

What's New?

Updates, news and events from the UNOG NGO Liaison Unit



1st April 2025

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 very best regards.

Updates from the NGO Liaison Unit



UNITED NATIONS
GENEVA

Update on the ongoing liquidity challenges

In line with such measures across the UN Secretariat, the UN Secretary-General has requested UNOG to achieve significant savings, while continuing to fulfil its core mandated activities. The Office has been implementing [cash conservation measures](#) for some time, including closing several office buildings at the Palais, that allowed UNOG to maintain operational sustainability, while ensuring service delivery and supporting the intergovernmental processes of the Organization in Geneva. Some additional measures will take effect as of today and remain in force until further notice, including:

- **Access to Palais des Nations:** the operating hours of the access points (gates) to the Palais will continue to follow the reduced times of 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on working days. The campus will continue to be closed on weekends and UN holidays.

- **Official meetings:** mandated meetings have absolute priority and, in line with General Assembly resolution 56/242, time slots of standard three-hour duration within official working hours (from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.) for meetings with conference services will be strictly applied.
- **Side events and special events** can take place only during regular working hours, unless organizers cover the extra costs incurred for events taking place outside of working hours.
- **Lunchtime events** in conference rooms can be accommodated only on a fully self-service basis and in automatic sound mode. UNOG staff will not be in a position to provide technical or other assistance.
- **Meetings coverage, press, broadcast and webcast services:** there will be limited or no written coverage of some meetings, particularly the main sessions of the Human Rights Council as well as the intersessional meetings. There will also be some limitations to the full English and French press coverage of meetings.

If the situation worsens, further measures may become necessary later this year.

Upcoming meetings and conferences



As the second largest UN duty station and one of the major conference centers in the world, UN Geneva 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 [58th regular session of the HRC](#) is taking place until 4 April in Room XX, Palais des Nations. NGOs in ECOSOC consultative status accredited at UNOG may participate as observers. More information on the participation modalities can be found on the [HRC webpage](#). Registration via [Indico](#). You can follow meetings on [UN WebTV](#). And read press releases and meetings summaries on this [link](#).

Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED)

The 28th session of the [CED](#) is taking place until 4 April in Palais Wilson, First Floor Conference Room and will consider the following states: Serbia, The Gambia, Central African Republic, Peru, Belgium, Malta, Croatia, Luxembourg, Togo, Panama, Armenia, Gabon, Montenegro and Argentina. More information [here](#) and you can register on [Indico](#).

Group of Governmental Experts on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space

The 1st session will take place from 7 to 11 April in Room XVIII, Palais des Nations. More information [here](#) and you can register [here](#).

Ad-Hoc Committee on the elaboration of complementary standards

The first segment of the 15th session will take place from 7 to 11 April in Tempus Building, Palais des Nations. More information [here](#) and registration [here](#).

Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)

The 40th session of the CMW will take place from 7 to 17 April at Palais Wilson, Ground Floor Conference Room and will consider the following states: Mexico, Niger, Jamaica, Fiji, Guinea, Ecuador. More information available [here](#) and registration [here](#).

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

The 82nd session of the CAT will take place from 7 April to 2 May at Palais Wilson, First Floor Conference Room, and will consider the following states: Armenia, France, Mauritius, Monaco, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Botswana, Iceland, Iraq, Kenya, Montenegro, State of Palestine and Uruguay. More information [here](#) and you can register [here](#).

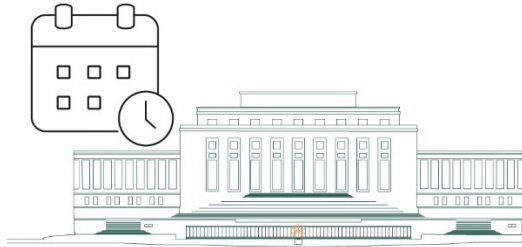
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

The 115th session of the CERD will take place from 22 April to 9 May at Palais Wilson, Ground Floor Conference Hall, and will consider the following states: Ukraine, Guatemala, Mauritius, Republic of Korea, Gabon, Kyrgyzstan, Croatia, Morocco, Tajikistan and Uruguay. More information is available [here](#) and you can register on [Indico](#). You can also watch the event live on [UN WebTV](#).

Universal Period Review (UPR)

The 49th session will take place from 29 April to 9 May in Room VIII, Palais des Nations and will consider Kyrgyzstan, Kiribati, Guinea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Spain, Lesotho, Kenya, Armenia, Guinea-Bissau, Sweden, Grenada, Türkiye, Guyana and Kuwait. More information here and registration [here](#).

Upcoming events



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

International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Rwanda and the United Nations Office at Geneva are organizing an event to mark the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda during a ceremony to be held on 14 April from 4 to 5.30 p.m. in Room XX, at the Palais des Nations. You can find the program and register [here](#). For those who cannot attend in person, the meeting will be also webcast live on the [UN Web TV](#).

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 our 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](#).

Beyond Lab



The Beyond Lab is UN Geneva's collaborative space leading on social innovation for long-term sustainability. The goal of the Beyond Lab is to make sustainability a way of life by influencing policies and decision-making in an inclusive, intergenerationally equitable way. Visit the Lab's website, thebeyondlab.org, for an overview of its focus areas, initiatives, and updates on activities.

For this month, the Beyond Lab is pleased to introduce its new [Beyond Action platform](#) that captures the Lab's exciting work in exploring what's next for sustainability, as well as providing insights into changemakers across these areas. Check it out today!

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 International Geneva.

The booklet "[170 Actions to Reduce Inequalities](#)" by the PCP offers practical steps for everyone to address social, economic, and political disparities worldwide. It provides individuals, organizations, and policymakers with concrete actions to promote inclusivity, equal opportunities, and justice. Whether you're advocating for fair wages, supporting marginalized communities, or influencing policy, this handy guide helps turn awareness into action for a more equitable society.

International Geneva Welcome Centre



UNOG works in close collaboration with the International Geneva Welcome Centre (CAGI), which assists NGOs established or wishing to set up in the Geneva region and supports the accommodation of visiting delegates during their participation in an international conference. Please consult the [CAGI's website](#) to learn more about these services.

If you are attending a conference in Geneva, please consult CAGI's "[Practical Guide for Delegates](#)" for useful tips and advice to better prepare your trip and your stay in Switzerland and don't hesitate to visit CAGI at the Delegates Information Desk in the Palais des Nations.

News from the network



NGO events at the Palais

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

Beyond 2030: The future of Social Development in a Changing World

On 9 April, the [United Nations Research Institute for Social Development \(UNRISD\)](#), in collaboration with the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy & the Geneva Graduate Institute, will convene an high-level panel discussion, "Beyond 2030: The Future of Social Development in a Changing World" where leading voices from government, academia, the United Nations, and civil society will come together to address some of the big questions of our time and explore the critical challenges and opportunities ahead. More information is available [here](#) and registration [here](#).

International Day of Conscience

Organized by the Caux Initiatives of Change Foundation, UNESCO, BeTheLove and AI-ODD on 4 April in Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva. More information [here](#) and registration [here](#).

Call for inputs on intimidation and reprisals for the annual report of the Secretary-General

To inform the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Human Rights Council on intimidation and reprisals for cooperation with the UN, all relevant stakeholders are invited to provide inputs which include information on incidents or trends during the reporting period (1 May-30 April) by 15 April to ohchr-reprisals@un.org.

For further information please consult this link [OHCHR](#).

Call for applications: Apply for Young Leader for the SDGs

The UN Youth office is pleased to share that it has officially launched the search for the next cohort of 17 Young Leaders for the SDGs! Applications are now open [here](#) and will close on 18, April at 11.59 p.m. ET. More information [here](#).