

PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

UNAOC finalized the selection process of its **Intercultural Innovation Award (IIA)**, a partnership with the BMW Group. Now in its sixth edition, IIA will provide **financial support, training and mentoring** to a global group of **grassroots initiatives** in the field of **intercultural understanding**.



As part of its **Fellowship programme**, UNAOC travelled with **12 young leaders** from Europe and North-America to Morocco, Egypt, and Qatar to meet with officials and representatives of various organizations and discuss this year's Fellowship theme, **"The role of women in peacemaking and conflict prevention"**.



The High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, visited the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** for a meeting with **The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques**, His Majesty King Salman bin Abdelaziz Al Saud. The latter expressed his support for the role and work of UNAOC in promoting dialogue and understanding among people and combating extremist ideologies. Mr. Moratinos also had the opportunity to meet with Saudi officials from different ministries and representatives of various organizations. (2 July, Jeddah)



The High Representative for UNAOC visited the Republic of **Kenya** and participated in the **African Regional High-Level Conference on Counter Terrorism and Prevention of Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism**, co-organized by the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya. Mr. Moratinos co-chaired Session II focusing on **"Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism in Africa – Experiences, Good Practices and Lessons Learned"**. (10-11 July, Nairobi)



The High Representative for UNAOC visited the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** where he was received by His Eminence Shaykh Abdallah bin Bayyah, **President of the Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies**. They agreed on implementing several joint projects and initiatives to promote tolerance, respect and dialogue. Mr. Moratinos also had a meeting with **UAE Minister of Tolerance, H.E. Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan**. (3 July, Abu Dhabi)



The High Representative for UNAOC participated in the second **Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom** convened by **U.S. Secretary of State Mr. Mike Pompeo**. In his remarks, Mr. Moratinos addressed the need for concrete outcomes that reaffirm international commitments to promote religious freedom and produce positive change. (18 July, U.S. Department of State, Washington D.C.)



In the margins of the **U.S. State Department's Second Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom in Washington, D.C.**, UNAOC Political Advisor Ana Jimenez, participated in a panel discussion on **"Preventing Violence against Holy Sites: Building Global Cooperation"**, co-organized by Search for Common Ground and Religions for Peace. Ms. Jimenez updated on the preparations of the United Nations Plan of Action to safeguard religious sites. (18 July, Washington D.C.)



The Chief of Cabinet of UNAOC, Ms. Nihal Saad, participated in the **Quarterly Briefing to Member States** of the **UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Entities**. She also participated in the Third Committee Meeting by the **UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Entities**, during which she presented the activities of UNAOC as they relate to PCVE. (25 July, New York, UN Headquarters)

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The High Representative for UNAOC participated in the annual **Kofi Annan Faith Briefings** at the Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice. Entitled **"Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality: the role of UN and Multi-Faith Collaboration"**. The primary objective of the meeting was to uphold the importance of strategic partnerships with faith-based civil society actors by the UN system. (15 July, New York)



During the **UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development**, UNAOC organized a side event on **"The Role of Transformative Education in Dealing with the Challenges of Our Times"** at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the UN and in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the UN, UNDP, the UN Office on Genocide Prevention, UNESCO, and the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU). The event highlighted the key dimensions of transformative education and how it can enhance and advance progress on sustainable development and sustaining peace globally. (16 July, New York)

UNAOC and the **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** received **1,100+ video submissions** from **70+ countries** for the **PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival**. They organized a series of pre-selection screenings with UN colleagues and other professionals at the UNAOC office, and a shortlist of 70 videos will be reviewed by the PLURAL+ International Jury throughout August. (1-23 July, New York)



UNAOC presented its youth-programming and organized screenings of award-winning videos from its **PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival** during the **24th World Scout Jamboree**, which was attended by 42,000 youth participants and adult volunteers. The screening was an opportunity to engage with youth participants in discussions on the topics of migration, social inclusion and diversity. (26-28 July, West Virginia)