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*#OneHumanity. Many cultures.*

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UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE  
OF CIVILIZATIONS (UNAOC)

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

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# UNAOC

United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

The present report reflects the main activities and projects carried out by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) between January and December 2022.

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## **FUNDING**



A photograph of Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a dark suit and a green patterned tie. He is speaking into a microphone and has his right hand raised in a fist. The background is a blue curtain. A semi-transparent dark blue box is overlaid on the bottom left of the image, containing a quote and the speaker's name. A white double quote icon is in the top left of this box, and a white double quote icon is in the bottom right of the image.

“

*"...The investment in conflict prevention work of the United Nations, including UNAOC, is significantly under-recognized and should be reinforced to save our humanity from further losses and destruction caused by conflicts and wars."*

Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General,  
High Representative for UNAOC

”

# FOREWORD

BY THE UNAOC HIGH REPRESENTATIVE



*“...We will spare no effort in delivering an impact on the ground. The impact that will truly matter to local communities, promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and peace in the spirit of the UNAOC’s motto ‘Many cultures. One humanity.’.”*



I am delighted to present the annual report 2022 of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and invite you to celebrate the achievements and impact created by the organization through its advocacy, capacity-building and policy activities during the reporting period.

The work of UNAOC, as any other United Nations agency and entity, was carried out against the backdrop of an unprecedented human tragedy, caused by the war in Ukraine in February 2022, and the subsequent widespread international destabilization beyond Eastern Europe borders. Without any doubt, the invasion has demonstrated the utter failure of diplomacy. It has cast doubt on the very effectiveness and necessity of the United Nations organization. At the same time, it has reaffirmed my conviction that the investment in conflict prevention work of the United

Nations, including UNAOC, is significantly under-recognized and should be reinforced to save our humanity from further losses and destruction caused by conflicts and wars. It is with that thought in mind that my team and I conducted advocacy activities around the year and redoubled efforts to provide mentorship and capacity-building to civil society, non-governmental organizations, religious leaders and faith-based organizations under UNAOC programmes and initiatives in the areas of education, youth, media, migration, women as peace mediators and intercultural innovation.

In November 2022, my team and the host government of Morocco convened the 9th UNAOC Global Forum in the historical city of Fez, offering a fruitful space for promoting human interaction and fostering dialogue and peace. The global event presented a remarkable opportunity for UNAOC to

## FOREWORD

showcase its work, engage with new stakeholders and pave the path to its deeper presence and contribution to peace and conflict prevention processes on the African continent. I am deeply grateful to His Majesty King Mohammed VI, to the government and the hospitable people of Morocco for their commitment to UNAOC and for their warm welcome extended to UNAOC in Fez.

The year 2022 was an important milestone in consolidating UNAOC as the United Nations institution and strengthening it within the United Nations system. I was delegated authority by the United Nations Secretary-General and entered a senior manager's compact, committing UNAOC to carry out its mission effectively and accountably and to foster a results-oriented culture. We also managed to raise more funds compared to the previous years, for which I am grateful to every donor of the UNAOC voluntary trust fund. Nonetheless, our annual budget remained very modest (just under US\$5.2 million) and securing financial sustainability and flexibility represents an ongoing challenge.

In 2023, we enter the final year of the UNAOC Plan of Action for 2019-2023. My team will reflect and take stock of how we carried the organization through the past 5 years and what the priorities and objectives for 2024 and beyond will be. We will continue leveraging our presence in Geneva through



the recently established office in UNOG. We will also spearhead the implementation of the recommendations, outlined in the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites and strive to achieve progress in my mandate to monitor antisemitism and enhance a system-wide response. Most importantly, we will spare no effort in delivering an impact on the ground. The impact that will truly matter to local communities, promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and peace in the spirit of the UNAOC's motto "Many cultures. One humanity".

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### Miguel Ángel Moratinos

United Nations Under-Secretary-General,  
High Representative for the United Nations  
Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)



CHAPTER 1

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**STRATEGIC  
DIRECTION  
2019-2023 AND  
SPECIAL**

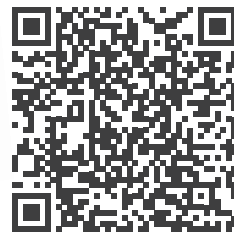
**MANDATES:**

UNITED NATIONS  
POLITICAL TOOL  
FOR PREVENTIVE  
DIPLOMACY

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*The UNAOC Action Plan 2019-2023 showcases three strategic priority areas — prevention, mediation, and preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism.*



**T**he **Plan of Action for 2019-2023** – continued to guide the work of the organization throughout 2022. The Plan of Action is framed around three strategic priority areas – prevention, mediation, and preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism. In each of those priorities, UNAOC implements targeted projects that aim to have an impact on the ground and new approaches and initiatives that are measurable and results-oriented.

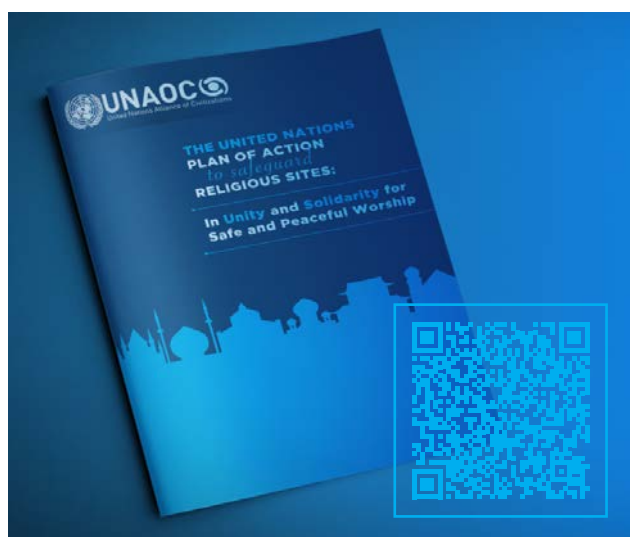
UNAOC continued to promote and strengthen institutional relations with key United Nations departments, bodies and agencies. The membership of the Group of Friends was enlarged to 158 members. Engagement with non-state partners, including faith actors and religious leaders, media professionals,

academics and educators, philanthropists, mayors, civil society, the private sector, as well as influencers including athletes and artists – remained among the priorities of the High Representative throughout 2022.

The High Representative continued to implement his mandate as the **United Nations focal point to monitor antisemitism and enhance a system-wide response** and coordinate the implementation of the **United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites** in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies and departments, as well as other stakeholders.

# UNITED NATIONS PLAN OF ACTION TO SAFEGUARD RELIGIOUS SITES: A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

In March 2019, in the aftermath of the attacks against mosques that took place in Christchurch, New Zealand, the United Nations Secretary-General requested UNAOC to develop a Plan of Action for the United Nations to explore actions to prevent attacks and ensure the sanctity of religious sites and



the safety of worshippers. The United Nations Secretary-General launched the **"United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites: In Unity and Solidarity for Safe and Peaceful Worship"** on 12 September 2019.

The Plan is elaborated in consonance with Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is anchored in relevant United Nations General Assembly, Security Council and Human Rights Council resolutions, as well as key religious sources including the Document on "Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together", signed by His Holiness Pope Francis and His Eminence the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar in February 2019.

It provides a framework for action with specific recommendations addressed to all relevant stakeholders to support their efforts in preventing and responding to possible attacks against religious sites. Moreover, the Plan encourages collaboration among them to build trust, strengthens information sharing, enhances partnerships and joint action. The Plan garnered institutional support of the United Nations General Assembly, through the resolution 75/258 of 21 January 2021 "Promoting a culture of peace and tolerance to safeguard religious sites" invited, inter alia, all Member States, the United Nations system, regional and non-governmental organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to support, as appropriate, the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites.

As the focal point for the implementation of the Plan of Action, in 2022, UNAOC worked on the following issues:

UNAOC and the United Nations Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT) implemented a phased approach to the **mapping of religious sites** around the world with a focus on several pilot countries in accordance with the principles of geographical balance, respect for freedom of religion and belief, and representation of different religious confessions in the respective pilot countries. The **map of religious sites in Sweden** is the first map that has been completed during the pilot phase.



**UN Alliance of Civilizations** ✓

@UNAOC

10:31 AM · Jul 20, 2022

📍 The [@forSafeWorship](https://forsafeworship.org/sweden/) map seeks to capture the universality of religious sites and contribute to fostering respect and understanding of their significance. Check out the first map featuring places of worship in Sweden. [#forSafeWorship](https://forsafeworship.org/sweden/)

🔗 <https://forsafeworship.org/sweden/>



*View the map of religious sites in Sweden: [forsafeworship.org/sweden](https://forsafeworship.org/sweden)*

Launched in July 2022, the #forSafeWorship map of Sweden covers a total of 4,438 religious sites, spanning 13 denominations. The interactive map allows users to zoom in and out of geographic locations as well as access key data points.

The map is available online through this link: <https://forsafeworship.org/sweden/>.

UNAOC developed and implemented a comprehensive communications plan to promote the map of religious sites in Sweden, integrating it with the broader call to action #forSafeWorship. Through this integrated approach, UNAOC aimed to attract a broader

audience to interact with the map and celebrate the religious sites in Sweden as symbols of shared humanity, history and traditions. Seeking to increase high rates of reach and engagement, the map was widely promoted on various channels, including the High Representative's remarks, UNAOC press statements and media releases. It was also amplified on social media, including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube and TikTok. The campaign yielded a total of over 13,000 impressions on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. The top 10 traffic sources, by order of page views, were the United States of America, China, Kenya, Nigeria, India, Sweden, Egypt, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and France.

## GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION #FORSAFEWORSHIP

In accordance with the recommendation contained in the Plan of Action to develop a global communications campaign to foster mutual respect and understanding, campaign #forSafeWorship was launched in September 2020. It invites people worldwide to submit short multimedia stories about their personal connections to religious sites to celebrate their universality as symbols of shared humanity, history and traditions.

Throughout 2022, UNAOC continued to promote the global call to action #forSafeWorship on its social media channels and dedicated website, [forsafeworship.org](https://forsafeworship.org). The website [www.forsafeworship.org](https://www.forsafeworship.org) was visited by 95,000 users, with organic traffic coming from top viewers in Kenya, Nigeria, the United States of America, the Netherlands, India, China and Germany.

In 2022, the hashtag #forSafeWorship generated 1.4 million in social media reach. To date, the campaign website continues to feature selected stories and videos about places of worship in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Italy, Iraq, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Uganda, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.



**forSafeWorship**

@forsafeworship

4:41 PM · Apr 25, 2022

🌍 Our campaign **#forSafeWorship** has already received stories from Brazil, Cuba, Egypt, India, Morocco, Pakistan, Puerto Rico and more!

👉 Want to get featured?  
Submit your story about your personal connection to religious sites on [forsafeworship.org](https://forsafeworship.org)!



Stand up #forSafeWorship

[www.forsafeworship.org](https://www.forsafeworship.org)

UNAOC issued a series of press statements in 2022, condemning the attacks against religious sites and worshippers around the world, including, but not limited to, the attack on worshippers in a mosque in Pakistan; the violent clashes in Al-Aqsa Mosque in East Jerusalem; the terrorist attacks on numerous mosques in Afghanistan; the shooting at a church in California, the United States of America; the Sunday attack at a church in Nigeria; the terrorist attack on a Catholic Mission in Mozambique; and the damage inflicted upon religious sites in Ukraine, among others.



***“UNAOC will continue to work very closely with all relevant actors to keep the protection of religious sites high in the agenda of the international community so worshippers can exercise their right to conduct their rituals in peace.”***

Ms. Nihal Saad, Chief of Cabinet and Senior Advisor on Policy, UNAOC, at the launching event of Five Thematic Modules to Protect Vulnerable Targets Against Terrorist Threats, September 2022



UNAOC is actively engaged in the implementation of the United Nations Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Threats against Vulnerable Targets, led by UNOCT in partnership with UNCTED, Interpol and UNICRI since January 2021. In 2022, UNAOC contributed to the development of a specialized module guide on religious sites, which was conceived as a sector-specific module to “The Protection of Critical Infrastructure against Terrorist Attacks: Compendium of Good Practices”. Available in English, Arabic, French and Russian, the module titled “Protecting Religious Sites from Terrorist Attacks” explores the specific role that individual stakeholders can and should play in a complex security environment by acting

within the conceptual framework of a risk and crisis management approach. It summarizes the content of several tools, providing guidance for the establishment of sound policy and operational settings to reduce religious sites’ vulnerabilities and increase their resilience. The thematic module was elaborated in response to the request contained in the 7th review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in which the United Nations General Assembly called on Member States to strengthen efforts to improve the security and protection of particularly vulnerable targets, including religious sites, as well as to enhance their resilience to terrorist attacks, in particular in the area of civil protection.



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites is anchored in the following principles



**RESPECT**  
for all peoples, regardless  
of their faith, culture and  
history



**RESPONSIBILITY**  
to build bridges of mutual  
understanding and  
cooperation



**DIVERSITY**  
to accept and respect the  
differences among human  
beings



**DIALOGUE**  
As a tool to better  
communicate and engage  
with one another



**SOLIDARITY**  
To support and share compassion  
for one another, particularly in times  
of sorrow or trouble



**STANDING TOGETHER**  
as one to respond with unity to  
attempts to divide us



**STAYING TOGETHER**  
as one to ensure that unity in response  
to attacks against religious sites is  
sustained and reinforced overtime

# UNITED NATIONS FOCAL POINT TO MONITOR ANTISEMITISM AND ENHANCE A SYSTEM-WIDE RESPONSE

In 2020, the United Nations Secretary-General designated the High Representative for UNAOC as the **United Nations Focal Point to monitor antisemitism and to enhance a system-wide response**. The designation was in response to the recommendation in the 2019 report, of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief “Combating Antisemitism to Eliminate Discrimination and Intolerance Based on Religion or Belief”. Since the designation, the High Representative has been vocal in denouncing all manifestations of antisemitism,



*The High Representative takes part in a conference on “Rising Antisemitism: How does Europe Address it?”, convened by Rabbi Arthur Schneier at the Park East Synagogue in New York, USA, June 2022*



*The High Representative and his Chief of Cabinet represented UNAOC at the International Meeting of Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism, Jerusalem, April 2022*



UNAOC - United Nations Alliance of Civilizations  
@UNAOC

10:14 AM · Jun 15, 2022

“When left unaddressed, antisemitism poses a threat to the social cohesion and the stability of our communities.” –  
@MiguelMoratinos #No2Antisemitism



underscoring that the United Nations is fully committed to combating antisemitism, as well as all other forms of discrimination and intolerance based on religion or belief.

Throughout 2022, UNAOC continued to engage with major Jewish organizations, relevant United Nations bodies and coordinators, including the special rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief, and envoys on combating antisemitism in a consultative process on root causes and good practices in combating antisemitism. The consultations contributed to the draft action plan that will provide guidance toward a coordinated and enhanced response to antisemitism anchored in human rights. The action plan will be presented in 2023.

In April 2022, the High Representative participated in the “International Meeting of Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism (SECCA)”, organized by the European Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel and the World Jewish Congress.



*"When antisemitism is on the rise, something bigger is going on...the atmosphere, which does not allow for diversity, in which you do not accept the other, in which you do not have respect for the other...I very much welcome the idea of Mr. Moratinos to have the UN Global Strategy on Antisemitism."*

**Ms. Katharina von Schnurbein**, European Commission Coordinator on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life, UNAOC-EU briefing, New York, United Nations headquarters, June 2022



On 15 June 2022, UNAOC and the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations convened a briefing in the United Nations Secretariat, New York, on global efforts on combating antisemitism and explore ways to develop a system-wide response to combating antisemitism across the United Nations system. The event served as an opportunity for the European Commission Coordinator on combatting antisemitism to present the European Union Strategy on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life (2021-2030) adopted by the European Commission on 5 October 2021. Representatives of United Nations entities with relevant mandates, including UNESCO, UNDGC and OSAPG, highlighted the work of their organizations in countering antisemitism and Holocaust denial through their respective programmatic activities and advocacy initiatives. Envoys on combatting antisemitism briefed on their national strategies undertaken by their governments to combat antisemitism and protect Jewish life. On the occasion, the High Representative recalled that the United Nations Secretary-General had always underlined that rising racism, antisemitism, virulent anti-Muslim bigotry, and anti-refugee hatred are all so dangerous. The High Representative reiterated the commitment of the United Nations to continue to be on the forefront of the fight against antisemitism and all other forms of religious bigotry and racism.



*"This meeting calls to recognize that antisemitism is a prejudice akin to other pernicious prejudices, as serious, as dangerous. It can't be lost in a medley of other hatred."*

**Ms. Deborah E. Lipstadt**, Ambassador, Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism of the United States, UNAOC-EU briefing, New York, United Nations headquarters, June 2022



Happening now: H.E. [@OlofBSkoo](#), Head of [@EUatUN](#) delegation, takes the floor at the 'Briefing on Efforts on Combating Antisemitism'. He reiterates the EU's commitment to fight all forms of discrimination. [#No2Antisemitism](#)



EU official organization

Acceptance & respect are integral parts of vibrant democracies.

Our fight against antisemitism is anchored in international human rights law. These are universal obligations - more urgent than ever as the ugly face of violence and factionalism is spreading.

[#No2Antisemitism](#)

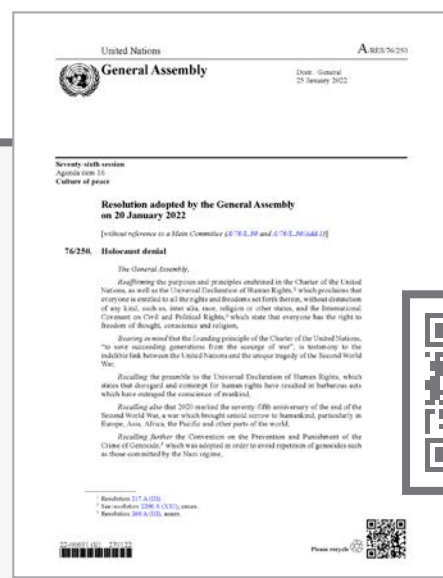


Very moving words from Rabbi Arthur Schneier. Emphasizing that silence aids the perpetrator, he said, "We cannot regain the past. What we can do now is to ensure the future of our children and our children's children." [#No2Antisemitism](#)



[@sundberg\\_ulrika](#), Special Envoy to the OIC in Charge of Interreligious and Intercultural Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, joins the [#UNAOC](#) and [@EUatUN](#) meeting on 'combating antisemitism'. [#No2Antisemitism](#)

The United Nations General Assembly resolution 76/250 on the "Holocaust Denial" was adopted on 20 January 2022 by consensus. The resolution demonstrates the collective will of the international community to take another step in the right direction in the global fight against antisemitism since the denial of the Holocaust in its various forms is an expression of antisemitism.



## “OUR COMMON AGENDA”

Following the presentation of the United Nations Secretary-General’s report **“Our Common Agenda”** to the United Nations General Assembly in September 2021, UNAOC took part in the inter-agency consultative process as one of the co-actioned entities and agencies. Namely, UNAOC is the collaborating entity within a range of OCA’s proposals that relate to the UN building on recent innovations in listening to, consulting and engaging with people around the world; exploring a “youth in politics” index; Summit on Transforming Education 2022; Declaration on Future Generations; expanding the Peacebuilding Commission to more settings; supporting states in renewing the social contract particularly focusing on trust, addressing discrimination and exclusion, and more.

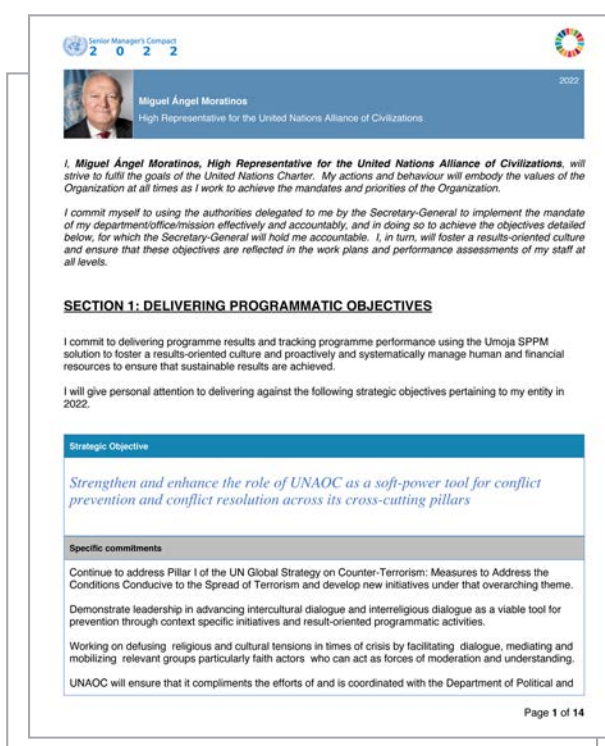


*The High Representative and the President of the United Nations General Assembly 76th Session discussed the OCA report and UNAOC’s contribution to it, September 2022*

## STRENGTHENING UNAOC WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

The High Representative has been granted the **delegation of authority** by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2022. The delegation of authority framework emphasizes transparency, accountability and decision-making that is closer to the point of mandate and programme delivery.

By virtue of the delegation of authority, the High Representative and the United Nations Secretary-General entered a **Senior**



**Manager's Compact** – a key performance management tool. Through that tool, the High Representative communicated his priorities and objectives for 2022 and, upon the year-end, reported on progress made. As per the standard practice, the High Representative's Compact was shared within the United Nations Secretariat and posted on the iSeek platform of the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

## UNAOC OFFICE OUTSIDE OF NEW YORK



*The High Representative, Director General of UNOG, Foreign Minister of Spain and Permanent Representative of Türkiye to UNOG during the launch of the UNAOC Office in Geneva, November 2021*

UNAOC continued **expanding its geographical presence and visibility**, enhancing coordination and coherence with the United Nations offices beyond the United Nations headquarters in New York. Following the inauguration of its office in Geneva at the Palais des Nations in 2021, UNAOC convened several advocacy events and engagements to showcase its work.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE

The council, which was formed in 2021 by the High Representative to provide him with external expert guidance on the global affairs and trends pertinent to the UNAOC mandate and areas of work, met twice. Members of the council engage with the High Representative on a voluntary basis and are a diverse group of prominent women and men of a wide geographic representation.



## MISSION AND VISION

UNAOC serves as a soft-power political tool of the United Nations Secretary-General for conflict prevention and conflict resolution.

UNAOC aims to improve understanding and cooperation among nations and peoples across cultures and to reduce polarization at local and global levels. It helps develop more inclusive societies, in which diversity is experienced as an asset.

## THE STATUS OF THE UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS

UNAOC was launched in July 2005 by the former United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan, as the initiative, intended to respond to the need for a committed effort by the international community—both at the institutional and civil society levels—to bridge divides and overcome prejudice, misconceptions, misperceptions and polarization which potentially threaten world peace. The special status and mandate of UNAOC have been recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolutions 64/14 of 10 November 2009 and 69/312 of 6 July 2015.

*The High Representative (center) with the two founding co-sponsors of UNAOC, namely the governments of the Republic of Türkiye and Spain, represented respectively by Turkish Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu and Spanish Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. José Manuel Albares, New York, September 2022*



A group of men in dark suits are walking on a red carpet. The man in the center is smiling and gesturing with his hands. They are outdoors, with a building and palm trees in the background.

## CHAPTER 2

# THE 9TH UNAOC GLOBAL FORUM IN FEZ, MOROCCO:

## TOWARDS AN ALLIANCE OF PEACE





*“Politics speaks to citizens, religion speaks to their souls, dialogue – to their civilizations. In all idioms, we must speak and embrace peace. This conjunction stems from the hopes of the past and future.”*

Message of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, delivered by Mr. Andre Azoulay, Senior Advisor to His Majesty, Morocco, November 2022



**O**n 22-23 November 2022, UNAOC convened its 9th Global Forum under the overarching theme “Towards an Alliance of Peace: Living Together as One Humanity”. The event was generously hosted by Morocco under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. As an advocate of values of peace and coexistence nationally and worldwide, Morocco welcomed the Forum’s participants in the historical city of Fez, offering a fruitful space for promoting human interaction and fostering dialogue and peace.

The Global Forum was convened by UNAOC in the African continent for the first time since 2005, offering a unique opportunity to reflect on the strong cultural identity in Africa, common heritage and shared values of the entire

humanity, expand the UNAOC’s presence and partnership with African stakeholders.

The Forum was inaugurated by the United Nations Secretary-General, the High Representative for UNAOC, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye and the State Secretary for International Cooperation of Spain. The international event brought together 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, which engaged in an exchange of innovative ideas on



*“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.”*

H.E. Mr. António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General, Morocco, November 2022



a wide range of global issues facing our world today. It also provided a platform to exchange information, experiences and good practices, that can further inform UNAOC's work and its programmatic activities within its five pillars – women as peacemakers, youth, media, migration and education.

The opening session of the UNAOC high-level meeting of the Group of Friends was co-chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco and the High Representative, in which the United Nations Secretary-General, Foreign Ministers of Spain and Türkiye took the floor. The event was attended by 81 Member States and 19 international organizations, delegates reaffirmed their support to the High Representative and UNAOC, and welcomed UNAOC initiatives and projects. The Government of Portugal announced its proposal to host the 10th UNAOC Global Forum in Lisbon, in 2024.

Leveraging on the presence of a wide array of relevant stakeholders, the Forum represented an ideal venue to implement and showcase important projects' components, including the

PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, the presentation of the recipients of the Sport for One Humanity initiative, the Fellowship Programme and the Global Youth Forum on Preventing Violent Extremism through Sport.



## VOICES OF THE WISE: PATHWAYS TO PEACE AND LIVING TOGETHER IN MUTUAL RESPECT



“

*“I dream of a generation, not in the far distant future, that will completely abandon war and violence in international relations.”*

H.E. Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, Former President of Spain, Morocco, November 2022

”

### **SPEAKERS** (In alphabetical order):

- **H.E. Ms. Aminata Touré**,  
Former Prime Minister of Senegal
- **H.E. Mr. Amre Moussa**,  
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Former Secretary-General of the League of Arab States
- **H.E. Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero**,  
Former President of Spain
- **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.E. Mr. Mladen Ivanic**,  
Former President of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **H.R.H. Princess Rym Ali**,  
President of Anna Lindh Foundation, Jordan
- **His Virtue Sheikh-ul-Islam Allahshukur Pashazade**, Chairman of the Caucasus Muslims' Board, Azerbaijan
- **H.E. Ms. Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga**,  
Former President of Latvia

## PLENARY SESSION

## ROLE OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN PROMOTING PEACE, COEXISTENCE AND SOCIAL HARMONY



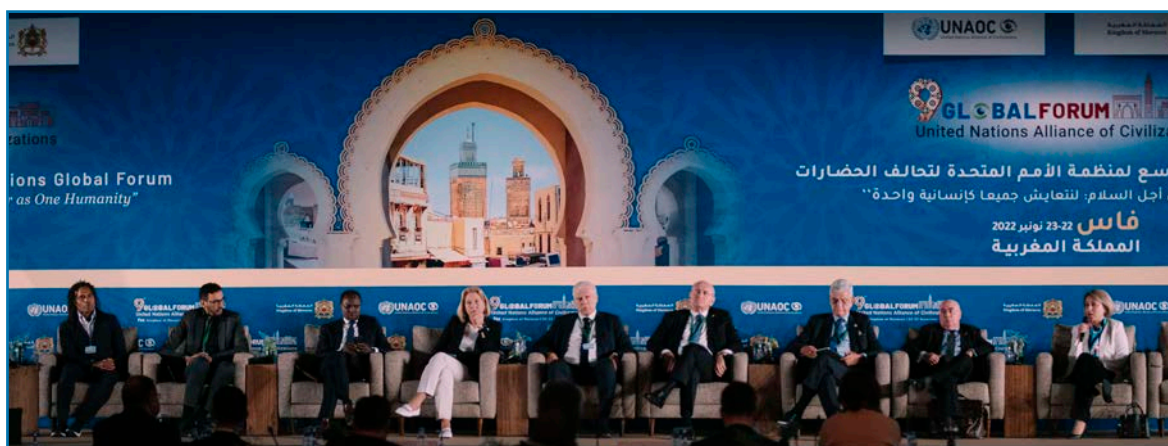
*“Today, in our individualist world, paradoxically, there is an emergence of the loss of spirituality. But the values of respect, peace and compassion are all parts of our traditional faiths.”*

Ms. Asma Lamrabet, Euro-Arab Chair of Gender Studies, Morocco, November 2022

**SPEAKERS** (in alphabetical order):

- **Dr. Ahmed Abbadi**, Secretary General of Rabita Mohammadia of the Ulemas of the Kingdom of Morocco
- **Ms. Asma Lamrabet**, Euro-Arab Chair of Gender Studies
- **Mr. Bulat Sarsenbayev**, Chairman of the Nazarbayev Center of Kazakhstan
- **H.E. Mr. Faisal Bin Muammar**, Former Secretary-General of KAICIID
- **H.E. Judge Mohamed AbdelSalam**, Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Elders
- **Rabbi Pauline Bebe**, Jewish Reform Community of Paris, Founder of EMOUNA Interreligious program at Sciences Po Paris
- **Prof. Rabbi Richard Marker**, Former Chair of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations and the Elijah Board of World Religious Leaders
- **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
- Moderator: **Mr. Adama Dieng**, Former UN Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide

## DEEP DIVE: EFFORTS IN PREVENTING AND COMBATING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (PCVE) AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF NEW AND EMERGING THREATS



### SPEAKERS (In alphabetical order):

- **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 Karembau**, Renowned Professional Football Player
- **Mr. Mohamed El Sanoussi**, Executive Director of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers
- **H.E. Ambassador Mr. Manuel Montobbio**, Chair of the Rapporteur Group on External Relations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
- Moderator: **Mr. David Chikvaidze**, Chief-of-Cabinet, Office of Director-General of United Nations at Geneva



**UNAOC**  
@UNAOC

9:57 AM · Nov 23, 2022

At the [#FezForum](#) session on preventing & countering violent extremism [#PCVE](#), renowned football player Christian [@Karembau](#) called on decision-makers to elevate sport as a valuable tool for driving peace and addressing the roots of violent extremism.

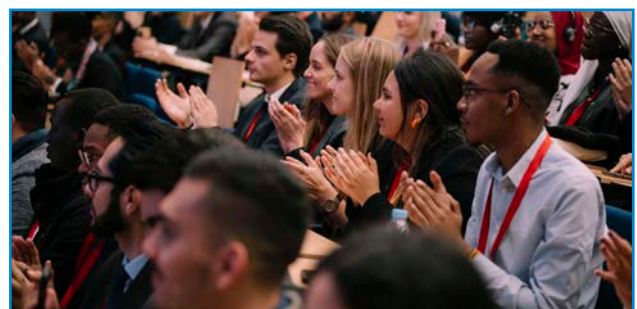




*“The Forum allowed me to recognize points in common with other cultures and nationalities and provided me with ideas on how I can work to strengthen ties between different cultures.”*

Ms. Jackeline Maria Guerra Batista, Youth event participant, Morocco, November 2022

Within the framework of the Forum, 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. The youth event was designed to maximize the youth’s experience and contribution to the discussions at the main Forum by providing a youth-friendly platform to facilitate learning, sharing and partnership building among youth as well as international stakeholders. It featured more than 260 young leaders from 83 countries, who were mostly alumni and/or current beneficiaries of UNAOC projects and initiatives.



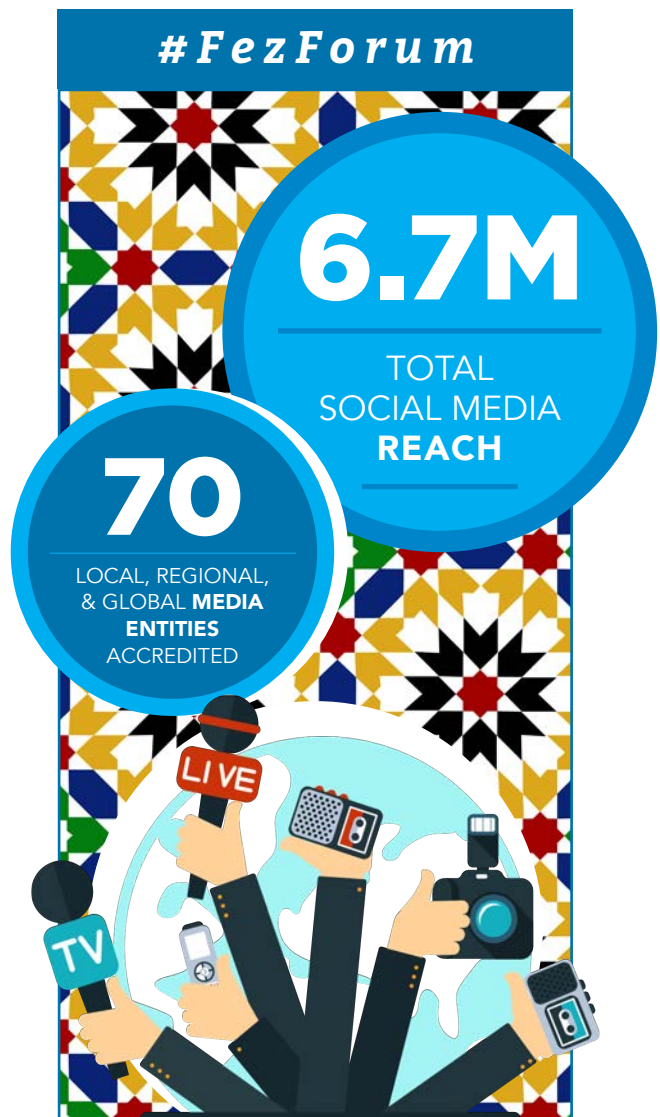




## MEDIA COVERAGE AND DIGITAL OUTREACH

To promote the 9th Global Forum, UNAOC developed a comprehensive digital communications plan — integrating an intricate balance of web-based knowledge sharing, social media activations, visual storytelling and multimedia content strategies. Centring on the main hashtag #FezForum, as well as the secondary hashtag #OneHumanity, the campaign focused on amplifying the themes of the Forum's high-level plenaries, breakout sessions and side events. An additional hashtag #UNAOCyouth was used to reflect the young participants' active engagement. The strategic approach resulted in approximately 6.7 million reach on social media, with over 606 mentions throughout the three days of the Forum. Meanwhile, social media engagement totalled over 23,000 interactions, while the Forum website was visited over 63,000 times since its launch.

The Forum was widely covered by up to 70 local, regional and international journalists and media entities, which were accredited to cover the event. In addition, the United Nations News and Media team provided coverage on the ground, with several articles featuring the Forum published on the United Nations News Centre's multilingual websites and social media accounts.





## CHAPTER 3

# **PARTNERS AND INSTITUTIONS: WORKING TOGETHER IN COMPLEMENTARITY**

Partnership and collaboration remain the backbone of the work of UNAOC across its strategic priorities and thematic pillars of its mandate. Member States, international and regional organizations, media, youth, faith-based organizations, civil society, academia, foundations and philanthropies, municipalities and the private sector multiply and amplify the UNAOC programming and advocacy efforts, providing expertise and guidance, direct funding and in-kind support, as well as local infrastructure.



## GROUP OF FRIENDS

Members of the **UNAOC Group of Friends** (GoF) continued to provide guidance and engage with UNAOC through bilateral consultations and GoF meetings. In 2022, Nicaragua and Turkmenistan joined the Group, bringing its total membership count to 158.



**Miguel Ángel Moratinos** ✓

@MiguelMoratinos

12:02 PM · Feb 9, 2022

Yesterday, I convened a meeting to brief members of the @UNAOC Group of Friends on our accomplishments in 2021 and our priorities for 2022 and beyond. I am deeply grateful to all #UNAOCgof and our partners for their consistent commitment and support.



**UN Alliance of Civilizations** ✓

@UNAOC

11:03 AM · Feb 8, 2022

At #UNAOCgof, Ms. Nihal Saad, Chief of Cabinet, gives an update on #UNAOC projects and initiatives.

Watch live here: [unaoc.org/gof2022](https://unaoc.org/gof2022)



# 158

**GROUP  
OF FRIENDS  
MEMBERS**

# 124

**FORMAL MEETINGS  
AND ENGAGEMENTS**  
(BOTH VIRTUAL AND  
IN-PERSON)

# 21

**VISITS TO  
MEMBER  
STATES**



**UN Alliance of Civilizations** ✓

@UNAOC

8:39 AM · Sep 30, 2022

Diplomacy at work: On the sidelines of the #UNGA77 high-level week, Mr. @MiguelMoratinos, High Representative for #UNAOC, met with world leaders and ministers representing 33 countries and heads of international organizations. Until next time, #UNGA!





*The High Representative delivered a keynote address at the Antalya Diplomacy Forum and held meetings with several members of the UNAOC Group of Friends, Türkiye, March 2022*

The High Representative held 124 formal meetings and engagements – virtual and in person - in the United Nations offices in New York and Geneva, and several capitals. Specifically, he visited 21 Member States to showcase the work of UNAOC and explore avenues for joint initiatives in the region: Bahrain, Belgium, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Egypt, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, State of Palestine, Qatar, Switzerland, Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America in the capital of Washington DC.

Consultations with capitals and diplomatic missions continued to be held through written communication and numerous contacts. Members of the GoF were briefed on the UNAOC work through newsletters and other communications materials.

In July 2022, the UNAOC delegation paid a formal visit to the European Parliament in



*The High Representative delivered remarks in the Doha Forum session on “Prospects for global cooperation in a polarized world” and held a series of bilaterals with several members of the UNAOC Group of Friends in the margins of the event, Qatar, March 2022*

Brussels, Belgium, during which the High Representative addressed the Committee on Foreign Affairs and highlighted the work of UNAOC in the areas of mediation, prevention of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, youth empowerment, intercultural and interreligious dialogue. In the context of the visit, the High Representative held meetings with senior leadership of the European Commission.

## PARTNERS AND INSTITUTIONS

In the framework of the Baku Process, UNAOC, the Government of **Azerbaijan** and the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**ICESCO**) launched a tripartite cooperation around the #Peace4Culture global campaign to promote intercultural dialogue. As a follow-up, UNAOC and the Government of Azerbaijan signed the Plan of Action, which was presented on 5 May 2022 in New York at the United Nations headquarters.

During the reporting period, UNAOC entered partnerships with the International Organization of Turkic Culture (**TURKSOY**) and the **Council of Europe**.



**Miguel Ángel Moratinos** ✓

@MiguelMoratinos

11:40 AM · Oct 19, 2022

Had a very productive meeting with H.E. Ms. Marija Pejčinović Burić @MarijaPBuric, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and very pleased to sign a new MoU between @UNAOC and @COE, renewing our commitment to do more in investing in dialogue and the culture of peace.



**UN Alliance of Civilizations**

@UNAOC

11:50 AM · Nov 23, 2022

Today at the #FezForum, the High Representative @MiguelMoratinos and Mr. @SultanRaev, Secretary General of TURKSOY @turksoyorg, have signed an MoU to strengthen mutual cooperation based on their shared values of intercultural dialogue and understanding.



*"...We must continue working together...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. Miguel Angel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for UNAOC, at the informal meeting of the Ministers' Deputies of the Council of Europe on "Strategies to Promote Tolerance and Combat Hate Speech", France, October 2022



## JOINING FORCES TO DELIVER AS ONE

UNAOC continued to expand collaboration with a variety of **United Nations agencies and entities** on the issues of prevention of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, mediation, countering hate speech, promoting joint programming in the areas of sport for peace, youth and education, as well as human rights.

UNAOC liaised and coordinated its work with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Department of Global Communications (DGC), Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) / United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Office of the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG), the Office of the United Nations High



*The High Representative, UN Women Executive Director and President of Spain's Council of State discussed the role of women's organizations in advocating and mobilizing efforts at all levels, New York, UN Women office, March 2022*

Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (United Nations Human Rights Council).

## PRIVATE SECTOR

Today, the private sector continues to be an essential partner for the United Nations in achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Guided by the United Nations Secretary-General's guidelines for cooperation between the United Nations and the private sector, UNAOC is committed to working with the private sector to achieve common goals in alignment with the UNAOC mandate. Through joint initiatives or philanthropic support for UNAOC programmes, the private sector partners contribute to amplifying the impact and relevance of the Alliance's work around the globe.

UNAOC and **BMW Group** continued their longstanding successful cooperation in promoting innovative approaches to intercultural dialogue



*The High Representative and the Member of the Board of Management of BMW AG People and Real Estate, Labour Relations Director, meet in the context of the Intercultural Innovation Hub workshop in Munich, June 2022*



*The High Representative and the Chairman of the Board of the Turkish Airlines meet in the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly high level week to discuss cooperation in the area of sports and development, New York, September 2022*

which benefited so far over 70 projects worldwide. Within the framework of the Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH), UNAOC and BMW Group, with the support of **Accenture**, provide financial support and tailored made mentoring focused on strengthening the capacity of grassroots organizations to foster inclusive societies.

Following the signature of the UNAOC and **Turkish Airlines** Supplementary Agreement, collaboration around the Turkish Airlines, "Sport for One Humanity" initiative was launched and key phases of its implementation took place during the second half of 2022.

## CIVIL SOCIETY AND OTHER NON-STATE SECTOR PARTNERS

UNAOC continued to invest in partnerships with civil society, sports associations and clubs to build complementarity and synergies for a greater impact of its programming.

It entered a partnership with the **Nizami Ganjavi International Center** and the **Khalili Foundation**.

With the support of the **Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers**, UNAOC began the implementation of its Fellowship Programme, covering 2022-2023. The 5th edition of the UNAOC Young Peacebuilders programme (YPB) was implemented in collaboration with the **United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY)**.

### Strengthening the Role of Sports as a Vector for Peace and Diversity

Major sports clubs, international associations and global sports groups have reaffirmed their support for the #OneHumanity campaign, including **La Liga, Atletico Madrid, Real Madrid, the World Dodgeball Federation, the Global Association of International Sports Federation (GAISF), Beach Soccer Worldwide, Fédération Internationale de TEQBALL**



(FITEQ), International Paralympic Committee, World Taekwondo, Judo International, World Association of Kickboxing Organizations and World Lacrosse, among others. In 2022, the hashtag #OneHumanity generated an organic social media reach of 5.5 million throughout major social media platforms, including Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube. In 2022, the **International Hockey Federation (FIH)** pledged its commitment to the #OneHumanity campaign and approached various athletes – men and women from all continents, diverse backgrounds, and languages – to participate in an FIH-produced video supporting the campaign.

## COLLABORATING WITH STAKEHOLDERS IN GENEVA, UNOG

The UNAOC office in Geneva, inaugurated in 2021, continued to consolidate its presence and further its activities during 2022. The Geneva office has been instrumental in coordinating with key regional actors and civil society stakeholders. Its representatives took part in the commemoration of the International Day of Living Together in Peace. The staff also participated in the global Scouts Jamboree, gathering over 5,000 participants, by engaging with the young in several workshops on topics of intercultural dialogue, conflict resolution

and Sustainable Development Goals. On 10-11 October 2022, the UNAOC office in Geneva convened a Global Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence and Other Emerging Technologies, to explore their impact on human rights. With the participation of specialists in the fields of AI, blockchain, cybersecurity and neurotechnology, UNAOC engaged the diplomatic community in a discussion concerning the expansion of human rights definitions and approaches to ensure that will not be undermined by the incoming applications of emerging technologies.



## CHAPTER 4

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# **PROGRAMMING AT LOCAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS: TARGETED INTERVENTIONS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND BUILDING MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING**

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**G**uided by the **UNAOC Plan of Action 2019-2023** and responding to the United Nations agenda and strategies, UNAOC's programming work is focused on:

- ✓ *Facilitating the global conversation on the challenges and opportunities for living in a landscape of diversity in our age of global communication and exchanges*
- ✓ *Preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism, intercultural /interfaith tensions and recognizing the essential role of women as contributors to peace*
- ✓ *Combatting stereotypes, misperceptions, discrimination and xenophobia*
- ✓ *Supporting innovative grassroots initiatives that contribute to intercultural dialogue and understanding, mutual respect and cooperation across divides*

Driven by the imperative objective to deliver its mandate to people who will benefit the most from its interventions, UNAOC continued to apply an inclusive approach throughout the project/ programme cycle, during which knowledge and expertise of partners and programme participants are leveraged to periodically fine-tune programmes and develop new initiatives. In the same spirit, UNAOC regularly collects and takes stock of lessons learned, good practices and recommendations that are stemming from its work in various locations, and presents them in relevant policy settings and fora for replication and sustainable scaling up.



*Youth alumni and beneficiaries of UNAOC's programming work convened at the 9th UNAOC Global Forum in Fez, Morocco, November 2022*

## MEDIA AND MIGRATION FIELDS OF ACTION



*Outstanding young media makers and creators were recognized during a PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival Ceremony within the framework of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum, Fez, Morocco, November 2022*

Media is unique in its ability to build and modify shared narratives, as well as to influence common perceptions and behaviours. Traditional and new media are decisive tools for enhancing mutual respect and understanding, as well as narrowing the gap between cultural divides.

The **PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival**, launched in 2009 as a shared initiative of UNAOC and IOM, effectively continued to address the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration objectives 16 and 17 by encouraging migrants and societies to achieve full inclusion and social cohesion, eliminating all forms of discrimination and advancing evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration. The 2022 PLURAL+ Annual Ceremony took place on 22 November in Fez, Morocco, on the margins of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum. Supported by an international jury, the event celebrated 20 filmmakers from Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Guatemala, India, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian

Federation, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America and Uzbekistan, selected amongst nearly 300 submissions from 53 countries. The 2022 PLURAL+ international jury recognitions were conferred to:

- Ariel Pino, Daniel Anaya, Diego López and Paula Sánchez of Spain (Up to 12 years old), for their “Adventures in other seas”, a video that raises awareness about migration, diversity and social inclusion through a poetic underwater story;
- Shua Alatraste of the United States (13 to 17 years old), for the impactful video “Talking Murals” which highlights the many talented black artists in New York City and the impact of their work on society as a whole;
- Oladele Bello of Nigeria (18 to 25 years old), for the video “Ghost”, a powerful narrative exploring the reasons and motivations behind the journeys of migrants.



The 2022 recipient of the UNAOC-IOM Special Recognition for the Prevention of Xenophobia went to “Xenophobia” by Kessia Prates De Amorim and Icaro Gabriel Dos Santos Barros of Brazil for their animated film denouncing xenophobia and its impact on the victims; the film also highlights the importance of respect for all. The Special Recognition #forSafeWorship, which recognizes the film that best explores the concept of religious diversity and celebrates coexistence between religions and faiths in our modern world, went to Larissa Santos Oliveria and Mario R. Rosin of Brazil for their video “The beauty of coexistence”. The new Special Recognition for Peace and Solidarity, which recognizes the film that best embodies the universal values of peace and solidarity and advocates for a culture of peace and understanding, was conferred to Eldor Kudratillaev of Uzbekistan for “World and me”.

As an important platform of youth-produced media that addresses urgent social issues such as migration, diversity, inclusion and the prevention of xenophobia, PLURAL+ amplified the distribution of recognized films through

multiple communication channels, including the United Nations community. Moreover, multiple partner organizations reaffirmed their support of the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival and youth filmmakers from all over the world through the conferring of partner recognitions and the dissemination of selected videos through their platforms, thus getting through to several hundred thousand online viewers and successfully promoting the values of mutual respect and understanding, and enhancing a global culture of peace.



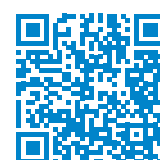
**UN Alliance of Civilizations**  
@UNAOC

8:30 AM · Nov 22, 2022



Today at the **#FezForum** we welcome the PLURAL+ 2022 Ceremony!  
**@Pluralplus @IOMatUN**

Young filmmakers from around the world share compelling stories, balancing **#migration** narratives by portraying **#diversity**, **#inclusion** and the prevention of **#xenophobia** at **#PLURALplus22**.



In January 2021, in collaboration with the Municipality of La Courneuve (France), UNAOC has launched an innovative programme, involving groups of youth participants coming from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds. Named **"News Generation Against Hate: Empowering Local Youth to Create Alternative Narratives in the Media"**, the programme's first edition offered 30 youth from La Courneuve the opportunity to acquire new skills in media literacy and meet with national celebrities engaged in the fight against racism and the promotion of multicultural awareness. The youth created their own media productions based on the programme content and their personal experiences on national issues affecting their daily realities. In May 2022, 22 beneficiaries and the delegation of La Courneuve City Hall arrived in New York for a concluding phase of the programme. While in New York, the youth engaged in many activities involving a presentation of the programme outcomes at the United Nations headquarters in the presence of representatives from Member States and United Nations senior officials, thematic debates with United Nations representatives, encounters with local associations and cultural visits.

A 50-minute documentary presenting the journey of the programme's beneficiaries, from their



**La France à l'ONU** @franceonu  
3:43 PM · May 4, 2022

Des jeunes de @La\_Courneuve présentent à l'ONU leurs travaux #LesMediasCestNous. A travers des podcasts et émissions, ce projet met en avant le rôle essentiel des jeunes pour déconstruire les stéréotypes, lutter contre la désinformation et promouvoir le multiculturalisme.




**#LesMedias C'est Nous**

**NEWS GENERATION AGAINST HATE**  
Empowering La Courneuve Youth to Create Alternative Narratives and Champion Diversity in the Media

Wednesday, 4 May 2022, 300 - 500 PM EDT  
Conference Room 8, United Nations Headquarters, New York

UNAOC United Nations Alliance of Civilizations laCourneuve

commitments and perceptions on key social issues to their projects and media productions, was developed. It was screened on the premises of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where youth participants engaged in an inter-generational dialogue with an expert panel.



*La Courneuve youth presented the media projects they produced as part of UNAOC's "News Generation Against Hate" programme at the United Nations headquarters, New York, May 2022*

## YOUTH AND EDUCATION FIELDS OF ACTION

Acknowledging the critical role youth play in our society through education, training and other opportunities, UNAOC empowers youth globally and recognizes them as powerful agents for social change.

### YOUTH SOLIDARITY FUND

*“For me, the project was a rich framework for exchanges and learning. I learned a lot while discussing and collaborating with young people from crisis areas. I also developed leadership skills by leading debates on peace with young people from marginalized neighbourhoods. The Youth Peace Dialogue project has propelled its beneficiaries to the forefront of the fight to promote peace through concrete and relevant actions.”*

Nadia Barry, YSF project participant



The **Youth Solidarity Fund (YSF)** remains one of the leading support mechanisms in the United Nations system for young people promoting social cohesion and tackling polarization through their youth-led projects. Since its inception in 2008, YSF has funded 73 youth-led organizations in over 42 states, representing a total of \$2,49 million in investments. In 2022, YSF has been featured in the Peacebuilding Funding Dashboard, an initiative proposed by the Secretary-General to catalogue existing UN-headquartered-based financing instruments focused on peacebuilding activities. Currently, it is the only United Nations funding mechanism providing funding support directly to youth-led organizations.

In 2022, the five grant recipients selected in 2021 completed their projects as well as their capacity-building journey. With the support of their designated mentors who provided individualized support to the organizations, they enhanced their individual, as well as organizational capacities.

YSF was successful in providing participants with access to peer networks. Having had an opportunity to go through this programme individually as well as collectively added benefits to their experience. The youth-led organizations shared their experiences, successes and challenges throughout the year, cheering each other on and providing advice based on their lessons learned. In addition, the peer-learning sessions encouraged further leadership growth which was evident from the way the project coordinators presented themselves and their projects in the subsequent forums and online platforms.

Project implementation at the country level started in June 2021 and ended in April 2022. Despite some political and socio-economic challenges that occurred during the project delivery, all projects were completed as planned. In most cases, the results surpassed the initial expectations. The following are some of the achievements of the individual projects:

## YOUTH SOLIDARITY FUND

**“Bridging the Past, Present and Future” by Architects of Diversity (AOD), Malaysia**

Twenty youth leaders engaged in a six-day online short course, learning and deconstructing negative narratives related to identity-based differences. The interactive and gamified nature of the activities contributed to boosting participants’ confidence to design and develop solutions to address key issues and be the leading force behind promoting a diverse and pluralistic society in Malaysia. This has manifested in the creation of twelve community engagement projects that were completed across the country, encouraging intercultural understanding and cooperation along the way.

**“Youth Peace Dialogue” by Association Development by Young People (ADYP), Burkina Faso**

Thirty young people were trained in conflict management and nonviolent communication. ADYP set up three peacebuilding clubs in three municipalities of Burkina Faso which serve as a hub for the trained youth to continue their peacebuilding work. Through various activities such as workshops, dialogues and advocacy campaigns, they brought together youth from diverse backgrounds, regions, religions, ethnicities and levels of education to promote peace and religious tolerance. The project was particularly impactful in involving young women enabling them to not only actively participate, but to speak up, learn and develop new skills and assume leadership roles. Women participation reached almost 50% which surpassed the initially anticipated 30% ratio for women's engagement.

**“Stitch the Split of Peace” by Health and Rural Development (HARD) Balochistan, Pakistan**

One hundred young women and men were trained as youth peace activists and empowered to run their training sessions and dialogues for 1,002 young people in their communities. Throughout the project cycle, HARD Balochistan staged various activities, including intergenerational dialogues, advocacy meetings and campaigns, sports tournaments and festivals, during which additional 3,542 young people were engaged and sensitized to mes-



sages of peace and interreligious harmony. Young women were particularly eager to be involved as peace activists as well as in organizing community activities. They benefited from the different aspects of the project, be it in the opportunity to raise their voices and solidify their role in peacebuilding efforts; participate in sports competitions, a very rare opportunity that provided them with a platform to play, showcase their talent, and enhance the capabilities to contribute to peace discussions; or lead some of the community activities.

### **“Learning to Live Together” by Tech Tribes, Jordan**

Together with local partners, including youth, Tech Tribes developed a unique online platform and educational toolkit to bring refugees a little closer to host communities. Through a series of design-thinking and human-centred design workshops, a wide array of stakeholders engaged in creating a unique educational resource for teachers and non-formal education professionals. When put into practice, both teachers and students testified to its effectiveness. What started as an uncomfortable activity for many, progressed into promising new relationships for most. Just after two weeks of implementing the afterschool non-formal education activities, students from both sides were seen interacting with each other, discussing ideas, telling stories and collaborating to form a library committee.



### **“Breaking Down Borders Africa Toolkit Series” by the Leaders Who Dare to Dream Foundation, South Africa**

In this pan-African project, 60 young leaders co-created three interactive toolkits addressing issues of xenophobia, Afrophobia, racial injustice and safeguarding the rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Over one hundred young people from 22 countries across the African continent contributed to the content creation process with their experiences related to racism, xenophobia and intolerance. Peer learning was highlighted as one of the most beneficial elements of the project. The toolkits are a living document, constantly evolving with new data, inputs and personal stories. Three workshops have been developed to introduce the toolkits and kickstart the discussions around these topics with young people across the continent.



Continuing the work initiated in 2021, UNAOC, together with the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) and UNOCT organized the **“Digital Games for Peace”** project to harness the creative synergies of youth from South and Southeast Asia and the promise of game-based innovations in cultivating pertinent competencies for prevention of violent extremism. Twenty-two game-changers, selected from over 100 youth aged 18-35 years old from Afghanistan, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka benefited from capacity-building and mentorship by global experts. Four distinct digital games were conceptualized and prototyped to prevent violent extremism through education, intercultural dialogue and social-emotional learning. They were presented in the final online event to the experts in the field, as well as to the public.



*“Taking part in Digital Games for Peace has given me the skills, exposure, connections and confidence to grow my games for social impact practice.”*

Anzal Baig, Digital Games for Peace project participant



*“The most important thing for me to implement my peace project was the self-confidence and the empowerment that I gained from this programme. UNAOC Young Peacebuilders taught us to believe in ourselves and to implement our ideas.”*

Ahmed Abdullah Saad, UNAOC Young Peacebuilders participant, YPB4 MENA edition



With the objective of empowering influential young leaders and building a network of young peacebuilders, UNAOC finalized the implementation of the 4th edition of its **Young Peacebuilders Programme (YPB)** and implemented the 5th edition. Through YPB, UNAOC strengthens the participants' competencies in conflict transformation and resolution, mediation, and promotion of non-violent activism through a tailor-made blended curriculum allowing participants to work on specific issues related to peacebuilding and prevention of conflict and radicalization in their respective communities. The YPB also provides a platform to bridge the gap between youth-led peace initiatives and decision-makers.

After having received training and mentorship in 2021, 20 participants of the 4th edition of YPB (focusing on North Africa and the Middle East) attended a final symposium in Rabat, Morocco, on 13-16 June 2022. The objective was to

“

*“If you have a goal towards achieving sustainable peace and a passion for peacebuilding, this is the programme to apply for. Through UNAOC Young Peacebuilders, I gained valuable knowledge and practical skills to implement my peace project in my community...”*

Mariam Yousif Alawadhi, UNAOC Young Peacebuilders participant, YPB3 MENA edition

”



Young Peacebuilders Symposium in Rabat, Morocco, June 2022

provide visibility to their initiatives towards peacebuilding and the promotion of diversity and mutual understanding. After conducting a thorough preparation programme, enhancing the participants' presentation, networking and advocacy skills, the participants presented their innovative peacebuilding work in front of stakeholders, coming from the government, the private sector, United Nations, civil society, academia and media. Young people and stakeholders exchanged ideas on the implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda. Youth's visibility was also raised through

the UNAOC's website and the production of a series of videos showcasing the results of the participants' projects and the power of youth in peacebuilding, which have been disseminated through UNAOC communication channels. More than 400,000 people, including many decision-makers, are now aware of the innovative and effective work of youth in peacebuilding. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the final external and independent evaluation of this edition showed that the programme successfully enhanced the competencies and visibility of the participants.



*“This programme validated that my goals are not too ambitious to attain and even made it, to a certain degree, clearer how I can work towards them through the networking opportunities it provided.”*

Anand Junior Bharratt, UNAOC Young Peacebuilders participant,  
YPB5 LAC edition

In June 2022, UNAOC launched the 5th edition of YPB, focusing on Latin America and the Caribbean, targeting 20 young women and men from Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. UNAOC enhanced youth's competencies, such as intercultural and interfaith dialogue, and conflict analysis, through online and face-to-face training, the latter occurring in Merida, Spain, on 3-8 October 2022. Sessions were developed, starting from the participant's experiences and emotions, and making use of interactive learning methods such as sports, art, games, debate, role games, expert talks, movie analysis, group discussions, intercultural encounters and reflections. During the training, the participants enhanced their knowledge and expertise on issues directly linked to peace activities they were developing in their communities. Their projects tackled a range of issues, including “Prevention, Peacebuilding, and Conflict Transformation”; “Intergenerational Dialogue”;

“Media, Technology, and Storytelling”; “Gender and Peacebuilding”; and the “UN Youth, Peace, and Security Agenda.” After implementing those activities, the participants presented their work at the 9th UNAOC Global Forum.

The regional and global network of young peacebuilders was successfully expanded, as the YPB participants of the 4th and 5th editions joined the YPB network, which is currently comprised of 100 members from 43 countries.



*Participants of the 5th edition of UNAOC Young Peacebuilders during their capacity-building workshop in Merida, Spain, October 2022*

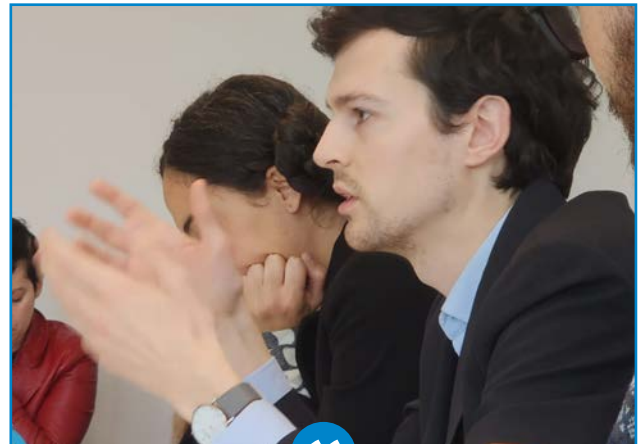


*UNAOC Fellows traveled to the Moroccan cities of Fez, Rabat and Casablanca during the first leg of the UNAOC Fellowship Programme, November 2022*

In 2022, UNAOC launched the 13th edition of its **Fellowship Programme**. Building on lessons learned from the previous iterations, this edition of the Fellowship, organized with the support of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers, was designed to be implemented in a hybrid mode, combining the intercultural trips with an extensive online engagement component to enhance their learning and participation throughout the year.

Fourteen young professionals from the MENA, Europe and North America, aged between 25 to 35 years old, were selected to take part in the programme based on their experience and expertise related to the selected main theme “Countering racism and discrimination: the nexus to building pluralistic and diverse societies”. During the first phase of the Fellowship, the participants engaged in a series of online workshops designed to initiate conversations around the main theme while strengthening intercultural competencies. These online interactions provided an opportunity to get to know one another, establish a level of connection and trust before embarking on a trip and learn about specific case studies related to each participant’s background. Contrary to prior editions, this time all fellows from both regions traveled to Morocco, where they took part in the

9th UNAOC Global Forum as well as experienced the traditional structure of the exchange trip by meeting with actors and partners operating in the field related to the main theme. The second segment of the journey will be completed in 2023 with field visits to Finland and Switzerland.

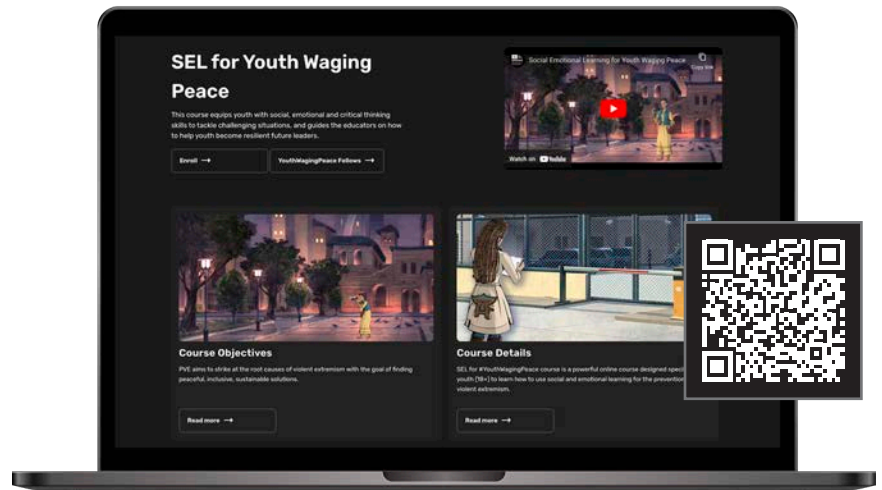


*“There is much similarity and convergence among the fellows’ general outlooks; and yet each person brought a very unique and distinct perspective to the discussion.”*

Joseph Briefel, UNAOC Fellow

UNAOC and the UNESCO MGIEP launched the Social and Emotional Learning online course within the framework of their joint **#YouthWagingPeace** programme, a PVE-through-education initiative. This course equips youth with social, emotional and critical thinking skills to tackle challenging situations and prevent violent extremism while guiding educators on how to help youth

to become resilient future leaders. The online self-directed course uses scenario-based learning (graphic novel) to engage learners and provides them with the opportunity to arrive at their insights. To promote the launch, in August 2022, UNAOC and UNESCO MGIEP co-hosted an Instagram live event entitled “Building Violence Interventions for the Young”.



“

*“Looking at the current global scene, we see a sharp rise in stigma, polarization, racism and hate speech against vulnerable communities. This is where education comes into play. Teaching about humanistic universal values of compassion, mutual respect, diversity and human dignity for all. We have long recognized at UNAOC that education is a core component of any healthy, diverse, just and inclusive society. Therefore, education is one of the pillars of the work of UNAOC intersecting with the youth pillar.”*

Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for UNAOC at ‘Peace, Education and Dialogue’ event, convened by UNITAR in New York, United Nations headquarters, September 2022



”

## PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL AND INTERFAITH DIALOGUE THROUGH INNOVATION



*"The Intercultural Innovation Hub is not just recognition, it's a transformative experience that empowers organizations like ours to scale our impact and amplify our voice in addressing the grassroots conflict using technology. The training and capacity-building programs have strengthened our organization and enabled us to achieve even greater heights in empowering underserved communities in Sri Lanka."*

Kishoth Navaretnarajah, Strengthening Youth Leadership Collective, IIH recipient

Recognizing the essential role of intercultural and interfaith dialogue, UNAOC implements innovative projects and programmes strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations and individuals, and their ability to create a positive impact in their local communities and beyond.

Under the **Intercultural Innovation Hub (IIH)** – formerly known as IIA), UNAOC and BMW Group, with the support of Accenture, continued to strengthen innovative grassroots projects that encourage intercultural dialogue and work toward a more peaceful and socially inclusive world by building mutual respect and promoting diverse societies. Throughout 2022, the ten projects selected in late 2021, coming from Brazil, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany,

Mexico, India Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Switzerland, benefited from comprehensive and tailored made mentoring aimed to bolster the capacities of recipient organizations and improve the long-term impact of their projects, allowing them to sustainably expand and replicate their initiatives in other contexts. A series of webinars and one-on-one mentoring meetings were organized during the first half of the year and culminated in a face-to-face workshop in Munich, Germany which focused on the topics of organizational development strategy, effective storytelling and use of social media. The organizations implementing the project will continue to benefit from capacity-building support and an additional in-person training scheduled for April 2023 in Mexico City, Mexico.



*“In the past year, I’ve been putting some of what I’ve learned about peaceful communication into practice by writing articles about interfaith topics in France. Thanks to the training I received, I was able to present issues in a way that was really promoting peace. What we were given as tools on communication is applicable not just online, and that’s what I’ve been doing.”*

EDIN participant



UNAOC and UNOCT/UNCCT implemented the final phase of their joint pilot project **EDIN – “Empowering Dialogue and Interfaith Networks”**. On 17-18 February 2022 in New York, during the concluding hybrid event, 17 young religious leaders, representatives of faith-based organizations and young media makers, covering Christianity, Judaism and Islam, showcased the impact and results of their social media campaigns that ran during 2021. Participants, including Member States, faith-based organizations and civil society, engaged in a moderated discussion on the topics “Interreligious Dialogue and Campaigns Celebrating Interfaith and Intercultural Exchange”; “National Challenges, Experiences from the Ground – How has EDIN Helped to Respond and Address Challenges?” and

“Changing Global Landscape and Future Challenges – How has/can EDIN Adapt and Respond?”. The project received positive feedback from EDINers and several Member States’ representatives, which noted the value of providing capacity building to young religious leaders. They also encouraged replicating the pilot in other regions, as well as expanding the project’s scope beyond Abrahamic faiths and target communities, where inter-faith or intra-faith conflicts and tensions based on xenophobia, hate speech and racism persist or have indications of emerging.

Following the project’s completion, an external evaluator issued a report, focusing on its relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability. The evaluator noted strong

evidence that the results of the capacity-building support offered to young people would outlast the project's duration. It also included a series of findings and recommendations, which the project could benefit from. For example, to engage external partners in all phases of the project from the onset; to bring on board several mentors from the media sector and faith community to guide participants on sensitive topics and issues that may arise in the course of their social media campaigns' design and implementation.



*"How to facilitate interfaith dialogue online is something new that I have learned and that I should now be able to put into practice in my interfaith activities."*

EDIN participant



UNAOC continued to maintain and utilize **Intercultural Leaders(IL)**—a skills and knowledge-sharing platform developed in collaboration with BMW Group, for civil society organizations and young leaders who participated in UNAOC programming activities that work on addressing cross-cultural tensions. By the end of December 2022, 1,069 alumni had joined the platform and are now collaborating with like-minded civil society leaders and organizations, committed to advancing the UNAOC's mission and objectives across the world. By providing this platform to facilitate networking and relationship building, UNAOC has been able to assist its alumni in developing an increased capacity to sustain their work, promoting the values that underpin UNAOC activities.



On 24 March 2022, the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee held an open meeting at the United Nations headquarters in New York to encourage Member States to reinforce their efforts in the field of countering terrorist narratives. Titled "Countering Terrorist Narratives and Preventing the Use of The Internet for Terrorist Purposes", the open meeting served as an opportunity for Mr. Atif Rashid, a young UK journalist and a co-author of the "Change of Heart" podcast, to showcase his work, including involvement under EDIN. Atif shared his experience of interviewing reformed extremists and their motivation of spreading hatred and violence, and how EDIN has empowered him and other young project participants to create their social media campaigns. He highlighted the importance and usefulness of EDIN which brought together faith leaders and media makers to learn from each other, because, as he put it, "Often faith leaders don't have the media skills to get their positive messages across on social media, and media makers don't have the religious knowledge/ understanding to sufficiently challenge extremists".

# PROMOTION OF SPORT AND ITS VALUES AS A TOOL TO PREVENT VIOLENT EXTREMISM

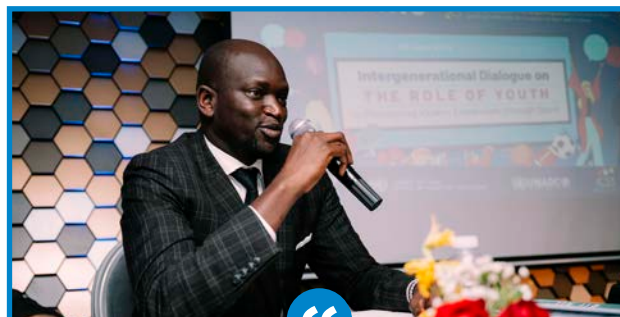
Acknowledging the important role that sports have historically played in disseminating positive values worldwide across civilizations and cultures, UNAOC implements initiatives highlighting sports' role in promoting peace, and preventing and countering violent extremism.

UNOCT, in partnership with UNAOC, UNICRI and the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS), implemented the third year of the **"United Nations Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events, and Promotion of Sport and Its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism"**. As a partner, UNAOC has played an important role in mainstreaming youth perspectives in the programme, as well as highlighting the role of sport in the prevention of violent extremism conducive to terrorism. Its contribution to the programme's implementation throughout 2022 included, but was not limited to the following:

UNAOC organized the "MENA Youth Forum on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) through Sport" (21-23 June 2022 in Rabat, Morocco) and the "Global Youth Forum on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) through Sport" (21-23



UNAOC organized a MENA Youth Forum on PVE through Sport, Rabat, Morocco, June 2022



*"Youth have the energy, strength, and ability to act as agents of change. Sport teaches you values by action, like respect and perseverance."*

Alioune Ndiaye, Head of Peace and Citizenship Division of ICESCO, at the MENA Youth Forum on PVE through Sport, Morocco, June 2022

November 2022 in Fez, Morocco), bringing together a total of 40 young civil society leaders between 18 and 35 years old, involved in PVE, policymaking, and/or sport-based peacebuilding activities. They reflected on the use of sport to prevent violent extremism and how to better integrate young people in PVE-through-sport policies. The youth fora built on the power of sport to promote increased youth participation in national and regional PVE strategies, and the significant contribution of the youth in fostering sustainable peace and development. The recommendations that came out of both youth fora are being consolidated and will be shared with relevant decision-makers in 2023.

UNAOC led and coordinated the production of *"Preventing Violent Extremism through Major Sporting Events – A Handbook for Organizers"*.

The Handbook provides advice to organizers of major sporting events on measures that can be taken to prevent violent extremism. Those include, but are not limited to, leveraging the positive values of sport, advocating for youth participation and gender equality, along with reducing socioeconomic inequality. The Handbook was officially launched during the 9th UNAOC Global Forum.

UNAOC supported UNICRI in organizing the National Focal Points (NFP) meetings in Bangkok, Thailand (10-12 May 2022) and Dakar, Senegal (30 November-1 December 2022). The meetings brought together NFPs from 20 countries, providing them with a platform to share lessons learned and best practices on the security of major sporting events, as well as on the use of sport to PVE, considering regional characteristics such as a common legal framework, geographical context, drivers of violent extremism and threats. In both events, UNAOC facilitated an exchange between NFPs on involving youth in policy development and preventing violent extremism through major sporting events.

The co-implementing partners, in collaboration with Generation Amazing, launched the youth-focused campaign “More than a game”

on the margins of the Doha Forum, 27 March 2022. During a high-level roundtable, the Global Sports Programme presented the achievements of sports values-based initiatives for preventing violent extremism while highlighting ongoing efforts to secure major sporting events from terrorism threats. The hybrid event gathered Member States, international organizations, sports federations, civil society organizations and global football icons. Since then, UNAOC has promoted the campaign on its website and social media.

The co-implementing partners, under the leadership of UNOCT, launched the “*Guide for Policymakers for the use of Sport for the Prevention of Violent Extremism*”, intending to support relevant decision-makers in their efforts to adopt sport-based policies aligned with their prevention of violent extremism objectives, ensuring successful integration of sports in their action plans and national strategies dedicated to fostering resiliency to violent extremism. The publication greatly benefited from the contribution of international and regional-level organization experts, athletes, sports associations, foundations, academia, think tanks, civil society, and youth-led and youth-oriented organizations.





*Sport for One Humanity' initiative announced 10 recipients during a ceremony on the sidelines of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum, Fez, Morocco, November 2022*

*"Through Sport for One Humanity, we aspire to expand our horizons, strengthen our programs and networking to scale our peacebuilding effort."*

Casandra Solis, Education for Sharing, Sport for One Humanity recipient



UNAOC provides technical expertise to the **'Sport for One Humanity'** initiative established by Turkish Airlines, whose objective is to select and support innovative sports-based projects implemented by civil society organizations that promote a culture of peace, mutual understanding and cooperation among diverse communities and cultures around the world.

Launched in March 2022, Sport for One Humanity received strong interest from civil society organizations working in the field of sport and development, with nearly 600 applications from 83 countries. Following a rigorous evaluation process, a total of 10 projects were selected with the support of an international jury and presented during a ceremony on the sidelines of the 9th UNAOC Global Forum. The event brought together the beneficiaries with influencers in sport, the private sector and civil society to increase the visibility of the ten grassroots organizations and raise awareness about the Sport for One Humanity initiative. An online mentoring phase facilitated by a pool of experts started in December 2022. It will

be followed in 2023 by a series of workshops aimed at strengthening the projects' capacity and sustainability. Below is a brief description of the selected projects (in alphabetical order):

### **"Play for Peace" by Angaza Sports and Development Centre, Kenya**

The project incorporates play-based pedagogical tools to promote intercultural dialogue, gender empowerment and social inclusion by organizing intercommunity sports tournaments and leagues, as well as by providing media skills training to youth towards the promotion of peace.

### **"Balochistan Indigenous Games Restoration and Standardization Project" by College of Youth Activism and Development, Pakistan**

The project aims to promote the value of traditional games for the promotion of social cohesion, cultural dialogue and provide physical activity opportunities to local youth in the proposed three districts of Balochistan through sports competitions and media advocacy campaigns.

### **"After School Life Skills Programme through Football" by Dream a Dream, India**

The project supports young people from vulnerable backgrounds with experiences of adversity through age-appropriate curriculums designed to deliver critical life skills such as problem-solving, interacting with one another, managing conflict and gender awareness, among others.

### **"Sports for Sharing" by Education for Sharing, Mexico**

Sports for Sharing is an educational program using recreational sports to encourage children, teachers and families to assume their role as change agents in today's global challenges by strengthening their socio-emotional skills, SDG education, and strengthening civic values by encouraging participants to develop more inclusive attitudes, respect for cultural diversity and construction of peaceful spaces.

### **"The Sport for Protection project (STOP)" by Golden Boots Uganda, Uganda**

The Sport for Protection project uses sports to enhance resilience and social cohesion amongst vulnerable refugee and host communities in Kampala capital and Nakivale refugee settlement in Uganda. It uses sport to create platforms for inter-faith and intercultural dialogues through youth-led peace sports clubs, peer mentoring and peace education workshops.

### **"Football for All in Vietnam" by Football for All Vietnam, Vietnam**

The project seeks to maximize the power of football for inclusive participation, leadership education and mitigation of marginalized groups; gender inequality in Vietnam through increased participation of women and girls in football, life skills education programs, address gender inequality on the football pitch and equip them with leadership-related education to transform lives.

### **"Stop OSAEC (Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children)" by Football for Humanity, Philippines**

The project uses football to educate, empower, and protect vulnerable children (5-17 years old) at risk of Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) in disadvantaged communities across the Philippines using sport-based interventions configured with children's rights, inclusion, empowerment, child protection and other principles consistent with peace and development.

### **"Sports as a Community Opportunity to Respond and Engage (S.C.O.R.E)" by Open Field, Cameroon**

The project aims to promote peace and social cohesion through the civic engagement of vulnerable youths through the game of football, by providing peace education, promoting tolerance among youth, and creating civic engagement platforms incorporated into the curriculum of weekly football games and life skills, as well as training workshops, implemented with the support of the locals.

### **"Youth-led Street Sports for All" by Jordan Youth Innovation Forum, Jordan**

The project seeks to provide accessible sports opportunities for Jordanian youth, providing youth with capacity building, leadership skills, and sustainable development competences and ensuring the inclusion of underserved communities in sports through coach training, weekly sports practices for underprivileged youth, and interactive workshops for skills development with linkages to SDGs.

### **"Balkan Play 4 Inclusion" by Together Advancing Common Trust, Republic of North Macedonia**

The project focuses on strengthening the potential of sport to promote social cohesion by providing sports-centred non-formal education implementing a #BalkanPlay4Inclusion campaign, developing an e-learning platform with S4D resources, and establishing a regional camp to promote inclusivity and diversity.

## STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF WOMEN AS ESSENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO PEACE

Recognizing the important role women play in peace processes, UNAOC works with partners to strengthen women's role as essential enablers to build trust and confidence within their communities and provide a space and a voice for women as peace-makers and socio/cultural mediators.

In July 2022, UN Women, in collaboration with UNAOC, UNFPA and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), launched the pilot initiative **"Strengthening Young Women Peacebuilders' Capacity in Complex Crisis"**. The programme supports young women leading civil society organizations in fragile and/or conflict-affected countries by providing them with capacity building, strengthening their fundraising skills and creating a space for peer exchange, networking, and sharing of best practices and lessons learned among young women peacebuilders. Over 4,500 applications from 40 eligible countries were submitted for consideration. 30 young women peacebuilders from 29 countries and states affected by conflict were selected to take part in a capacity-building training scheduled for March 2023.

In partnership with Mujeres por África (MxA), UNAOC established the **Women's Alliance for Peace (WAP)**, aimed at promoting the role of women as peacemakers in Africa, strengthening their role as mediators in conflicts and situations with a sociocultural and religious dimension, achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. An Advisory Council comprising prominent African women provides the WAP with strategic direction. Since February 2021, UNAOC has engaged with two groups of female mediators at the local and community levels in Mali and the Central African Republic through monthly webinars to identify their needs and challenges and devise the most appropriate ways to support them. A first training cycle of 12 online webinars was completed between February 2021 and November 2022 and a training workshop held at the "Ecole de maintien de la paix" Bamako, Mali, successfully brought together a group of 18 women mediators from and outside of the capital. Additionally, a cohort of 30 women peacemakers from Mali, Central African Republic and Democratic Republic of the Congo, shared their experience in a session during the 9th UNAOC Global Forum. They highlighted the important



Participants of the UNAOC and the Foundation Mujeres Por Africa mediation training workshop convened in Bamako, Mali, June 2022

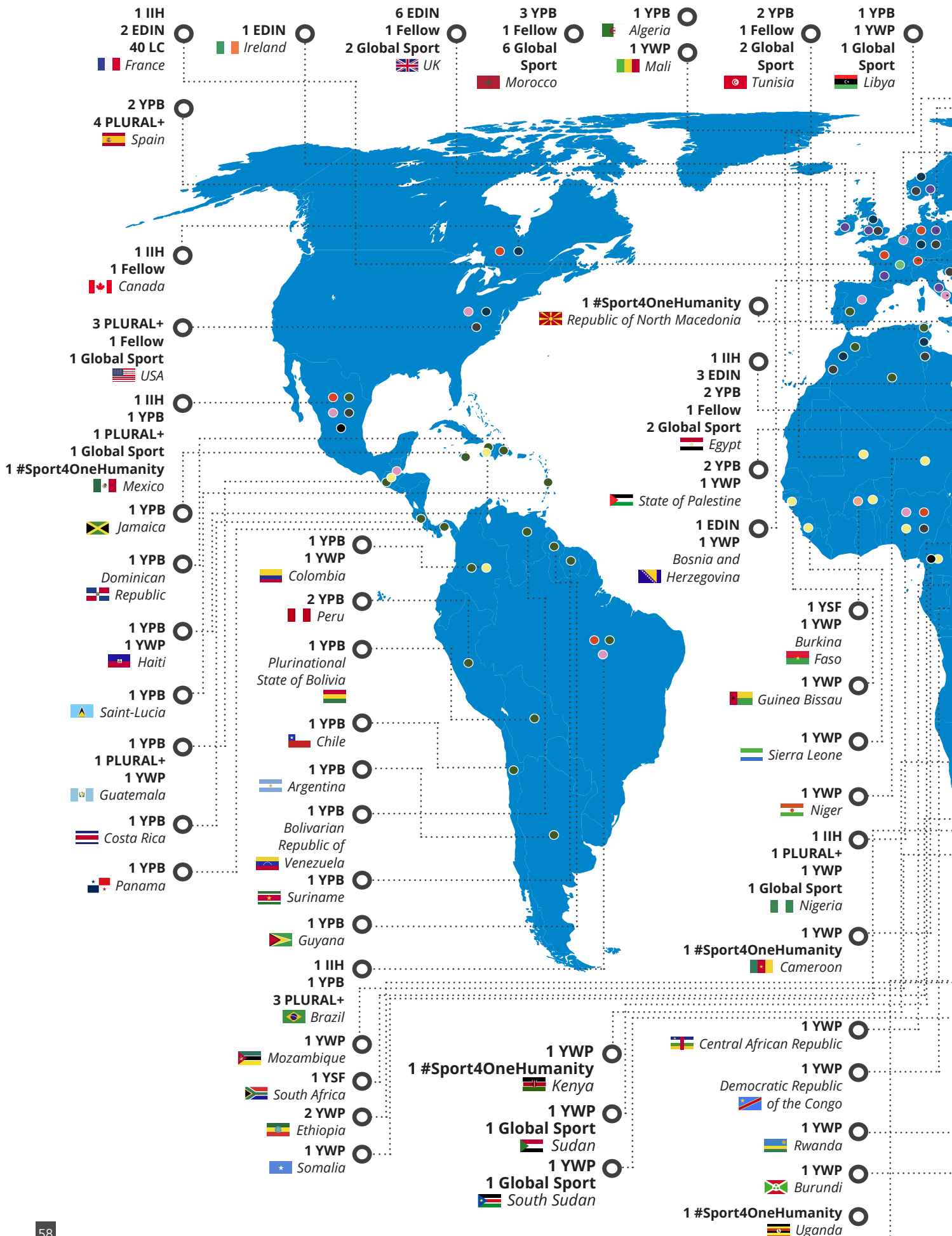


*"On behalf of the Central African delegation, thank you for inviting us to the 9th UNAOC Global Forum and for the opportunity to bring a strong and important message for women in conflict."*

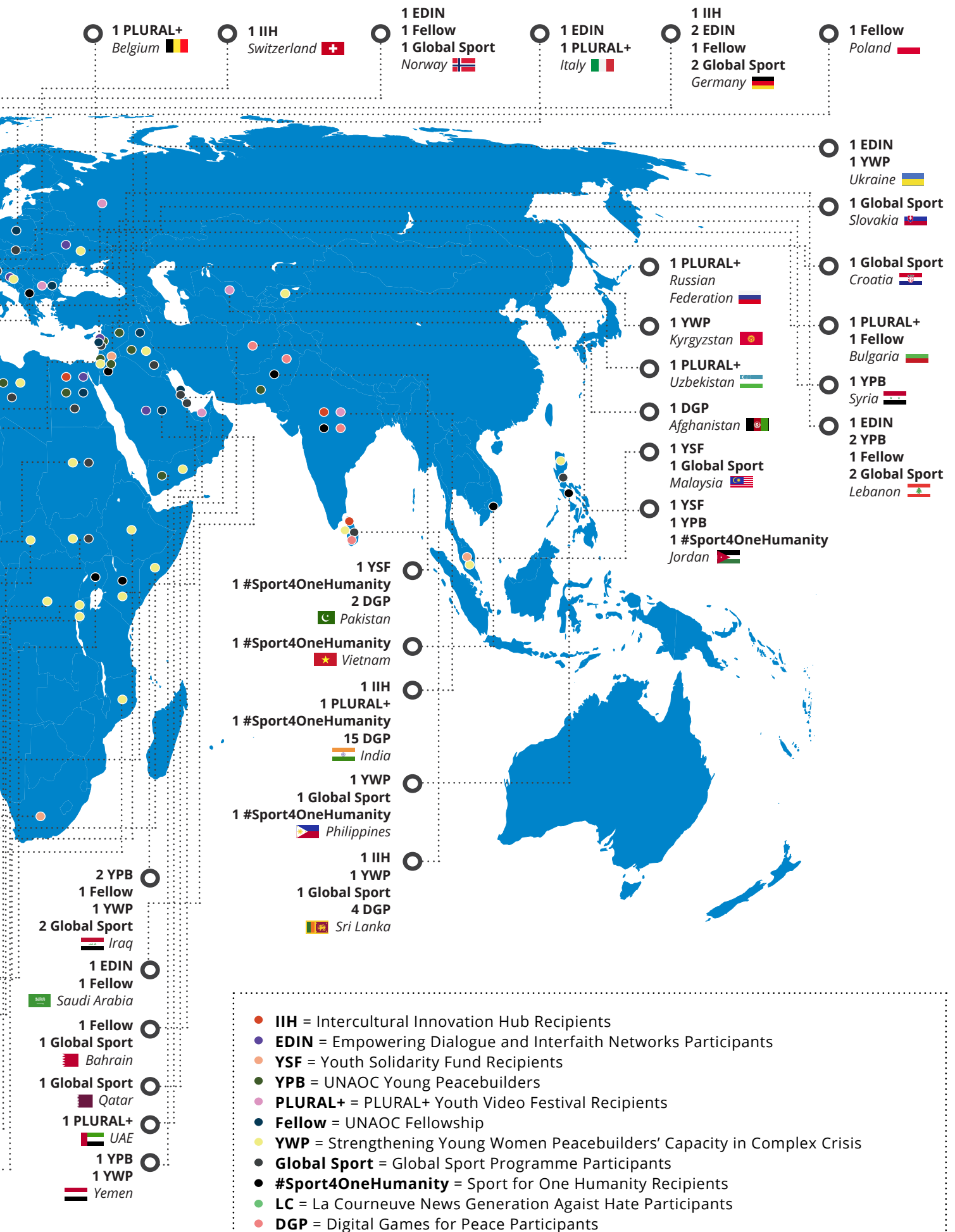
Chantal Solange Touabéna, Vice Coordinator of the African Women Leaders Network AWLN, Morocco, November 2022



role of women in mediating cultural and religious conflicts and identifying ways and opportunities to better promote inclusive peacemaking strategies and build relevant partnerships.



# GLOBAL PROGRAMMING



A person is seen from the side, wearing headphones and operating a professional video camera mounted on a tripod. The background is a blurred scene of a public event or concert, with vibrant blue and purple stage lights illuminating the crowd. The overall atmosphere is dynamic and professional.

## CHAPTER 5

# **POLICY ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH: PROMOTING UNAOC PRINCIPLES AND VALUES**

As a global convener, UNAOC continued to advocate for the promotion of interfaith, interreligious and intercultural dialogue. As part of the United Nations family, UNAOC joined forces with other agencies in promoting interfaith and interreligious dialogue; the culture of peace; global citizenship education; youth, peace and security agenda; prevention and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism; countering hate speech, xenophobic and racist rhetoric; sports for development and peace.

## PROMOTING INTERFAITH AND INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE



*“There is a deep concern about the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, antisemitism and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions or beliefs... 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.”*

Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for UNAOC at the OIC Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers, New York, September 2022



UNAOC continued to broaden the space for the engagement of faith-based organizations, faith actors and religious leaders through close consultations within the framework of the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites. As one of the co-Chairs of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development (IATF), together with the OASPG and UNFPA, UNAOC continued to streamline the work of the Task Force and strengthen the cooperation with its Multi-Faith Advisory Council (MFAC).

Throughout the year, the High Representative highlighted the work of UNAOC and the role of faith and religious leaders in conflict prevention, preventing and countering all forms of discrimination, xenophobia, Islamophobia, antisemitism and Christianophobia. Presentations and speaking engagements have been made during a series of high-level events, including the 48th Session of the OIC Council of Ministers “Partnering for Unity, Justice and Development” (Pakistan, March 2022), Ministerial Conference on Freedom of Religion



*The High Representative at the 7th Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in Kazakhstan, September 2022*

or Belief (the United Kingdom, July 2022), the 7th Congress of the Leaders of the World and Traditional Religions (Kazakhstan, September 2022), the United Nations General Assembly Side Event “Pathways to Respect” organized by the U.S. Department of State (New York, September 2022).

Celebrating the International Day of Human Fraternity (4 February), UNAOC and the Permanent Missions of Egypt and the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations in New York co-organized the event, featuring Member States, religious leaders and faith-based organizations. At the occasion, UNAOC highlighted its partnership with the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity on advancing the message of mutual respect, compassion and peace, which His Holiness Pope Francis and His Eminence the Grand Imam of Al Azhar Ahmed El Tayeb captured in the “Document of Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together” in February 2019.

UNAOC also co-sponsored the 2022 Annual Symposium on the Role of Religion and Faith-based Organizations in International Affairs.



*“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. For all we know, discrimination diminishes us all. It prevents people — and societies — from achieving their full potential.”*

Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos,  
United Nations Under-Secretary-General,  
High Representative for UNAOC, at the 7th  
Congress of the Leaders of the World and  
Traditional Religions, Kazakhstan, September 2022



*UNAOC co-organized a virtual event to commemorate the International Day of Human Fraternity with prominent religious leaders and representatives of faith-based organizations as speakers, February 2022*



*The High Representative at the launch of the “Pathways to Respect” by the US State Department’s Office of International Religious Freedom, New York, USA, September 2022*

## PLEDGE BY THE UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF, London, the United Kingdom, 5-6 July 2022



UNAOC took part in the **International Ministerial Conference on Freedom of Religion or Belief**, hosted by the UK Government in London. On the occasion, UNAOC reiterated several commitments, namely to,

- work with Member States, religious leaders, faith-based organizations, civil society and individuals in every country to fight against discrimination and stigmatization and uphold dialogue and respect for each other;
- implement recommendations of the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites and strengthen current partnerships and look for new ones with actors inside and outside the UN for the implementation of the Plan;
- implement Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, specifically as the High Representative carries out the role of the United Nations focal point to monitor and enhance a system-wide response to antisemitism;
- advance freedom of religion or belief around the world and support Member States to advance peace, dialogue and respect in the world.

## PROMOTING A CULTURE OF PEACE AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE



*“In today’s complex and multifaceted challenges, dialogue is a sine-qua-non for peace. History has shown that dialogue is not a simple process, but that if we fail to teach and cultivate it, the situation can give way to a monologue or to mutism, which is conducive to conflict and violent extremism...The revival of cultural and civilizational dialogue is a pre-requisite for durable peace.”*

Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for UNAOC, 6th Ministerial Meeting of the Forum of Ancient Civilizations, Iraq, December 2022

UNAOC continued to promote intercultural dialogue and strengthen a culture of peace through its cross-sectoral initiatives in the areas of education, youth, women, religious leaders, faith-based organizations, media and migration.

The Chief of Cabinet and Senior Advisor on Policy took part in the United Nations General Assembly high-level forum on “The Culture of Peace: Importance of Justice, Equality and Inclusion for Advancing Peacebuilding”, hosted

by the President of the 76th Session of the General Assembly on 6 September 2022. In her statement, Ms. Nihal Saad referred to the mandate of UNAOC with peace being at the heart of the work of the initiative. “A culture of peace should be nurtured through strengthening mutual respect and protecting the dignity of all members of the society regardless of their race, religion, belief or gender. As such, justice, equality and inclusion are pre-requisites for advancing peacebuilding”, she noted.

The High Representative delivered a keynote address at the Bahrain Dialogue Forum “East and West for Human Co-existence” (Bahrain, November 2022). In his remarks, Mr. Moratinos underscored that words like dialogue, mutual respect and diversity mean little if not supported by a concrete broad range of actions under an international umbrella of sincere cooperation from state and non-state actors. “After all, peace, justice, and human fraternity that we all aspire for, are what bind us together as we are all part of one humanity despite our many diverse cultures.”, he said.

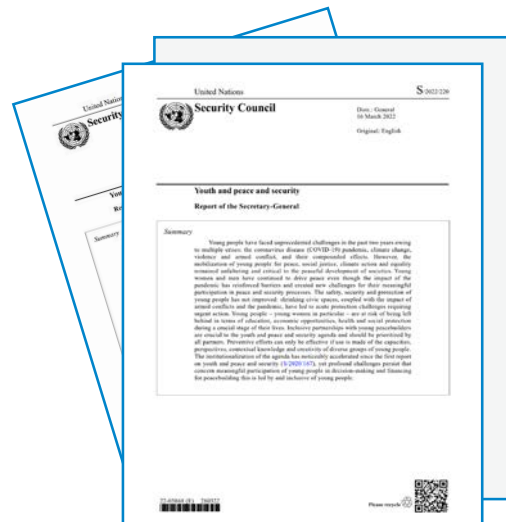
On the occasion of the International Day of Living Together in Peace, 16 May 2022, UNAOC issued a statement and marked the Day by partnering with other international organizations and key stakeholders in the premiere of the film ‘*All of Us*’ by Pierre Pirard.



From left to right, Ms. María Merchán Rocamora, consultant at UNAOC Geneva, Mr. Pierre Pirard, film director, and Mr. Namik Güner Erpul, Senior Representative of the UNAOC Geneva office, at the premiere of “*All of Us*” during the Ciné ONU event, Switzerland, May 2022

## SUPPORTING THE YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY (YPS) AGENDA

UNAOC continued to actively participate in the meetings and activities of the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD), contributing to various discussions around advancing the YPS agenda within the United Nations system. Its work and contribution to the YPS agenda have been recognized in the second report of the Secretary-General on Youth, Peace and Security (S/2022/220), issued in March 2022. The report highlighted the YPB programme as one of the peace education initiatives contributing to sustaining peace, reconciliation, human rights and social cohesion. UNAOC is also recognized as one of the United Nations entities which have integrated the YPS agenda into its strategic plan for 2019-2023.

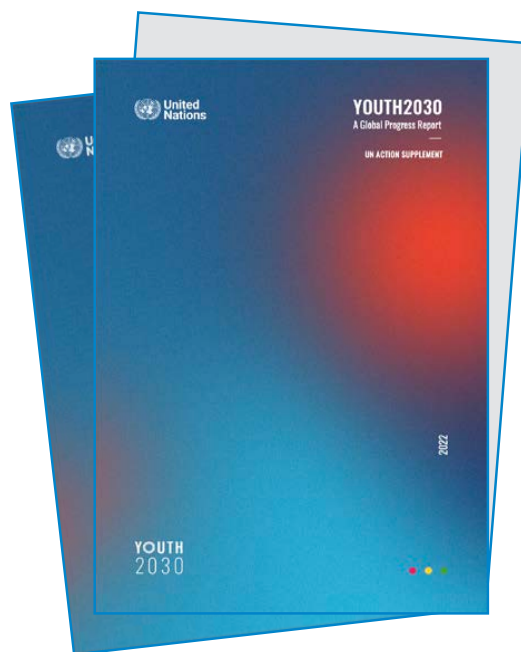


The YSF was featured as one of the few funding windows in the United Nations system that provides financial support directly to youth-led organizations.

Launched at the ECOSOC Youth Forum 2022, the second report on the status of implementation of Youth 2030, the UN Youth Strategy, highlighted how the United Nations system is advancing global commitments for and with youth, the impact of United Nations strategic planning; the availability of funding and coherence; and coordination on youth work. UNAOC was recognized for nine actions and functions on youth across eight Youth 2030 priority areas. The YSF, the IIH and UNAOC's practices related to funding youth-related activities were highlighted in the document.

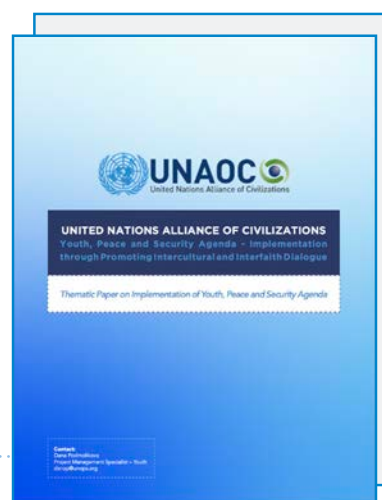
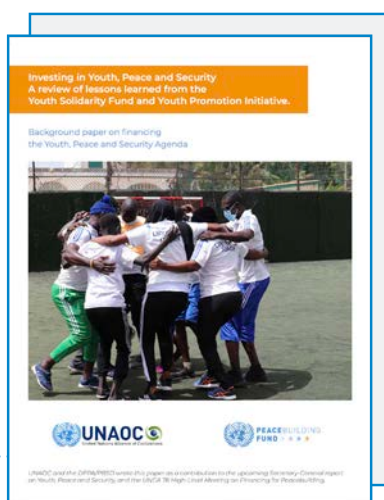
UNAOC submitted inputs into the 2022 United Nations Secretary-General reports on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace and on Youth, Peace and Security. In a lead-up to the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Financing Peacebuilding, it also developed and contributed to thematic papers.

The alumni of UNAOC youth programmes contributed inputs and shared their experiences in a series of policy events hosted by Member States and international organizations. For



*“Young people must be included and represented within existing UN engagement frameworks with faith-based actors to directly capture their experiences and unique contributions to inter-faith and intra-faith harmony.”*

Ms. Zulaika Nanfuka, YSF 2020 recipient



*UNAOC contributed to three thematic papers of the 2022 United Nations Secretary-General reports on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace and on Youth, Peace and Security.*

example, the YSF 2020 recipient, Ms. Vera Al-Mawla from Lebanon, delivered remarks at the “High-level Global Conference on Youth-Inclusive Peace Processes”, co-hosted by the State of Qatar, Finland and Colombia. Ms. Zulaika Nanfuka from Uganda, YSF 2020 recipient, highlighted her positive experience of working with UNAOC on the interfaith project and called for the United Nations system to improve their work with civil society in the field at the roundtable “The Role of the UN: Fostering Interreligious Dialogue in Peacebuilding Efforts”, organized by Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation and the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers. Together with the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation and Justice Call, UNAOC hosted a side event to the ECOSOC Youth Forum 2022 on increasing investment in flexible funding for youth-led organizations. An interactive conversation among participants, including Mr. Ziaullah Baloch, YSF 2021 recipient, highlighted the importance and impact of flexible funding and strategies to increase investment in it, including public-private partnerships and multi-partner funds.



UNAOC took part in a panel discussion on “Conquering the Divide in a Polarized World”, organized in the framework of the 27th Youth Assembly of AFS. It presented its ongoing youth programming and highlighted the importance of intercultural and interfaith dialogue in promoting social cohesion and sustainable peace, New York, USA, August 2022



*“Young people were not immune to the repercussions of the pandemic including being exposed to the negative trends in our societies. At the same time, youth have shown, time and again, to be the true agents of change around the globe... We need to re-enforce a reformed, networked multilateralism so that we can chart a new course for a better future for the young women and men of this generation and beyond.”*

Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General,  
High Representative for UNAOC, World Youth Forum, Egypt, January 2022

During the main part of the ECOSOC Youth Forum 2022, UNAOC and its partners, UN Women, UNFPA, UNODC, UNODA and the World Organization of the Scout Movement, co-organized a session on SDG 5, focusing on the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination of women and girls, exacerbated by the impacts of COVID-19, climate crisis, environmental destruction, and a conflict due to pre-existing structural inequalities. The session featured several young women leaders, including Ms. Vaibhavi Maske from Red Dot Foundation in India, a recipient of IIH 2022, who are leading the action for a sustainable recovery from COVID-19 pandemic, showcasing scalable solutions and outlining recommendations to centre young people, their perspectives and experience within COVID-19 recovery efforts back to the frontline.

## PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM CONDUCTIVE TO TERRORISM

UNAOC is a signatory of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact. Throughout 2022, UNAOC remained an active member and acted as a vice-chair of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism. It took regular part in the Compact's sessions and meetings, including, but not limited to, the Annual Beneficiaries Forum (Qatar, March 2022), Roundtable on the "Protection of Major Sporting Events and the Use of Sports' Values for the Prevention of Violent Extremism" (Qatar, March 2022) and "International Hub on Behavioural Insights to Counter-Terrorism: Fostering Resiliency and Human Rights through a Behavioural Insights Approach" (Spain, May 2022).

On several occasions, the High Representative showcased UNAOC's PVE-related projects in Africa, MENA and Asia that offer mentorship, the building capacity of civil society to build their resilience or providing seed funding for innovative work in the local community.



*"..It is important to meaningfully engage young people in the design and implementation of sport-based PVE initiatives and policies. Many of those programmes and policies target youth as beneficiaries or vulnerable populations, and the implementation directly affects them. If we don't include youth's voices, for example in the design and implementation of the National Action Plans (NAP) to prevent violent extremism, our efforts become less impactful, nearly irrelevant. Without listening to their voices and including their perspectives, we will never achieve the aspired level of sustainable peace."*

Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for UNAOC, Qatar, March 2022



## COUNTERING HATE SPEECH, XENOPHOBIC AND RACIST RHETORIC

As an active member of the United Nations Working Group on Hate Speech, and as the focal point for the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites, UNAOC continued to implement recommendations in the Plan to help counteract hate speech by promoting interfaith and intercultural dialogue, mutual respect and understanding. Notably, UNAOC organized and participated in various public events throughout the year on the topic.

At the high-level event on the report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Terrorist Attacks on the Basis of Xenophobia, Racism and Other Forms of Intolerance, or in the Name of Religion and Belief, convened by UNOCT in New York, November 2022, the High Representative noted several alarming trends. The trends include social media and other forms of communication being exploited as platforms for bigotry and hate speech, and public discourse being weaponized for political gains with incendiary rhetoric that stigmatizes and dehumanizes minorities, migrants, refugees and women, and



*Mr. Miguel Angel Moratinos, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for UNAOC, highlighted the work of UNAOC with civil society and the nexus of addressing the root causes of polarization and combating racism and discrimination based on human rights and the rule of law at the International Conference on Human Rights and Civil Society, Spain, May 2022*

demonizes “the other”. He highlighted UNAOC programmes in the area of addressing hate speech and xenophobia and called for stronger collaboration with all state and non-state stakeholders to counter the scourge of xenophobia and discrimination in all its forms while respecting human rights law and international law.

## CONTRIBUTING TO SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE AGENDA

On the initiative of the United Nations Inter-Agency Group on Sport for Development and Peace and as a contribution to the development of the second Secretary-General's report on Youth, Peace and Security, UNAOC co-authored a thematic paper on the contribution of sport to the Youth, Peace and Security agenda. The paper showcases through examples of specific projects, activities and other sport-based initiatives that sport contributes positively to the five pillars identified under the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250: participation, protection, prevention, disengagement/reintegration and partnerships.



*“The values inherent in the sport, such as mutual respect, solidarity and integrity, among other humanistic principles, are needed now more than ever. These values are at the heart of the mission of UNAOC...We believe that sport can be a powerful engine for social inclusion by bringing together people from diverse cultures, religions and ethnicities.”*

UNAOC statement on the occasion of International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, 6 April 2022



Within the framework of its 9th Global Forum, UNAOC organized a break-out session on “Sport as a vector for peace and inclusiveness”, intending to explore the opportunities and limitations of sport in fostering social inclusion and to provide recommendations for strengthening the impact of sport in promoting lasting peace. In addition, UNAOC organized, in collaboration with UNOCT, UNICRI and ICSS, a workshop on “Using Sport to Promote Inclusion and Resiliency” within the UNESCO comprehensive social cohesion and youth-focused workshop series for 400 master trainers in Sri Lanka and the Maldives (Online, September 2022).

## PROMOTING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

UNAOC continued to actively promote the importance of global citizenship education (GCED), seeking to establish a culture of peace where people of different identities, faiths, and cultures can identify as citizens belonging to a common humanity and where values of pluralism and diversity are viewed as enriching rather than polarizing. GCED serves as a useful vehicle to equip young generations with competencies that help them identify racist ideologies, hate speech, and fake news. To highlight the importance of GCED, UNAOC joined forces with relevant stakeholders, convening in-depth exchanges and participating in events to further refine the concept and broaden an international coalition of like-minded partners.

Notable examples of advocacy events on GCED included a workshop on “Promoting intercultural competencies, cross-cultural and interreligious exchange, and spaces for dialogue,” organized by UNAOC within the UNESCO workshop series in Sri Lanka and the Maldives (Online, September 2022); an event on “Peace, Education & Dialogue,” organized by the King Hamad Foundation for Peaceful Coexistence and UNITAR (New York, September 2022); and a break-out session on “Global Citizenship Education: Shaping Global Citizens through Transformative Education,” organized by UNAOC within the framework of its 9th Global Forum (Morocco, November 2022).

## OP-EDS AND LECTURES BY THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE

Throughout the year, the High Representative periodically presented lectures and wrote op-ed pieces on behalf of UNAOC to address pressing social issues around the world. His articles are available on his online blog entitled "Convivencia" ([blog.unaoc.org](https://blog.unaoc.org)) and featured in various publications. For 2022 in particular, the High Representative discussed the need for peace as a central theme. He wrote an impassioned article about the war in Ukraine as well as the horrors of violence and the urgent necessity to develop a culture of peace and mutual respect.



## PRESS STATEMENTS AND PRESS RELEASES

UNAOC published over 50 press statements and press releases that were disseminated through its main website, [www.unaoc.org](http://www.unaoc.org), and shared with a vast network of media contacts, partners, members of the Group of Friends, United Nations entities, online subscribers and other stakeholders. According to the social listening platform Brand24, media mentions of the High Representative's name generated a total reach of nearly 3 million users, which encompasses the estimated number of visits for domain names and contacts with relevant mentions. Meanwhile, media mentions of UNAOC for the past year, excluding social media, had reached an estimated 30.2 million people.



On 20 April 2022, in a press statement, the High Representative for UNAOC expressed his unequivocal condemnation of plans to burn the holy Quran declared by the leader of the far-right extremist group, Straus Kurs. He noted that such vile acts perpetrated by hate-mongers including by far-right extremists and other radical groups that aim at offending Muslims or adherents to any other faith contradicts the United Nations General Assembly resolution 73/164 on "Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence against persons based on religion or belief" and are an affront to the commitment made by all states under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction based on religion or belief. To read the full statement, please visit: <https://www.unaoc.org/2022/04/press-statement-on-the-far-right-plans-in-sweden-to-burn-the-holy-quran/>



A "Call for Respect of Religions and Beliefs" was issued by UNAOC in June 2022 concerning derogatory comments about religions. The High Representative reiterated the importance of strengthening efforts to advance respect for all religions and beliefs and foster dialogue on the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and for the diversity of religions and beliefs.

# MEDIA COVERAGE



UNAOC activities and the High Representative's advocacies were covered by leading international media entities, including print, TV, radio, web and digital. Several outlets spanning multiple languages, including Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, published pieces about UNAOC. In 2022, he was interviewed and profiled in major publications such as El Mundo, Antalya, Diario Libre, Rue 20, Mundiario, the America Times, and Brussels Times, among others. The High Representative's

participation in the VII Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in Astana in September 2022 was widely covered by major media entities, including Agencia EFE, Swissinfo.ch, La Vanguardia, Vatican News, Euro News and Astana Times. In addition, when the High Representative participated in the World Youth Forum in Egypt, his presence attracted broad media attention, with features in Al Ahram Hebdo, Al Ahram Weekly, Youm 7 and Soutalomma, among others.

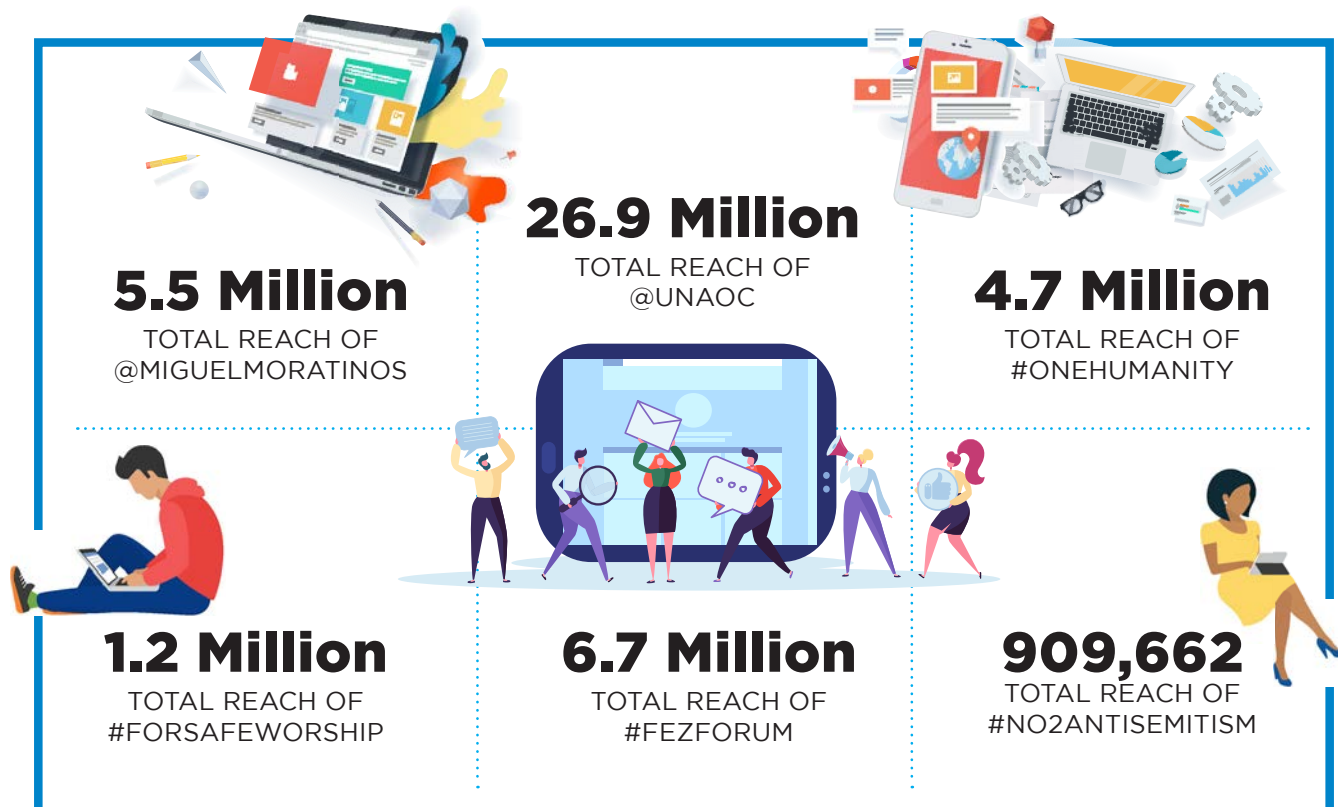


# DIGITAL OUTREACH AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Expanding its digital footprint, UNAOC generated social media impressions of up to 26.9 million, according to the social listening tool Brand24. Out of 10,000+ social media mentions, posts mentioning @UNAOC generated a total of over 60,000 interactions. Meanwhile, social media posts mentioning the High Representative's handle (@MiguelMoratinos) reached a total of 5.5 million users.

Further, UNAOC continued to cover its advocacy and programming activities live on social media to ensure maximum visibility among its followers on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

UNAOC continued to strengthen its digital presence and online visibility by developing a series of new microsites and digital assets. It further continued to upgrade its existing repertoire of websites with better usability features and more interactive interfaces.





**890,700**  
AVERAGE ORGANIC  
REACH AND PAGE VIEWS

for its main website,  
[www.unaoc.org](http://www.unaoc.org)



**Increased Views**  
FOR FLAGSHIP PROJECT  
WEBSITES

Websites for the 9th Global Forum,  
PLURAL+, IIH, and other projects had  
combined page views of more than  
420,000



## MULTIMEDIA PUBLICATIONS

UNAOC continued to publish a range of communication materials for both print and digital distribution, particularly its periodic “News Flash”, a newsletter which contains detailed coverage of UNAOC activities for each month. The newsletter was disseminated to a wide network that includes Member States, media entities, partner organizations, programme alumni, as well as online subscribers through UNAOC multimedia assets.

UNAOC further produced and highlighted an array of digital cards to promote its various projects and initiatives. These cards were used on social media to promote specific campaigns, such as the calls for applications of its projects, special events organized by UNAOC, as well as to boost the visibility of the call to action #forSafeWorship.



Further, UNAOC continued its live coverage of meetings, symposia, and other events to reach millions of users and increase engagement among its followers. In particular, the 9th UNAOC Global Forum was covered on all major digital platforms, and broadcast live through UN Web TV and the UNAOC website to reach a geographically diverse audience from around the world.

## CHAPTER 6

# FUNDING



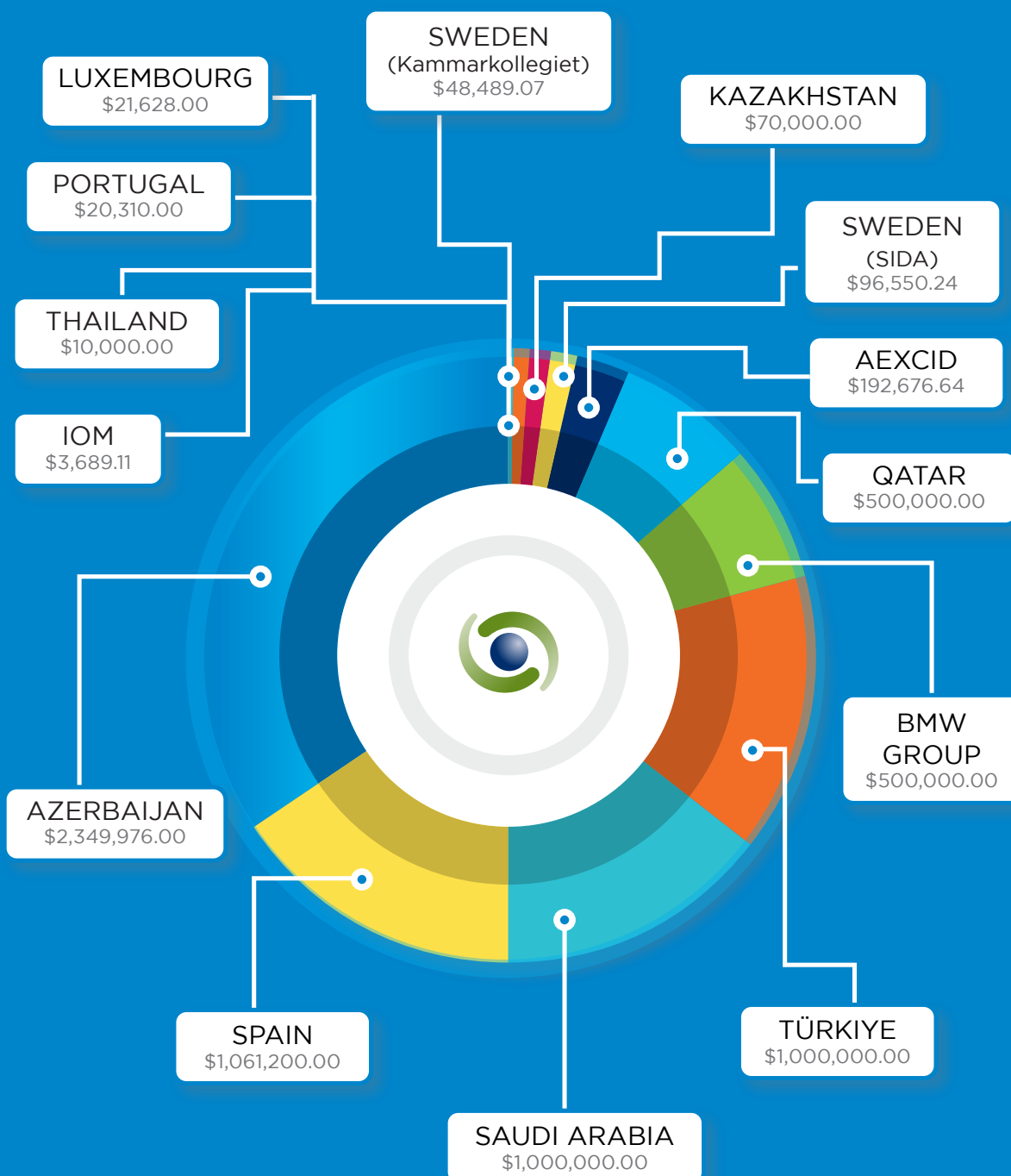
The achievements and progress outlined in this report have been made possible through generous contributions to the UNAOC voluntary trust fund. UNAOC operation and programming work are entirely funded by voluntary contributions with no allocations from the United Nations' regular budget.

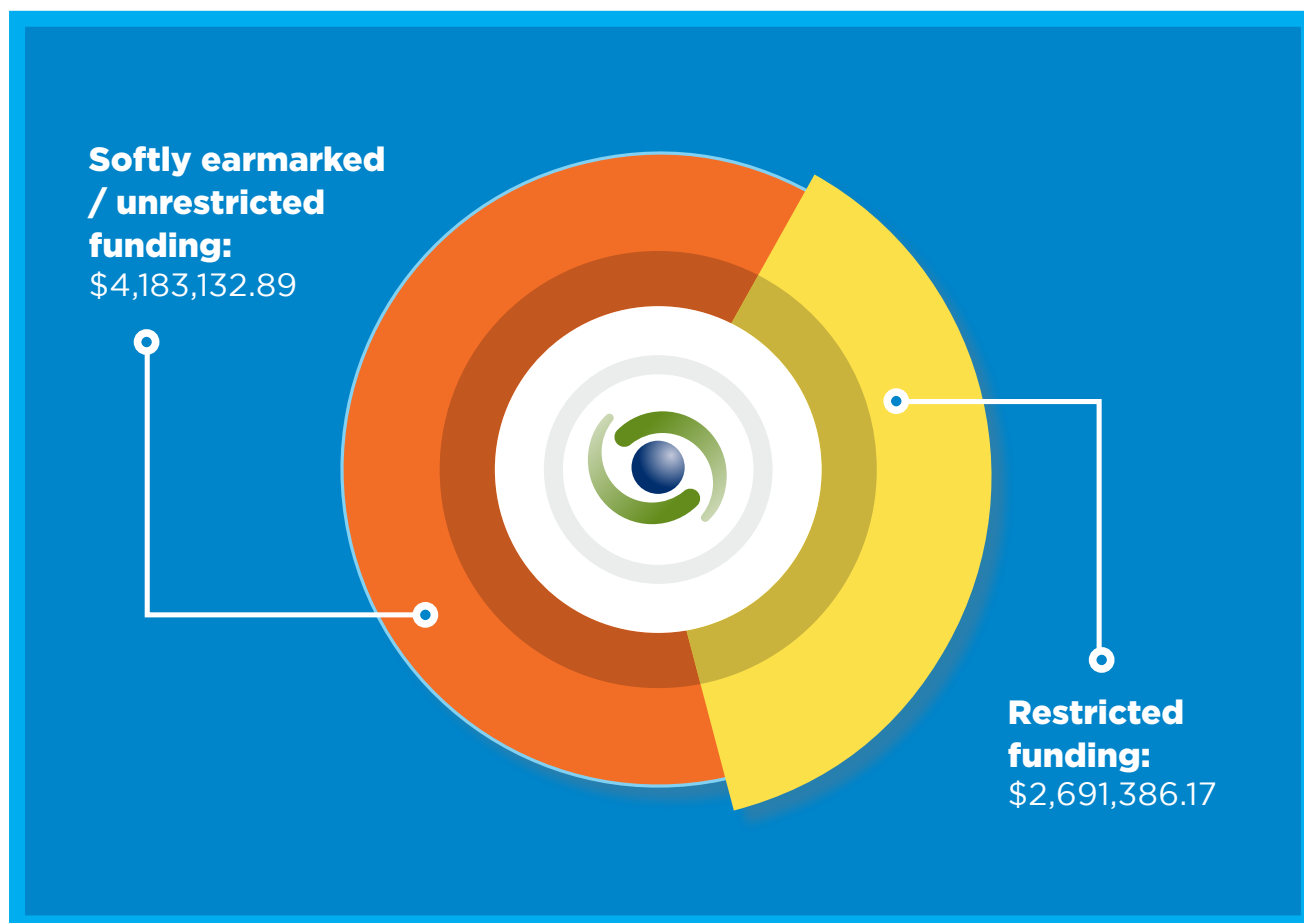
During the financial year 2022, UNAOC raised US\$6,874,519.06 of voluntary contributions from 13 donors.

## 2022 DONORS OF THE UNAOC TRUST FUND

DONOR	AMOUNT (US)
IOM	3,689.11
Thailand	10,000
Portugal	20,310.00
Luxembourg	21,628.00
Sweden (Kammarkollegiet)	48,489.07
Kazakhstan	70,000.00
Sweden (SIDA)	96,550.24
AEXCID	192,676.64
Qatar	500,000.00
BMW Group	500,000.00
Türkiye	1,000,000.00
Saudi Arabia	1,000,000.00
Spain	1,061,200.00
Azerbaijan	2,349,976.00
	<b>\$6,874,519.06</b>

# 2022 DONORS OF THE UNAOC TRUST FUND





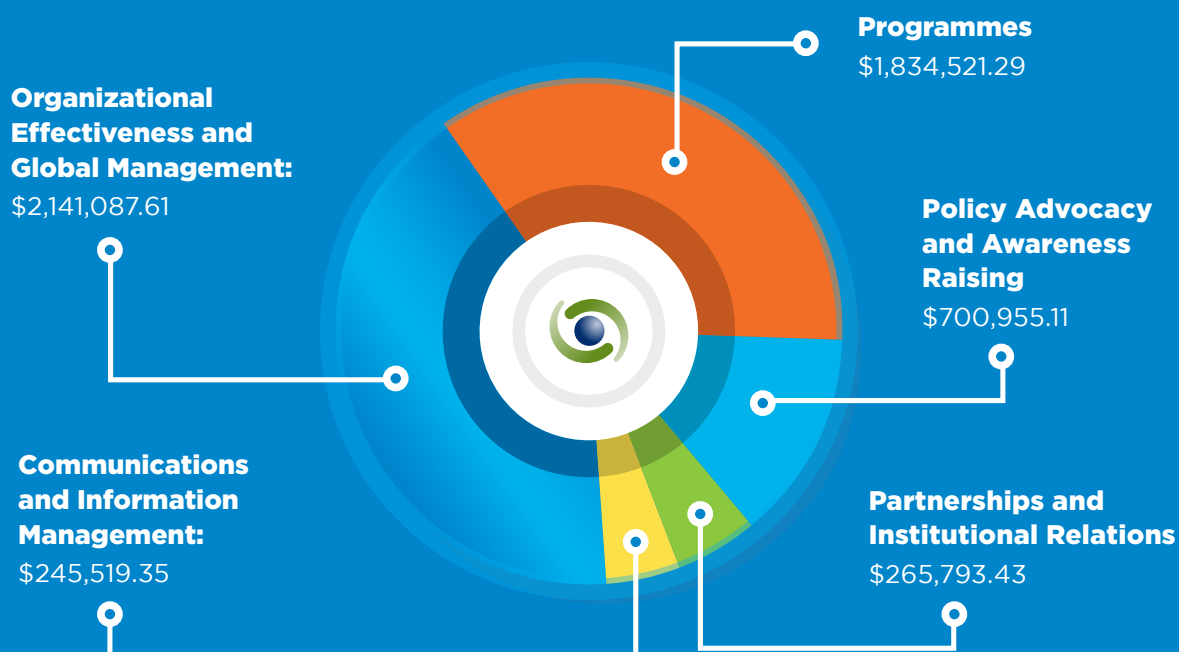
In addition, the UNAOC office and its programming activities received in-kind support from state and non-state donors and partners. In particular, its team included seconded officials from the Governments of Spain and Türkiye. The UNAOC youth programmes recipients benefited from expert services provided by the Network of Religious and Traditional Peacemakers and UNOY. BMW Group and Accenture offered pro-bono workshop facilities and expert services to the IIH recipients.

The Kingdom of Morocco co-organized the 9th UNAOC Global Forum in Fez and, as the host country, provided a wide range of services to the event, including, hospitality, catering, facilities, transfers, multimedia, protocol, security and more.

The low predictability of pledges to support voluntary trust funds in the United Nations system and the delayed timeline of the UNAOC voluntary trust fund replenishment remained a challenge during 2022. That challenge continued to undermine the capacity to recruit personnel on permanent and long-term contracts.

UNAOC continued to maintain budget discipline and seek cost savings. It remained committed to the principles of organizational efficiency, effectiveness, results orientation and transparency. The budget allocations have been prioritized towards maintaining ongoing programming, as well as advocacy engagements and policy work.

## 2022 UNAOC EXPENDITURES



*Note: All FY 2022 figures are provisional and aim to provide aggregate data by substantive and administrative types of activities carried out by UNAOC. They are inclusive of project support costs.*

*Information on the closing balance and investments is reflected in the statements of financial position for the UNAOC voluntary trust fund, issued by the United Nations Secretariat on an annual basis. The audited financial statement for the UNAOC voluntary trust fund 2022 will become available upon completion of the audit. The UNAOC voluntary trust fund is administered by the United Nations and is subject to an audit by the United Nations Board of Auditors in conformity with the International Standards on Auditing and the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules.*

## SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUNDING DASHBOARD

Following the United Nations Secretary-General's report on peacebuilding and sustaining peace in 2018 (A/72/707-S/2018/43), the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) established a dashboard for peacebuilding funding. The dashboard seeks to catalogue existing United Nations headquarters-based financing instruments focused on peacebuilding or related activities. The dashboard displays information at the level of funds and recipient entities, countries and regions, projects and individual outcomes.

The Youth Solidarity Fund (YSF) of the UNAOC is featured in the peacebuilding funding dashboard as one of five main funds for peacebuilding in the United Nations system, visualizing expenditures of YSF projects since 2015. The data analysis reveals projects' contribution to achieving sustainable development goals and peacebuilding priorities of the United Nations.



**H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**  
High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations



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Director



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**María Merchán Rocamora**  
Administration Officer







*“One humanity. Many cultures.”*

*UNAOC aims to improve understanding and cooperation among nations and peoples across cultures and to reduce polarization at local and global levels. It helps develop more inclusive societies, in which diversity is experienced as an asset.*

**United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)**

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