



**Media Advisory
Side Event**

**Media and Information Literacy: Educational Strategies
for the Prevention of Violent Extremism**

What :

Side event co-organized by UNAOC & UNAI

Media and Information Literacy (MIL) are formal and informal pedagogical practices that aim at developing critical thinking skills applied to media messages. Rather than censoring media that is potentially harmful, MIL invests in a long-term strategy that aims to promote the development of discerning critical thinking skills in individuals. Skills that, in fact, protect and enrich the worldviews of these individuals. At the same time it promotes a culture of peace and understanding among individuals from different cultural and religious backgrounds by using skills to 'unlearn' false assumptions and to forestall extremism and the violence it can trigger.

The side event will also be an occasion for the presentation of the most recent UNAOC-UNESCO-NORDICOM publication "Opportunities for Media and Information Literacy in the Middle East and North Africa".

This discussion is the first in a series of the "Prevention Forum" launched within the "Unlearning Intolerance" programme managed by the United Nations Academic Impact.

Who :

3:00-3:30 pm – Opening Remarks

Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
Cristina Gallach, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information
Román Oyarzun Marchesi, Permanent Representative, Mission of Spain to the United Nations (tbc)

3:30-4:00 pm - Keynote speaker

Renee Hobbs, Professor of Communication Studies, University of Rhode Island, USA

4:00-5:30 pm - Panel Discussion

Vladimir Drobnjak, Permanent Representative, Mission of Croatia to the United Nations (tbc)
Magda Abu-Fadil, Director, Media Unlimited (Lebanon)
Liam Hackett, Founder, Ditch the Label (UK)
Regina de Assis, Former Secretary of Education, Rio de Janeiro, Ministry of Education (Brazil)
Representative of UNESCO (tbc)

5:30-6:00 – Q & A

Moderator: Jordi Torrent, Project Manager, Media Literacy Initiatives, UNAOC

When : Thursday February 9 / 3:00-6:00 pm

Where : United Nations Headquarters, New York