New UN websites & publications

UN in General

UN Archives Search Engine
http://search.archives.un.org/
After almost a year of intensive work on this important project, the archives of the United Nations are now fully searchable at the Archives and Records Management Section’s (ARMS) new website. Although ARMS has made archives available online for many years, this project has made dramatic improvements to our search engine, and allowed us to develop a brand new online portal to access our catalogue and collection. UN archives include records of the Secretaries-General, of Secretariat Departments, of Peacekeeping Missions, and also of Predecessor Organizations which transferred their records upon completion of their respective mandates.

UNOG Calendar Application for Mobile Devices: UNOG Events
http://un4.me/1T8O3U6
The UNOG Events application is designed to inform delegates, journalists, representatives of NGOs and the general public about events and meetings held in Geneva by organizations of the UN system. It provides a list of events, which the users can filter by type ("Conferences and Meetings", "Press & Media", "Cultural Events", "Other Events"), by timing (daily, weekly and monthly), and by organization. Each event includes a map with the location of the meeting room where it is being held. The UNOG Events application downloads from the UNOG Web Calendar (www.unog.ch/calendar) to your device the latest information, which remains available offline for further use. You can also save specific events as favourites ("My Events") for quick reference. The application is available in English and in French.

UNRIC Library Backgrounder “UN Press & Media Contacts”
English – html: http://un4.me/1KYaAxh
English – pdf: http://un4.me/1C04S9d
French – pdf: http://un4.me/1dybE7
This new backgrounder lists the relevant URLs of the UN Press & Media Centres and the URLs where contact details can be found for the various UN organizations, programmes, funds, specialized agencies, regional commissions, peacekeeping, political and peacebuilding missions, etc. Just bookmark this new page and you can easily access the information you are looking for without having to search the various websites.
UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) - launch of new website
http://www.unoosa.org
UNOOSA launched a new website on 10 June 2015 with the aim to better highlight the work of the Office and the benefits of outer space for humankind. This new website will better serve the Member States of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and be a friendlier tool for the general public. Featuring the latest news, publications, reports and social media content, the website has been designed for ease of navigation. The website will supplement public information and outreach activities of the office through new features such as an interactive map and calendar of events, clear information on various space-related topics and our exciting new timeline featuring milestones in space and the UN.

http://unpan3.un.org/WSIS10
A new website on the WSIS+10 United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting has been launched and will play a key role as the online platform for the Preparatory Process which starts in June and culminates in a GA High-Level Meeting in December. The website contains news, WSIS+10 related documents, information on the preparatory process, the High-Level Meeting as well as information on upcoming stakeholder consultation within the UN System.

Zero draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda
http://un4.me/1FGDLuQ
The zero draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda in September 2015 has just been released by Co-Facilitators Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the UN and David Donoghue, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN and is now available on the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015

Transitioning from the MDGs to the SDGs: Accountability for the Post-2015 Era (CDP Subgroup on Accountability, Background Paper)
The success of the post-2015 development agenda depends on adopting global goals for sustainable development and on designing a robust accountability system. All stakeholders should be involved in the accountability framework. While sustainable development goals (SDGs) are universal in character, they need to be adapted to national contexts, according to specific sets of constraints and opportunities. Countries need also to specify their global commitments to create an enabling environment for sustainable development worldwide. The adaptation of global goals into national targets ensures ownership and facilitates answerability, thus promoting an accountability framework that is inclusive, transparent and participatory bottom-up process.
Peace and Security

Analysis and recommendations with regard to the global threat from foreign terrorist fighters (S/2015/358, 19 May 2015)

English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2015/358
The Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team has been examining foreign terrorist fighters for a number of years as part of its mandate under the Al-Qaida sanctions regime. The threat from such fighters was flagged as a strategic issue in the Team’s sixteenth report (S/2014/770), issued in October 2014, and its report on ISIL and the Al-Nusrah Front for the people of the Levant (QDe.137) (S/2014/815), issued in November 2014. For the present report, which is, inevitably, provisional, the Team drew on a robust and detailed evidence base. This included six months of intensive engagement with Member States, including 21 country visits and bilateral meetings with 27 intelligence and security services since 2013. Its engagement included visits to most affected Member States, key transit States and States generating large and small populations of foreign terrorist fighters. The Team wrote to all 193 States Members of the United Nations and received responses from 42. In addition, it discussed foreign terrorist fighters with international and regional organizations, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union. The analysis here draws primarily on Member State information.


English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/A/69/926
Mass abductions of children and other civilians have become increasingly prevalent in many of the 23 conflict situations of 2014 that are highlighted in the Annual Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict, released on 11 June 2015.


http://un4.me/1HKMMwi
The coming period will be critical for the future of the peace process, with concerns growing about the lack of a horizon for the resumption of negotiations towards a two-state solution, according to the latest report issued by the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO). The report was presented to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC) at the twice annual meeting in Brussels on May 27, 2015.


Information note: http://un4.me/1dJEc6M
Focus on political solutions, responsive and flexible operations, stronger partnerships and field-focused and people-centred mandates; these are the essential shifts the United Nations must urgently address as it faces challenging new peacekeeping and conflict prevention landscapes, the chair of a high-level expert panel said on 16 June 2015, introducing a long-awaited report at the world body’s New York Headquarters.

Security Council Concept Note: Open Debate on children and armed conflict

On 18 June 2015, the Security Council held open debate on children and armed conflict. The Security Council President for the month of June, Malaysia, had prepared this concept note.
**UN-CMCoord - United Nations Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination:** Facilitating the right assistance, to the right people, at the right time, in the most appropriate way; UN-CMCoord Field Handbook (v1.0) 101 Series (UNOCHA)

[http://un4.me/1F68ExO](http://un4.me/1F68ExO)

The UN-CMCoord Field Handbook is designed as a guide for CMCoord Officers and focal points in natural disasters and complex emergencies. The 2015 edition includes significant updates in comparison with the 2008 edition. It promotes common understanding and a coherent approach in a changing institutional framework and operational environment.

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**Economic & Social Development**


The State of the World’s Volunteerism Report 2015 is the first global review of the power of volunteer voices to help improve the way people are governed. Drawing on evidence from countries as diverse as Brazil, Kenya, Lebanon and Bangladesh, the UN report shows how ordinary people are volunteering their time, energies and skills to improve the way they are governed and engaged at local, national and global levels. Better governance at every level is a pre-requisite for the success of the new set of targets for future international development, the Sustainable Development Goals, which are due to be agreed at the United Nations in September 2015.

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**Designing and Preparing Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) (UNDP / World Resources Institute)**

[http://lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/Designing_and_Preparing_INDCs.pdf](http://lowemissiondevelopment.org/docs/Designing_and_Preparing_INDCs.pdf)

Meeting on the side lines of climate change negotiations in June 2015 in Bonn, Germany, UNDP and the World Resources Institute today launched a new guidance tool to support developing countries in preparing climate targets and actions. Supported by UNDP’s Low Emission Capacity Building Programme (LECB), the new publication has been designed to support developing country partners as they prepare their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), a key component of the Paris climate change agreement. Through the INDC’s each country declares their envisioned strategies and actions to tackle the challenge of climate change.

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“Economic performance in the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region improved somewhat in 2014, with gross domestic product (GDP) growth accelerating to 1.8 per cent from 1.2 per cent in 2013. However, there were marked differences across different subregions. The decline in oil prices was supporting the global recovery, including in most countries in the ECE region. However, for a number of energy-exporting economies in the Commonwealth of Independent States, notably the Russian Federation, this development represented a significant shock.”
Family Farming Knowledge Platform (FAO)


Recognizing the contributions of family farmers to food security and poverty eradication worldwide, FAO today launched a new digital platform that aims to become a "one-stop shop" for information, data and legislation on the sector that produces some 80 percent of the world’s food. By gathering digitized information on family farming from all over the world - including public programs, national and regional legislation, up-to-date statistics, case studies and academic research -- the new Family Farming Knowledge Platform will allow governments to build stronger policies in support of family farmers and help policy dialogue with family farmers' organizations.

Progress for Children: Beyond Averages (UNICEF)

The global community will fail millions of children if it does not focus on the most disadvantaged, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) warns in its final report on achievement of the child-related UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), emphasizing that “we were not ambitious enough” to reach those with the greatest needs. The report concludes that despite significant achievements, unequal opportunities have left millions of children living in poverty, dying before they turn five, without schooling and suffering chronic malnutrition. Indeed, UNICEF warns that progress still eludes the nearly 6 million children who die every year before their fifth birthday, the 289,000 women who die every year while giving birth and the 58 million children who don't go to primary school.

Regional Overview of Food Insecurity: Africa – African Food Security Prospects Brighter Than Ever (FAO)

According to the first edition of the Regional Overview of Food Insecurity in Africa (2015), Angola, Djibouti, Cameroon, Gabon, Ghana, Mali and Sao Tome & Principe met both the relevant Millennium Development Goal – that of halving the proportion of the population suffering from undernourishment – and the more stringent World Food Summit target of halving the absolute numbers of the hungry.

Report of the Secretary-General with regard to strengthening and building institutions for policy integration in the post-2015 era (E/2015/69, 24 April 2015)

"The present report represents a conceptual discussion of institutions and institutional arrangements that could best support integrated policymaking to tackle the goals and challenges of the post-2015 period. In this context, policy integration entails intersectoral interaction that leads to a single joint policy for the sectors involved, and policy coherence aims at adjusting sectoral policies to make them mutually enforcing and consistent. The discussion will explore, on the basis of existing experiences and studies, the institutional requirements and capabilities needed to adapt to the aspirations and challenges of the new agenda as well as the type of institutional changes that will be called for. The present report should be read in conjunction with the report of the Secretary-General on the theme for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council, “Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take” (E/2015/68).”
The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015: Meeting the 2015 international hunger targets; taking stock of uneven progress (FAO)

Spanish: http://www.fao.org/hunger/sp

This year’s annual State of Food Insecurity in the World report takes stock of progress made towards achieving the internationally established Millennium Development Goal (MDG1) and World Food Summit hunger targets and reflects on what needs to be done, as we transition to the new post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda. The report reviews progress made since 1990 for every country and region as well as for the world as a whole.

Tracking Universal Health Coverage (WHO / World Bank)

A World Health Organization and World Bank Group report launched on 12 June 2015 shows that 400 million people do not have access to essential health services and 6% of people in low- and middle-income countries are tipped into or pushed further into extreme poverty because of health spending. The report is the first of its kind to measure health service coverage and financial protection to assess countries’ progress towards universal health coverage. The report looked at global access to essential health services—including family planning, antenatal care, skilled birth attendance, child immunization, antiretroviral therapy, tuberculosis treatment, and access to clean water and sanitation—in 2013, and found that at least 400 million people lacked access to at least one of these services.

World Economic and Social Survey 2014/2015: MDG Lessons for Post-2015
E/2015/50 in English, French & Spanish:
http://undocs.org/E/2015/50

Online version of the Report in English: https://wess.un.org/

The World Economic and Social Survey 2014/2015 reviews and analyses the MDG experience in order to determine the lessons that will be helpful for the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. In particular, it identifies the policies and strategies that proved most successful in promoting the MDGs, as well as the gaps, so that the international community can be well prepared in designing and implementing effective policies and strategies for achieving the post-2015 agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

World Economic Situation and Prospects as of mid-2015
Report in English: http://un4.me/1B365Bo

“The world economy continues to grow at a modest pace, with a gradual improvement projected for the second half of 2015 and 2016, according to the World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) as of mid-2015 report, launched on 19 May. Growth of world gross product is projected to improve slightly from 2.6 per cent in 2014 to 2.8 per cent in 2015—a downward revision by 0.3 percentage points from the forecast presented in the WESP 2015 in January. The downward revision reflects mainly deterioration in the prospects of the economies in transition and several large developing countries, especially in South America. In 2016, global growth is forecast to improve to 3.1 per cent, which is still well below the pre-crisis pace.”
World Report on Child Labour 2015: Paving the way to decent work for young people (ILO)
Report & Executive Summary in English: http://un4.me/1L9VzvE
Summary in French: http://un4.me/1QZOPz1
Summary in Spanish: http://un4.me/1efZI3Q
Press release in German: http://un4.me/1Sh8KMm
Press release in Italian: http://un4.me/1fc2Spi
The second volume of the ILO World Report on Child Labour series highlights the close linkages between child labour and good youth employment outcomes, and the consequent need for common policy approaches to addressing challenges arising in countries where both child labour and youth unemployment prevail.

Human Rights

Children’s Equitable Access to Justice in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (UNICEF)
http://un4.me/1Ql2x4r
Most child victims of violence in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia find themselves unable to speak up and file charges in court, according to a new UNICEF regional report launched on 3 June 2015 in Brussels. The report sheds light on the tremendous barriers children face in seeking fair and effective solutions to put right the injustice and discrimination in their lives.

While some progress has been made since the first study four years ago spotlighting discrimination and violence against people based on their sexual orientation and gender identity, the overall picture remains one of pervasive, violent abuse, harassment and discrimination affecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBT/I) persons in all regions, according to a new United Nations report issued on 1 June 2015. “Violence motivated by homophobia and transphobia is often particularly brutal, and in some instances characterized by levels of cruelty exceeding that of other hate crimes,” according to this report by the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) to be presented later this month to the UN Human Rights Council, which requested it.

The Government of Eritrea is responsible for systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations that have created a climate of fear in which dissent is stifled, a large proportion of the population is subjected to forced labour and imprisonment, and hundreds of thousands of refugees have fled the country, according to a UN report released on 8 June 2015. Some of these violations may constitute crimes against humanity. Citing an array of human rights violations on a scope and scale seldom witnessed elsewhere, the report by the UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in Eritrea describes a totalitarian state bent on controlling Eritreans through a vast security apparatus that has penetrated all levels of society.
Handbook for monitoring and evaluation of child labour in agriculture: Measuring the impacts of agricultural and food security: programmes on child labour in family-based agriculture (FAO)
http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4630e.pdf
The handbook provides an easy-to-use toolkit of research and data collection methods for assessing child labour in agriculture and the impacts that various types of development programmes can have. Additionally, it encourages the identification and use of good practices to prevent child labour. The handbook also offers practical advice on how to collect information to track the impact of child labour on school performance and health. The new guide is intended for use by agricultural organizations, NGOs, international organizations, agricultural ministries, policy-makers, and other actors involved in agricultural programmes, be they related to crop production, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry or livestock-raising. FAO developed the new guide in partnership with Humboldt University of Berlin.

A new report released by a United Nations investigative panel on the possible commission of war crimes in Gaza during the 2014 conflict between Israel and Palestinian armed groups in the enclave, has gathered substantial information finding the allegations to be credible, the Organization’s human rights office announced on 22 June 2015. The report – issued today by the UN Independent Commission of Inquiry on the 2014 Gaza conflict – suggests that possible war crimes were committed by both Palestinian and Israeli armed groups during the 51-day conflict, which resulted in over a thousand deaths and the widespread destruction of the Gaza strip.

"The present report provides an overview of the human rights situation of Roma worldwide, applying a minority rights-based approach to the protection and promotion of the rights of Roma, including the protection of their existence; the prevention of violence against Roma; the protection and promotion of Roma identity; the guarantee of the rights to non-discrimination and equality, including combating racism, anti-Gypsyism and structural discrimination; and the guarantee of the right of Roma to effective participation in public life, especially with regard to decisions affecting them. Drawing on the responses to her questionnaire, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues provides an overview of trends in State practice, highlighting positive developments as well as challenges."

"The deaths of migrants in the central Mediterranean Sea have vividly and visibly demonstrated the continued importance of the issue of European Union border management in relation to the human rights of migrants. The present report follows the analysis of European Union border control presented to the Human Rights Council in 2013. It will address persistent human rights concerns and examine the long-term feasibility of the European Union’s overall migration policy and the application of the Union’s founding values and regional human rights standards in relation to integration and diversity."
A new report issued on 1 June 2015 by the UN Human Rights Office details the serious human rights violations and abuses that persist in eastern Ukraine, including shelling, executions, arbitrary and illegal detentions, torture, ill-treatment, human trafficking and the lack of justice and accountability, as well as deprivation of economic and social rights, that are deeply affecting the five million people living in the conflict-affected areas. The tenth report by the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, which covers the period from 16 February to 15 May 2015, states that there has been a notable decrease in indiscriminate shelling after the adoption of the 12 February Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements. However, the shelling has not stopped, nor have armed hostilities between Ukrainian armed forces and armed groups, meaning that civilians continue to live in fear. Civilian casualties from landmines and unexploded ordnance are still considerable.

UNHCR Global Trends 2014: World at War
http:// unhcr.org/556725e69.html
Wars, conflict and persecution have forced more people than at any other time in history to flee their homes and seek refuge and safety elsewhere, according to a new report from the UN refugee agency. The report, released on 18 June 2015, said that worldwide displacement was at the highest level ever recorded. It said the number of people forcibly displaced at the end of 2014 had risen to a staggering 59.5 million compared to 51.2 million a year earlier and 37.5 million a decade ago. The increase represents the biggest leap ever seen in a single year. Moreover, the report said the situation was likely to worsen still further. Globally, one in every 122 humans is now either a refugee, internally displaced, or seeking asylum. If this were the population of a country, it would be the world's 24th biggest.

New information material
Single copies of the following titles can be ordered via e-mail: info@unric.org

NEW TITLES
added to the library collection in June

II.E Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

Forests in the ECE Region: Trends and Challenges in Achieving the Global Objectives on Forests.


Système général harmonisé de classification et d’étiquetage des produits chimiques (SGH): Sixième édition révisée.

III.T International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO)

"Women’s Economic Empowerment”
Online version: http://www.tradeforum.org/tradeforumhome/

V International Law


UN WOMEN

Le progrés des femmes dans le monde 2015-2016 : transformer les économies, réaliser les droits.

Le progrès des femmes dans le monde 2015-2016 : transformer les économies, réaliser les droits ; Résumé.

World Health Organization (WHO)

Online version: http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/93/5/en/

Online version: http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/93/6/en/

Back issues of this newsletter are available at the UNRIC Info Point & Library website:
http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-newsletter