



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

UNESCO PRESS

Media Calendar

Events at UNESCO Headquarters during 39th General Conference

30 October - 14 November

Journalists are requested to apply for **accreditation** on line [here](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

NEW DIRECTOR-GENERAL

One of the highlights of the [General Conference](#) this year will take place in the morning of **10 November** when Member States will endorse the nominee for the **new Director-General** chosen on [13 October](#) by the 58-members of the Organization's Executive Board.

The new Director-General, Ms. Audrey Azoulay (France), is set to take office on 15 November.

LEADERS' FORUM

The General Conference will open with a [Leaders' Forum](#) of some 13 Heads of State and Government, **31 October**.

[Full list of side events](#).

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The General Conference brings together the [195 members and 10 associate members](#) of UNESCO every two years to track progress and set the priorities of the organisation. [More information](#).

General Conference [documents](#)

An [e-journal](#) will be published daily with updates.

Deliberations will be webcast, the link will be available on the home page.

SPECIAL MEETINGS / SIDE EVENTS

EXHIBITION

31 October-4 November, sous-sol

[Let Me Be Myself – The Life Story of Anne Frank](#)

The exhibition highlights the life of Anne Frank from her childhood, through hiding during the Holocaust, until her death at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. The exhibition connects her life story to modern experiences of discrimination and exclusion, based on interviews with youths with diverse backgrounds and identities. Since its world premiere in 2015 in Canberra, Australia, the Anne Frank House's exhibition "Let Me Be Myself – The Life Story of Anne Frank" has been on display in several countries.

EDUCATION

31 October 3-6pm, Room II

[UNESCO Chairs Programme: 25th Anniversary and Looking Forward](#)

Event to take stock of the UNITWIN Programme's achievements since its establishment in 1992 with Federico Mayor, former UNESCO Director-General (1987-1999). The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, which involves over 700 institutions in 116 countries, promotes international inter-university cooperation in priority areas related to UNESCO's fields of competence. The event will be webcast.

EDUCATION

1 November 3-6pm, Room II

[Strengthening accountability in the implementation of SDG4 - Education 2030](#)

Two ministerial panel debates to explore the different mechanisms established by governments to promote accountability and transparency, including public monitoring and reporting. The 13 Education Ministers present will also examine how greater accountability can benefit funding for education, and how to move the Education 2030 agenda forward.

Presentation on Accountability in education by Manos Antoninis, Director, Global Education Monitoring Report. The event will be webcast.

UNESCO AFRICA DEPARTMENT

& Permanent Delegation of Mali & Jean Rouch Foundation

1 November 5-8pm, Room XII

[Round table: Intercultural Dialogue as a Defense against Extremism](#)

Round table with Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, on the theme of « Intercultural dialogue as a defense against extremism ». It will be followed by the screening of a film featuring a conversation between the late French film-maker and anthropologist Jean Rouch and the late Malian writer and ethnologist Amadou Hampâté Bah.

SOCIAL & HUMAN SCIENCES

& Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of Belgium

1 November 1-2.30pm, Room IX

[Following up on the World Humanities Conference](#)

Redefining the role of the humanities in dealing with the challenges of the 21st century, such as climate change, intercultural relations, the effects of migration and the preservation of heritage and historical memory.

EDUCATION

1st November 8-10am, Restaurant

[Paris Launch of the Global Education Monitoring Report 2017/8](#)

The second report in the GEM Report series will continue its assessment of progress towards the SDG on education (SDG4) and its ten targets. It will also investigate different accountability mechanisms that are used to hold governments, schools, teachers, parents, students, civil society, the international community, and the private sector accountable for inclusive, equitable and quality education.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION & *Permanent Delegation of Norway*

2 November 1-3pm, Room X

[Building ocean knowledge for sustainable development – How science contributes to achieving SDG 14](#)

Presentation of the first ever [Global Ocean Science Report](#), by Peter Thomson, UN Special Envoy for the Ocean, and dedicated online portal that enables Member States to contribute and share data and information on ocean science in real-time.

EDUCATION

3 November 2-2.45pm, Hall Segur

[Launch of “Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future”: expanding comprehensive sexuality education in Africa](#)

Launch "Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future" project to improve sexual and reproductive health, gender parity and educational performance for adolescents and young people in Sub-Saharan Africa through the delivery of quality comprehensive sexuality education.

EDUCATION

2 November 7-9pm, 7th floor

[Launch of UNESCO Strategy for Education in Emergencies in the Arab Region \(2018-2021\)](#)

Launch of the UNESCO Strategic Framework for Education in Emergencies in the Arab Region (2018-2021), designed to support Member States in meeting their educational needs.

EDUCATION / SOCIAL & HUMAN SCIENCES / COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION / CULTURE

3 November 1.15-2.45pm, Room II

[What works and what doesn't in the prevention of violent extremism: discussion on UNESCO's actions and launch of UNESCO's latest publications](#)

Launch of UNESCO's publications *Preventing violent extremism through education: A guide for policy-makers* ; *Youth guide for preventing violent extremism through education* and *Youth and Violent Extremism on Social Media: Mapping the Research*. The event will also focus on UNESCO's inter-sectoral work on the [prevention of violent extremism](#). Discussions will include a brief country presentation of national education systems' efforts to prevent violent extremism.

EDUCATION

3 November 6-6.30pm, Room II

[Award Ceremony of the UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development \(2017\)](#)

Presentation of the UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education for Sustainable Development to this year's [three winners](#): Zikra for Popular Learning from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; the Hard Rain Project from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and Sihlengeni Primary School from the Republic of Zimbabwe. Funded by the Government of Japan, the prize rewards outstanding ESD projects and programmes .

COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION

6 November 1.30-2.30pm, Room XII

[Presentation of World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development: 2017/18 Global Report](#)

[Presentation](#) of the key findings of the 2017/18 flagship report World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development. Sweden's Minister of Culture and Democracy, Alice Bah Kuhnke, will open the session, which will include a presentation by UNESCO's Director of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, Guy Berger, and an expert panel discussion.

CULTURE

6 November 12-2pm (round table) Room X, 6.30-8pm (film screening) Room IV

[Responding to Cultural Cleansing, Preventing Violent Extremism](#)

[Round table discussion](#) on the challenges of heritage protection in times of conflict and the links between the protection and transmission of heritage and the fight against sectarian violence, cultural cleansing and violent extremism.

Notable participants: Faryad Rawandozi, Minister of Culture of Iraq, N'diaye Ramatoulaye Diallo, Minister of Culture of Mali, Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Karima Bennouna, Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights. The event will be webcast.

Screening of documentary film "The Destruction of Memory", with an introduction by the filmmaker, Tim Slade.

NATURAL SCIENCES

6 November 6-7pm, Room II

[Awarding ceremony of the Carlos J. Finlay UNESCO Prize for Microbiology](#)

Award-giving ceremony for the laureates of the 2017 Prize to [Professor Shahida Hasnain of Pakistan and Dr Samir Saha of Bangladesh](#).

The Carlos J. Finlay UNESCO Prize rewards research and development that has made an outstanding contribution to the field of microbiology and its applications, including, immunology, molecular biology and genetics.

CULTURE

& Permanent Delegations of Denmark, Finland, Norway & Sweden

8 November, 2-3pm, Room II

[Setting a New Agenda on Artistic Freedom](#)

Panel to address challenges to artistic freedom, with a focus on global monitoring & UNESCO's programmes. Speakers include Diana Ramarohetra of Artswatch Africa, Katja Holm of the International Federation of Actors, Srirak Plipat of Freemuse

SOCIAL & HUMAN SCIENCES

& Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

10 November 1-2.30 pm, Room X

Ethics of Robotics

Presentation of the recent report on the ethics of robotics of the UNESCO World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST). It will be followed by a debate on how UNESCO can assist Member States in addressing ethical questions relating to the challenges posed by technological innovation, notably robotics and artificial intelligence. The event will include a demonstration of robotics technology.

SOCIAL & HUMAN SCIENCES

10 November 1-3pm, Room XI

Zeinab Badawi presents BBC World News series based on the General History of Africa project

Zeinab Badawi, Sudanese-born film director, will present a one-hour film highlighting the best moments of the film series she produced for the BBC. In the series, Zeinab Badawi travels to all four corners of Africa, interviewing African historians, archaeologists, and citizens whose accounts and stories paint a vivid picture of their continent's past and how it informs their present lives. In 1964, UNESCO launched the General History of Africa project with a view to researching and valuing Africa's history.

CULTURE

14-15 November

World Heritage Committee

Statutory meeting of the General Assembly of States Parties to the 1972 World Heritage Convention to report on activities of the World Heritage Committee and elect new members.

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<https://en.unesco.org/general-conference/39th-gc-press-registration>

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