

NEWS

(23 sep. - 8 Nov. 2017)

- **2017 United Nations Climate Change Conference Opens in Bonn**

The 2017 United Nations Climate Change Conference has opened in Bonn, Germany with delegates from around the globe hoping to ensure greater momentum for the Paris Climate Change Agreement and to raise the level of ambition needed to address global warming. The Bonn Climate Conference is expected to address three key issues: the state of climate today; future direction; and ways to achieve progress. Key for the next COP in Poland in 2018 will be work done to define the operating system for the Paris Agreement, the ways to help governments meet the goals of the Agreement.

Monday, 06 November 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30844-2017-united-nations-climate-change-conference-opens-in-bonn->

- **Rien n'est Pardonné**

Millions worldwide rallied behind the banner of free speech shortly after the Charlie Hebdo Magazine terror attacks on the 7th of January 2015. The colours of blue, white and red emblazoned national and city monuments globally and flooded social media in memory of the journalists who lost their lives. As 90% of crimes against journalists go unpunished and a total of 930 killed in the past 11 years, the significance of challenging those who wish to undermine the practice of providing information and news to the public, should be upheld. To highlight *International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists*, United Nations Cinema, in partnership with the Government of Flanders, screened 'Rien n'est Pardonné – Nothing is Forgiven'. This documentary was shot over a period of five years featuring Zineb El Rhazoui, a journalist, activist and survivor of the Charlie Hebdo terrorist attacks in Paris. Fleeing from Morocco for employment and personal safety reasons during the Arab Spring, Zineb moved to France where she began a professional career with Charlie Hebdo magazine.

Friday, 03 November 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30843-rien-nest-pardonne>

- **How do you explain the SDGs to children?**

To help teach children around the world about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a simple and child-friendly way, the UN Regional Information Centre's staff in Brussels have launched the 'Go-Goals!' SDG board game, aimed principally at children aged 8-10. We hope to engage teachers and parents, asking them to play and use the "Go Goals" game as an educational activity. Designed to be fun and engaging, the game helps children understand the Sustainable Development Goals, how they impact their lives and what they can do every day to help and achieve the 17 goals by 2030. The game is available on a dedicated website, www.go-goals.org, in English, French, German

and Spanish, and is entirely free to play.

Monday, 30 October 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30839-how-do-you-explain-the-sdgs-to-children>

- **United Nations reaches out to Europeans on UN Day**

Staff from the United Nations Regional Information Centre in Brussels (UNRIC) fanned out across Western Europe working to support a wide range of events to mark the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, which is celebrated each year on October 24th. Raising awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals was at the heart of UN Day activities supported by UNRIC, as was the Centre's Back to School Initiative in which staff from across the UN system in Brussels spoke with students at a number of schools in various languages, including Dutch, English, French, Greek, Icelandic, Portuguese and Spanish.

Tuesday, 24 October 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30834-united-nations-reaches-out-to-europeans-on-un-day->

- **“Let's talk about the UN!”**

One hundred high school students from both Dutch and French speaking secondary schools in Belgium participated in an interactive youth event organised to celebrate United Nations Day, which is marked every year on 24th of October. Her Majesty Queen Mathilde of the Belgians, in her role as SDG Advocate, together with Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Didier Reynders as well as the UN Director in Belgium, Barbara Pesce Monteiro engaged young people in a lively debate under the title “Let's talk about the UN!” at Egmont Palace in Brussels. After a video message delivered by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, the high-level speakers shared their views on the work of the UN, the role of Belgium within the organization and how young people can take part in the implementation of the SDG's. The plenary session also offered the perfect opportunity for the students to listen to first-hand testimonials from an SDG Advocate and allowed them to interact directly with the Queen on issues such as quality education, gender equality and health.

Monday, 23 October 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30831-lets-talk-about-the-un>

- **World is ignoring human rights of poor despite disproportionate abuses**

As a poor individual, you are more likely to be arrested and prosecuted for crimes and, if you are, you are less likely to be able to afford a lawyer. The poor experience additional barriers when they want to vote and often have virtually no influence on political decision-making. *UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty Philip Alston has warned in a hard-hitting statement to mark International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October.* The UN Special Rapporteur calls for a new approach by the human rights community, the development community and governments that gives due attention to how often, and how exactly, the civil and political rights of the poor are violated.

Tuesday, 17 October 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30829-world-is-ignoring-human-rights-of-poor-despite-disproportionate-abuses->

- **Artificial intelligence and the future of jobs**

Technology has had an undeniable impact improving living standards and increasing productivity. But with the rapid technological advancement of recent years, computers are increasingly encroaching on domains that were previously considered exclusively human. There are concerns that technological innovation will lead to increased unemployment, suppressed wages and greater inequality. There are fears that machines enabled by artificial intelligence will replace many human jobs, resulting in mass unemployment and impoverishment. It is critical that government, industry, academia, civil society, as well as the United Nations, work together to create regulatory and legal frameworks that facilitate the adoption and diffusion of new technologies, while helping to address their negative consequences.

Friday, 13 October 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30827-artificial-intelligence-and-the-future-of-jobs>

- **Moving towards a pollution-free planet**

Pollution has become the biggest killer of human's on earth, with more than 1 in 4 deaths of children under 5 years of age linked to environmental risks and 6.5 million people dying from air pollution every year. The global threat of the pollution from chemicals, waste and other sources is visible in different forms in our air, land, fresh water, and oceans. Moving away from it in all of its different forms *Towards a Pollution-Free Planet* is the theme at the heart of the upcoming Third UN Environment Assembly taking place in Nairobi early December 2017.

Friday, 13 October 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30826-moving-towards-a-pollution-free-planet>

- **Smart Cities for smart Citizens**

How to make our cities more liveable and more sustainable? The implementation the "new urban agenda" to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals was the topic of the annual Urban Breakfast event which took place at the Residence Palace in Brussels on 9 October. The high-level panelists agreed that success would depend on a combination of increased collaboration between cities, innovation and research, dialogue with citizens and creative ways of financing innovative solutions in urban areas.

Tuesday, 10 October 2017

<http://unric.org/en/latest-un-buzz/30821-smart-cities-for-smart-citizens>