

# GLOBAL MIL WEEK 2016 AND FEATURE EVENT

CONCEPT  
NOTE



**GAPMIL**  
GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR PARTNERSHIPS  
ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY



**PRCEU**  
pró-reitoria de cultura  
e extensão universitária



**USP**  
ESCOLA DE COMUNICAÇÕES E ARTES  
UNIVERSIDADE DE SÃO PAULO

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# RATIONALE

Individuals, communities, and societies are connected today through networks that are both physical and digital. However, across the globe, participation in these “ecosystems of communication” is limited and unequal: not everyone is able to participate in ways that promote intercultural dialogue, inclusion, and social development, nor in ways that enhance democratic processes and peace.

MIL (Media and Information Literacy) provides citizens with essential competencies for life and work in the 21st century. In line with this understanding, UNESCO, Global Alliance for Partnerships on MIL (GAPMIL) and UNAOC believe in the importance of ongoing education and debate about MIL as a means to open, rights-based, secure and inclusive development.

Several questions emerge which underpin this debate: How can alliances among all MIL stakeholders improve and enhance the development

of global citizenship, human rights and education? How can MIL work to address such issues as poverty, countering hate speech and preventing violent extremism within societies? What is the role of the public policy in this regard? Can a media and information literate citizenry help to create equitable, inclusive societies? What role can the media, technology and information industries play in achieving these goals?

The Global MIL Week 2016 and its feature event, UNESCO – UNAOC UNITWIN Universities Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue (MILID) Conference and the first General Assembly of the Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy will respond to these questions. The event will explore the great potential of MIL to enhance new, trans-disciplinary paradigms for intercultural dialogue, human rights, social inclusion, and countering hate speech.

The thrust of different MIL strategies of various organizations is that

MIL can contribute to open and inclusive development across the world, and to achieving the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals. These organizations include the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Alliance of Civilization (UNAOC), the World Bank and other UN Organizations, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development, the Global Alliance for Partnerships on MIL (GAPMIL) and UNESCO-UNAOC University Cooperation Programme on MIL and Intercultural Dialogue (UNITWIN MILID Network), and many other stakeholders.

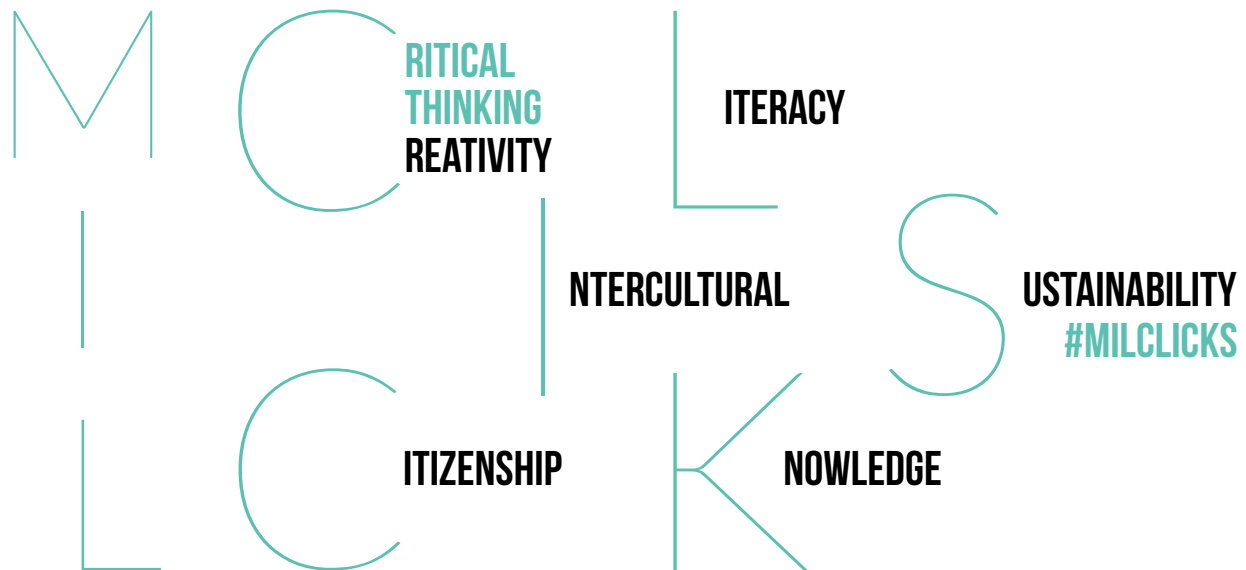


# GLOBAL MIL WEEK - THE MILID CONFERENCE AND GAPMIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The purpose of Global MIL Week is to promote MIL connections across educational institutions, organizations, policies, professions, initiatives and nations. The feature event of Global MIL Week is the 6th Conference of the UNESCO-UNAOC UNITWIN MILID Network. The conference this year has been expanded to include the first General Assembly of GAPMIL.

The Global MIL Week 2016 is organised under the theme “Media and Information Literacy: New Paradigms for Intercultural Dialogue”. The tagline being used is MIL-CLICKS (Critical Thinking-Creativity, Literacy, Intercultural Citizenship, Knowledge and Sustainability). MIL-CLICKS will be the nucleus of a social media campaign about non-traditional, creative or innovative ways of learning about MIL and intercultural dialogue by young people, and all citizens, in their normal day-to-day use of all media.

The Conference and General Assembly will,



for the first time in Brazil, connect international organizations, universities, associations, research groups and educators, media professionals, information specialists and librarians, policy makers and regulators, NGOs and practitioners in MIL from around the world. The aim is to heighten public awareness of the importance of media and information literacy at a global level while fostering cooperation, mobility and sharing. This year, the event will also highlight artists, journalists, and professionals who work on after-school and community-based MIL programs.

Specifically, the Conference and General Assembly will provide opportunities to develop strategies and policies in the field of MIL which promote intercultural dialogue and social inclusion, and address the social and political challenges related to poverty, conflict and violent extremism, and combatting climate change and its impact.

UNESCO has issued a call for papers or presentations for the conference, and a call for the organizations or national, regional, and online initiatives around the world to promote the Global MIL Week. Special invitations for special sessions will also be made. A scientific committee will be involved in reviewing

proposals of papers received. The event will provide attendees with networking opportunities, professional development, research visibility, and a venue for celebrating the growth that has occurred under the umbrella of media and information literacy.

***To prepare for Global MIL Week, we look forward to a six-month celebration of MIL, beginning in June. Watch the GAPMIL website for news items, announcements, activities and events which explore the conference themes and which will help connect you to individuals and organizations from around the world who share your interests and passion for MIL.***

***We call on all stakeholders to join in the celebration. Click on Ten Ways to Celebrate MIL Week in 2016 at [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/10\\_ways\\_mil\\_week.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/10_ways_mil_week.pdf). GAPMIL recognizes that in the 21st century, there can be no education for all without Media and Information Literacy for all.***

# CONFERENCE TOPICS

- MIL and intercultural/interreligious dialogue-- promoting mutual knowledge and understanding, both within different societies and internationally
- Media independence and professionalism
- Human rights, migration and MIL
- Social inclusion and MIL
- MIL for countering hate speech and preventing violence and extremism
- International networks and alliances for promoting MIL
- MIL in schools – for children and youth (teacher training on MIL) – current programs, pedagogical models, best practices
- MIL in libraries, museums, archives and community spaces—case studies, best practices, etc.
- MIL for researchers – identifying key competencies
- Current research on MIL—the academic perspective
- The private sector—innovation in education through MIL
- Public policies on MIL
- MIL assessment at national level
- Promoting local culture through MIL
- MIL as tool for preventing violent extremism
- MIL, privacy and freedom of expression
- MIL and user security regarding ICT
- MIL and youth identity
- MIL and global citizenship education
- MIL, search algorithms, programming and game design
- MIL and health
- MIL and gender equality issues
- MIL and creativity
- MIL and environmental sustainability
- MIL, decent work and economic growth
- MIL, audiovisual cultures and industries



**T**he GAPMIL Global MIL Awards were launched in 2015 and given to leaders in the field of MIL during the Global MIL Week.

***Partners are invited to make financial or in-kind contributions to the expansion of the various categories of the MIL Awards. Partners are invited to propose new categories that they may have an interest to support.***

In 2016, a number of new categories for the MIL awards could recognize researchers, youth, teachers, and organizations who have paved the way for MIL regionally, nationally and internationally. Watch the GAPMIL website for details about the awards and related criteria.

# BACKGROUND TO VI MILID CONFERENCE 2016: THE MILID UNESCO UNAOC UNITWIN NETWORK

**The International University MILID Network was created to enhance intercultural and cooperative research on MIL and to encourage cross-regional MIL initiatives focusing on issues such as cultural diversity, representation, inclusivity, and peace building.**

Working together, over 20 member universities cross cultural barriers and engage in global dialogue and cooperation. Together, the universities promote global research and capacity-building through media and information literacy initiatives that reinforce civic participation through open, free and independent media and information systems that favor intercultural dialogue and cooperation.

Flagship global MIL conferences have taken place in Fez (2011), Barcelona (2012), Cairo (2013), Beijing (2014), and Philadelphia (2015). Each of these meetings was part of a larger global week and conference of researchers, educators, industry professionals, students, policy makers, regulators and NGOs.

The Fez Declaration on Media and Information Literacy, which was the first international declaration to combine both media literacy and information literacy, called to “dedicate a week as world media and information literacy week to highlight to all stakeholders the value of promoting and pursuing MIL throughout the world.” (<http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/news/Fez%20Declaration.pdf>)

The conference in Brazil continues the tradition established by the MILID network over the

past 5 years. The Conference will provide an opportunity to develop and advance collaborative projects such as the MILID Yearbook, a publication highlighting innovative and noteworthy MIL projects around the globe over the past year. Through the efforts of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), the Nordic Information Centre for Media and Communication Research (NORDICOM) and the MILID University Network, a MILID Yearbook was published in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

The 2016 MILID Yearbook will be officially released at the conference. For information on the yearbook, please contact Prof. Jagtar Singh, [jagtardeep@gmail.com](mailto:jagtardeep@gmail.com), Department of Library and Information Science, Punjabi University, Patiala (India)

To access updated information on The International University MILID Network please visit <http://www.unaoc.org/communities/academia/unesco-unaoc-milid/>







# THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR PARTNERSHIPS ON MIL

**T**o broaden the reach and impact of MIL initiatives, the Global Alliance on Partnerships for Media and Information Literacy (GAPMIL) was initiated by UNESCO and established in June 2013 in Nigeria. GAPMIL is a groundbreaking initiative to promote international cooperation to ensure that all people have access to critical information, media and digital competencies. The MILID network is the research arm of GAPMIL, together with the GAPMIL research committee. Organizations from over 80 countries have agreed to join forces and stand together for change. More information on the Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy is available at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/gapmil>.

Regional chapters of GAPMIL have been established in Europe, North America, the Arab States, the Pan-African Region, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Asia-Pacific Region.

1

**UNESCO  
and  
UNAOC**

2

In Brazil, the host will be the

**University of São Paulo**

- Provost of Culture and Extension (PRCEU)
- School of Communications and Arts—celebrating 50 years

# CONFERENCE PARTNERS

3

**Supported by  
MILID  
University  
Network**

4

**Supported by GAPMIL  
Chapters**

- GAPMIL Latin America and the Caribbean Chapter—lead chapter for the conference
- GAPMIL Europe Sub-Chapter
- GAPMIL North America Sub-Chapter
- GAPMIL Arab States
- GAPMIL Pan-African Chapter
- GAPMIL Asia-Pacific Chapter

# UNESCO UNAOC MILID UNITWIN UNIVERSITIES



## **Australia**

Queensland University of  
Technology

## **Brazil**

The University of São  
Paulo

## **Canada**

Western University

## **China**

Tsinghua University

## **Egypt**

Cairo University

## **Fiji**

University of the South  
Pacific

## **India**

Punjabi University

## **Jamaica**

University of the West  
Indies

## **Japan**

Hosei University

## **Latvia**

University of Latvia

## **Mexico**

University of Guadalajara

## **Morocco**

Sidi Mohamed Ben  
Abdellah University

## **Nigeria**

Ahmadu Bello University  
Nnamdi Azikiwe  
University  
University of Calabar

## **Russia**

Sholokhov Moscow State  
University for Humanities

## **South Africa**

University of South Africa

## **Spain**

The Autonomous  
University of Barcelona

## **Sweden**

University of Gothenburg

## **USA**

Temple University

# PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF SÃO PAULO

The University of São Paulo (USP) has been involved in the UNESCO-UNAOC MILID University Network since its articulation in Sweden in 2010 and its formal establishment in Morocco in 2011. This is through its Culture and Extension Provost and its School of Arts and Communications. In 2014, USP hosted MILID's Student Exchange Programme supported by UNESCO. The University has hosted many events in the past, including the groundbreaking International Congress on Education and Communication (1997).

In the field of media and information literacy, this Conference and General Assembly will help the many existing efforts in MIL to reach their full

potential through synergies created from exploring different approaches to the field. The annual meetings of the Brazilian Association on Educommunication (ABPEducom), the Games for Change Latin America Festival and the French-Brazil Chair on Audiovisual Literacy in the State of S. Paulo as well as the participation of The S. Paulo Youth Portal at the Secretary of Human Rights and Citizenship and other related associations in journalism, arts, education, information sciences, cinema and audiovisual fields will contribute important dimensions to the event. Also participating will be Latin American and Caribbean Observatory on MIL (OLCAMI) and a range of Latin American actors who foster education and MIL in the continent.

# RELATED WEBSITES

<b>GAPMIL:</b>	<a href="http://www.unesco.org/new/en/gapmil">http://www.unesco.org/new/en/gapmil</a>
<b>UNESCO and UNAOC:</b>	<a href="http://milunesco.unaoc.org/unitwin/">http://milunesco.unaoc.org/unitwin/</a>
<b>Fez:</b>	<a href="http://chouitnfissi.simplesite.com/284158233">http://chouitnfissi.simplesite.com/284158233</a>
<b>Barcelona:</b>	<a href="http://www.milidweek.com/">http://www.milidweek.com/</a>
<b>Cairo:</b>	<a href="http://milidweek2013.blogspot.com/">http://milidweek2013.blogspot.com/</a>
<b>Philadelphia:</b>	<a href="http://namleconference.org/milidweek/">http://namleconference.org/milidweek/</a>

# GLOBAL CONFERENCE AND GAPMIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE

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**Carolyn Wilson** [cwils66@uwo.ca](mailto:cwils66@uwo.ca) GAPMIL International Steering Committee - Chair

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FEZ DECLARATION ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY  
MOSCOW DECLARATION ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY  
PARIS DECLARATION ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY IN DIGITAL AGE  
IFLA MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY RECOMMENDATIONS  
GAPMIL FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN  
ALEXANDRIA DECLARATION ON INFORMATION LITERACY  
PARIS AGENDA ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY  
GRÜN WALD DECLARATION ON MEDIA EDUCATION

# Global MIL Week 2016

Media and Information Literacy:  
New Paradigms for Intercultural Dialogue

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