UNAOCO Inited Nations Alliance of Civilizations

NEWS FLASH 🛗 June 2020 **#OneHumanity amid COVID-19**



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One humanity. Many cultures.

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HIGHLIGHTS

PLURAL+ Youth Media Makers Against Racism A Virtual Watch Party featuring PLURAL+ Winners



On the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the UN, Mr. Moratinos was a panelist in an online conference entitled "Shared Future - Shared Responsibility," organized by the Nizami Ganjavi International Center and the Marianna V. Vardinoyannis Foundation.

Mr. Moratinos emphasized the importance of multilateralism and reiterated UNAOC's commitment to bringing together diverse cultures and identities. (23 June)

MODERATOR

UNZ











On the Political Front: Beyond



KERRY KENNEDY

MARIANNA V. VARDINOYANNIS

SHARED FUTURE

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

JUNE 23, 202

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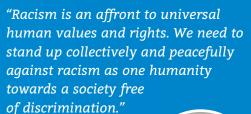
MESSAGE:

MEHRIBAN ALIYEVA First Vice President and



CORDON BROWN

H.R.H.TURKI BIN FAISAL AL SAUI



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



UNAOC and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) organized a virtual "watch party" with a selection of short films from their joint initiative, the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, which all conveyed a message of unity against racism and all forms of discrimination. The High Representative for UNAOC and the Director General of IOM, H.E. Mr. António Vitorino, participated in the event, which featured short films produced by filmmakers as young as seven years old from across the globe. (26 June)

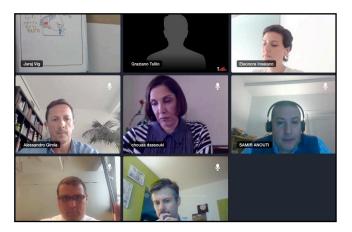


UNAOC Programme Officer Mr. Thibault Chareton participated in a virtual discussion entitled, **"Youth and Digital Spaces: Addressing and Countering the Exploitation of the COVID-19 pandemic using Media and ICTs"**, organized by the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and UNESCO. Conversations touched upon the importance of empowering global youth to share their creative visions about diversity and social inclusion. (2 June)



Ms. Nihal Saad, UNAOC Chief of Cabinet and Spokesperson, participated in a virtual roundtable with tech and social media companies organized by the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect.

She spoke about the issue of hate speech and stigma amid the current pandemic, and the work of UNAOC to tackle these challenges. (2 June)



UNAOC Programming Coordinator Mr. Alessandro Girola participated in an online meeting of **International Stakeholders Active in the Field of Youth**, convened by the **North-South Centre of the Council of Europe**. The event allowed participants to share different ways in which key players working in the youth field are adjusting their agendas, programmes, and initiatives amid the current pandemic. Mr. Girola stressed the importance of showing continuous support to young peacebuilders and youth-led organizations around the world during the current health crisis. (*3 June*)



On behalf of the High Representative for UNAOC, Ms. Nihal Saad, UNAOC Chief of Cabinet and Spokesperson, delivered remarks during the Extraordinary Virtual Conference of Culture Ministers of ICESCO Member States, on the theme "Sustainability of Cultural Action in the Face of Crises (Covid-19)".

Citing UNAOC's motto "Many Cultures, One Humanity", she reiterated UNAOC's active engagement in fostering cultural diversity and social inclusion. (*17 June*)



The High Representative for UNAOC, H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, participated in a virtual discussion entitled, **"Can the Alliance of Civilizations Overcome the Challenges Posed by the Post COVID-19 World?"** organized by the **Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs**. He emphasized that working towards solidarity and unity amid the global crisis is essential. "The epicenter of this crisis has been the human being," he stated. (3 June)



Mr. Moratinos spoke in an online discussion about the **"Importance of the United Nations in Tackling Global Issues Such as COVID-19"**, moderated by Dr. Kerem Alkin, Chair of the Executive Board of the International Cooperation Platform (ICP). (5 June)

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Mr. Moratinos was a keynote speaker in a virtual discussion on "The Importance of Education for Global Citizenship in the Age of COVID-19" convened by Bahçeşehir University (BAU) in Turkey. Conversations touched upon the importance of global citizenship education to nurture shared values and respect for diversity amid Covid-19. "In the next decades, there will be a new actor in international relations: one humanity," Mr. Moratinos stated. Speakers included UNAOC Fellow Ms. Marissa Gutierrez Vicario, Founder and Executive Director of Art and Resistance Through Education (ARTE), UNAOC Young Peacebuilder Ms. Raquel Blanco Aguila, and Professor Fernando M. Reimers, the Ford Foundation Professor of Practice in International Education and Director of the Global Education Innovation Initiative and the International Education Policy Program at Harvard University. (10 June) UNAOC and **Mujeres Por Africa** co-hosted a virtual meeting with members of the **Women's Alliance of Peace Advisory Council**, in particular, **female Permanent Representatives of UN Member States and members of the UNAOC Group of Friends**. Participants included representatives from Rwanda, Angola, Ghana, Eritrea, Guinea, Madagascar, and the African Union. Mr. Moratinos, the High Representative for UNAOC, discussed ways forward for the Women's Alliance for Peace. "The Women's Alliance for Peace will contribute to the implementation of the SDGs, in particular SDG5, SDG16 and SDG17, and, more specifically, will collaborate to support and strengthen the role of women as mediators and negotiators in conflicts", he stated. (*30 June*)



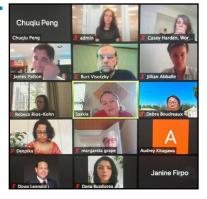


The High Representative for UNAOC had a virtual meeting with H.E. Mrs. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations.

They discussed the work and objectives of UNAOC, as well as upcoming activities and programmes. (25 June)



In preparation for the **G20 Interfaith Forum** taking place this November in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, UNAOC and KAICIID co-hosted a first round of regional consultations for religious leaders and faith actors from the Arab Region. Participants discussed the themes of governance and faith, strengthening social cohesion and promoting peaceful coexistence in the Arab world. (27 June) As co-chairs of the Inter-agency Task Force for Religion and Development (IATF) with the UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect and the Executive Secretariat of UNFPA, UNAOC convened a meeting with the Multi-Faith



Advisory Council (MFAC). Ms. Nihal Saad, UNAOC Chief of Cabinet and Spokesperson, and Ms. Ana Jimenez, Political Advisor, participated in an online discussion to discuss the priorities and areas of work of MFAC including gender equality, climate change, and social inclusion. (23 June)

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS



UNAOC selected eleven young leaders from Europe and North America (EUNA region) and eleven young leaders from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA region) to participate in its **2020 Fellowship Programme** focusing on the theme "**Building Peace in the Age of New Media**". UNAOC Fellows from each geographic area will have the opportunity to meet key stakeholders from their counterparts' region. They will be provided with crucial tools to help them understand the plurality and complexity of their counterparts' culture, politics, society, religion, and media. (*11 June*)



UNAOC Programming Coordinator Mr. Alessandro Girola organized two capacity-building webinars as part of **UNAOC and BMW Group' joint initiative, the Intercultural Innovation Award (IIA)**, in partnership with Accenture. Current IIA recipients were trained in "Public Speaking for Effective Communication" (4 June) and "Social Styles and Leadership" (15 June), which provided them with the tools to lead their projects effectively, and develop their abilities to deliver impactful messages about the important work of their organizations.

Ms. Magdalen Amony, a recipient of UNAOC and BMW Group's joint initiative, the **Intercultural Innovation Award**, was featured by the **UN Department of Global Communications' new global campaign "Verified**" to present her project "Child Soldier Reintegration Project", which has combatted misinformation and fake news in Uganda amid the current health crisis. Her grassroots project also helps former child soldiers reconcile with their war-affected communities in northern Uganda through innovative activities focused on dialogue. (25 June)



UNAOC Programme Officers Mr. Thibault Chareton and Mrs. Paloma Haschke-Joseph, Ph.D. organized an interactive discussion with refugee students on the issue of hate speech against migrants and refugees in traditional and new media and ways to combat it. The event was part of the interactive online conference "Amplify Now", organized by Kiron - Open Higher Education for Refugees, which brought together refugees, NGOs, academics, and the private sector to foster collaborative exchanges around the theme "Elevating new learning and strengthening communities". Under the scope of UNAOC's #SpreadNoHate initiative, UNAOC Fellows shared their research and perspectives concerning hate speech in small-group discussions, encouraging refugee students to identify and develop new ways of recognizing hate speech against migrants and refugees and methods to counter it. (20 June)