New UN websites & publications

UN in General

DPI News App
The UN News app is the destination for daily updates on breaking news and events from the United Nations through comprehensive news coverage, in video, text, photos and audio. Explore global updates on peace and security, sustainable development, gender issues, health, poverty, law, human rights, counter-terrorism, culture, climate change and the environment. Use this fully multilingual app in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian or Spanish.


Videos
English: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1WeXYuLV0YQ
French: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3W6Tl6Dc
Spanish: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1WeXYuLV0YQ

eSubscription to United Nations Documents now available in all six official languages
http://undocs.org
The eSubscription portal has enabled subscribers, including UN staff, Member States, and the public, to automatically receive UN documents in digital format, as they become available. To achieve full parity among the languages of the United Nations, the United Nations Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) is pleased to announce that the eSubscription service to UN documents has been expanded from one to all six official languages.

Report on the investigation into the death of former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and members of his party

On the new Gender Parity and Equality website, visitors can find information about data on gender representation in the Secretariat, the priorities and structure of the strategy, the gender parity legal framework, including the United Nations Charter, General Assembly resolutions, Secretary-General’s bulletins, and Secretary-General’s administrative instructions. It also includes videos, learning opportunities, staff testimonials, recruitment prospects, news and links to various gender-related initiatives across the United Nations system. The new site aims to be a one-stop shop for updated and concise information for visitors and showcases the many ways in which we can all promote and build awareness of gender parity and equality every day.

'Go-Goals!' SDG board game

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. The game is designed as a do it yourself kit, all you need are a printer, a pair of scissors, some tape or glue, and you can start playing. Dutch, Italian and Chinese language version will be available later this year.

Economic Growth and Sustainable Development

Climate Change and Social Inequality (DESA Working Paper No. 152)

ABSTRACT: This paper offers a unifying conceptual framework for understanding the relationship between climate change and “within-country inequalities,” referred here collectively as “social inequality.” Available evidence indicates that this relationship is characterized by a vicious cycle, whereby initial inequality causes the disadvantaged groups to suffer disproportionately from the adverse effects of climate change, resulting in greater subsequent
inequality. The paper identifies three main channels through which the inequality-aggravating effect of climate change materializes, namely (a) increase in the exposure of the disadvantaged groups to the adverse effects of climate change; (b) increase in their susceptibility to damage caused by climate change; and (c) decrease in their ability to cope and recover from the damage suffered. The paper presents evidence to illustrate each of the processes above. It also notes that the same analytical framework can be used to discuss the relationship between climate change and inequality across countries. Finally, it points to the ways in which the analysis can be helpful in making relevant policy decisions.

The Emission Gap Report 2017 (UNEP)
http://www.unenvironment.org/resources/emissions-gap-report
Governments and non-state actors need to deliver an urgent increase in ambition to ensure the Paris Agreement goals can still be met, according to a new UN assessment. The eighth edition of UN Environment’s Emissions Gap report, released on 31 October 2017 ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference in Bonn, finds that national pledges only bring a third of the reduction in emissions required by 2030 to meet climate targets, with private sector and sub-national action not increasing at a rate that would help close this worrying gap.

Global Employment Trends for Youth 2017: Paths to a better working future (ILO)
Report in English, Executive Summary in English, French & Spanish: https://un4.me/2iDztIV
Young people are estimated to account for over 35 per cent of the unemployed population worldwide in 2017. While the global youth unemployment rate stabilized at 13.0 per cent in 2016, it is expected to rise slightly to 13.1 per cent this year, according to the ILO report released on 21 November 2017. The estimated figure of 70.9 million unemployed youth in 2017 is an important improvement from the crisis peak of 76.7 million in 2009, but the number is expected to rise by a further 200,000 in 2018, reaching a total of 71.1 million.

Levels and Trends in Child Mortality (UNICEF)
https://data.unicef.org/resources/levels-trends-child-mortality/
This report presents the group’s latest estimates of under-five, infant and neonatal mortality up to the year 2016, and assesses progress at the country, regional and global levels. Critically, it shows that although the number of children dying before the age of five has reached a new low – 5.6 million in 2016, compared with nearly 9.9 million in 2000 – the proportion of under-five deaths in the newborn period has increased from 41 per cent to 46 per cent during the same period. For the first time, the report also provides mortality estimates for children aged 5 to 14.

Review of Maritime Transport 2017 (UNCTAD)
A United Nations report published on 25 October 2017 revealed the poor maritime connectivity continues to keep smaller and weaker economies from reaching world markets, highlighting the need for evidence-based improvements to trading systems and procedures to address these challenges. According to the UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport, lack of access is particularly challenging for landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and least developed countries leading to fewer, unreliable and expensive transport connections. These obstacles also further widen the rift between the best- and worst-connected countries, added the news release, calling for increased interconnectedness between national, regional and intercontinental liner shipping services.
Sustainable Development Goals Acceleration Toolkit
https://undg.org/2030-agenda/sdg-acceleration-toolkit/

The Sustainable Development Goals Acceleration Toolkit is an online compendium of system-level diagnostics, models, methodologies and guidance for analyzing interconnections among the SDGs, assessing how to contribute to the pledge by Member States to ‘leave no one behind’, and doing risk-informed planning—to help governments, UN country teams, and expert stakeholders at all levels understand synergies and trade-offs and identify and unlock bottlenecks for strategizing, prioritizing and accelerating progress.

WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin

*English:* https://un4.me/2zpmTpR  
*French:* https://un4.me/2yCb0xL  
*Spanish:* https://un4.me/2iBpZxc

Concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere surged at a record-breaking speed in 2016 to the highest level in 800 000 years, according to the World Meteorological Organization's Greenhouse Gas Bulletin. The abrupt changes in the atmosphere witnessed in the past 70 years are without precedent. Globally averaged concentrations of CO$_2$ reached 403.3 parts per million in 2016, up from 400.00 ppm in 2015 because of a combination of human activities and a strong El Niño event. Concentrations of CO$_2$ are now 145% of pre-industrial (before 1750) levels, according to the Greenhouse Gas Bulletin. Rapidly increasing atmospheric levels of CO$_2$ and other greenhouse gases have the potential to initiate unprecedented changes in climate systems, leading to “severe ecological and economic disruptions,” said the report. The annual bulletin is based on observations from the WMO Global Atmosphere Watch Programme. These observations help to track the changing levels of greenhouse gases and serve as an early warning system for changes in these key atmospheric drivers of climate change.

WMO Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2017
https://un4.me/2yDuvpC

It is very likely that 2017 will be one of the three hottest years on record, with many high-impact events including catastrophic hurricanes and floods, debilitating heatwaves and drought. Long-term indicators of climate change such as increasing carbon dioxide concentrations, sea level rise and ocean acidification continue unabated. Arctic sea ice coverage remains below average and previously stable Antarctic sea ice extent was at or near a record low. The World Meteorological Organization's provisional Statement on the State of the Climate says the average global temperature from January to September 2017 was approximately 1.1°C above the pre-industrial era. As a result of a powerful El Niño, 2016 is likely to remain the warmest year on record, with 2017 and 2015 being second and/or third. 2013-2017 is set to be the warmest five-year period on record. The WMO statement – which covers January to September - was released on 6 November 2017, the opening day of the United Nations climate change conference in Bonn. It includes information submitted by a wide range of UN agencies on human, socio-economic and environmental impacts as part of a drive to provide a more comprehensive, UN-wide policy brief for decision makers on the interplay between weather, climate and water and the UN global goals.


Intangible capital, such as branding, design and technology, is increasingly determining success in the marketplace, as nearly one third of the value of manufactured products comes from such capital, a study conducted by the United Nations intellectual property agency has revealed. The WIPO's study, released on 20 November 2017, looks at how much income is credited to labor, tangible capital and intangible capital in global value chain production across all manufacturing activities. The report finds that intangible capital accounted, on average, for 30.4 percent of the total value of manufactured goods sold throughout 2000-2014. Overall, income from intangibles increased by 75 per cent from 2000 to 2014 in real terms, amounting to $5.9 trillion in 2014, twice as much as tangible capital, such as buildings and machinery, contributed to the total value of manufactured goods.
World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development - Executive Summary
(UNESCO)


The media industry, which remains the primary source of news and information in the digital age, faces both vast opportunities and steep challenges, the United Nations cultural agency said on 6 November 2017 in its flagship analysis of new trends in media freedom, pluralism, independence and the safety of journalists. The report highlights such positive developments as civil society mobilizing to push for greater access to information, media houses cooperating with fact-checking services to push back against a torrent of disinformation, and more and more Governments adopting freedom of information laws. In the digital age, the report says, women journalists are able to develop an online presence liberated from newsroom hierarchies, and citizen journalists and activists have access to modes of mass communication that were previously unthinkable. The report, however, warned that “across the world, journalism is under fire,” citing the rise of ‘fake news’ stories that shroud the truth and muddy information, as well as social media algorithms that are contributing to the creation of virtual ‘echo chambers’ and exacerbating political polarization. Governments have shut down the internet, notably before elections. Journalists are under wide-ranging attack, facing rising violence.

International Peace and Security

Concept note for the Security Council open debate on children and armed conflict
On 31 October 2017, the Security Council held an open debate on “Children and armed conflict”. The Security Council President for October, France, has prepared a concept note for this debate.

Concept note for the Security Council open debate on women and peace and security — realizing the promise of the women and peace and security agenda: ensuring its full implementation, including the participation of women
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2017/889
On 27 October 2017, the Security Council held an open debate on the theme “Women and peace and security”. The Security Council President for October, France, has prepared a concept paper for this debate.

Concept note for the Security Council ministerial open debate on the theme “Maintenance of international peace and security: trafficking in persons in conflict situations”
On 21 November 2017, the Security Council held an open debate on the theme “Maintenance of international peace and security: trafficking in persons in conflict situations”. The Security Council President for November, Italy, has prepared a concept paper for this debate.
**Development of Africa**

**Rural Africa in motion: Dynamics and drivers of migration south of the Sahara (FAO)**

http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7951e.pdf

A first atlas to offer a better understanding of complex rural migration patterns in sub-Saharan Africa has been published on 2 November 2017. It also highlights the important role rural areas will continue to play in shaping the continent’s migration for decades to come. Through a series of maps and in-depth case studies, the 20 authors of the atlas, representing different research institutions, think tanks and international organizations from and outside Africa, explore the complexity of the interrelated causes that drive people in Africa to leave their homes. They shed light on regional migration dynamics and perspectives, and foster understanding of rural migration. The atlas is the result of a partnership between the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO), with technical support from the Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation (GovInn) in South Africa.

**Human Rights**

**A Familiar Face: Violence in the lives of children and adolescents (UNICEF)**

https://www.unicef.org/endviolence/

About 300 million, or three-quarters, of the world’s two- to four-year-old children experience either psychological aggression or physical punishment, or both, by their caregivers at home, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) said in a report published on 31 October 2017. The report uses the latest data to show that children experience violence across all stages of childhood and in all settings.

**The Human Rights Situation of Internally Displaced Persons in Darfur, 2014 – 2016**


A report by the UN Human Rights Office and the African Union-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) has called on the Sudanese Government to pursue effective, transparent and durable policies to enable the 2.6 million people internally displaced by the long-running conflict in Darfur to return home voluntarily or to reintegrate into host communities. The report notes that, despite a ceasefire between the Government and various armed opposition groups which has largely held since June 2016, violence against internally displaced people (IDPs) continues to be widespread and impunity for human rights violations persists. The report details the situation of IDPs from January 2014 to December 2016, a period largely marked by the Government military campaign “decisive summer” that led to mass civilian displacement. The report says there are reasonable grounds to believe that the military operations resulted in serious violations of human rights law and international humanitarian law.
Justice now: Ending impunity for sexual and gender-based violence as international crimes (UN Women)
This interactive infostory by UN Women explores the various paths to justice, gives voice to survivors’ stories and looks at the critical role that investigators play in ending impunity for sexual and gender-based violence crimes.

https://un4.me/2z2vVu3
A UN report concludes that the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL/Daesh) perpetrated serious and systematic violations that amount to “international crimes” during the nine-month military campaign to liberate Mosul City in Iraq. The report, published on 2 November 2017 by the UN assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), is based on direct witness testimony, and documents mass abductions of civilians, the use of thousands as human shields, the intentional shelling of civilian residences, and indiscriminate targeting of civilians trying to flee the city. In July 2017 Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and affiliated armed groups retook the city which had fallen under the control of ISIL in June 2014.

Humanitarian Affairs

This Is Our Home: Stateless minorities and their search for citizenship (UNHCR)
http://www.unhcr.org/ibelong/stateless-minorities/
A new UNHCR report - released on 3 November 2017 - warns that discrimination, exclusion and persecution are stark realities for many of the world’s stateless minorities, and calls for immediate action to secure equal nationality rights for all. More than 75% of the world’s known stateless populations belong to minority groups, the report notes. Left unaddressed, their protracted marginalization can build resentment, increase fear and, in the most extreme cases, lead to instability, insecurity and displacement. Although the report is based on research prior to late August when hundreds of thousands of Rohingya – the world’s biggest stateless minority – began fleeing Myanmar to Bangladesh, their situation is nonetheless illustrative of the problems that years of discrimination, protracted exclusion and their impact on citizenship status can lead to.

UNRIC Library Backgrounder: Refugees and Migrants – Selected Online Resource
English: https://un4.me/2zntxKa
French: https://un4.me/2yMGMXz
Nuclear, Chemical and Conventional Weapons Disarmament

Radiation: Effects and Sources
English, French, Spanish, Czech, Dutch, German & Portuguese:

The UNEP booklet entitled "Radiation: Effects and Sources" is based on the major scientific reports of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) published in the past 25 years. It aims to expand public knowledge on levels of exposure to ionizing radiation and possible associated effects. This publication does not set, or even recommend, radiation safety standards. Rather, it provides information on basic science related to radiation (origin, quantities and units), on radiation effects (on humans and the environment) and on radiation sources (natural and artificial). The booklet was published in 2016 on the occasion of the Committee's 60th anniversary in English. To make this publication available to a wider audience, the UNSCEAR secretariat – which operates under the auspices of UN Environment - translated it into 10 languages with the technical and financial support of Member States acknowledged in the respective translated versions. In cases of discrepancy, the original English text will prevail.

New information material

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

Sorry, nothing received this month.

NEW TITLES
added to the library collection in November

I General Information and Reference

Contes de fées pour un Monde Meilleur / Kirsten Deall, Carolina Rodriguez.
(Ce livre a été conçu et produit dans le cadre des activités de sensibilisation du Projet de changement de perception de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève. Il ne constitue pas une publication officielle des Nations Unies.)
Online version : http://www.sdgstorybook.com

Fairy Tales for a Fairer World / Kirsten Deall, Carolina Rodriguez.
(This book has been conceptualized, written and designed as a creative outreach effort of the Perception Change Project of the United Nations Office in Geneva. It is not an official publication of the United Nations.)
Online version: http://www.sdgstorybook.com
Ziele für nachhaltige Entwicklung: Bericht 2016. 


II.K Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Assessing Regional Integration in Africa VII: Innovation, Competitiveness and Regional Integration. 
Online version: https://repository.uneca.org/handle/10855/23013

Online version: https://repository.uneca.org/handle/10855/22980

Online version: https://repository.uneca.org/handle/10855/23012

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