

What's New?

Updates, news and events from the UNOG NGO Liaison Unit

1st October 2024

*Dear NGOs representatives accredited at the United Nations Office at Geneva,
The NGO Liaison Unit is pleased to share some updates, news and events taking place at the UN in Geneva in the coming weeks with you.
With very best regards.*

Updates from the NGO Liaison Unit



UNITED NATIONS
GENEVA

Pact for the Future

On 22 September at the Summit of the Future in New York, world leaders adopted the [Pact for the Future](#), an inter-governmentally negotiated, action-oriented document that includes a [Global Digital Compact](#) and a [Declaration on Future Generations](#). The Pact covers a broad range of themes including peace and security, sustainable development, climate change, digital cooperation, human rights, gender, youth and future generations, and the transformation of global governance. It includes many references to partnerships with stakeholders, in particular civil society institutions and NGOs, and the promotion of a whole-of-society approach. Member States also decided to facilitate more structured, meaningful and inclusive engagement of NGOs in consultative status with the ECOSOC in the activities of the Council.

You can access all relevant documents [here](#) and read more news on news.un.org.

Participation in UN meetings and access to the Palais des Nations

NGOs wishing to attend UN meetings must first complete their annual accreditation with UNOG as per established [rules and procedure](#). Specific registrations for events such as the ongoing Human Rights Council session have to be made online through [Indico](#). The NGO Liaison Unit will continue to do its utmost to process the accreditation requests as quickly as possible, but delays can be expected during peak periods. Kindly plan accordingly.

We would like to remind you that enhanced measures are in place to reduce the time needed to [access](#) the Palais des Nations, including designated entry lanes for NGOs **at both Peace and Pregny gates**, the use of digital badges and the recent installation of state-of-the-art screening technology at the Pregny pavilion.

Finally, we would like to remind you that while the [iCSO database](#) is still down due to technical disruptions, the following **interim accreditation procedure** should be followed to request grounds passes at UNOG:

- A formal designation letter should be sent by email to the NGO Liaison Unit at unog.ngo@un.org with a copy of the passport bearing the signature of the person signing the letter.
- Requests for temporary grounds passes must indicate the start and end date of the pass and requests for Main representatives must indicate if the Main representative is granted with accrediting rights.

Annual report of the UN Secretary-General

If you have not yet seen it, check [Resolve: Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization 2024](#). It is available in the 6 UN official languages and in 2 accessibility formats (e-books and Easy-to-Read), in line with the UN [Disability Inclusion Strategy](#). The report presents how the UN Secretariat has translated resources into results over the course of the past year.

UN Geneva 2023 Annual Report

The 2023 UN Geneva Annual Report: *Transforming for the future* is available on the UN Geneva website in [English](#) and [French](#). As we look back and reflect on the challenges and on its achievements in 2023, we are more determined than ever to remaining a strong centre for international diplomacy, and we look forward to continuing working with all stakeholders to transform for the future.



Upcoming meetings and conferences



As the second largest UN duty station and one of the major conference centers in the world, UNOG provides a key platform for international dialogue and diplomacy. Please find the full calendar of meetings and conferences taking place at UN Geneva on the following [webpage](#).

Human Rights Council (HRC)

The HRC 57th regular session is taking place until 11 October. For more information regarding NGO participation, click [here](#).

Geneva Peace Week

The 2024 Geneva Peace Week will take place from 14 to 18 October at the Maison de la Paix with the exception of the Opening Ceremony that will take place on Monday, 14 October 2024, in Room XX at the Palais des Nations. This year's edition will focus on the overarching theme "What is Peace?". You can find the programme [here](#). To participate, you must register via the [website](#) until 13 October. An additional registration will be needed to attend the Opening Ceremony at the Palais on [Indico](#).

Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED)

The 27th session of the CED is taking place until 4 October and is considering the following States: Ukraine, Morocco, and Norway. The Committee will also consider the following States for the lists of issues in absence of a report: Lesotho, Seychelles, and Togo. For more information, please consult this [link](#) and the [Information Note for victims, CSOs and NHRIs](#).

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The 89th session of the CEDAW will take place from 7 to 25 October and is considering the following States: Lao People's Democratic Republic, Saudi Arabia, New Zealand, Chile, Canada, Japan, Cuba, and Benin. For more information please consult the [UN Treaty Body Database, CEDAW, 89th session](#).

Human Rights Committee (CCPR)

The 142nd session of the CCPR will take place from 14 October to 7 November in Palais Wilson, Ground Floor Conference Room, and is considering the following countries: Ecuador, France, Greece, Iceland, Pakistan and Turkey. The Committee will also adopt list of issues on Latvia and list of issues prior to reporting on Benin, Cameroon, Monaco, Poland, Slovenia, and South Africa. For more information, please consult the [CCPR 142nd session page](#).

Committee against Torture and Other Cruel and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)

The 81st session of the CAT will take place from 28 October to 22 November in Room XX, Palais des Nations, and will consider the following states: Cameroon, Jordan, Kuwait, Mongolia, Namibia, and Thailand. The Committee will also adopt list of issues on the following State reports during the session: Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, San Marino, Serbia, and Sweden. For more information, please consult the [CAT 81st session page](#).

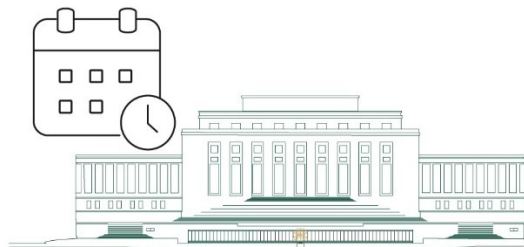
Human Rights Council Social Forum

The 2024 Human Rights Council Social Forum will take place in-person on 31st October and 1st November in Room XX, Palais des Nations. This year's theme is the contribution of financing for development to the advancement of all human rights for all. You can register via this [link](#) until 25th October. Early registration is advised as space is limited). More information on the 2024 Social Forum can be found [here](#).

Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

The 10th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development will take place from 28 to 30 October in Room XXI, at the Palais de Nations. It will hold a brief coordination meeting with UN mechanisms on the right to development, discuss two thematic studies, and will also hold six focused thematic dialogues. NGOs are invited to participate in the Expert Mechanism and register via this Indico [link](#) before 25 October. For more information, please check this [website](#) or send an email to OHCHR-emrtd@un.org.

Upcoming events



From cultural celebrations to film screenings, discussions or commemoration of international days, the events calendar at UN Geneva is never empty.

Cultural activities / Knowledge and Learning Commons

The UN Library & Archives offers cultural and informational events such as exhibitions, panel discussions, or film screenings. The Cultural Activities Programme provides a cultural diplomacy space to share art and culture at the Palais des Nations. Please note that NGOs wishing to organize a cultural event should seek patronage from a permanent mission or an international organization affiliated with the UN, as detailed [here](#).

- To subscribe to the **Cultural Activities newsletter**, click [here](#).
- For other UN Library & Archives **cultural and informational events** check [Indico.UN](#).

- To subscribe to the UN Geneva **Archives newsletter** please click [here](#).
- To subscribe to the **Knowledge and Learning Commons newsletter** [here](#).
- **Ciné ONU** holds free film screenings regularly and invites the public for a discussion with panelists. For upcoming screenings, please click [here](#).

Latest news

UN News

Global perspective Human stories

The **UN Information Service in Geneva** provides a comprehensive range of public information services, focused on Geneva-based UN activities, including:

- [Meeting summaries](#) and [Press releases](#).
- Live stream [UNTV's broadcasts](#) of major meetings.
- "[Happening at UN Geneva](#)" section on the UN Geneva website.
- Video stream of the UN Geneva press briefings from our "[Focus On](#)" tab.
- Podcasts produced in Geneva and across the globe on a dedicated [webpage](#).

On the occasion of the Summit of the Future, **UNIS Geneva** has launched a new monthly programme called "**3 minutes**". The idea is to explain a major UN-related event or news item to the general public in a 3-minute, bilingual English/French video clip. The clip is broadcast on YouTube and @UNGeneva social networks. Watch the first clip on the Summit of the Future here : [EN](#) and [FR](#).

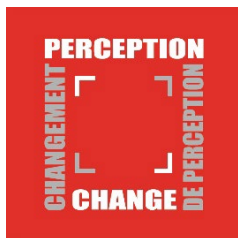
Beyond Lab



At the Summit of the Future, the Beyond Lab put youth voices front and center in the conversation on Going Beyond GDP. The Lab hosted a [dynamic side event, where young leaders and policymakers came together to explore how reimagining our economic systems around core values might look](#). Davide Fanciulli, the Beyond Lab's youth representative, expanded on [this topic during an event hosted by our partner IISD](#). Additionally, one of the winners of the Lab's "Beyond GDP" Essay Contest [highlighted the importance of the often-overlooked "Care Economy"](#). Through these discussions, the Beyond Lab continues to champion fresh perspectives that push the boundaries of traditional economic thinking.

Visit the Lab's website, thebeyondlab.org, for an overview of its focus areas, initiatives, and updates on activities. The Lab team has also a [brochure](#), providing an at-a-glance overview of its work.

[Perception Change Project](#)



Based at the Office of the UNOG Director-General, [the Perception Change Project \(PCP\)](#) leads creative communication initiatives to highlight the importance of the work done in Geneva.

Explore [GenevaImpact](#): your gateway to Geneva-based international organizations. This platform provides an extensive collection of multimedia content, annual reports and statistics on the impact of Geneva-based international actors. Navigate interactive maps, check out our news section, and subscribe to the [Impact Stories newsletter](#) to discover the latest initiatives and activities for a more sustainable world.

[International Geneva](#)



The [Genève internationale website](#) serves as an information platform dedicated to Geneva-based global players becoming aware of the resources available to them and bringing their work and achievements to the fore.

In the continuity of its endeavor to promote International Geneva's organizations and those who commit to a better world, the Geneve-int.ch website presents a new series of high-level contributors to its [Interview column](#). Whether Humanitarian aid, Gender Equality, Peace and Security, Health, or Human Rights are at stake, "The Interview" shines a light on their activities, goals, principles, alliances, vision, and what "keeps them awake at night."

[News from the civil society network](#)



NGO events at the Palais

All public events organized by NGOs at the Palais des Nations are available on [Indico.UN](#).

International day of Older Persons

NGOs in partnership with many Member States and International Organizations, an event to mark the [2024 International Day of Older Persons](#) on 1st October. The session will analyze recent developments and explore actions for all stakeholders to further the human rights of older persons. It will serve as a forum for discussing collaborative strategies to promoting and protecting these rights. Please register [here](#).

"Changemakers: Stories of Young Human Rights Educators" - Documentary screening

OHCHR is featuring the documentary "Changemakers: Stories of Young Human Rights Educators". The side event is co-sponsored by the Human Rights Council's Core Group on Human Rights Education and Training (Brazil, Costa Rica, Italy, Morocco, Philippines, Senegal, Slovenia, and Thailand) and the NGO Working Group on Human Rights Education and Learning of CoNGO. It will take place in Room XXII, on 7 October at 1.30 p.m. Please register [here](#).