



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

September 2018

### Calendar of events taking place at UNESCO Headquarters, in Field Offices and with other partner organizations.

*Journalists are requested to ask for accreditation prior to  
events at Headquarters:*

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## HEADQUARTER

### EDUCATION

7 September

#### **Literacy and skills development: International Literacy Day**

An International Conference on Literacy and Skills Development will bring together stakeholders and decision-makers from all over the world on the eve of International Literacy Day, celebrated every year on 8 September. The theme chosen for 2018 focuses on literacy and skills development. The award ceremony of UNESCO's International Literacy Prizes will conclude the Organization's global celebration of International Literacy Day.

[More information](#)

### CULTURE

10 September

#### **"Revive the spirit of Mosul": International Conference for the Rehabilitation of the City of Mosul**

UNESCO and the Iraqi Government are co-organizing the first international mobilization conference for the reconstruction of the old city of Mosul. The aim will be to assess the situation after more than 4 years of conflict and to unveil the plan for the reconstruction of the main heritage sites of the Old City and for cultural and educational revitalization to offer a new future to its inhabitants.

[More information](#)

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

10-11 September

### **From COP21 towards the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development**

The conference aims at synthesizing recent scientific progress on ocean and climate interplays; evaluating the latest ocean-climate trends within the context of increased ocean action; and reflecting on ways to move “from science to action”.

Organized around four sessions, the event will bring together scientists from multiple disciplines, civil society, businesses, decision-makers and UN entities, to share their expertise on ocean and climate related issues.

[More information](#)

## EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

11-12 September

### **UNESCO’s Partners Forum— Structured Financing Dialogue**

For two days, UNESCO will bring together for the first time its current and future stakeholders and partners, including Member States, development agencies, public and private actors: an opportunity for UNESCO to strengthen links with its faithful and potential partners for the implementation of its flagship programs and the nine Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to which UNESCO is a direct contributor.

Around testimonies of partnerships, examples of funding, thematic forums and workshops, UNESCO aims at engaging its partners in projects and actions for a sustainable development.

[See the programme](#)

## HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

11 September

### **Roundtable on "Artificial Intelligence: Reflection on its complexity and impact on our society"**

UNESCO organizes a roundtable on “Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (AI)” in order to raise awareness about the latest developments and related ethical challenges related to AI. The purposes of the roundtable are to bring together eminent experts in the field of science, law, medicine, biotechnology, ethics, philosophy and sociology, entrepreneurs, concerned international organizations, as well as the public to discuss these issues, leading to potential areas of cooperation at the international level.

[More information](#)

## HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

12 September

### **Roundtable on "Genome editing: why ethics matter"**

Recent developments in gene editing techniques have made the editing of specific gene sequences of any living organism much easier, faster and cheaper. These techniques are being rapidly applied in various areas related to humans, animals and plants. The table will raise public awareness of the latest advances and ethical issues related to gene editing.

[More information](#)

## EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

**15-16 September**

### **European Heritage Days**

UNESCO will open the doors of its Headquarters for the first time on the occasion of European Heritage Days. Visit of the building, demonstrations, animations and workshops will be proposed with the participation of about twenty start-ups, actors and experts working at the intersection of the trades related to culture and new technologies to preserve, enhance, protect and promote our common heritage.

## UNESCO AROUND THE WORLD

### INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

**4-5 September**, Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, France (Reunion Island and Mayotte), India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor Leste and Yemen.

### **IOWave 18**

Twenty-four countries bordering the Indian Ocean will engage in Exercise Indian Ocean Wave 2018 (IOWave18), a large-scale tsunami exercise based on two scenarios. The exercises will give Indian Ocean countries an opportunity to test standard operating procedures, communication links between stake holders, communities' tsunami preparedness and evacuation procedures.

[More information](#)

### AFRICA

**17-21 September, Mombasa, Kenya**

### **UNESCO Africa Engineering Week**

The 5th edition of UNESCO Africa Engineering Week will take place in Kenya and across Africa. The initiative aims to educate youth and the public about engineering and how engineers are key players in the solutions to important global issues.

[More information](#)

### COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION

**19-21 September, Changsha, Hunan, China**

### **International Conference “Role of linguistic diversity in building a global community with shared future: protection, access and promotion of language resources”**

The purpose of this event, is to discuss the broad areas of language-related issues, with special attention to the language protection, access to language resources and promotion of emerging initiatives in Asia-Pacific region as well as to contribute to the organization of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages and further

development of UNESCO's World Atlas of Languages. The event will consist of three thematic discussion areas:- Policies and Measures on Language and Cultural Diversity; - Standards and Talent Cultivation for Language Resource Preservation; and - Development, Application, and Promotion of Language Resources.

[More information](#)

#### **HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**25 September, Fukuka, Japan**

##### **Forum mondial des sciences sociales 2018**

The 4th World Social Science Forum will be dedicated to the theme of "Security and Equality for Sustainable Futures". Over the course of four days, participants will look into various dimensions of security, interrogating how the demand for security relates to societies' quest for equality and sustainability. The Forum will allow identifying critical research priorities on security, as well as data and knowledge gaps, globally and in specific regions.

[More information](#)

#### **NATURAL SCIENCES**

**26 September, Khartoum, Sudan**

##### **International Seminar Rainwater Harvesting Techniques - Towards Effective Adaptation Strategies**

The objective of this seminar is to exchange and gather knowledge of different water harvesting techniques in Africa and the Arab regions. Participants will be asked to comment their experiences on this topic and the difficulties encountered.

[More information](#)

#### **COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION**

**27 September, Tunis, Tunisia**

##### **Celebration of the third International Day for Universal Access to Information**

On the occasion of International Day for Universal Access to Information, the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) will host the third whole-day event 'IPDCtalks: Good Laws and Practices for Open Societies: Powering Sustainable Development with Access to Information'. The 'IPDCtalks' will be held to highlight and elaborate on the importance of access to information for all sustainable development efforts around the world.

[More information](#)

## CULTURE

30 September-2 October, Palermo, Italia

### **The role of Visitor Centres in UNESCO Designated sites**

This workshop will bring together representatives from 20 visitor centres active in different designated sites from Europe (including World Heritage properties, Biosphere Reserves, and Global Geoparks), UNESCO staff and other international experts. The aim is to discuss the following questions: What is the current and potential role of visitor centres in UNESCO designated sites? How can such centres better contribute to the objectives of the different designations, and of the sites themselves? What are the necessary conditions to implement this vision?

[More information](#)

## AND ALSO...

### SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

20 September

#### **International Day of University Sport**

[More information](#)

### SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES

21 September

#### **International Day of Peace**

[More information](#)

## HIGHLIGHT

### THE UNESCO COURIER

#### **Artificial Intelligence: The promises and the threats**

Can a machine think? What is an AI capable of at this stage of its evolution? To what degree is it autonomous? Where does that leave human decision-making?

More than ushering in a Fourth Industrial Revolution, AI is provoking a cultural revolution. It is undeniably destined to transform our future, but we don't know exactly how, yet. This is why it inspires both fascination and fear. In this issue, the Courier presents its investigation to the reader, elaborating on several aspects of this cutting-edge technology at the frontiers of computer science, engineering and philosophy.

[Read the latest issue](#)

