Ms. Caddy Adzuba, President of the Congolese Association of Women in the Media (*Moderator*)



## Breakout Session 5: "Global Citizenship Education: Shaping Global Citizens through Transformative Education"



**Speakers:** H.E. Mr. Jan Fischer, Former Czechia Prime Minister; H.E. Amb. Yehuda Lancry, Former Ambassador of Israel to France; Dr. Nandini Chatterjee, Senior National Programme Officer, UNESCO-MGIEP; H.E. Mr. Egemen Bağış, Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye, Czechia, Former Minister for EU Affairs of Türkiye; Ms. Ramata Almamy Mbaye, Director of the Human and Social Sciences Sector, ICESCO; Ms. Radia Bakkouch, Head of Research and Documentation, Coexist France; Dr. Fadi Daou, Executive Director, Globethics Geneva; Mr. Victor Ochen, Founder and Executive Director, African Youth Initiative Network (Moderator)

## Breakout Session 6: "Sport as a Vector for Peace and Inclusiveness"



**Speakers:** Ms. Irene Lozano Domingo, General Director, Casa Árabe; Mr. Joan Cusco, President, Beach Soccer Worldwide; Ms. Laura Georges, Secretary General, French Football Federation; Ms. Georgia Dimitropoulou, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, UNODC; Mr. Martin Kainz, Author of "PVE Through Major Sporting Events: A Handbook for Organizers"; Mr. John Youhanes, Executive Director of Nile Youth Development Actions; Mr. Valerio de Divitiis, Programme Coordinator, UNOCT (Moderator)

## Breakout Session 7: "Reinvigorated Multilateralism through Culture of Peace: A Case Study on Peace4Culture"



**Speakers:** H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov, Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan; H.E. Mr. Valdis Zatlers, Former President of Latvia; H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative, UNAOC; H.E. Dr. Salim M. AlMalik, Director General, ICESCO; Mr. Thomas Legrand, Author

## Breakout Session 8: "Countering and Addressing Online Hate Speech on Social Media"



**Speakers:** Mr. Faouzi Skalli, President of the Fez Festival of Sufi Culture; Ms. Mita Hosali, Deputy Director of UN DGC; Ms. Latifa Akharbach, President of the High Authority of Audiovisual Communication; Mr. Ezzat Ibrahim, Editor-in-Chief of Al-Ahram Weekly; Dr. Ahmed Abbadi, Secretary General of Rabita Mohammadia of the Ulemas of the Kingdom of Morocco (Moderator)



## #FezForum Side Events

On the sidelines of the 9th Global Forum, UNAOC organized three side events, namely: an interactive discussion on culture entitled "Culture, a sine qua non for peace: Museums as Places of Wonder, Discovery, Openness to Others and Dialogue Between Cultures"; a panel on religious slaughter entitled "The Halal and Kosher Trade: Bringing Civilizations Closer Together to Generate Prosperity"; and finally, a ceremony to officially announce the recipients of the 'Sport for One Humanity' initiative of Turkish Airlines supported by UNAOC. (21-23 November)

### Side Event: 'Sport for One Humanity' Launch



**Speakers:** Mr. Christian Karembeu, Renowned Professional Football Player and International Sports Personality; Ms. Laura Georges, President of the French Football Federation; Ms. Ramata Almamy Mbaye, Director of the Human and Social Sciences Sector of ICESCO; Ms. Rowena Samarasinha, Managing Director of GENSport; Mr. Victor Ochen, Founder and Executive Director of the African Youth Initiative Network (Moderator)

### Side Event: "Culture: a sine qua non for peace: Museums as Places of Wonder, Discovery, Openness to Others and Dialogue Between Cultures"



**Speakers:** Mr. Mohammed Mehdi Qotbi, President, National Foundation of Museum of Morocco; H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov, Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan; Mr. Juan March, President, ONUART; Sir Nasser David Khalili, Founder & Chairman of the Board, Khalili Foundation; H.E. Dr. Salim M. AlMalik, Director General, ICESCO; Dr. Ahmed Abbadi, Secretary General of Rabita Mohammadia of the Ulemas of the Kingdom of Morocco; Ms. Antonella Caruso (Moderator)

### Side Event: "The Halal and Kosher Trade: Bringing Civilizations Closer Together to Generate Prosperity"



**Speakers:** Mrs. Isabel Romero, President of the Islamic Board of Spain and Las Fuentes Foundation; H.E. Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative of OSCE on Combating Antisemitism; Rabbi Moshe Sebbag, Chief Rabbi of the Great Synagogue of La Victoire, France; Dr. Charles Tenenbaum, Mediation & Conflict resolution, UNAOC (Moderator)



# Inside the 9th UNAOC Global Forum

*Glimpses of the people, moments, and scenes that made the #FezForum memorable.*





## Inside the 9th UNAOC Global Forum











### UNAOC High Representative Addresses the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Forum of Ancient Civilizations in Baghdad, Iraq

In his first visit to Iraq, H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, the High Representative for UNAOC, addressed the **Sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Forum of Ancient Civilizations in Baghdad, Iraq**.

In his remarks, Mr. Moratinos emphasized the importance of dialogue and cultural cooperation, stating that the high-level meeting complements the work of UNAOC as a global platform for intercultural and interreligious dialogue. "Cultural heritage sites and religious sites in Iraq and elsewhere reflects the people's identity and cements their sense of belonging. The people of Iraq have always stood out as the embodiment of resilience. They are a living experience of hope amid the darkest moments in Iraq's history," he said.

The **Forum of Ancient Civilizations**, a Greek initiative that was first held on April 24, 2017 in Athens, is an exchange of dialogues and cultures between Member States at the governmental level to amplify the importance of civilized and cultural communication for the economic and social development of the participating countries. The sixth iteration was hosted by the government of Iraq and chaired by Iraqi Minister of Foreign Affairs **H.E. Mr. Fuad Hussein**. (4 December 2022)



### The High Representative Meets with His Eminence Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani in Najaf, Iraq

The High Representative had an audience with **His Eminence Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani** on 6 December 2022 in Najaf, Iraq. He was accompanied by **Ms. Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert**, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq.

During their meeting, Mr. Moratinos lauded His Eminence's moderate approach and consistent appeals for mutual respect and unity to prevail in support of diversity and peaceful co-existence. The High Representative and His Eminence exchanged views on the importance of inter- and intra-religious dialogue, which lie at the core of the UNAOC mandate.



Photo: Courtesy of the office of His Eminence Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani

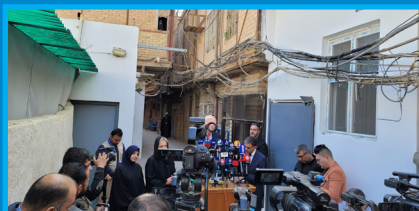




During his official visit to Iraq, the High Representative met with **H.E. Dr. Fuad Hussein, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq**. They exchanged views on means of collaboration. Mr. Moratinos expressed his readiness to support Iraq in any way he can.



While in Baghdad, Mr. Miguel Moratinos and his Chief of Cabinet, Ms. Nihal Saad, visited the United Nations Compound, and made a courtesy visit to **Mr. Ghulam Mohammad Isaccai, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)**.



Following his audience with His Eminence Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani (see previous page), Mr. Moratinos spoke to the **media in Najaf** and expressed that he was extremely impressed by His Eminence's wisdom and compassion, and in particular his appeal for non-violence and mutual respect.

While in Iraq, the High Representative met with numerous **faith communities** and **faith leaders**. They exchanged views on strengthening interfaith and intrafaith dialogue, social cohesion, and the protection of religious sites.



The High Representative with **His Beatitude Patriarch Cardinal Louis Raphaël Sako, Chaldean Patriarchate**



The High Representative with the **Sunni Endowment (Waqf) of Iraq**



The High Representative with the **Iraqi Jurisprudence Complex**





H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative for UNAOC, delivered a keynote address at the opening session of the **Bahrain Dialogue Forum**, organized by the Muslim of Elders in Manama, Bahrain, under the theme "East & West for Human Co-existence".

"Strengthening interfaith dialogue against bigotry and hate should guide our collective actions. From the local community to cyberspace, the voices of inclusiveness, empathy, and respect of 'the other' must be heard," he stated in his remarks.

On the margins of the forum, His Eminence the Grand Imam of Al Azhar, **Sheikh Ahmed El-Tayeb**, received the new members of the Judging Committee of the Zayed Award for Human Fraternity. The Grand Imam and Mr. Moratinos exchanged views on how to move from words to action on the Document of Human Fraternity. (3-4 November)

At the invitation of the **Irish Presidency of the Committee of Ministers at the Council of Europe**, the High-Representative for UNAOC, H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, addressed an Informal Meeting of Ministers' Deputies entitled "**Strategies to Promote Tolerance & Combat Hate**" in Strasbourg, where he made a presentation on the role of UNAOC against the backdrop of the current global context. "We need to invest in social cohesion, so that diversity is rightly seen as a richness, not a threat. At the same time, we need to ensure that every community feels that their identity – their culture – is being respected," he stated.

On the margins of the meeting, the High Representative met with H.E. Ms. **Marija Pejčinović Burić**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, where they signed a Memorandum of Understanding. This cooperation, which will allow the two organizations to exchange information and expertise, should contribute to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. (18 October)





The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) Geneva Office and Fundación Onuart co-organized a two-day global dialogue on the interplay between human intelligence and artificial intelligence, entitled “**Global Dialogue: Towards the World of #OneHumanity**”.

“Complexity and uncertainty are the two main concepts of the 21st century. Artificial Intelligence can help us prepare ourselves to respond to new situations that are already manifest in our societies,” the High Representative for UNAOC, **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, stated in his opening remarks.

Attended by eminent speakers who set the scene for discussions on human and artificial intelligence paving the way for a better world, the event trained the spotlight on the use of artificial intelligence and innovation in the private sector, emphasizing the need for stronger public-private partnerships to facilitate sustainable progress.

“We must strive to make the digital revolution inclusive if we want it to be humanistic, recognizing the right to access and shape these technologies for everyone across the globe,” Mr. Moratinos stated in his closing remarks. (10-11 October)

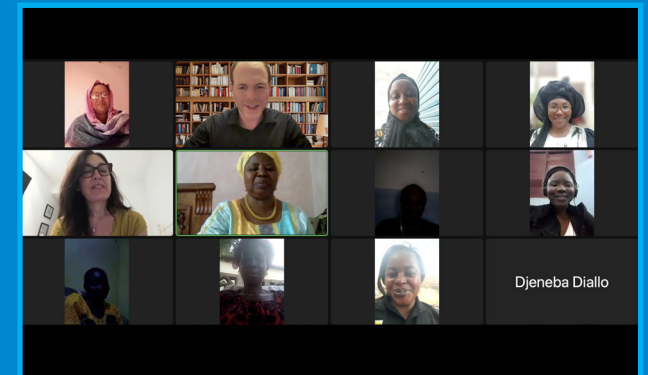


**Mr. Moratinos** addressed the Cervantes Institute in New York in an event honoring the Spanish poet **Pilar de Valderrama** and her contribution to Spanish literature. Lauding Spanish poet Pilar de Valderrama's legacy, USG Moratinos highlighted her role in "leading the way for more women to take their rightful place in the literary and cultural world."

"We cannot forget the significance and the drive that it meant at that time to be at the forefront of the uplifting of women and their role in society," he said. (7 November)



The High Representative for UNAOC, **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, participated in a meeting on **Freedom of religion with regards to religious slaughter** organized by the European Commission in partnership with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), the Organization for Security and Co-operation (OSCE), and the Council of Europe



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. (26 October)

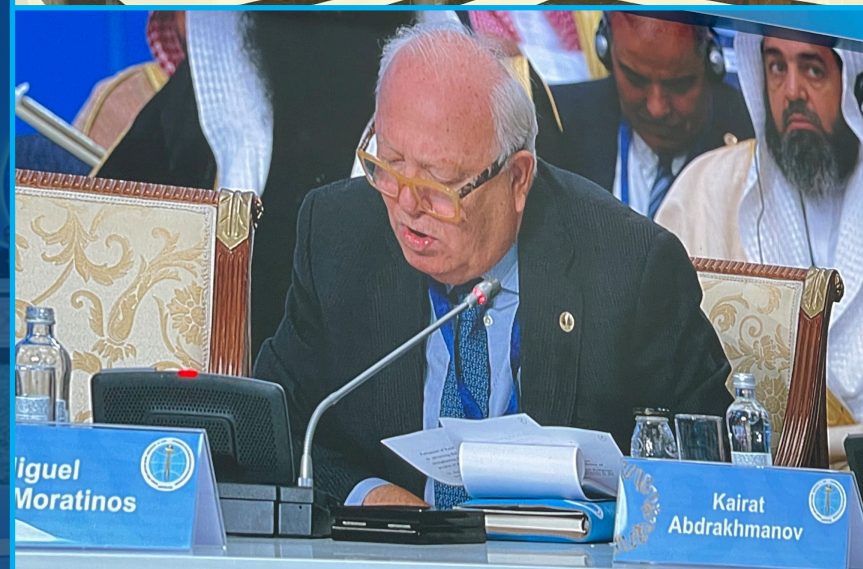


# The High Representative Participates in the VII Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in Kazakhstan

The High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, and his Chief of Cabinet and Senior Advisor on Policy, **Ms. Nihal Saad**, attended the **VII Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions** in Astana (formerly Nur-Sultan), Kazakhstan.

USG Moratinos addressed the event as a keynote speaker, in which he stressed the role of religious leaders in instilling humanistic values in their communities. "We must understand that religious diversity is a strength, not a weakness. It is part of cultural identity, part of uniqueness," he stated.

Ms. Saad spoke at the **XX Session of the Secretariat of the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions** chaired by **Mr. Maulen Ashimbayev**, Chairperson of the Senate of Kazakhstan Parliament, and shared the round table with eminent religious leaders. (13-15 September)



During his official visit, Mr. Moratinos was received by the President of Kazakhstan, **H.E. Mr. Qasym-Jomart Toqayev**. They discussed the importance of the Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in contributing to peace, harmony and interreligious dialogue.

President Toqayev awarded the High Representative with the **Astana International Award for Interfaith Dialogue** and the **Medal of Honour of the Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions**.





On the margins of the event, the High Representative met with **His Eminence the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Dr. Ahmed El Tayeb**, where they held substantive discussions on the action points for implementation of the Document of Human Fraternity.



Mr. Moratinos also had an audience with **His Holiness Pope Francis** for the second time.



Mr. Moratinos also met with the Minister of Information and Social Development, **H.E. Mr. Darkhan Kydyrali**. Discussions touched on their common goals and areas of collaboration.



While in Kazakhstan, the High Representative held a side talk with **His Eminence Patriarch Theophilos III**, Patriarch of the Orthodox Church of Jerusalem. They exchanged views on the situation of the places of worship in the Holy Land.



Mr. Moratinos also met with **His Virtue Allahshukur Pashazadeh**, Chairman of the Religious Council of the Caucasus Muslims' Board.



Before leaving Kazakhstan, Mr. Moratinos talked to media outlets such as Euro News on the margins of the VII Congress of World and Traditional Religions.

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND CONFERENCES (continued)



**H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos** and **Dr. Salim Al-Malik**, Director-General of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), met on the sidelines of the seventh session of the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions. The two sides explored ways to enhance cooperation between ICESCO and UNAOC in the field of peacebuilding and the consolidation of the values of coexistence and civilized dialogue. (15 September, Kazakhstan)



thematic guides to **Protect Vulnerable Targets against Terrorist Attacks**, hosted by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT). In her remarks, Ms. Saad highlighted the module on the protection of religious sites, citing an inclusive approach to safeguarding religious sites and prolific tools, case studies and best practices. "The specialized module on the protection of religious sites represents an innovative tool to raise awareness and offer concrete ideas about what is at the core of the UN Plan of Action: how to better Prevent, Prepare and Respond to attacks on religious sites," she said. (6 September)

**Ms. Nihal Saad**, Chief of Cabinet and Senior Advisor on Policy for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), spoke on behalf of Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos, High Representative for UNAOC, at the launch of the



The High Representative for UNAOC, **H.E. Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos**, met with the Secretary-General of the Nizami Ganjavi International Center, **Mr. Rovshan Muradov**, to discuss the XXIV High Level Meeting and UNAOC's upcoming Global Forum. The two organizations also signed a Memorandum of Understanding in order to foster the collaboration further. (9 and 22 September)





H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and Moroccan Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita, jointly announced that the Kingdom of Morocco will host the 9th UNAOC Global Forum in the historic city of Fez. The announcement was made in a press stakeout following their bilateral meeting at the Permanent Mission of Morocco in New York.

The UNAOC High Representative presented his deep appreciation and warm thanks to His Majesty King Mohammed VI for having kindly accepted hosting this important international event. He added that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. António Guterres will participate in the forum. Expressing his gratitude for the leadership and support of "His Majesty King Mohammed VI and the Kingdom of Morocco" to host this global event, the High Representative of UNAOC added that: "the city of Fez was chosen in view of its ancestral character and its spiritual symbolism." (22 September)



Click [here](#) to read the Press Release in other languages



In anticipation of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum, the UNAOC delegation met with counterparts at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco to discuss the different aspects of the forum. The High Representative was received by H.E Mr. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco, and Mr. Essaïd Zniber, the Wali (Governor) of the city of Fez, , to prepare accordingly. (4-8 October)



The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) held an Informal Briefing on the 9th UNAOC Global Forum. During the meeting, H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative for UNAOC, and H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations, presented the Fez Forum program and logistical details to members of the UNAOC Group of Friends. (31 October)





*H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos with H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye; and H.E. Mr. José Manuel Albares, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain*

On the margins of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly, a trilateral meeting was held between the High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos** and the two co-sponsors of UNAOC, namely the governments of the Republic of Türkiye 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 at the Turkish House, the headquarters of Turkish diplomatic mission in New York. Both ministers reiterated their governments' political and financial support to UNAOC. On his part, the High Representative expressed his appreciation for the continued commitment of Türkiye and Spain. (20 September)





## The High Representative Holds Series of Bilateral Meetings during UNGA77

On the margins of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the High Representative for UNAOC, **H.E. Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos**, held a series of bilateral meetings to discuss UNAOC's areas of collaboration for future projects and activities, including the prevention of violent extremism, intercultural and interreligious dialogue, women as peace mediators and the safeguard of religious sites. He met with world leaders and ministers representing 33 countries and heads of international organizations.

Mr. Moratinos and **H.E. Ambassador Dr. Abdulaziz Alwasil**, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, had a productive meeting in which the Permanent Representative reiterated his government's commitment and support to the work of UNAOC. Mr. Moratinos thanked the Ambassador for the political support and the generous financial contribution of **\$1 million** of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to UNAOC, which will strengthen its initiatives in the five interrelated priority areas for action: Education, Youth, Women, Migration, and Media. (16 September)



Mr. Moratinos with H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Alwasil, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the UN



H.E. Ms. Olivia Ragnaghnewendé Rouamba,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso



H.E. Ms. Aïssata Tall Sall,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal



H.E. Mr. Abdallah Bouhabib,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lebanon



H.E. Mr. Nasser Kamel,  
Secretary-General of Union for the Mediterranean

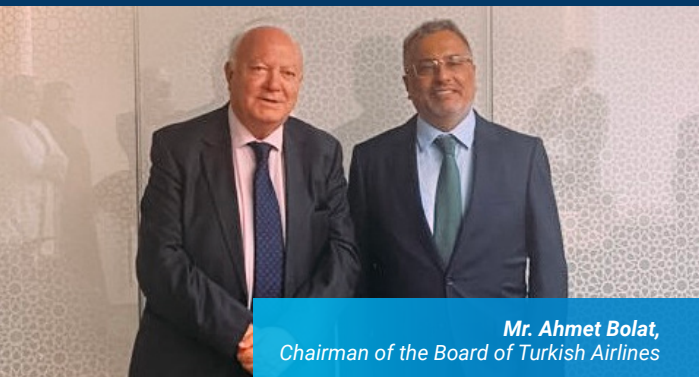


H.E. Mr. Hissein Brahim Taha,  
Secretary-General of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation



H.E. Mr. Ioannis Kasoulides,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus





**Mr. Ahmet Bolat,**  
Chairman of the Board of Turkish Airlines



**H.E. Mr. Xavier Espot Zamora,**  
Prime Minister and Head of Government of Andorra



**H.E. Mr. Jean Asselborn,**  
Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg



**H.E. Mr. Ahmed Aboul Gheit,**  
Secretary-General of the League of Arab States



**H.E. Mr. Martin Chungong,**  
Secretary-General of the Inter-parliamentary Union



**H.E. Mr. Riad Al-Malik,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine



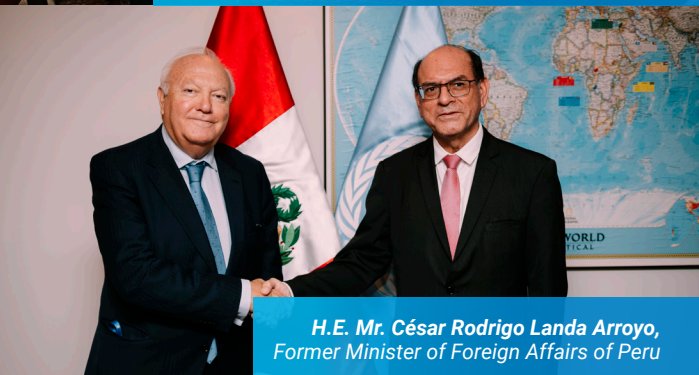
**H.E. Mr. Nikola Selaković,** Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Republic of Serbia



**H.E. Mr. Roberto Álvarez Gil,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Dominican Republic



**H.E. Mr. Pedro Sánchez Pérez-Castejón,**  
President of the Government of Spain



**H.E. Mr. César Rodrigo Landa Arroyo,**  
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru



**H.E. Mr. Jeyhun Aziz Oglu Bayramov,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan



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





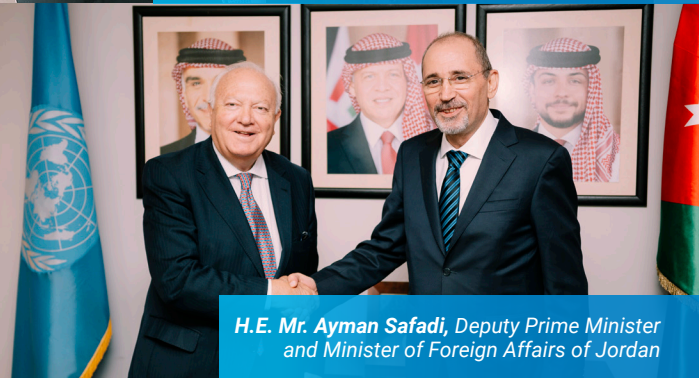
**H.E. Mr. Faisal Mekdad**, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic



**H.E. Mr. Vladimir Norov**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan



**H.E. Mr. Sergey Vershinin**, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation



**H.E. Mr. Ayman Safadi**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Jordan



**H.E. Mr. Carlos Faría Tortosa**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela



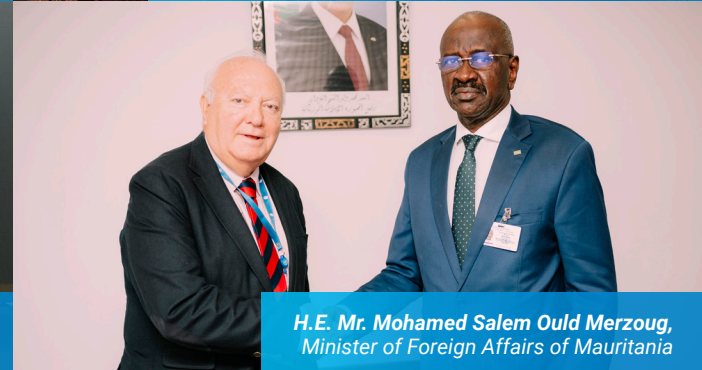
**H.E. Mr. João Gomes Cravinho**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Portuguese Republic



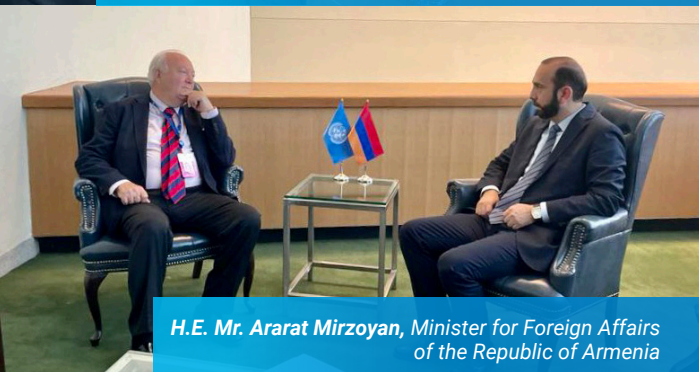
**H.E. Mr. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



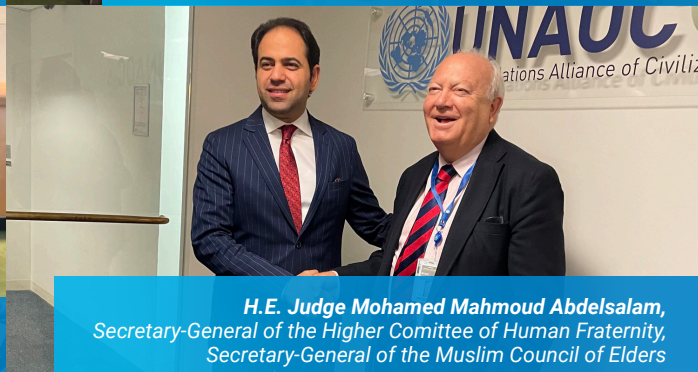
**H.E. Mr. Fuad Hussein**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq



**H.E. Mr. Mohamed Salem Ould Merzoug**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mauritania



**H.E. Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia



**H.E. Judge Mohamed Mahmoud Abdelsalam**, Secretary-General of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity, Secretary-General of the Muslim Council of Elders



**H.E. Mr. Bruno Eduardo Rodríguez Parrilla**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cuba



The High Representative for UNAOC, Mr. Miguel Moratinos, spoke at the **Nizami's Ganjavi International Center's XXIV High-Level Meeting on "Challenges and Multi-Stakeholder Responses to Peace, Security & Climate Change"** at the Harvard Club in New York. The event brought together political leaders from different regions of the world, scientists, academics and high-level officials from the United Nations. The meeting's objective was to contribute to the analysis and global debate about the most pressing crises of our time. "Without peace, there will be no security, and we risk progress made towards the 2030 Agenda," Mr. Moratinos stated. (21 September)



Mr. Moratinos attended the launch of the **"Pathways to Respect"** educational initiative by the US State Department's Office of International Religious Freedom. Convened on the margins of the 77th session of the UNGA, the event was chaired by the U.S. Ambassador At Large for Advancing Religious Freedom, **Mr. Rashad Hussain**, and touched on building education-related policy initiatives to promote religious freedom and help protect vulnerable communities. "As members of the human family, we must nurture mutual understanding through dialogue to achieve mutual respect. We all have a responsibility to look out for each other, respect differences and promote living together in peace," Mr. Moratinos stated in his remarks. The event was also attended by prestigious speakers **Ambassador Deborah Lipstadt**, Special Envoy for Combatting Antisemitism and **Ms. Desirée Cormier Smith**, Special Representative for Racial Equity and Justice. (21 September)



The High Representative attended an evening honoring **H.E. José Manuel Albares**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain. The gathering was organized by the World Jewish Congress and served as an opportunity to discuss the joint commitment to strengthen the fight against antisemitism. (22 September)



The High Representative delivered a keynote address at the **Organization of Islamic Cooperation's Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers** at the United Nations Headquarters. "I remain committed to working with you to stem out Muslim bigotry and discrimination based on religion or belief. UNAOC offers you its global platform to achieve that goal," he stated in his remarks. "It is not religion that causes violence. It is individuals who choose to espouse violence, wrongfully and cynically invoking faith when perpetrating their vile acts," he added. (22 September)



Mr. Moratinos participated in an event on **"Peace, Event and Dialogue"** organized by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). In his remarks, Mr. Moratinos underscored the importance and relevance of UNAOC's Young Peacebuilders (YPB) programme. "YPB creates a safe space to support young people in gaining knowledge and skills in order to enhance their positive role in issues of peace, security and the prevention of violent extremism," he stated. (26 September)



## UNAOC and Turkish Airlines Announced the 10 Recipients of the Sport for One Humanity initiative at a Ceremony in Fez, Morocco



Ten grassroots sports-based projects have been selected as the recipients of the 'Sport for One Humanity' initiative established by Turkish Airlines and supported by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC). The announcement was made during a ceremony on the sidelines of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum held in Fez, Kingdom of Morocco. Launched in March 2022, the initiative received strong interest from civil society organizations working in the field of sport and development, with nearly **600 applications** from **83 countries**. The recipients will benefit from a comprehensive capacity building program to strengthen the effectiveness of their organizations based on their individual capacity and needs.

The recipients of the Sport for One Humanity initiative are (in alphabetical order):

- **Angaza Sports and Development Centre** - Play for Peace (Kenya)
- **College of Youth Activism and Development** - Balochistan Indigenous Games Restoration and Standardization Project (Pakistan)
- **Dream a Dream** - After School Life Skills Programme through Football (India)
- **Education for Sharing** - Sports for Sharing (Mexico)
- **Golden Boots Uganda** - The Sport for Protection project (Uganda)
- **Football for All Vietnam** - Football for All in Vietnam (Vietnam)
- **Football for Humanity** - Stop Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (Philippines)
- **Open Field** - Sports as a Community Opportunity to Respond and Engage (Cameroon)
- **Jordan Youth Innovation Forum** - Youth-led Street Sports For All (Jordan)
- **Together Advancing Common Trust** - Balkan Play 4 Inclusion (North Macedonia)



## UNAOC and IOM Celebrate Selected Young Media Makers at the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival in Fez, Morocco

The PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, implemented in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), recognized outstanding young media makers during a ceremony within the framework of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum in Fez, Morocco.

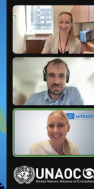
The recipients of the Up to 12 Years Old category were represented by young **Ariel Pino** from Spain for their animated video "Adventures in Other Seas". "Talking Murals" by **Shua Alatraste** from the US received the recognition for the 13 to 17 Years Old Category. **Samuel Bello** represented his brother Oladele Bello from Nigeria, recipient of the 18 to 25 Years Old Category for the video "Ghost". The Special Recognition for the Prevention of Xenophobia was conferred to **Késia Prates** from Brazil for the powerful production "Xenophobia". **Eldor Kudratillaev** from Uzbekistan received the Special Recognition for Peace and Solidarity for the inspiring video "World and Me". The Special Recognition #forSafeWorship was conferred to **Larissa Santos** and **Mario Rosin** from Brazil who thanked the organizers through a pre-recorded message.

In total, twenty videos were recognized by PLURAL+ and its Partners, which were celebrated through a compilation video. **H.E. Mr. António Vitorino**, Director General of IOM, delivered closing remarks.

The session was followed by a panel discussion on balancing migration narratives through programming with the participation of four 2022 PLURAL+ International Jury Members: **Ms. Viviane Ogou**, Human and Civil Rights Activist and founder of Puerta de África; **Mr. Ado Hasanovic**, International Film Director; **Mr. Walid Nabahin**, Human Rights Activist and founder of the MediaShow Initiative; and **Mr. Stefano Castro**, founder of El Parque Collective.

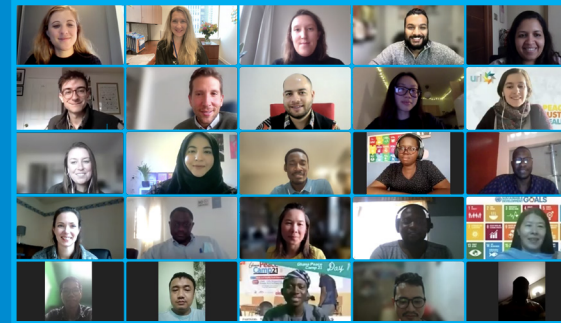






Mr. Bram Van Haver and Ms. Dana Podmolikova, UNAOC Project Management Specialists, facilitated a virtual workshop for 200 trainers from Sri Lanka and the Maldives on “Promoting intercultural competencies, cross-cultural and interreligious exchange and spaces for dialogue”, as part of the UNESCO Delhi series on

harnessing youth action for social cohesion. Within the same thematic series, Mr. Bram Van Haver also co-facilitated, in partnership with UNOCT, UNICRI and ICSS, a workshop on “Sport as a Tool to Foster Resilience and Social Cohesion” (8 and 12 September)



Ms. Dana Podmolikova, Project Management Specialist – Youth at UNAOC, facilitated a dynamic session for the **Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers**, which launched its new “Inclusivity Briefs” with other Network Members, including UNAOC, The Rose Castle Foundation, The Global Interfaith Network, Conciliation Resources, Alliance for

Peacebuilding, UN Women, KAICIID and World Faiths Development Dialogue (WFDD). The virtual discussion expounded on the four modalities of the Briefs to advance inclusivity through advocacy, research and analysis, networking and capacity-building. (29 September)



The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), in collaboration with the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY) and with the generous contribution of the Extremadura Agency for International Development Cooperation (AEXCID), held the face-to-face workshop of the 5th edition of **UNAOC’s Young Peacebuilders from Latin America and the Caribbean**, in Merida, Spain. Participants practiced conflict resolution, optimized debate, and explored interfaith dialogue. (3-8 October)

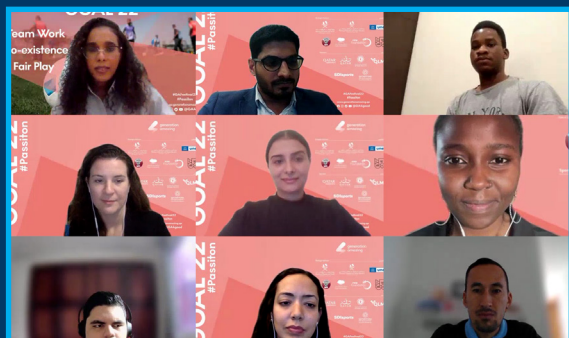


*Fellowship*  
2022 Cohort



The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) is pleased to announce that seven participants from Europe and North America and seven participants from the Middle East and North Africa have been selected to participate in the 2022-2023 edition of its **Fellowship Programme**. The Fellowship Programme aims to challenge perceptions and deconstruct stereotypes by encouraging young civil society leaders from Europe, North America, the Middle East and North Africa to engage in intercultural dialogue and embrace cultural diversity. The theme of the current edition of the Fellowship Programme is: “**Countering racism and discrimination: the nexus to building pluralistic and diverse societies**”. The choice of the theme stems from the UNAOC core mandate of tackling racism and discrimination and seeking ways to address the root causes of polarization within and between societies.





UNAOC — together with the implementing partners of the UN Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events and Promotion of Sports and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism, UNOCT, UNICRI, ICSS — held a virtual workshop on “**The Power of Sport in Preventing Violent Extremism**” within the **Goal 22 Programme**.

Goal 22 is part of the legacy

programmes of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 under Generation Amazing Foundation. It is a flagship sport for development international exchange programme which brought together over 300 students representing each of the 32 countries that participated in the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, exploring the role of sport in achieving Sustainable Development Goals, and how they, as young leaders, have a significant role to play. (22 October)



Within the margins of the UN-AOC 9th Global Forum in Fez, Morocco, the **Global Youth Forum on Preventing Violent Extremism through Sport** brought together 31 young participants who are building peace through sport. Organized within the framework of the Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events and Promotion of

Sports and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism in partnership with UNOCT, UNICRI and ICSS, the selected young leaders discussed and shared youth-centered policy recommendations on how to strengthen the role of sport in preventing violent extremism, as well as the inclusion of youth in national and regional PVE policy and decision making processes. (21 November)



The implementing partners of the UN Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events and Promotion of Sports and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism partners, UNAOC, UNOCT, UNICRI and ICSS, in collaboration with Generation Amazing, launched the **#MoreThanAGame campaign** to promote the contribution of sport in sustaining peace and development. The campaign aims to promote the potential of sport as a force for good by highlighting the stories of professional athletes and inspiring young people from around the globe during major sporting events. It also includes “Golden Ticket” events where exemplary young people have the opportunity to join a professional athlete in a conversation to share how sports improved their lives.



The **National Focal Points Regional Forum**, within the framework of the UN Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events and Promotion of Sports and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism, brought together 16 African National Focal Points from 11 different countries. To strengthen regional cooperation on sport, security and the prevention of violent extremism (PVE), they discussed common challenges in developing PVE policies that include the use of sport, recognize potential gaps in national action plans, learn from good practice examples, and ultimately identify priorities and useful guidelines to develop comprehensive strategies integrating sport as a tool to PVE. UNAOC provided key technical support on the leveraging of major sporting events to prevent violent extremism and on meaningful youth engagement. (30 November - 1 December)



UNAOC and BMW Group, with the support of Accenture, launched the call for applications of the new edition of the Intercultural Innovation Hub (formerly Award) last year. At the closing of the application period, a total of 860 applications from 859 countries were received. The pre-selection committee is now in the process of reviewing all eligible applications. Eligible to apply were not-for-profit organizations worldwide that are implementing projects focused on promoting intercultural dialogue and fostering diverse and inclusive societies. The selected recipients will benefit from a one-year comprehensive capacity-building programme aimed at strengthening their skills and the scope of their projects and activities. They will receive a financial contribution of up to USD 200,000, and customized support and mentoring. For more information, visit [interculturalinnovation.org](https://interculturalinnovation.org).





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*#OneHumanity*