

The High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, delivered a virtual lecture during an event organized by the **School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University**, entitled **“Racism and International Organizations”** moderated by **Professor Daniel Naujoks**. In his remarks, Mr. Moratinos spoke about the work of UNAOC in the field of intercultural and interreligious dialogue, and the prevention of identity-based tensions, discrimination, and xenophobia. “20 years after the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, the promotion of equality and non-discrimination remains a priority for the international community. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a blueprint to promote inclusion, justice and dignity for all and combat racism in all its manifestations. It is vital to address the structural drivers of racial inequality, including those rooted in the history and legacy of colonialism,” he stated. (14 April)



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- **Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**,
High Representative for the United Nations
Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

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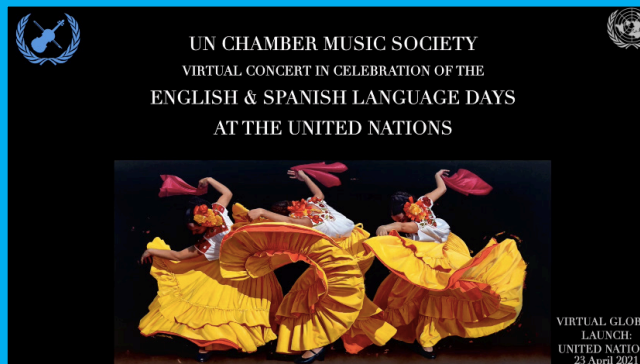
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The High Representative for UNAOC, Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, delivered opening remarks at the **UN Chamber Music Society's virtual concert** to celebrate the English and Spanish Language Days. “Music is an international language that has the power to tear down borders between cultures and civilizations, promoting dialogue and a spirit of mutual understanding,” he said. (23 April)



Mr. Moratinos shared a video message for the **XXVII Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State**, which was convened under the theme, **“Innovation for Sustainable Development. Objective 2030. Ibero-America Facing the Challenge of the Coronavirus”**. “One of my goals as High Representative has been to expand UNAOC’s scope of action across the world, and particularly in Ibero-America. It is my intention to work closely with relevant governments to identify initiatives that can contribute to promoting dialogue and understanding within the region in response to the current challenges,” he stated. (28 April)

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- Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative for UNAOC

Quotes about **"A Thorny Path" Book**

“I find the testimonial of Judge Abdu-Salam and the chronology of events that culminated in the birth of the HFD extremely inspiring for young generations. It is a story of perseverance, resilience, and genuine passion... This book is not an end but rather the beginning of a longer journey.”

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

Mr. Moratinos congratulated Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam on his recent book, which chronicles the process undertaken by his Holiness Pope Francis and His Eminence the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar in crafting the Document of Human Fraternity, co-signed in February 2019 in Abu Dhabi. (22 April)



Mr. Moratinos met with the **Ambassador of Cyprus to Spain, Ms. Helena Mina**, to discuss the work of UNAOC and identify areas of collaboration. (29 April)



Embajada de Chipre en España
@CyprusinSpain

Un gran placer haber recibido hoy en la Residencia al Alto Representante de @UNAOC & exministro de Asuntos Exteriores de España @MiguelMoratinos.
#ChipreEspaña #CyprusMFA

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

UNAOC and BMW Group, with the support of Accenture, launched the call for applications of the new edition of the **Intercultural Innovation Award**. Eligible to apply are not-for-profit organizations worldwide implementing projects focused on promoting intercultural dialogue and fostering diverse and inclusive societies.

UNAOC and BMW Group, with the support of Accenture, will provide the awardees with a comprehensive one-year capacity-building programme aimed at strengthening their skills and the scope of their projects and activities. They will receive financial support (USD 200,000 distributed evenly between the awardees), training, and customized support and mentoring.

The deadline to apply is **Thursday, 27 May at 5 PM EDT**. For more information, visit interculturalinnovation.org.



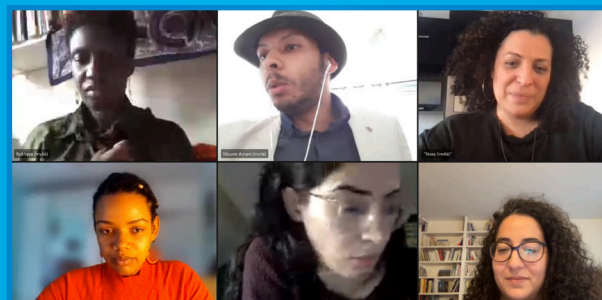
THE INTERCULTURAL INNOVATION AWARD

A partnership between
United Nations Alliance of Civilizations & BMW Group

www.interculturalinnovation.org
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Join our community of global change makers.
Deadline: 27 May 2021, 5pm EDT (NY time)

UNAOC United Nations Alliance of Civilizations BMW GROUP



UNAOC, together with the **UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) / UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)**, conducted a series of additional capacity-building workshops for a group of 20 young media makers, young religious leaders, and representatives of faith-based organizations as part of the **EDIN project (formerly known as “Peer-to-Peer Capacity-Building Training Between Young Religious Leaders and Young Media Makers”)**. The workshops covered the topics of promoting social media campaigns, scriptural resources for peace, identifying reliable sources online, crafting messages through images, as well as M&E.

The workshops of UNAOC’s **News Generation Against Hate** project in collaboration with the **French Municipality of La Courneuve** continued throughout April. Forty youth aged 15 to 25 from different cultural and religious backgrounds participated in capacity-building workshops on the importance of intercultural and interfaith dialogue and media literacy and the production of alternative narratives to hate speech and fake news. They also had the chance to virtually meet and interview renowned French journalists Ms. Rokhaya Diallo and Mr. Harry Roselmack.

The **ECOSOC Youth Forum 2021** was held in April to provide a global platform for dialogue between Member States and young leaders worldwide. In this context, UNAOC, together with the **UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)**, **UNICRI**, and the **International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS)**, hosted a side event entitled **“(Re)building post-pandemic societies: youth using sport to prevent and counter violent extremism”**. The interactive discussion served to commemorate the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace and highlight the role of youth leadership and sport in preventing violent extremism and ensuring sustainable peace and development. (6 April)



Fill out the survey here:
<https://bit.ly/3y3o1eY>

Fill out the survey for a chance to participate in our global intergenerational dialogue

UNAOC is inviting youth from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka to answer a survey on the state of PVE in South Asia for a chance to participate in UNAOC's first iTAGe event entitled "Talking Across Generations on the State of Preventing Violent Extremism in South Asia" on 18 June 2021. Organized in collaboration with the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) and UNESCO's New Delhi Cluster Office, iTAGe is a youth-driven high-level intergenerational dialogue between youth leaders and senior officials and experts working in the field of PVE. The event is organized within the framework of MGIEP and UNAOC's programme #YouthWagingPeace: A Whole Community Approach to the Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education. The inputs collected from the survey, as well as social media conversations, focus group discussions, and the iTAGe event will be incorporated into the Youth-led Report on the State of PVE in South Asia.

As part of its communications campaign #forSafeWorship to safeguard religious sites and worshippers worldwide, UNAOC launched a social media challenge. To participate, simply post an old "throwback" photo of you in a religious site on Facebook, Twitter, and/or Instagram to highlight a special memory.



Make sure to use the hashtag #forSafeWorship, tag @forSafeWorship, and nominate at least five friends to join the challenge! For more information about the campaign #forSafeWorship, visit forsafeworship.org.



UNAOC and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) are currently accepting submissions for their joint initiative, the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival. Young filmmakers worldwide are invited to submit short films about migration, diversity, social inclusion, the prevention of xenophobia, and other pressing social issues. The deadline to submit a short film is 18 June.

The selection process for the ninth edition of UNAOC's Youth Solidarity Fund (YSF) is reaching its final stage. The Selection Committee, composed of UNAOC staff and YSF alumni are currently reviewing the project proposals that made it to the final round of evaluations. The winners will be announced in May and will receive seed funding and capacity-building support for projects that foster peaceful and inclusive societies.

