New UN websites & publications

UN in General

Dag Hammarskjöld Library – new Research Guide on UN Membership
English: http://research.un.org/en/unmembers/
French: http://research.un.org/fr/unmembers
Spanish: http://research.un.org/es/unmembers

2019 - International Year of Indigenous Languages
English: https://en.iyil2019.org/
French: https://fr.iyil2019.org/
Spanish: https://es.iyil2019.org/
A/RES/71/178: "… Proclaims the year beginning on 1 January 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages, to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote indigenous languages and to take further urgent steps at the national and international levels, and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the Year, in collaboration with other relevant agencies, within existing resources; …"

2019 - International Year of Moderation
A/RES/72/129: "… Decides to proclaim 2019 the International Year of Moderation in an effort to amplify the voices of moderation through the promotion of dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation, …"

2019 - International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements
https://www.iypt2019.org/
A/RES/72/228: "… Proclaims the year beginning on 1 January 2019 the International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements to enhance global awareness of, and to increase education in, the basic sciences, with special attention to the countries of the developing world, to improving the quality of everyday life and, inter alia, for future advances in research and development, and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the International Year, in collaboration with other relevant agencies, within existing resources; …"

United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC)
Residence Palace · Block C2 (7th & 8th floor) · Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 155 · 1040 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 (0) 788 8484 · Fax: +32 (0) 788 8485 · E-mail: info@unric.org · Website: www.unric.org

UNRIC

2019–2028 - United Nations Decade of Family Farming

http://www.fao.org/family-farming/

A/RES/72/239: "… Encourages all States to develop, improve and implement public policies on family farming and share their experiences and best practices of family farming with other States; Calls upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to lead the implementation of the Decade, in collaboration with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including by identifying and developing possible activities and programmes, within their mandates and existing resources and through voluntary contributions, as appropriate; …"

Economic Growth and Sustainable Development

Climate Change Adaptation in Africa

Report in English, Executive Summary in English & French:
https://un4.me/2rDg9iZ

Climate change threatens a decade of strong economic growth and social gains across Africa, according to a new report launched on 13 December 2018 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The report was launched in coordination with the Africa Adaptation Initiative at this year's climate talks in Poland, which have brought leaders from across the globe to build momentum to reach the goals outlined in the historic Paris Agreement. The report looks at case studies from national climate change adaptation efforts supported by UNDP across Africa for the last 15 years with the financial backing of donor bodies such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Collect Earth Online (FAO / NASA)

http://collect.earth/

Satellite-based tracking to chart how land is being used on the earth's surface is about to get much easier and more accessible, the UN food agency has announced, launching a new online portal developed in collaboration with the United States Space Agency, NASA. The system known as Collect Earth Online, is web-based, free of charge and open to all platforms that will allow users to "systematically inspect" any location on the planet – from glaciers to rainforests - with satellite data, said the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on 12 December 2018. The next generation geo-spatial tool also provides access to high-resolution satellite imagery from multiple sources as well as historical imagery and photo mosaics from NASA and European Union satellite networks, making it easier to carry out surveys, collect samples and use crowdsourcing techniques.

Emissions Gap Report 2018 (UN Environment)

Report in English, Executive Summary in English, French & Spanish:
https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2018

Global emissions are on the rise as national commitments to combat climate change come up short. But surging momentum from the private sector and untapped potential from innovation and green-financing offer pathways to bridge the emissions gap. Those findings along with a sweeping review of climate action and the latest measurements of global emissions were presented by authors of the 2018 Emissions Gap Report during a launch event in Paris on 27 November 2018. The flagship report from UN Environment annually presents a definitive assessment of the so-called 'emissions gap' – the gap between anticipated emission levels in 2030, compared to levels consistent with a 2°C / 1.5°C target. The findings presented on 27 November 2018 offer the latest accounting of national mitigation efforts and the ambitions countries have presented in their Nationally Determined Contributions, which form the foundation of the Paris Agreement.

Global Status Report on Road Safety (WHO)
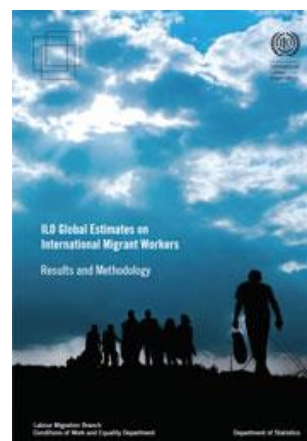*Report in English, French & Spanish, Summary in English, French, Spanish & Portuguese:*
https://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/road_safety_status/report/en/
Approximately 1.3 million people die each year on the world's roads, and between 20 and 50 million sustain non-fatal injuries. The Global status report on road safety is the first broad assessment of the road safety situation in 178 countries, using data drawn from a standardized survey. The results show that road traffic injuries remain an important public health problem, particularly for low-income and middle-income countries. Pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists make up almost half of those killed on the roads, highlighting the need for these road users to be given more attention in road safety programmes. The results suggest that in many countries road safety laws need to be made more comprehensive while enforcement should be strengthened. The Global status report on road safety results clearly show that significantly more action is needed to make the world's roads safer.

Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers (ILO)
https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_652001/lang--en/index.htm

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that 164 million people are migrant workers – a rise of 9 per cent since 2013, when they numbered 150 million. According to the 2nd edition of the ILO's Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers, which covers the period between 2013 and 2017, the majority of migrant workers – 96 million – are men, while 68 million are women. This represents an increase in the share of men among migrant workers, from 56 per cent to 58 per cent, and a decrease by two percentage points in women's share, from 44 per cent to 42 per cent. Nearly 87 per cent of migrant workers are of prime working age, between 25 and 64 years old. This suggests that some countries of origin are losing the most productive segment of their workforce. This, the report says, could have a negative impact on their economic growth.

A Guide to Using the SADC Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage: For Parliamentarians, Civil Society Organisations and Youth Advocates (SADC / Girls Not Brides / UNFPA)
https://un4.me/2SIFOlT
The Model Law provides guidance to parliamentarians, Ministries of Justice, policymakers, and other stakeholders in SADC Member States as they develop effective national laws to end child marriage and address inconsistencies in their current legal frameworks.

Knowledge is power (UNAIDS)
Report in English: https://un4.me/2KsPAWG
Summary in English: https://un4.me/2SoQSVb
Summary in French: https://un4.me/2So9oNx
A new report from UNAIDS shows that intensified HIV testing and treatment efforts are reaching more people living with HIV. In 2017, three quarters of people living with HIV (75%) knew their HIV status, compared to just two thirds (67%) in 2015, and 21.7 million people living with HIV (59%) had access to antiretroviral therapy, up from 17.2 million in 2015. The report shows, however, that 9.4 million people living with HIV do not know they are living with the virus and urgently need to be linked to HIV testing and treatment services. The report reveals that although the number of people living with HIV who are virally suppressed has risen by around 10 percentage points

in the past three years, reaching 47% in 2017, 19.4 million people living with HIV still do not have a suppressed viral load. To remain healthy and to prevent transmission, the virus needs to be suppressed to undetectable or very low levels through sustained antiretroviral therapy. And to effectively monitor viral load, people living with HIV need access to viral load testing every 12 months.

Migration and the 2030 Agenda: A Guide for Practitioners (IOM)

English, French & Spanish:
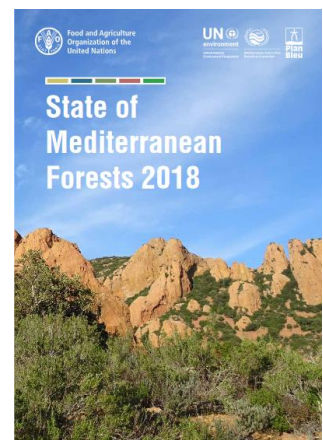https://publications.iom.int/books/migration-and-2030-agenda-guide-practitioners

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, has released a new guide for government actors involved in implementing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as they relate to migration. The guide aims to help policymakers integrate migration into local and national development planning. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes migration as a core development consideration – marking the first time that migration is explicitly integrated into the global development agenda. Implementation of the SDGs provides an opportunity to protect and empower mobile populations to fulfil their development potential and benefit individuals, communities and countries around the world. But the migration-SDG connections reach far beyond just implementing migration policies, and entail integrating migration across governance sectors.

State of Mediterranean Forests 2018 (FAO / UNEP / Plan Bleu)

http://www.fao.org/3/CA2081EN/ca2081en.PDF

Between 2010 and 2015, forests around the Mediterranean have expanded by two per cent, but that has come at the price of significant degradation and increasing vulnerability to climate change, population pressures, wildfires and water scarcity, warned a new UN report launched on 27 November 2018. It analyzes a wide range of political, economic, social and environmental issues in the region, which consists of 31 countries. But forest degradation in the northern Mediterranean is being driven mostly by a lack of land management and wildfires, while forests in the south-east suffer from overexploitation for firewood, overgrazing and population pressure – potentially triggering a range of economic, social and environmental problems. For example, as trees try to withstand droughts, they deplete their carbon stores and produce less carbohydrates and resins, which are essential to their health. This has already led to a decline of oak, fir, spruce, beech and pine trees in Spain, France, Italy and Greece, and Atlas cedar trees in Algeria. The report covers 27 countries: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Turkey.

State of the Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries (FAO)

http://www.fao.org/3/CA2702EN/ca2702en.PDF

Although the main commercial fish species in the Mediterranean and Black Sea are still over-fished, pressure has reduced over the past years, raising hopes - for the first time - for the recovery of fish stocks, according to new FAO-GFCM report launched on 11 December 2018. The percentage of overexploited fish stocks decreased by 10 percent - from 88 percent in 2014 to 78 percent in 2016. More efforts are needed, however, to ensure long-term fish stock sustainability, warns the report. This means more support for the small-scale fishing sector,

which employs most fishers and causes least environmental damage; reducing bycatch and discards; and introducing more drastic measures such as significantly reducing fishing or establishing fisheries restricted areas (areas where fishing activities are regulated). The latter is particularly needed to safeguard the most heavily fished species, such as European hake, which is fished nearly six times beyond its sustainable level.

UN Flagship Report on Disability and Development 2018
Report (Advanced Unedited Version): https://un4.me/2RylBPM
Executive Summary (Advanced Unedited Version):
https://un4.me/2zH6ix5
The United Nations launched its first-ever flagship report on disability and development on 3 December 2018; published by, for, and with, persons with disabilities, in the hopes of fostering more accessible, and disability-inclusive societies. The report demonstrates how disability-based discrimination has severe effects on transport, cultural life, and access to public places and services, and thus, the report leads with a push to change urban environments to make them more accessible.

WMO Statement on the state of the global climate in 2017
English, French & Spanish:
https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=20220
The world is heading in the wrong direction to slow climate change after another year of near-record temperatures, the head of the UN's weather agency said on 29 November 2018. Data from five independent global temperature monitors which formed the basis of the latest annual WMO Statement on the State of the Climate report, indicated that this year is on course to be the fourth highest on record. Worryingly, the 20 warmest years on record have been in the past 22 years, with the top four in the past four years.

Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2018: Marrakech Partnership
Yearbook: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GCA_Yearbook2018.pdf
Annexes: https://unfccc.int/documents/184120
The purpose of the Yearbook for Global Climate Action 2018 - the second to be produced by the Secretariat under the guidance of the High Level Champions – is to reflect the range of current global climate action from non-Party stakeholders and bring key messages to the international community to encourage a higher level of ambition by Parties and non-Party stakeholders alike. Included in the Yearbook are case stories and industry snapshots used to illustrate examples of replicable and tangible outcomes across the globe in each of the seven thematic areas and in cross-cutting areas such as technology and finance. The following annexes are the long versions of each of the case stories and snapshots showcased in the Yearbook.

International Peace and Security

Concept note for the Security Council High-level Presidential debate on the topic "Post-conflict reconstruction and peace, security and stability" (S/2018/1063, 29 November 2018)
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2018/1063
The Security Council held an open debate on 5 December 2018 on the topic "Post-conflict reconstruction and peace, security and stability", in connection with the item entitled "Peacebuilding and sustaining peace". To guide a fruitful discussion, Côte d'Ivoire, the Security Council President for December, has prepared this concept note.

Concept note for the Security Council High-level ministerial debate on the topic "The role of States, regional arrangements and the United Nations in the prevention and resolution of conflicts" (S/2018/1064, 29 November 2018)
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2018/1064
The Security Council held an open debate on 6 December 2018 on the topic "Role of States, regional bodies and the United Nations in the prevention and resolution of conflicts", in connection with the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security". To guide a fruitful discussion, Côte d'Ivoire, the Security Council President for December, has prepared this concept note.

First report of the Special Adviser and Head of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (S/2018/1031, 16 November 2018)
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2018/1031
Introduction: "The present report sets out the guiding principles and core activities of the Investigative Team, the progress made to date in their realization, and the key priorities of the Team as it continues preparatory work in Iraq."
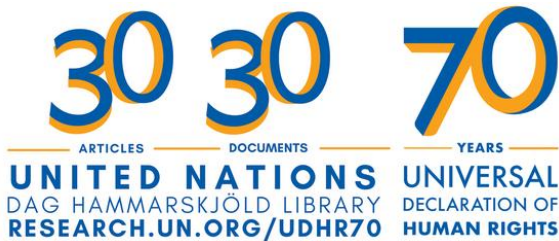*Further information: UN NEWS -* https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/12/1027601

Politically Speaking in 2018
https://dpa.un.org/sites/default/files/politically_speaking_in_2018.pdf
From Afghanistan to Colombia to Somalia - and other places in between - take a look back at some highlights of UN/DPA's year via the pages of the magazine, Politically Speaking.
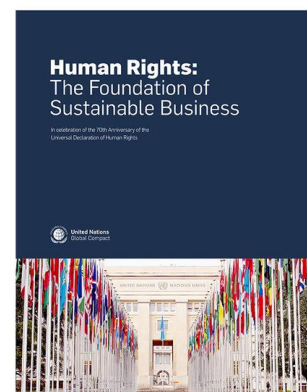
Human Rights

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Dag Hammarskjöld Library has compiled an online exhibition of 30 milestone United Nations Human Rights documents highlighting the Declaration's 30 articles.
Explore them here: http://research.un.org/udhr70

Human Rights: The Foundation of Sustainable Business (UN Global Compact)

https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library/5647
Launched at the 2018 UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva, the report highlights how the UN Global Compact is working with its business participants and other partners to advance human rights, featuring a compilation of company examples, key resources and relevant activities at the global and local levels.

Humanitarian Affairs

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
UN News Centre Story
- General Assembly officially adopts roadmap for migrants to improve safety, ease suffering (19 December 2018)
  English: http://news.un.org/en/story/2018/12/1028941
  French: https://news.un.org/fr/story/2018/12/1032201
  Spanish: https://news.un.org/es/story/2018/12/1448301
  Portuguese: https://news.un.org/pt/story/2018/12/1652601

General Assembly Press Release
- *English*: https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/12113.doc.htm
- *French*: https://www.un.org/press/fr/2018/ag12113.doc.htm

Full text of the compact
- *English, French & Spanish*: http://undocs.org/A/CONF.231/3
- *German*: http://www.un.org/depts/german/migration/A.CONF.231.3.pdf

Global Compact on Refugees
UN News Centre Story
- Global Compact on Refugees: How is this different from the migrants' pact and how will it help people forced to flee? (14 December 2018)
  English: https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/12/1028641
  French: https://news.un.org/fr/story/2018/12/1031831
  Spanish: https://news.un.org/es/story/2018/12/1448051
  Portuguese: https://news.un.org/pt/story/2018/12/1652121

- UN affirms 'historic' global compact to support world's refugees (17 December 2018)
  English: https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/12/1028791
  French: https://news.un.org/fr/story/2018/12/1031961
  Spanish: https://news.un.org/es/story/2018/12/1448171
  Portuguese (BR): https://news.un.org/pt/story/2018/12/1652061

General Assembly Press Release
- *English*: https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/ga12107.doc.htm
- *French*: https://www.un.org/press/fr/2018/ag12107.doc.htm

Full text of the compact
- *English, French & Spanish*: http://undocs.org/A/73/12(PartII)
- *German*: http://www.un.org/depts/german/migration/a73-12-part-II.pdf

Further information:
UNRIC Library Backgrounder: Refugees and Migrants – Selected Online Resources
English: https://un4.me/2zntxKa
French: https://un4.me/2yMGMXz

Safe Pathways for Refugees: OECD-UNHCR Study on third country solutions for refugees; Family reunification, study programmes and labour mobility
https://www.unhcr.org/5c07a2c84

Data released on 19 December 2018 shows that OECD countries have admitted more people from major refugee source countries on non-humanitarian permits than through resettlement schemes in the last eight years. This study by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and the OECD, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development shows that more than 560,000 people from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia and Eritrea entered OECD countries through family, work and study permits in an eight-year period. This compares to 350,400 from the five countries who arrived within the same period through resettlement schemes. These figures do not include people from those five refugee populations who have been granted refugee status or humanitarian permits through national asylum systems and procedures. These amount to 1.5 million in the same period, highlighting the critical importance of fair and efficient national asylum systems. Of all the non-humanitarian entry permits issued by OECD nations to people from the five refugee source countries, family permits account for 86 per cent, followed by student permits (10 per cent) and work permits (four per cent). This study is the first, comprehensive mapping exercise of its kind, building on the commitments made by the international community in the 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants to improve data collection on resettlement and other pathways for admission of refugees.

Children with Disabilities in Situations of Armed Conflict: Discussion Paper (UNICEF)
https://un4.me/2QQ3UOr

When systems and services break down, children are also left more susceptible to violence. A review of studies shows that children with disabilities are more likely than other children to experience violence, including sexual violence, and that this vulnerability is heightened in humanitarian crises. … Governments around the world have committed themselves to respect, promote, and fulfil the rights of children with disabilities, including in situations of armed conflict, and progress is being made. Efforts by a broad range of actors to implement the CRPD, CRC and other human rights instruments include the development of standards to address the rights and needs of persons with disabilities in humanitarian crises, and guidance on making humanitarian response, development and peacebuilding more inclusive. Efforts to improve the collection and use of data concerning children and adults with disabilities are also underway. Yet, as this discussion paper makes clear, much more needs to be done. Investments in disability-inclusive humanitarian action and recovery from crises will pay off, contributing towards a dividend of peace built on greater equality, tolerance and justice.

Crisis in the Central African Republic: In a neglected emergency, children need aid, protection – and a future (UNICEF)

English, French & Spanish: https://www.unicef.org/publications/index_103388.html

A new study released by the UN Children's Fund, UNICEF, shows that the deteriorating crisis in the Central African Republic (CAR), five years into the latest civil conflict to hit the country, has left practically every child needing protection from armed groups, which now control four-fifths of the country's territory. The report finds that life has become harsher and more dangerous for children: thousands are trapped within armed groups, with thousands more, subject to sexual violence. Beyond the direct threats associated with the conflict, the country is suffering from a severe humanitarian crisis: 1.5 million children now require humanitarian assistance, an increase of 300,000 since 2016; over 43,000 children below five years old are projected to face an extremely high risk of death due to severe acute malnutrition next year; and one in four children is either displaced or a refugee.

OCHA releases new humanitarian icons

https://thenounproject.com/ochavisual/collection/ocha-humanitarian-icons-v02/

"In 2012, OCHA released to the public domain a set of 250 icons depicting themes of interest to the humanitarian community such as clusters, disaster types, categories of affected people, and relief items. These icons were developed because at OCHA we understand that during the response to an emergency it is critical to share and understand complex information in a timely, visual, compelling fashion. … On 17 December 2018, we are releasing a completely revamped set of 295 (and counting) icons, the end result of a long and meticulous redesign process.

While the 2012 collection grew organically as we developed illustrations to meet our internal design needs, the new series has been drawn from scratch following standardized design rules."

Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Counter-terrorism

Global Study on Homicide: Gender-related killing of women and girls (UNODC)

https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/GSH2018/GSH18_Gender-related_killing_of_women_and_girls.pdf

Around 87,000 women were killed around the world last year, some 50,000 - or 58 per cent - at the hands of intimate partners or family members. This amounts to some six women being killed every hour by people they know, according to new research published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on 25 November 2018. The study examines available homicide data to analyse the gender-related killing of women and girls, with a specific focus on intimate partner and family-related homicide and how this relates to the status and roles of women in society and the domestic sphere.

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 December

I   General Information and Reference

Chronique ONU, Volume LV, Numéro 2, 2018 : « Programme 2030 ». 55 p.
Online version : https://unchronicle.un.org/fr/issue/programme-2030

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