

# What's New?

*Updates, news and events from the UNOG NGO Liaison Unit*

2 June 2025

*Dear NGO 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

### **Arrival of a new Chief of the NGO Liaison Unit**

Following the departure of Ms. Sophie Torelli Chironi, who has assumed new responsibilities, we are pleased to announce the arrival of the new Chief of the NGO Liaison Unit: Mr. Philippe Hug, who took up his position on 1 June.

### **Participation of NGOs in meetings at the Palais**

We would like to remind that NGOs wishing to participate in intergovernmental UN meetings at the Palais des Nations, such as the 59<sup>th</sup> session of the [Human Rights Council](#) (16 June - 11 July), should first finalize their annual accreditation for 2025 as per [UNOG procedure](#). An infographic that summarizes how civil society representatives can attend meetings and conferences at the Palais des Nations is available [here](#).

## Upcoming meetings and conferences



### **iCSO database**

We have observed that some pending designations in the iCSO database were inadvertently altered during the recent technical issue with the database, which was beyond our control. Should this be the case for your organization, we kindly invite you to re-register your representatives and to re-submit a request for accreditation.

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](#).

### **International Labour Conference (ILC)**

The 113<sup>th</sup> session of the ILC is taking place from 2 to 13 June at the Palais des Nations, in Room XIX and Room XX. Worker, employer and government delegates from the ILO's 187 Member States will tackle a wide range of issues, including: protection against biological hazards, decent work in the platform economy, and addressing informality. Some international NGOs have been invited by the Governing Body to be represented as observers. Plenary sitting will be streamed on [ILO Live](#). More information is available [here](#).

### **Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT)**

The 56<sup>th</sup> session of the SPT will take place from 16 to 20 June at Palais Wilson, in Room PW1. More information is available [here](#) and registration [here](#).

### **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**

The 91<sup>st</sup> session of the CEDAW will take place from 16 June to 4 July at the Palais des Nations, in Room XXIII, and will consider the following States: Afghanistan, Chad, Fiji, Ireland, Mexico, San Marino, Solomon Islands, Thailand and Tuvalu. More information is available [here](#) and registration [here](#).

### **Human Rights Council (HRC59)**

The 59<sup>th</sup> session of the HRC will take place from 16 June to 11 July at the Palais des Nations, in Room XX. NGOs with ECOSOC status accredited at UNOG may participate as observers. More information on the modalities for NGO participation can be found on the [Human Rights Council webpage](#). More information about HRC59 is available [here](#).

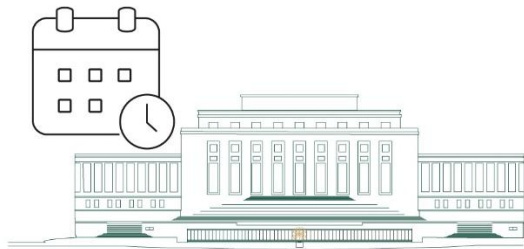
### **Human Rights Committee – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR)**

The 144<sup>th</sup> session of the CCPR will take place from 23 June to 25 July at the Palais Wilson, in Room PWG, and will consider the following States: Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Latvia, North Macedonia, Spain and Viet Nam. More information is available [here](#) and registration [here](#).

### Conference on Disarmament (CD)

The second session of the CD continues until 27 June at the Palais des Nations, in Tempus and in Room VII. NGOs who wish to listen to this single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community may do so through the [UNOG live audio](#) streaming service, which is provided for public plenaries. [Audio recordings](#) (with transcripts in English, French and Spanish) of public plenary meetings will also be available. More information is available [here](#).

### Upcoming events



### 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**, please click [here](#).

### Honouring Human Rights: Library & Archives exhibit

The UN Library & Archives Geneva is proud to present a new temporary exhibit commemorating the [recent inscription](#) of United Nations archives and official documents surrounding the drafting of the International Bill of Human Rights into the UNESCO Memory of the World Register in April 2025. Open to all, the exhibition is on now until 10 June, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the foyer of the Library, on the first floor of Building B, across from the UN Museum Geneva.

### **World Bicycle Day Ride**

To celebrate [World Bicycle Day](#), an escorted bicycle convoy will travel on 3 June from UN Geneva's Pregny Gate to the Broken Chair, where photos will be taken with all participants. You are invited to join with your own bicycle & helmet, ready to start at Pregny Gate at 9.30 a.m. You can also join for the picture at the Broken Chair at 9.40 a.m.

### **Celebrating International Archives Week 2025**

The UN Library & Archives Geneva is marking International Archives Week 2025 with a special online event on 3 June in support of this year's theme, #ArchivesAreAccessible: Archives for Everyone. The event will demonstrate how we are working to break down physical and virtual barriers to accessing these collections. You can register [here](#).

### **International Day of UN Peacekeepers**

The [International Day of the UN Peacekeepers](#) is celebrated worldwide on 29 May. In Geneva, a commemoration event will take place at the UN Memorial in the Ariana Park on 3 June at 4 p.m. The programme includes a flag-raising and wreath-laying ceremony, and speeches by distinguished guests, including the UNOG Director-General. Registration is available [here](#).

### **Ciné ONU**

UN Geneva's Ciné ONU programme regularly holds free film screenings and invites the public to a discussion with panelists. The film *Nature: for reconciliation* will be screened on 5 June from 6:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at the cinema [Cinérama Empire](#), Rue de Carouge 72, 1205 Geneva. In this film, the acclaimed photographer [Yann Arthus-Bertrand](#) delivers a moving portrait of our broken relationship with our planet and living things, from alarming observations to hopeful perspectives. More information about Ciné ONU is available [here](#).

### **International Albinism Awareness Day**

UNOG will mark [International Albinism Awareness Day](#) by hosting "*Je suis albinos!*", an exhibition by Pierre-William Henry featuring photographs and testimonies of people with albinism in Central Africa, highlighting their experiences and the societal challenges they face. The opening of this exhibition will take place on 17 June at 5:00 p.m. in the Mezzanine, Building E, Palais des Nations. Registration is available [here](#).

### **Language Training Programme: Autumn term (22 September to 5 December)**

Keen to master a new language or strengthen your skills? The UNOG Language Training Programme offers online and in-person courses in the six official UN languages, covering

all four levels of the [United Nations Language Framework](#). The enrolment period is now open until 17 June. More information is available [here](#) and registration [here](#).

### **Exhibition of paintings from the Viinistu Art Museum**

An exhibition of paintings from the Viinistu Art Museum, organized by the Permanent Mission of Estonia, will take place on 18 June in the Exhibition Gallery space, Building E, Palais des Nations. More information and registration are available [here](#).

### **Not a Woman's Job?: Women Leading in Multilateralism and Diplomacy**

From 25 June, visitors to the Mezzanine area of Building E at the Palais des Nations can explore the photo exhibition *Not a Woman's Job?: Women Leading in Multilateralism and Diplomacy*. Featuring contributions from Permanent Missions to UN Geneva and the UN Library & Archives Geneva, the exhibition highlights the vital role that women play in global diplomacy, reflecting the continued progress towards more inclusive international decision-making.

### 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 of [UNTV's broadcasts](#) of major meetings.
- "[Happening at UN Geneva](#)" section on 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

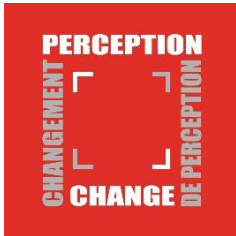


The Beyond Lab is UNOG's collaborative space leading on social innovation for long-term sustainability. The goal of the Beyond Lab is to make sustainability a way of life by influencing policies and decision-making in an inclusive, intergenerationally equitable way. Visit the Lab's [website](#), for an overview of its focus areas, initiatives, and updates on activities. The Lab team also has a [brochure](#), providing an at-a-glance overview of its work.

The Lab has launched its Beyond Action [Platform](#), featuring a magazine, an upcoming podcast series with changemakers, and a new engagement initiative, the [Beyond Challenges](#), which calls on individuals to share their ideas on addressing and tackling unexplored critical global questions.

As part of its [Youth Moving Beyond GDP](#) initiative, the Lab is co-organizing with its partners an official side event entitled "[Intergenerational Equity to Finance What We Value](#)" at the upcoming [4th International Conference on Financing for Development \(FfD4\)](#), being held from 30 June to 3 July in Seville, Spain.

### 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 undertaken in International Geneva.

This year, the PCP has curated a photo exhibition entitled *Not a Woman's Job?: Women Leading in Multilateralism and Diplomacy* to draw attention to the vital role that women play in global diplomacy. The exhibition will be on display from 25 June in the Mezzanine area of Building E at the Palais des Nations (more information under "upcoming events", above).

### 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 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."

### 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.

### **CAGI Annual Report**

The CAGI [Annual Report 2024](#) is now available. Find out more about the support provided by the Civil Society Service to NGOs and visiting delegates on:

- Informing and raising awareness among NGOs
- Supporting new initiatives set up in Geneva
- Acting as an interface between NGOs and public authorities
- Supporting the accommodation of visiting delegates

- Informing delegates on-site.

### 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](https://indico.un.org/).

### **Call for submissions on the draft of general comment No. 27 on children's right to access to justice and to an effective remedy**

The Committee on the Rights of the Child seeks contributions from all interested stakeholders on the draft of the general comment. The draft is available [here](#). Information for children by Child Rights Connect and UNICEF is available [here](#) and background information about the general comment is available [here](#). The deadline is 30 June.