



UNAOC 

United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

HIGH-LEVEL ADVISORY COUNCIL

for the **UNAOC** HIGH REPRESENTATIVE



Under-Secretary-General
H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos
High Representative for the United
Nations Alliance of Civilizations
(UNAOC)

H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos is the United Nations Under-Secretary-General holding the post of High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) since January 2019- present.

In February 2020, Mr. Moratinos was designated by the United Nations Secretary-General as the UN Focal Point to monitor Anti-Semitism and enhance a system-wide-response. He carries out this portfolio in addition to his other responsibilities.

Mr. Moratinos has committed his professional and political career to international relations and development cooperation and peace and security notably as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain (2004-2010) and the European Union Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process (1996-2003). During his tenure as Foreign Minister, Spain presided over the UN Security Council in 2004, held the chairmanships-in-office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Council of Europe and the Council of the European Union.

Mr. Moratinos has received numerous recognitions, including the League of Arab States Award in March 2019 from the Secretary-General of the organization, Mr. Ahmed Abulghheit, in recognition for his role in strengthening Arab-Spanish relations. He is also the recipient of honorary doctorates from the Universities of Saint-Petersburg, Malta, as well as Ben-Gurion, Al-Quds and Tel Aviv universities.

HIGH-LEVEL ADVISORY COUNCIL *for the* **UNAOC HIGH REPRESENTATIVE**

H.E. Mr. Amre Moussa

Chair of the High-Level Advisory Council

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Former Secretary-General of the League of Arab States.



Listed in Alphabetical Order:



Mr. Ammar Abdelwahed Al Khudairy

Founding Chairman, Amwal Capital Partners.



H.E. Mr. Egemen Bağış

Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye in the Czech Republic, Former Minister for European Union Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye.



Dr. Elkhail M. Binebine

Businessman and Philanthropist.



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. Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria, Former European Union High Commissioner for External Relations.



H.E. Mr. Viacheslav Fetisov

Former Minister of Sport for the Russian Federation.



H.E. Ms. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović

Former President of the Republic of Croatia.



H.E. Dr. Yehuda Lancry

Former Ambassador of Israel to France, Former Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations.



H.E. Mr. George Papandreou

Former Prime Minister of Greece.



Prof. Dr. Jeffrey Sachs

Economist and Director of the Center for Sustainable Development in the Earth Institute at Columbia University.



H.E. Ms. Aminata Touré

Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal.



H.E. Dr. Vaira Vike-Freiberga

Former President of the Republic of Latvia, Co-Chair of the Nizami Ganjavi International Center (NGIC).



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TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE HIGH-LEVEL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS (UNAOC)

Context

The United Nations has a tradition of enlisting the volunteer services and support of prominent individuals from the world of global affairs, art, sport, literature, economy, media and entertainment to highlight priority issues of the Organization and to draw attention to its activities.

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) was established in 2005, as the political initiative of Mr. Kofi Annan, former United Nations Secretary-General, and co-sponsored by the Governments of Spain and Turkey.

Since its inception, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) has worked to explore the root causes of polarization within and between societies and recommend a programme of action to address the issue including building bridges of understanding through the promotion of intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

UNAOC is a crucial soft power political tool for preventive diplomacy, which works to support the conflict prevention and conflict resolution agenda of the United Nations through a range of approaches and activities across its four priority areas namely, Youth, Education, Media and Migration. A fifth pillar has now been added namely "Women" as peace mediators in identity-based conflict settings. The impact of many of its projects on the ground has been significant and measurable particularly those implemented with civil society organizations (CSOs) and youth-led organizations. The Alliance has succeeded in the past fifteen years in creating a global platform for promoting interfaith and intercultural dialogue being one of its main mandates.

Nonetheless, the context of the current global challenges is more complex than ever before. The multidimensional nature of the scope of today's conflicts requires a new approach to conflict resolution and conflict prevention. Around the world, there has been a rising wave of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, growing intolerance, hate speech, xenophobia and discrimination, posing a threat to international peace and security. These phenomena were further exacerbated thanks to the proliferation of new information and communications technologies (ICT).

Against this backdrop, the High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations has outlined his vision in a new Action Plan for UNAOC (2019-2023) which identifies new approaches for institutional development and political advocacy that should provide a viable framework for the way we respond to the current global challenges and support UNAOC in fulfilling its mandate.

One of the key recommendations that the High-Representative proposed in the Action Plan (2019-2023) is establishing a High-Level Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to the High-Representative for UNAOC and help in bringing more visibility to the work and activities of the Alliance.

Members of the High-Level Advisory Council

The High-Level Advisory Council will be composed of sixteen distinguished personalities from the world of politics, religion, academia, civil society, media, art, sports, theology, and the corporate sector. The council will be chaired by one prominent personality. Its composition will be balanced in terms of gender, age, geographic representation, and area of expertise. The Panel members will serve in their personal capacity and will not be representing their national governments.

Role of the Members of the High-Level Advisory Council:

The role of the High-Level Advisory Council is to provide guidance and advice to the High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations on critical matters relevant to religiously or culturally charged conflicts across the world that are likely to generate xenophobia, incitement, violent extremism and polarization. The Council members will use their networks to help in making the mission and activities of the Alliance more visible.

The Members of the High-Level Advisory Council will be called upon to:

1. Participate in at least one UNAOC event per year, which could include but not limited to, assuming speaking roles in a UNAOC activity. Additional interactions shall be organized for the High-Level Advisory Council as a whole by electronic means or through ad hoc group consultations.
2. In coordination with the High Representative, engage in public service announcements, when possible and appropriate, and support UNAOC messaging via social media.
3. In its recommendations to the High-Representative, the High-Level Advisory Council shall identify good practices and opportunities, gaps and challenges in conflict prevention and conflict resolution in identity-based settings. They will also recommend how best to improve the visibility and outreach of the work of UNAOC.

Conditions of Service:

Members of the High-level Advisory Council will be required to :

- Respect the impartiality and independence of UNAOC and refrain from any conduct that would adversely reflect on UNAOC;
- Refrain from any activity incompatible with the mission and objectives of UNAOC;
- Exercise good judgment and discretion in all matters relating to the performance of this function;
- Obtain guidance on specific activities from the UNAOC High Representative and/or relevant UNAOC Secretariat.

In addition:

- Members of the High-level Advisory Council will serve for a period of two years;
- Members of the High-level Advisory Council shall perform their functions on voluntary basis;
- Members of the High-level Advisory Council will be serving in their individual capacity and will not be representing their national governments or entities to which they are affiliated at time of and or during their designation.



“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.

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