



The **United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)** successfully convened its **10th Global Forum in Cascais, Portugal**, from 25 to 27 November 2024, under the overarching theme, **“United in Peace: Restoring Trust, Reshaping the Future — Reflecting on Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity”**. The Forum celebrated two decades of UNAOC’s achievements while charting a vision for a unified and inclusive future for #OneHumanity.

The three-day gathering featured a Youth Forum with over 100 young leaders from more than 70 countries; two Plenary Sessions and 9

Thematic Panels; special segments such as the Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH) and the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival ceremonies; as well as the High-level Meeting of the UNAOC Group of Friends and the United Nations Global Conference on Safeguarding Religious Sites.

With over 2,000 attendees from all sectors of society, the Forum reflected on UNAOC’s enduring mission to promote dialogue, trust, and mutual understanding while reaffirming its commitment to fostering peace and inclusion in an increasingly interconnected and multicultural world.



## Official Opening Ceremony of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum in Cascais, Portugal



**H.E. Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa,**  
President of Portugal



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



**His Majesty King Felipe VI of Spain,**  
King of Spain



**H.E. Mr. Hakan Fidan,**  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Türkiye



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

The **Official Opening Ceremony** of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum set a powerful tone for the three-day gathering, celebrating two decades of fostering dialogue, trust, and unity for #OneHumanity.

The ceremony commenced with remarks by **H.E. Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa**, President of the Host Country, Portugal, followed by the address from United Nations Secretary-General, **H.E. Mr. António Guterres**. The co-sponsors of UNAOC, Spain and Türkiye, were represented by **His Majesty King Felipe VI** of Spain and **H.E. Mr. Hakan Fidan**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye, who underscored their enduring support for UNAOC's mission.

**H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for UNAOC, concluded the Opening Ceremony, formally welcoming attendees and setting the stage for dynamic discussions.

The Ceremony was hosted by **Ms. Nihal Saad**, UNAOC Director, and **Mr. Caetano Xavier** from Portugal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who served as the Masters of Ceremony.



**Ms. Nihal Saad**, UNAOC Director,  
and **Mr. Caetano Xavier** from Portugal's  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, served as the  
Masters of Ceremony



## Special Reflections: Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity



**H.E. Ms. Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga,**  
President of Latvia (1999-2007)



**H.E. Mr. Andre Azoulay,**  
Senior Advisor to  
His Majesty the King of Morocco



**H.E. Ms. Aminata Touré,**  
Prime Minister of Senegal (2013-2014)



**H.E. Mr. Jose Luis Zapatero,**  
Prime Minister of Spain (2004-2011)

In a segment entitled “**Special Reflections: Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity**”, distinguished speakers shared profound insights on the Alliance’s two decades of dialogue and the urgent need to forge a path for peace for One Humanity.

High-level speakers included **H.E. Mr. Jose Luis Zapatero**, Prime Minister of Spain (2004-2011) and of UNAOC’s founders; **H.E. Ms. Vaira Vīķe-**

**Freiberga**, President of Latvia (1999-2007); **H.E. Mr. Andre Azoulay**, Senior Advisor to His Majesty the King of Morocco; and **H.E. Ms. Aminata Touré**, Prime Minister of Senegal (2013-2014).

These eminent leaders reflected on the Alliance’s achievements over two decades in bridging divides and fostering understanding among cultures and civilizations.

### In Memoriam: H.E. Mr. Jorge Sampaio



*In Memoriam: The late  
President Jorge Sampaio of Portugal;  
first High Representative for UNAOC*



**H.E. Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa,**  
President of Portugal



**H.E. Mr. José Maria Pereira Neves,**  
President of Cabo Verde



**H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser,**  
Former UNAOC High Representative  
and UNGA66 President

To honour the memory of the late **President Jorge Sampaio**, the first High Representative for UNAOC and former President of Portugal, UNAOC presented a heartfelt tribute video that highlighted his achievements as a visionary leader and remarkable statesman, as well as his unwavering commitment to peace and solidarity.

Following the screening of the video, the “In Memoriam” segment featured tributes from **H.E. Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa**, President of Portugal; **H.E. Mr. José Maria Pereira Neves**, President of Cabo Verde; and **H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser**, Former High Representative of UNAOC and President of the 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.



**SPECIAL ADDRESS: H.E. Mr. Maulen Ashimbayev**, Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Head of the Secretariat of the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, delivered a Special Address.



**Mr. Carlos Carreiras**, Mayor of Cascais, Portugal, welcomed participants of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum to Cascais.



**H.E. Mr. Paulo Rangel,**  
Minister of State and Foreign  
Affairs of Portugal



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



**H.E. Mr. Hakan Fidan,**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs for Türkiye



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



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

The 10th UNAOC Global Forum convened 118 official delegations in Cascais, Portugal, for a **High-level Ministerial Meeting of the UNAOC Group of Friends**. The gathering brought together Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Heads of International Organizations, and delegations representing the UNAOC Group of Friends.

Co-chaired by **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for UNAOC, and **H.E. Mr. Paulo Rangel**, Minister of State and Foreign Affairs of Portugal, the meeting featured opening remarks from United Nations Secretary-General **H.E. Mr. António Guterres**. The co-sponsors of UNAOC, Türkiye and Spain, were represented by **H.E. Hakan Fidan**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Türkiye, and **H.E. Mr. José Manuel Albares**, Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union, and Cooperation of Spain, who both emphasized the enduring importance of UNAOC's mission.

The meeting continued with interventions from Member States and International Organizations of the UNAOC Group of Friends. A key outcome of the meeting was the formal adoption of the **Cascais Declaration**, reaffirming the collective commitment to intercultural dialogue, mutual respect, and cooperation in addressing global challenges.



**11th UNAOC Global Forum**  
to be hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 2025

**H.E. Mr. Waleed Abdulkarim El Khoreiji**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, announced that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be hosting the 11th UNAOC Global Forum in 2025.





## Interventions by Member States and International Organizations / Members of the UNAOC Group of Friends



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



**H.E. Mr. Waleed Abdulkarim El Khareiji**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



**H.E. Mr. Robert Dussey**, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Togolese Abroad of the Togolese Republic



**H.E. Mr. Ahmed Attaf**, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs, National Community Abroad and African Affairs of Algeria



**H.E. Mr. Elmedin Konaković**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina



**H.E. Dr. Seyed Abbas Araghchi**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran



**H.E. Mr. Bendito dos Santos Freitas**, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste



**H.E. Md. Touhid Hossain**, Adviser for Foreign Affairs to the Interim Government of Bangladesh



**H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ali Nafti**, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad of the Republic of Tunisia



**H.E. Mr. Adil Karimli**, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan



**H.E. Mr. Ernesto Emilio Villegas Poljak**, Minister of the People's Power for Culture of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela



**H.E. Mr. Nasser Kamel**, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean (UFM)



**H.E. Dr. Varsen Aghabekian**, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine



**H.E. Mr. Bakhromjon Alov**, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan



**H.E. Ms. Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi**, Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates



**H.E. Ms. Mariana Betsa**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine



**H.E. Mr. Vahan Kostanyan**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia



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



**H.E. Ms. Kandyia Gisella Obezo Casseres**, Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs of Colombia



**H.E. Mr. Frano Matušić**, State Secretary for Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia



## Interventions by Members of the UNAOC Group of Friends (continued)



**H.E. Ms. Anayansi Rodriguez Camejo,**  
Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba



**H.E. Mr. Carlos Francisco Guevara Mann,**  
Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs  
and Cooperation of the Ministry  
of Foreign Affairs of Panama



**H.E. Mr. Nikola Stojanovic,**  
State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of  
Serbia



**H.E. Mr. James Matthew Lambert,**  
Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs,  
Organization of American States (OAS)



**H.E. Ms. Elena Kuzmanovska Biondij,**  
State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and Foreign Trade of the Republic of North  
Macedonia



**H.E. Mr. Hongbo Wu,**  
Special Representative of Chinese Government  
on European Affairs



**H.E. Mr. Imran Ahmed Siddiqi,**  
Additional Secretary Asia and Pacific, Ministry  
of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan



**H.E. Mr. Péter Sztáray,** State Secretary for  
Security Policy and Energy Security, Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary



**H.E. Dr. Miryan Djamilia Sena Vieira,**  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and  
Cooperation of Cabo Verde



**H.E. Dr. Ahmad Hassen Alhammadi,**  
Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs of the State of Qatar and Chairman of the  
Qatari Committee for the Alliance of Civilizations



**H.E. Mr. Nabil Riad Habashi,** Deputy Minister  
for Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Egyptian  
Expatriates of the Arab Republic of Egypt



**H.E. Mr. José Julio Gómez,** Deputy Minister  
of Bilateral Foreign Policy of the Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic



**H.E. Mr. Lazăr Comănescu,**  
Secretary General of the Organization of the  
Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)



**Hon. António Pedro Roque Da Visitação  
Oliveira,** Vice-President of the Parliamentary  
Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM)



**H.E. Dato' Bala Chandran Tharman,**  
Deputy Secretary General for Multilateral Affairs  
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia



**H.E. Mr. Sultan Raev,**  
Secretary General of the International Organization  
of Turkic Culture (TÜRKSOY)



**H.E. Mr. Zacarias da Costa,**  
Executive Secretary of the Comunidade dos  
Países de Língua Portuguesa (CPLP)



**H.E. Mr. Ahmed Rachid Khattabi,**  
Assistant Secretary-General, Head of Media and  
Communication - Special Representative of the  
Secretary-General of the League of Arab States



**H.E. Mr. António de Almeida-Ribeiro,**  
Deputy Secretary General of the International  
Dialogue Centre – KAICIID



**H.E. Mr. Mehmet Pacaci,**  
Ambassador, Special Envoy of the OIC Secretary  
General on Combating Islamophobia



## Interventions by Members of the UNAOC Group of Friends (continued)

				
<b>H.E. Mr. Patrick Simonnet</b> , Ambassador, EU Special Envoy for the Mediterranean	<b>H.E. Mr. Jean-Christophe Gilbert Marie Peauceille</b> , Ambassador, Religious Affairs Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France	<b>H.E. Mrs. Tiina Intelmann</b> , Ambassador, Special Envoy for Multilateralism and Mediation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia	<b>H.E. Ms. Bozena Forstnaric Boroje</b> , Ambassador, Director General for Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia	<b>Mr. Abdulla Isa Al Mannai</b> , Executive Director, King Hamad Global Center for Peaceful Coexistence
				
<b>H.E. Mr. Luis Felipe Ugarelli Basurto</b> , Ambassador, Director of International Organizations and Multilateral Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru	<b>H.E. Mr. Shalva Tsiskarashvili</b> , Ambassador, Director, Department of International Organisations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia	<b>H.E. Mr. Francisco José da Cruz</b> , Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations	<b>H.E. Mr. Serigne Dieye</b> , Ambassador, Chief of Staff of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Senegal	<b>H.E. Ms. Paula Alves de Souza</b> , Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Brazil to UNESCO
				
<b>H.E. Mr. Ali Moh'd Anwar Ali Albsoul</b> , Director of the Directorate of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Jordan	<b>H.E. Mr. Abdulwahab Mohammed Alshehri</b> , Assistant Secretary-General for Corporate Communication of the Muslim World League	<b>H.E. Mr. Sarun Charoensuwan</b> , Special Envoy, Ambassador of Thailand to the French Republic	<b>H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov</b> , Head of Partnerships and International Cooperation Sector of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO)	<b>H.E. Ms. Élise Racicot</b> , Ambassador of Canada
				
<b>H.E. Mr. Reyad Abdullah</b> , Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen	<b>H.E. Mr. Puneet Roy Kundal</b> , Ambassador of India	<b>H.E. Mrs. Martine Schommer</b> , Ambassador of Luxembourg	<b>H.E. Mr. Paul Raymund Pasion Cortes</b> , Ambassador of the Philippines	<b>H.E. Mr. Tito Mba Ada Nsue</b> , Ambassador of Equatorial Guinea
				
<b>H.E. Mr. Bruno Figueroa</b> , Ambassador of Mexico	<b>H.E. Mr. Cho Yeongmoo</b> , Ambassador of the Republic of Korea	<b>H.E. Ms. Marina Teitelboim Farias</b> , Ambassador of Chile	<b>H.E. Mr. Roberto Calzadilla Sarmiento</b> , Ambassador of the Plurinational State of Bolivia	





Entitled “Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity: Reflecting on Lessons Learned and Forging a Path Forward”, Plenary Session I featured a stellar cast of distinguished speakers, including (in no particular order): **H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés**, President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly and former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of National Defence of Ecuador; **H.E. Mr. Amre Moussa**, Chairman of the High-Level Advisory Council of the UNAOC High Representative and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt; **H.E. Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner**, former EU High Commissioner for External and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Austria; **H.E. Mr. Yves Leterme**, former Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Belgium; **H.E. Ms. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović**, former President of the Republic of Croatia; **Ms. Ilka Horstmeier**, Member of the Board of Management of BMW AG; **H.E. Mr. Dimitris Avramopoulos**, former Member of the Hellenic Parliament, former EU Commissioner and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece; and **H.V. Sheikh-ul-Islam Allahshukur Pashazadeh**, Chairman of the Caucasus Muslims’ Board and Co-Chair of the Interreligious Council – Azerbaijan. The session was moderated by **Ms. Nihal Saad**, Director of UNAOC.

The **10th UNAOC Global Forum** brought together prominent figures, thought leaders, youth representatives, high-level officials, religious leaders, and eminent personalities from all sectors of society for a dynamic exchange of ideas and insights.

Featuring a dynamic programme comprising of **2 Plenary Sessions** and **9 Thematic Panel Discussions**, the Forum explored themes relevant to the Alliance’s cross-cutting pillars and priority areas.

The first Plenary Session reflected on lessons learned from two decades of dialogue and how to forge a path forward for humanity, whereas the second plenary delved into restoring trust and reshaping the future. Meanwhile,

parallel thematic panels spotlighted such issues as upending hate and religious tolerance, harnessing the power of sports to promote peace, the contribution of migration to building inclusive societies, dialogue through transformative education, strengthening information integrity, religious mediation, the soft power of artificial intelligence, the role of women as peacemakers, and multilingualism as a vector for cultural diversity, among others.

Renowned experts, policymakers, and thought leaders shared their perspectives, fostering collaboration and inspiring action across diverse sectors.

To learn more about the 10th UNAOC Global Forum, please visit: <https://cascais.unaoc.org>





At the 10th UNAOC Global Forum, leading voices engaged in dynamic discussions addressing key themes relevant to UNAOC, including:

## Plenary Sessions:

- Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity: Reflecting on Lessons Learned and Forging a Path Forward
- United in Peace: Restoring Trust, Reshaping the Future

## Thematic Panels:

- Upending Hate: Turning the Tide Against the Global Surge in all Forms of Religious Intolerance, including antisemitism, anti-Muslim Hatred and anti-Christian Bigotry
- Harnessing the Unifying Power of Sports to Promote Peace and Inclusivity: Sports Diplomacy as a BridgeBuilder
- The Contribution of Migration in Building Peaceful and Inclusive Societies for Sustainable Development: Forging a New Social Contract, Sharing Good Practices
- Igniting Dialogue for Peace through Inclusive Transformative Education
- An Antidote to Disinformation/Misinformation: Strengthening Information Integrity and Exploring the Role of Media Providers in Restoring Trust
- Faith in Dialogue: Religious Mediation for Peace
- The Soft Power of AI: Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Advancing Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogue
- Enhancing Mediation through Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue and Leveraging the Role of Women Peacemakers
- Speaking in Harmony: Embracing Multilingualism in the 21st Century as an Enabler of Multilateral Diplomacy and a Vector for Cultural Diversity





To learn more about the 10th UNAOC Global Forum, please visit: <https://cascais.unaoc.org>





*"Thanks to all the young representative that have come from all over the world to Cascais, Portugal, to show their engagement and commitment to build the future of your local, regional and national communities, the future of humanity."*

— H.E. Miguel Ángel Moratinos,  
Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for UNAOC at the UNAOC Youth Forum



**Dr. Felipe Paullier**, Assistant-Secretary-General for Youth Affairs, United Nations



**Mr. André Cardoso**, President of the National Youth Council of Portugal

The **UNAOC Youth Forum** kicked off the 10th UNAOC Global Forum, bringing together **over 100 young leaders** from **more than 70 countries** at the historic Forte de São Julião da Barra in Portugal. Against this iconic backdrop, youth alumni of UNAOC's flagship programmes championed messages of peace and solidarity, setting the tone for the days ahead.

The gathering celebrated the far-reaching impact of UNAOC's programming activities, serving as a vibrant space for alumni of flagship initiatives to reconnect, share their stories, and honor their collective achievements. Participants reflected on the transformative journeys they embarked on through their involvement with UNAOC, highlighting how these programs shaped their leadership paths and strengthened their commitment to fostering social cohesion and intercultural dialogue.

By showcasing the success of these initiatives, the Youth Forum underscored UNAOC's dedication to empowering young people as agents of change and fostering a global culture of understanding and collaboration. (25 November)



**Ms. Dana Podmolikova**, Programme Management Specialist - Youth, UNAOC



**Mr. Alessandro Girola**, Chief, Programming and Projects Unit, UNAOC



**Ms. Miriam Rubio**, Programme Management Support - Senior Assistant, UNAOC





## 100+ Young Leaders Gather in Cascais, Portugal for the UNAOC Youth Forum (continued)



To learn more about the Youth Forum, please visit: <https://cascais.unaoc.org>





**H.E. Ms. Rebeca Grynspan**,  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
Conference on Trade and Development



**H.E. Ms. Eka Tkeshelashvili**,  
Deputy Prime Minister of Georgia  
(2010-2012)



**Dr. Felipe Paullier**,  
Assistant-Secretary-General for Youth  
Affairs, United Nations



**Ms. Dana Podmolikova**,  
UNAOC Programme Management  
Specialist for Youth



**Ms. Lashante Sampson**,  
2024 UNAOC Young Peacebuilder  
from the Bahamas



**Ms. Rafaela Andrade**,  
Young Woman Peacebuilders  
participant from Mozambique



**Ms. Lynn Malkawi**,  
2023 Intercultural Innovation Hub  
recipient from Jordan



**Mr. Hamza Saidi**,  
2022 UNAOC Fellow from Morocco



**Mr. Sabah Uddin Ahmedi**,  
2022 participant of EDIN from  
the United Kingdom

Following the successful Youth Forum, UNAOC hosted an **Intergenerational Dialogue** to address key challenges in advancing peace and fostering inclusion by reflecting on some of the key Action Points outlined in the recently adopted **Pact for the Future**. The event faced off UNAOC youth alumni with high-level officials and thought leaders to foster collaboration across generations.

Prominent speakers included **H.E. Ms. Rebeca Grynspan**, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; **H.E. Ms. Eka Tkeshelashvili**, Deputy Prime Minister of Georgia (2010-2012); **Dr. Felipe Paullier**, Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs at the United Nations Youth Office; and UNAOC alumni including **Ms. Lashante Sampson** (2024 UNAOC Young Peacebuilder from the Bahamas), **Ms. Rafaela Andrade** (Young Woman Peacebuilders participant from Mozambique), **Ms. Lynn Malkawi**, (2023 Intercultural Innovation Hub recipient from Jordan), **Mr. Hamza Saidi**

(2022 UNAOC Fellow from Morocco), and **Mr. Sabah Uddin Ahmedi** (2022 participant of EDIN from United Kingdom), who shared their experiences from various UNAOC flagship initiatives. The discussion was moderated by **Ms. Dana Podmolikova**, UNAOC Programme Management Specialist for Youth.

Their discussions highlighted the need for shared responsibility across generations to address global challenges and ensure decisions benefit future generations.

UNAOC reaffirmed its commitment to empowering youth and fostering intercultural understanding through its initiatives that promote dialogue and solidarity. The dialogue concluded with calls for sustained intergenerational collaboration to build stronger, more inclusive communities. (26 November)





The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) jointly announced the recipients of the **2024 PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival** during a ceremony held in the framework of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum.

This year's festival recognized **32 films from 21 countries**, each offering compelling perspectives on migration, diversity, and social inclusion. These works, created by young storytellers from countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, the Arab Republic of Egypt, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Republic of the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Spain, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, and the Republic of Yemen, highlight the power of youth to foster dialogue and inspire collective action on critical global challenges. (25 November)



*"To the young filmmakers here tonight: your work has moved us, taught us, and reminded us of the values we must uphold—diversity, inclusion, respect, and human dignity."*

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



*"IOM takes great pride in the growth of PLURAL+ and in the vital role of young voices. Today, young people, like yourselves, are not only storytellers but innovators, problem solvers, and champions for a sustainable future."*

— Mr. Pär Liljert,  
Director of the International Organization for  
Migration (IOM) Office at the United Nations in  
New York



**Mr. Rza Aliyev**, Chief Strategy and Sustainability Officer at the Nizami Ganjavi International Center (NGIC), delivered Special Remarks.

**Mr. Carlos Fernández**, Project Management Support – Senior Assistant at UNAOC, and **Ms. Rahma Soliman**, Media and Communications Officer at IOM, served as the Masters of Ceremonies of #PLURALplus24.

**Mr. Doğan Aşık**, Strategic Partnerships Consultant at UNAOC, delivered Closing Remarks.





Key International Jury recipients included:

- **"Weirdies"** by 2nd Grade Students, CEIP Maestro Camilo Hernández (Spain), PLURAL+ 2024 International Jury Recognition, Up to 12 Years Old Category
- **"Just Talk"** by Junhyuk "Roy" Ahn (United States of America), PLURAL+ 2024 International Jury Recognition, 13 to 17 Years Old Category
- **"Include Me"** by Phelister Amondi Awuor and Walter Mwori Athobwa (Republic of Kenya), PLURAL+ 2024 International Jury Recognition, 18 to 25 Years Old Category

Special recognitions were conferred to:

- **"Deuses Distintos"** by Ana Júlia Freitas, Anne Isabely Farias, Joanna Macedo, Anna Clara Soares, Dafny Lorena dos Santos, Bárbara Cristina Oliveira, and João Pedro Soares (Brazil), PLURAL+ 2024 Special Recognition for Combating Xenophobia and Discrimination
- **"Old Times"** by Chaela Fuentes Tordillo and Kervin Quieta (Republic of the Philippines), PLURAL+ 2024 Special Recognition for Inclusive Action on Climate Change and its Impact on Migration

Partner recognitions were conferred to:

- **"Uma Carta Para O Mundo"** by Odilon Gomes (Brazil), PLURAL+ 2024 COPEAM Recognition
- **"Fidi"** by Tai Tanzania, represented by Dativa Mahanyu (United Republic of Tanzania), PLURAL+ 2024 VideoMaker Recognition
- **"Mundos Cruzados"** by Jerá Reté Mirim, Jerá Poty, Pará Reté Mirim, Taira Yuji, Simone Takuá, Roberto Causo, Paulo Brianez, and Ivenise Angelini (Brazil), PLURAL+ 2024 Hamptons International Film Festival Recognition

The PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, a joint initiative by UNAOC and IOM, continues to amplify young voices, demonstrating their critical role in shaping inclusive, sustainable futures through creativity and storytelling.

To learn more about the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, please visit: <https://pluralplus.unaoc.org>





In the framework of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum in Cascais, ten grassroots initiatives were honoured as recipients of the prestigious **Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH)**. As one of the flagship initiatives of UNAOC, in partnership with the BMW Group and implemented with the support of Accenture, the Intercultural Innovation Hub was celebrated as a major highlight of the Forum. The Ceremony further showcased how IIH has been recognizing and supporting grassroots initiatives that promote intercultural dialogue, and contribute to peace, cultural diversity, and inclusive societies.

This year, organizations from Austria, Botswana, Canada, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Peru, the United States of America and Zambia were selected from over 1,800 entries worldwide. Their projects range from fostering diversity and inclusion, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, and advancing art, culture and sports for social change.

The following recipients will receive funding along with a comprehensive 12-month capacity-building and mentoring programme:

- **Breaking Grounds - Social Change Through Sport** (Austria) - Kicken ohne Grenzen - Empowering Youth through Football
- **Circus Zambia** (Zambia) - Social Circus for Social Change
- **Devatop Centre for Africa Development** (Nigeria) - TALKAM Human Rights Initiative
- **Global Nomads Group** (USA) - Content Creation Lab
- **International Centre for Peace, Human Rights and Development in Africa** (Kenya) - Youth and Young Women Leaders Mediation and Regional Advocacy Initiatives
- **Profonanpe** (Peru) - Building Capacity of Indigenous Leaders on Climate Change
- **Shreeja India** (India) - Football and Beyond
- **Yayasan Kota Kita Surakarta** (Indonesia) - Surakarta Space Shaper: Empowering Children to design Child-friendly and Inclusive City
- **Yellowhead Indigenous Education Foundation** (Canada) - Exploring Wāhkōhtowin
- **Young Minds Africa Trust** (Botswana) - Model Parliament Africa





To learn more about the Intercultural Innovation Hub, please visit: <https://www.interculturalinnovation.org>



The “United Nations Global Conference on Safeguarding Religious Sites: A Multistakeholder Approach”, organized in the framework of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum, convened Member States, religious leaders, international organizations, and civil society to address the critical role that various stakeholders must play in safeguarding religious sites.

Chaired by **Under-Secretary-General Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, High Representative for UNAOC, the Conference emphasized good practices and actionable recommendations from diverse stakeholders. The discussions aimed to bolster preventive measures and enhance the resilience of faith-based communities and facilities against terrorist threats and attacks.

The opening session featured remarks by the High Representative as well as **H.E. Mr. Nuno Sampaio**, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Portugal.

This set the stage for the presentation of the “**United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites: In Unity and Solidarity for Safe and Peaceful Worship**”, developed by UNAOC and launched by the Secretary-General in September 2019. **Ms. Nihal Saad**, Director of UNAOC, highlighted the progress and milestones achieved through the UNAOC Global Communications Campaign #forSafeWorship, while **Mr. Ignacio Ibáñez**, Head of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) Programme Office in Madrid, shared insights on the UN Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Threats against Vulnerable Targets.

The Conference concluded with a segment entitled “Multistakeholders’ Perspectives on Safeguarding Religious Sites”, which facilitated a vibrant discussion that underscored the importance of collaborative efforts in ensuring the safety and sanctity of places of worship worldwide. (27 November)



To learn more about the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites, please visit: <https://forsafeworship.org/>



## One Humanity Match for Peace and Inclusion



On the margins of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum, a special side event entitled “**One Humanity Match for Peace and Inclusion**” brought together celebrated athletes, global leaders, and youth to highlight the transformative power of sports as a platform for promoting peace, diversity, and inclusion.

The match featured an impressive lineup of sports icons, including football legends **Pepe**, **Luis Nani**, and **Bruno Alves**, basketball star **Berni Rodríguez**, judo champion **Nuno Delgado**, sailor **Sara Carmo**, Paralympic swimmers **Vicente Pereira**, **Diogo Cancela**, and **Leila Marques**, and surfer **Carolina Mendes**, among others. Their participation underscored the unifying spirit of sports in bridging divides and fostering solidarity.

**H.E. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, High Representative for UNAOC, delivered opening remarks, followed by **Mr. Fernando Gomes**, President of the Portuguese Football Federation; **Mr. Isaltino Morais**, Mayor of Oeiras; FIFA President **Mr. Gianni Infantino**; and **Mr. Aleksander Čeferin**, President of UEFA, delivered remarks emphasizing the role of sports in diplomacy and community building.

Organized in collaboration with the Government of Portugal and the Portuguese Football Federation, the event reinforced the Forum’s overarching theme. It also showcased UNAOC’s ongoing commitment, through its Sport for One Humanity campaign, to leveraging sports as a catalyst for dialogue, inclusion, and mutual respect. (27 November)



To learn more about the Sport for #OneHumanity campaign, please visit: <https://onehumanity.sport/>



## Bilateral Meetings on the Sidelines of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum

On the margins of the 10th UNAOC Global Forum in Cascais, Portugal, **USG Miguel Moratinos** held a series of bilateral meetings with global leaders and key stakeholders to strengthen international partnerships, address critical global issues, and foster peace and cooperation.

The High Representative also signed Memorandums of Understanding to strengthen collaboration with:



**H.E. Mr. Maulen Ashimbayev**, Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan



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



**H.E. Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero**, Former Prime Minister of Spain, and **H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Morocco



**H.E. Nazim Ahmad**, Diplomatic Representative of the Ismaili Imamat to Portugal



**H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ali Nafti**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad



**H.E. Mr. Wu Hongbo**, Special Representative of the Chinese Government on European Affairs



**H.E. Mr. Bakhromjon Aloyev**, First Deputy Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan



**Dr. Zuhair AlHarthi**, Secretary General of the International Dialogue Centre KAICIID



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



**H.E. Amb. Lazar Comanescu**, Secretary General of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)



**H.E. Rui Zhu**, Secretary General of the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU)



**H.E. Amb. Khalid AlGhaith**, Secretary General of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity





In the framework of the COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, **USG Miguel Moratinos** addressed the Opening Ceremony of the **Global Summit of Religious Leaders**, co-organized by the Caucasus Muslims Board, Azerbaijan's Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, the State Committee on Work with Religious Institutions, the Muslim Council of Elders, COP 29 Presidency and the United Nations Environment Programme.

In his remarks, the High Representative emphasized the vital role of religious leaders. "Faith leaders bring a unique perspective to climate change issues. [...] They raise their moral voice to remind politicians of universal values such as compassion, justice, and human dignity," he said. (5 November)



The High Representative welcomed a delegation from the **Council of Europe (CoE)** to the UNAOC office in New York. The delegation included officials from the CoE Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, led by **Ms. Marietta Karamanli**, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on External Relations, and **Mr. Bertrand Bouyx**, Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy.

Their discussions focused on strengthening their partnership, identifying shared priorities, and advancing ongoing collaboration. The CoE delegation expressed strong support for UNAOC's mission to bridge cultural and religious divides, describing its work as "immense and indispensable." (11 November)





The High Representative for UNAOC met with **H.E. Mr. Philemon Yang**, President of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. They discussed areas of mutual interest and explored opportunities for deeper collaboration on shared goals. (8 November)



The High Representative participated in the Opening Ceremony for the commemoration of the **30th Anniversary of the Summit of the Americas in the Dominican Republic**.

The event was attended by the Dominican President, **H.E. Luis Abinader**, and notable former leaders, including Former United States President, **H.E. Bill Clinton**; Former Presidents of Costa Rica, **H.E. Laura Chinchilla** and **H.E. José María Figueres Olsen**; and Former President of Panama, **H.E. Ernesto Pérez Balladares**.

The event, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, celebrated the milestones of the Summit and brought together former presidents, foreign ministers, officials, and academics from across the region. (12 December)



The High Representative met with the Director of the European Public Law Organization (EPL), **Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis**, to discuss key areas of cooperation: promoting intercultural and interreligious dialogue, fostering inclusion, countering xenophobia and combating hatred. They signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen their cooperation. (13 November)





USG Moratinos inaugurated the **“Chair of the Alliance of Civilizations”** at the Euromed University of Fez, Morocco, to continue advancing dialogue and understanding among cultures. During the Ceremony, the High Representative was awarded the prestigious **2024 “Prix Méditerranée”** by the Stati Uniti del Mondo and the Fondazione Mediterraneo, for his unwavering efforts to promote peace and mutual respect. (9 December)



Under-Secretary-General Moratinos participated in an event entitled, **“Feasible Reforms to Strengthen the UN on behalf of the Rule of Law”**, organized by the European Public Law Organization (EPLA) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The USG joined a panel of experts and panellists who discussed recommendations to strengthen the United Nations’ role in advancing legal frameworks that promote peace, justice, and equitable governance. (14 November)





Left to Right: **Ms. Nihal Saad**, UNAOC Director, **USG Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, High Representative for UNAOC; and **Ms. Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, at the Annual UNCA Awards Gala

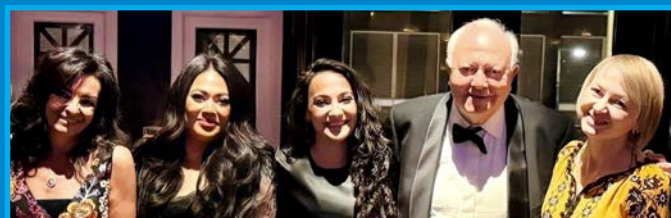


Photos by: **Bogdan Grytsiv**, UNCA

UNAOC participated in the **28th Annual United Nations Correspondents Association (UNCA) Awards Gala**, an event celebrating outstanding journalism from around the world that highlights the work of the United Nations across print, broadcast, and electronic media.

As the sponsor of the **UNCA Ricardo Ortega Memorial Prize**, which awards excellence in broadcast media (including TV and radio) coverage of the United Nations, the High Representative for UNAOC, **Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos**, had the honour of presenting this year's awards to the distinguished recipients.

British actor, internationally acclaimed celebrity, and UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, **Mr. Theo James**, was named the UNCA Global Citizen of the Year. He was recognized for his impactful advocacy on behalf of refugees and his support for journalists. (16 December)



**USG Miguel Ángel Moratinos** at the UNCA Awards Gala with members of the UNAOC team: **Ms. Nihal Saad**, UNAOC Director, **Ms. Anna Pavlyuchenko**, Institutional and Member States Relations Advisor, **Ms. Mehrangeez Rafieva**, Head of Administration Unit, and **Ms. Julie Ann Ladan**, Public Information Officer.



**Ms. Nihal Saad**, UNAOC Director, with this year's UNCA Global Citizen of the Year, **Mr. Theo James**

