

What's New?

Updates, news and events from the UNOG NGO Liaison Unit

1st September 2023

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

Updates from the NGO Liaison Unit



UNITED NATIONS
GENEVA

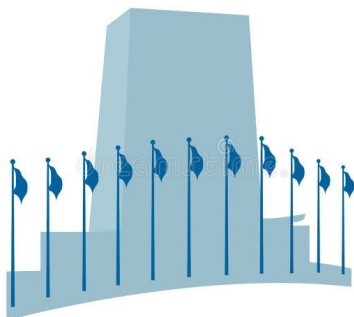
Participation in UN meetings

NGOs wishing to attend UN meetings must first complete their annual accreditation with UNOG. The [procedure](#) is detailed on the [UNOG website](#). Specific registrations for events such as the upcoming Human Rights Council session have to be made online through the [Indico](#) platform. Registrations are not managed by UNOG but by the meeting organizer.

Deadline extended: Survey about your 'smart mix' of conference modalities in Geneva

To ensure that UN Geneva is fit for the future of conferencing and able to respond to the evolving needs of its clients, the 'Conferencing Today & Tomorrow – 2' team would like to invite you to complete a [survey](#) about the future of hybrid modalities by C.O.B. 15 September. For further information, please contact ctt@un.org.

Are you in New York in September?



UN General Assembly

World leaders will gather in New York in September to engage in the [high-level General Debate](#) under the theme, "*Rebuilding trust and reigniting global solidarity: Accelerating action on the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals towards peace, prosperity, progress and sustainability for all.*" Watch the meetings live on [UN Web TV](#) or on the [General Debate website](#).

As per standing practice, access to the UN Headquarters during the 78th session of the UN General Assembly will be restricted. A limited number of special passes will be distributed daily from 18 to 26 September by the DESA NGO Branch, on a first-come, first-served basis for participation on the same day. More information is available on the [DESA website](#).

SDG Summit

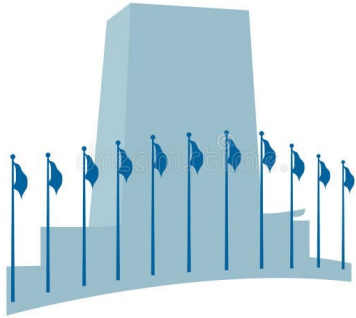
[The 2023 SDG Summit](#) will take place on 18-19 September. Convened by the President of the General Assembly, the Summit will mark the half-way point to the deadline set for achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. It will respond to the impact of multiple and interlocking crises facing the world and is expected to reignite a sense of hope, optimism, and enthusiasm for the 2030 Agenda. [Major Groups and other stakeholders](#) were invited to submit written feedback.

To generate additional opportunities for the engagement of all stakeholders ahead of the SDG Summit – civil society, the private sector, youth, women, etc. – the UN is hosting an [SDG Action Weekend](#) on 16 - 17 September. It includes the SDG Mobilization Day (16 September) for stakeholder engagement toward an ambitious SDG Summit, and the SDG Acceleration Day (17 September) focusing on UN High-Impact Initiatives at UN.

The [ActNow Campaign](#) was launched to inspire people to act for the SDGs. The challenge will run for 4 weeks and begins on 21 August and ends on 17 September. Here is the schedule for the upcoming weeks: week 2 (28 Aug-3 Sept): [Actions for a world working together](#); week 3 (4-10 Sept): [Actions for a better economy](#); week 4 (11-17 Sept): [Actions for a just society](#).

International Youth Conference (#IYC8)

The 8th edition of the [International Youth Conference](#) will take place from 21 to 24 September. It will provide a platform for young people to discuss the progress made towards achieving the SDGs by 2030 and explore ways young people can contribute to this effort. The conference will be open to youth leaders, activists, students, and representatives from youth-focused NGOs from all around the world and the selection process will prioritize applicants from marginalized and underrepresented groups to ensure diversity and inclusion.



High-Level Meetings hosted by the President of the General Assembly

- On 20 September, the President of the General Assembly will host a [high-level meeting on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response](#) under the overall theme “Making the world safer: Creating and maintaining political momentum and solidarity for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response”.
- On 21 September, the President of the General Assembly will host a one-day [high-level meeting on Universal Health Coverage](#) under the overall theme “Universal health coverage: expanding our ambition for health and well-being in a post-COVID world”.
- On 22 September, a [second high-level meeting on the Fight against Tuberculosis](#) will take place under the theme will be “Advancing science, finance and innovation, and their benefits, to urgently end the global tuberculosis epidemic, in particular, by ensuring equitable access to prevention, testing, treatment and care.”

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 75

In 2023, we commemorate the [75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#), which coincides with the 30th anniversary of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. OHCHR has been sharing information, especially with youth organizations and young people on the present and future of human rights for the development of the [Human Rights 75 Youth Declaration](#).

OHCHR is organizing a **High-Level Event on “Civic Space: Enhancing Participation through Strengthened Partnerships”** as part of a series of roundtables to mark the 75th anniversary. The event will showcase the important contribution of civil society in shaping the solutions needed for a more effective and responsive UN, while also highlighting the challenges faced by civil society to participate effectively in UN processes. The event will be held in UNHQ on 13 September, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 5 (please [register here](#) by C.O.B. 7 September) and can also be watched live on [UN Web TV](#).

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The CRPD 29th session is ongoing, until 8 September. For more information, please consult the [Informative note for stakeholders](#) and [UN Treaty Body Database, CRPD, 29th Session](#).



Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council 54th regular session will take place from 11 September to 13 October. For more information regarding NGO participation, click [here](#). Furthermore, resolutions, decisions and President's statements, as well as the draft Programme are available [online](#).

On 28 or 29 September, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights will present the Secretary-General's report on the "Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights - Report of the Secretary-General" (A/HRC/54/61). Known as an annual report on acts of reprisal and intimidation, it compiles and analyses any available information, from all appropriate sources, on alleged reprisals for cooperation with the UN in the field of human rights, as well as recommendations.

Committee on the Rights of the Child

The 94th session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child will take place from 4 to 22 September and will consider the following States: Albania, Dominican Republic, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Kyrgyzstan, and Togo. For further information, please consult the [Information for civil society, NGOs and NHRIs | OHCHR](#) and the [UN Treaty Body Database, CRC, 94th Session](#).

Disarmament Conversation Series

The Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs ([UNODA](#)) will host its second session of the Geneva Disarmament Conversation Series on 21 September in person, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Conference Room XXI. This session will address human-centered disarmament.

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

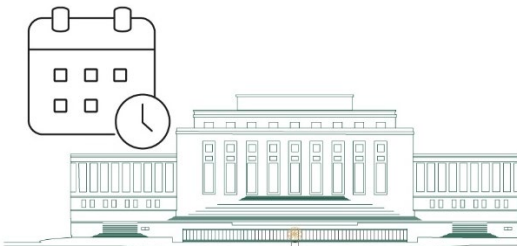
Cultural activities

The Cultural Activities Programme provides a cultural diplomacy space to share art and culture at the Palais des Nations. To stay updated, you can subscribe to the Cultural Activities [newsletter](#). NGOs wishing to organize a cultural event should seek patronage from a permanent mission or an international organization affiliated with the UN. More information on [this link](#).

Exhibition: "Living Together"

Today is the last day to view the "Living Together" exhibition at the Palais des Nations (behind door 40, E-building). The exhibition, organized under the patronage of the Permanent Mission of Israel, uses the universal language of photography to raise awareness on the integration of persons with disabilities and to promote their rights. Please refer to the event [Indico](#) page.

Upcoming events



Ciné ONU

Ciné ONU Geneva uses the power of film to shine a light on the United Nations' work and foster understanding about human rights and related issues. Ciné-ONU holds free film screenings regularly and invites the public for a discussion with panelists. For upcoming screenings, please click [here](#). To receive alerts on future screenings, please contact cineONU@un.org.

Library and Commons events

The UN Library & Archives offers cultural and informational events such as exhibitions, panel discussions, or film screenings. Library events are managed through the [Indico](#) platform. Most events are free of charge and open to the public. For the month of September, we offer:

You can subscribe to the [UN Geneva Archives newsletter here](#).

You can subscribe to the [Knowledge and Learning Commons newsletter here](#).

The UN Information Service in Geneva provides a comprehensive range of public information services, focused on Geneva-based UN activities. It covers a range of activities taking place at UNOG, from meetings of the Human Rights Council and peace talks to other major conferences and events. To stay updated on the latest news, you can consult the [UN news highlights](#).

Follow Meetings Remotely

Many meetings of significant global interest hosted at UN Geneva can be viewed online on the United Nations' public television [UN Web TV](#) which broadcasts live and recorded gavel-to-gavel meetings of various UN agencies, including the General Assembly and Human Rights Council. For more information, please visit the following [webpage](#) which provides an overview of audio-visual resources and meeting documentation provided when you are interested in a meeting that you cannot attend in person.

Pre- and Post- SDG Summit events

To mark the half-way point to the deadline set for achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, the President of the General Assembly will convene the [SDG Summit 2023](#) in New York. On this important occasion, the SDG Lab and its partners are organizing two related events, a pre- and post- Summit event on 14 and 28 September, respectively. These two events (1st one virtual, 2nd one in-person at the Geneva Graduate Institute) are intended to provide Geneva actors an opportunity to share perspectives on the Summit and broader SDG implementation successes and challenges. More information will be published on the [SDG Lab events page](#) in due course.

Latest news

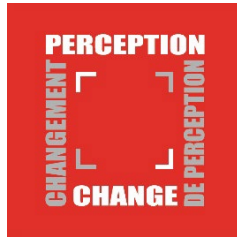
UN News

Global perspective Human stories

SDG Lab



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.

The PCP has just launched "[Vimal](#)", the 7th book for kids of the « Iceberg Series », to raise awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals and inspire action for a better and more peaceful world. The story revolves around Vimal, a young boy living through conflict, who harnesses the transformative power of sport to bring about positive change and uplift his community.

International Geneva



The Calendar: all activities in International Geneva at a glance!

Whether it concerns Humanitarian action and law, Human Rights, Health, Environment and Sustainable development, Labour, Trade, Science, Peace and Security, the [International Geneva Calendar](#) presents the most comprehensive list of events held in Geneva and online. The Calendar allows you to search, among a wide range of activities, by event type, theme, date, and/or type of organization.

You can also [subscribe to the weekly newsletter](#) to receive the list of upcoming events. Should you have an event held in Geneva or online you wish to promote, you may [submit your event](#) and be featured online and in the newsletter.

International Geneva Welcome Centre



UNOG works in close collaboration with the International Geneva Welcome Centre ([CAGI](#)), which supports NGOs and visiting delegates. If you are attending the 54th session of the Human Rights Council in September, please consult the "[Practical Guide for Delegates](#)" developed by CAGI for useful tips and advice to better prepare your trip and your stay in Geneva.

You can also visit the CAGI at the [Delegates Information Desk](#) at the Palais des Nations. The CAGI's information desk is located in Building E, door 40, 1st floor near the Cultural Kiosk (next to the Serpent Bar).

News from the civil society network



Dialogues between the President of the UN Security Council and Civil Society

The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) is organizing a series of monthly dialogues between the President of the UN Security Council and NGOs. The next dialogue will be with Ambassador Ferit Hoxha, the Permanent Representative of Albania to the UN on 12 September from 10 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. (NYC time). NGOs based in Geneva can follow the dialogue on [UN Web TV](#) and submit their questions in advance to unsc@wfuna.org. To attend in person, click [here](#) to register.



75th Anniversary Celebration of CoNGO

The [Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations](#) (CoNGO) is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year and is organizing commemorative events in major UN centers. Register now for the fourth global thematic webinar on "[Peace, Human Security, and Sustainability for People and the Planet](#)" scheduled for 7 September." For more information, check the [CoNGO site](#).

50th Anniversary of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women Geneva

The NGO CSW Geneva will celebrate 50 years of advocacy for the advancement of human rights and the empowerment of women and girls across the world. To mark this, CSW is organizing the 50th anniversary Celebration Day on 21 September 2023. Click [here](#) for more information.

NGO events at the Palais

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