



The High Representative for UNAOC addressed a hearing of the **United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)** and presented the new UN Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites, developed by UNAOC. On the margins of the hearing, Mr. Moratinos met with H.E. Mr. Sam Brownback, US Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, to further discuss UNAOC's involvement in protecting religious freedom globally. (23 October, Washington, D.C.)



The High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, participated in the commemorative ceremony to mark the **70th anniversary of the Council of Europe**. The event was attended by a number of high-level officials, including **French President Mr. Emmanuel Macron**. (1 October, Strasbourg, France)



During a visit to Jerusalem, Mr. Moratinos visited the Yasser Arafat Museum in the region of **Palestine** and met with H.E. **Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of Palestine**, to discuss UNAOC's future plan and goals to collaborate. (30 November, Palestine)



The High Representative met with H.E. **Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President of the Republic of Portugal** at Palácio de Belem in Lisbon. Their discussion focused on the **UNAOC Action Plan 2019-2023** and Portugal's support to its mandate. (28 November, Lisbon, Portugal)



The High Representative for UNAOC visited the city of Manama in Bahrain and delivered a speech on the occasion of the **International Day of Tolerance** in the audience of **His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa**, faith actors, youth, educators, MPs and government officials. Discussions focused on means of mutual collaboration to promote tolerance, respect and peaceful coexistence. In the margins of his visit to Bahrain, Mr. Moratinos met with **Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Sheikh Khaled Bin Ahmed Al Khalifa** and discussed a soon to be collaboration in the area of prevention of violent extremism, youth empowerment and the UNAOC Action Plan. (18-19 November, Bahrain, Manama)

The High Representative for UNAOC participated in the **25th Lisbon Forum** in a session called: **“An International and Regional Organisations perspective. Building regional governance for achieving the SDGs.”** Discussions about the international and regional perspective in achieving the SDGs were held. On the margins of the Lisbon Forum, Mr. Moratinos met with **H.E. Ms Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe and Secretary of State for European Affairs, Ms Ana Zacarias**, to speak about their joint goals in achieving the SDGs and further develop the **2019-2023 UNAOC Action Plan**. Mr. Moratinos also met with former **President Sampaio**, first High Representative for UNAOC, to take stock of and exchange views on the road ahead for the future of UNAOC. (25 November, Lisbon, Portugal)



The High Representative for UNAOC participated in the **6th Istanbul Mediation Conference** and the **3rd OIC Member States Conference on Mediation** in a session called **“Exploring Approaches to Effective Mediation: The Role of Culturally Sensitive Mediation”**. Mr. Moratinos discussed the many challenges facing mediation and his deep belief that it is the tool to give parties control over settling their differences. (1 November, Istanbul)



The High Representative for UNAOC, H.E Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos, was invited by the president of **Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul** to hold a lecture to the faculty and to the PhD students. Mr. Moratinos discussed the agenda and priorities of the **UN Plan Of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites** and ended the discussion with a Q&A. (31 October, Istanbul)



H.E. Ambassador **Yashar Aliyev** presented the **Medal of the 100th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan** to UNAOC High Representative Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos in recognition of his efforts in strengthening cooperation between UNAOC and the Republic of Azerbaijan. (8 November, New York)

ADVOCACY

The High Representative for UNAOC held a series of **bilateral meetings** to discuss current and future UNAOC projects and activities. These included meetings with: **Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications, Ms. Melissa Fleming**, the United Nations Permanent Representatives of **France, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Burkina Faso, Norway, and New Zealand**, and meetings with officials from **Ukraine and the Philippines**.



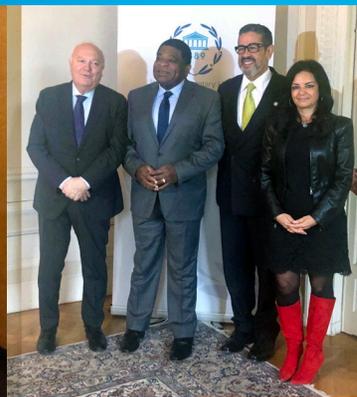
The High Representative for UNAOC visited Jerusalem and attended the **"All About Spain"** Celebration at Mishkenot Sha'ananim. Mr. Moratinos participated in the session on **"Super Clasico: From the Political Arena to the Football Field"**. (27 November, Jerusalem)



The High Representative for UNAOC and **Fundación Mujeres por África** signed an MoU to establish the **Women's Alliance for Peace**, which will contribute to the implementation of UNAOC's 5th pillar with the aim to provide a space for women as peacemakers and socio-cultural mediators & negotiators. (4 November, New York)



The High Representative for UNAOC attended the **II Baku World Summit for World Religious Leaders**. In the margins of the Summit, Mr. Moratinos met with **H.E Mr. Elmar Mammadyarov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, H.E Mr. Abulfas Garayev Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan and the President of Azerbaijan, H.E Mr. Ilham Heydar Oglu Aliyev**. These meetings touched on discussions about Mr. Moratinos' plan to convene a **global conference** that will bring together faith-actors, political leaders, government officials, media and civil society organizations to spearhead collective action in the implementation of the **UN Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites**. (14-15 November, Baku, Azerbaijan)



Mr. Moratinos visited the **United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)** and delivered an **executive briefing to Member States** on the UN Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites.

On the margins of this briefing, Mr. Moratinos met with the **Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), H.E Mr. Mokhtar Amar** and the **Director General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), H.E. Ms. Tatiana Valovaya**, to discuss constructive plans on joint collaboration. (20-22 November, Geneva)



The High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, and the Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), H.E. Mr. António Vitorino, announced the winners of their joint initiative, the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, during an Awards Ceremony at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Selected for their coverage of migration, diversity, and social inclusion, the winning-videos were chosen among 1,200+ submissions from almost 70 countries – a record number of entries for the festival. (13 November, New York)

www.unaoc.org

UPCOMING EVENT

10 December, Madrid, Spain
The Intercultural Innovation Award Ceremony
<https://www.interculturalinnovation.org>



The second phase of the third edition of the Young Peacebuilders programme took place in Merida, Spain, and brought together 19 participants from the Middle East and North Africa. Co-organized by UNAOC and AEXCID, a project of the Regional Government of Extremadura in Spain, the workshop consolidated the learning acquired by participants during the preceding online phase and allowed them to practice tangible peacebuilding skills. During the next phase of the programme, participants will implement their own peace initiative under the guidance of UNAOC. (7-12 October, Merida, Spain)



UNAOC organized a Youth Migration Film Forum at the UN Headquarters to celebrate the work of young filmmakers globally and discuss the power of storytelling. Held in partnership with the World Council of Peoples for the UN (WCPUN), the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the UN, the Consulate General of Mexico in New York, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the event featured two youth-produced short films that won the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, a joint initiative of UNAOC and IOM. It also included remarks by Mexican Youth Delegates, New York's Commissioner of Immigrant Affairs Ms. Bitta Mostofi, and DREAMer activist Mr. César Vargas. (18 October, New York)



A group of twelve UNAOC Fellows from the Middle East and North Africa traveled to the United States, Germany, and Spain. During two weeks, the group met with various officials, organizations, and professionals to explore and discuss issues related to intercultural dialogue, with a focus on this year's Fellowship theme: "The role of women in peacemaking and conflict prevention." On 4 December, UNAOC is bringing a group of Fellows to New York for a public event during which they will be invited to speak about their Fellowship experiences and share lessons learned. (13-27 October)



UNAOC and BMW Group have named ten projects from ten different countries as finalists of the 2019 edition of the Intercultural Innovation Award. The projects will receive financial support and one year of mentoring support from UNAOC and BMW Group to help them expand and replicate. The projects were selected among 1,200+ applications from 128 countries, and are all innovative grassroots projects that foster intercultural dialogue and cooperation. To learn more about the selected projects, visit www.interculturalinnovation.org/iiaward2019/. (14 October)