New UN websites & publications

UN in General

Secretary-General's Priorities for 2018
- UN News Centre Story
  English: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=58428
  French: http://www.un.org/apps/newsFr/storyF.asp?NewsID=40785
  Spanish: http://www.un.org/spanish/News/story.asp?newsID=38700
- Full Statement (bilingual): http://www.un.org/press/en/2018/sgsm18855.doc.htm

Making migration work for all: Report of the Secretary General (A/72/643)
https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/SGReport
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/A/72/643
The Secretary-General issued his report 'Making Migration Work for All' on 11 January 2018. The report is the Secretary-General's contribution to the process of developing the Global Compact for Migration. It is his vision for constructive international cooperation on migration. The report focuses on making migration work for all, emphasizing its links to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It highlights options for Member States to help migrants fulfil their economic and social potential; offers steps to promote regular migration; and recommends policies to meet legitimate security considerations of Member States concerning irregular migration. It also explores the specific challenges arising from large mixed movements of migrants and refugees.

Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: our promise for dignity, prosperity and peace on a healthy planet: Report of the Secretary-General (A/72/684–E/2018/7, 21 December 2017)
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/A/72/648
https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/node/3553102
"Summary: With the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at its core, the present report is submitted in follow-up to my report released in June 2017 entitled "Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: ensuring a better future for all" (A/72/124-E/2018/3). … The report elaborates on the vision and the initial proposals that I outlined in June and proposes seven key areas of transformation. Taken together, those proposals would allow for the emergence of a new generation of country teams, centred on a strategic United Nations Development Assistance Framework and led by an impartial, independent and empowered resident coordinator. A coordinated, reprofiled and restructured regional approach is proposed to fully support the work carried out on the ground, along with renewed spaces for Member States to guide system-wide action and bring about greater transparency and accountability for results. Steps will be taken for a stronger United Nations institutional response and system-wide approach to partnerships for the 2030 Agenda. A funding compact is also proposed to bring about better quality, quantity and predictability of resources in exchange for accelerated repositioning and enhanced capacities of the system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda, with increased transparency and accountability for results.…"

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

Journal
of the United Nations

https://journal.un.org

As part of its continuous efforts to promote multilingualism and to better service inter-governmental meetings, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) has digitized and streamlined its flag-ship publication, the "Journal of the United Nations". The "Journal" is now available in the six official languages throughout the year. This modern user-friendly website is also compatible with mobile devices, including tablets and smart phones. Pursuant to resolution 71/323, all content related to official meetings, including summaries, is now available in the six official languages all year round, while the other sections of the "Journal" will continue to be published in English and French only. Similarly, the paper version of the "Journal" will temporarily be available in English and French. In February 2018, a downloadable multilingual PDF file will be available on the "Journal" website.

2017 - In Case You Missed It
http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocus/YIR-2017.shtml
UN News presents a look back at some of the noteworthy news developments that took place over the past year in the UN system.

2017 in Photos (UN Photo Flickr album)
https://un4.me/2kwcVL7
"Secretary-General António Guterres began his tenure at the start of January, as we commenced a year that saw a continuation of many of the flashpoints and fault lines of 2016: continued conflict, escalating tensions, refugee and humanitarian crises spurred on by conflict and drought. The year brought with it many natural disasters, in the form of hurricanes, earthquakes, monsoons, landslides, and fires. To be sure, 2017 was a trying year, highlighting time and again how the work of the United Nations is as vital now as ever."

Year in Review 2017 Video
English: https://youtu.be/8LF95Vn-Op0
French: https://youtu.be/L9Kw9Fy63nI
Spanish: https://youtu.be/z3eSPjpWNU4
Portuguese: https://youtu.be/DfQ6hxQfQ50
German: https://youtu.be/_9QdgeaK9oI

The year 2017 marked a shift in leadership at the United Nations as Secretary-General António Guterres began his term at a time of heightened global challenges. The world's fastest-growing refuge e crisis unfolded in Myanmar while the threat of famine loomed over Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria and Somalia. Resolved to forestall crises before they occur, Secretary-General Guterres launched a series of reforms aimed at advancing meditation and prevention. These build on past successes, including the proud legacy left by the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, which closed its doors after reshaping the global approach to war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. As the United Nations rises to the world's collective security challenges, the voices of the people most affected resound with greater meaning for our common future.

Proceedings of the San Francisco Conference -
UN's founding documents available through the UN Digital Library
http://digitallibrary.un.org/record/1300969?ln=en

Interested in researching the creation of the United Nations? How was it established, and why is it organised as it is? How did the five permanent members of the Security Council gain the right to veto, and how was the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice decided? Who wrote and approved the UN Charter?

During the Second World War, several conferences were held that led to the establishment of the United Nations; culminating in the San Francisco Conference. Nations "shall work together in war and in the peace that will follow" (Declaration of the Three Powers, 1 December 1943).

The San Francisco Conference, formally known as the United Nations Conference on International Organization, was the meeting of 50 nations in the summer of 1945 that established the United Nations. Lengthy discussions and deliberations took place amongst the over 1,500 delegates during these months. This included a lively debate on gender parity by delegates of several nations, a prescient topic for the UN over 70 years later. The Conference culminated with the signing of the Charter of the United Nations by the nations on 26 June 1945, with the Charter officially coming into force on 24 October 1945.

The entire proceedings of the San Francisco Conference have been digitized by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library's Digitization Team, and can now be accessed globally from the United Nations Digital Library. The collection is searchable by volume.

Dag Hammarskjöld Library Research Guides
UN Documentation: Trusteeship Council: http://research.un.org/en/docs/tc
UN Documentation: Decolonization: http://research.un.org/en/docs/decolonization

The Dag Hammarskjöld Library at UN Headquarters has published two new research guides on the documentation of the Organization: A principal organ of the United Nations, the Trusteeship Council was active from 1947-1994. It was instrumental in the decolonization and subsequent independence of territories in Africa and the Pacific. Because the organ no longer meets regularly, current staff and researchers are often unfamiliar with the working methods of the Council and the pattern of documentation. The guide aims to help people research this fascinating chapter of the UN's history by identifying important documents and providing guidance on the types of documents produced during the course of its work. In addition to an overview of the work of the Trusteeship Council, the guide has a page dedicated to each of the 11 trust territories. With the publication of this guide, the Library now has a guide for each of the principal organs.

The Decolonization guide complements the Trusteeship guide and provides an overview of the documentation patterns of some of the parliamentary bodies related to this topic, including the Fourth Committee and the Special Committee on Decolonization. The Special Committee considers matters related to all non-self-governing territories except the trust territories. The pattern of documentation is similar to that of the Trusteeship Council. The Decolonization guide lists key General Assembly resolutions on the topic and links to some of the recurrent reports of the Secretary-General. The guide is offered as a starting point for researchers and focuses on UN documentation.

UNRIC Library Backgrounder: Educational Resources
(revised & updated version)
English - html: https://un4.me/2nMAizt
English - pdf: https://un4.me/2qYrU6b
French - pdf: https://un4.me/2DpTw6I

Economic Growth and Sustainable Development

BLOG: High-level Political Forum 2018 (9 - 18 July)
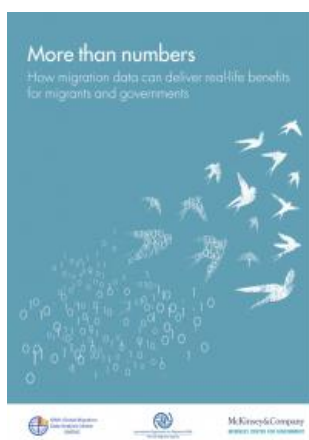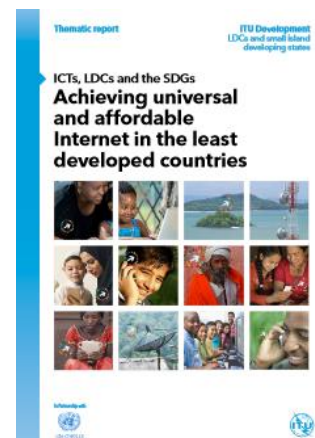
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018/blog

The theme of the 2018 High-level Political Forum on sustainable development will be "**Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies.**" In the lead-up to the Forum, weekly blogs by representatives of Member States, UN system, and major groups and other stakeholders will be featured on this page to present various perspectives on this theme. The role of SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12, 15 and 17 will also be highlighted, as these goals will be in focus at this year's Forum. Follow #HLPF on social media for the latest blogs and other HLPF updates.

ICT, LDCs and the SDGs: Achieving universal and affordable Internet in the least developed countries ((UN-OHRLLS / ITU)

http://unohrlls.org/custom-content/uploads/2018/01/D-LDC-ICTLDC-2018-PDF-E.pdf

The world's poorest countries are on track to close the digital divide as they make significant progress in achieving universal and affordable access to the Internet by 2020. This is according to a new report launched on 24 January 2018 which details progress that least developed countries (LDCs) have made in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 9. The report was prepared jointly by the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) and the International Telecommunication Union. Major achievements include the launch of 3G services in all 47 LDCs with over 60% of their population covered by a 3G network. Similarly, the LDCs are expected to reach on average 97 per cent mobile broadband coverage and to make Internet prices relatively affordable by 2020.

More than Numbers: How migration data can deliver real-life benefits (IOM / MCG)

https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/more_than_numbers.pdf

Could better use of data help turn human mobility into an asset worth tens of billions of dollars?

That's the finding of a study by the UN Migration Agency's (IOM) Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC), working with the McKinsey Centre for Government (MCG), being released on 24 January 2018 at Davos' World Economic Forum. In the new report IOM and MCG illustrate how investing in better data can help manage migration more effectively and illustrates clear examples of this.

World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2018 (ILO)

Report in English, Summary in English, French & Spanish: https://un4.me/2DCFGk8
As the global economy recovers but with a growing labour force, global unemployment in 2018 is projected to remain at a similar level to last year's, says a new report by the International Labour Organization (ILO) released on 22 January 2018. According to the report, the global unemployment rate has been stabilizing after a rise in 2016. It is expected to have reached 5.6 per cent in 2017, with the total number of unemployed exceeding 192 million persons. As the long-term global economic outlook remains modest despite stronger than expected growth in 2017, the report attributes the positive trend between 2017 and 2018 mainly to the strong performance of labour markets in developed countries, where the unemployment rate is projected to fall by an additional 0.2 percentage points in 2018 to reach 5.5 per cent, a rate below pre-crisis levels. In contrast, employment growth is expected to fall short of labour force growth in emerging and developing countries, but has nevertheless improved compared to 2016.

Youth and Violent Extremism on Social Media (UNESCO)

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002603/260382e.pdf
Violent extremists use the Internet to attract younger audiences, to disseminate content and to foster direct dialogue with young people, a United Nations agency-backed study found, but more research is needed to find out if social media has an effective role in radicalization. "Rather than being initiators or causes of violent behaviours, the Internet and social media specifically can be facilitators within wider processes of violent radicalization," according to research conducted for the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The goal of the study was to answer the question: "Does social media lead vulnerable individuals to resort to violence?" According to the authors, violent radicalization generally entails a number of tools, and should be seen in the context of other communication platforms and significant social factors, such as the political, social, cultural, economic and psychological causes. The findings are based on more than 550 studies in Arabic, English and French which were published in scientific literature and so-called "grey literature" outside of the traditional and publishing channels.

International Peace and Security

General Assembly demands all States comply with UN resolutions regarding status of Jerusalem
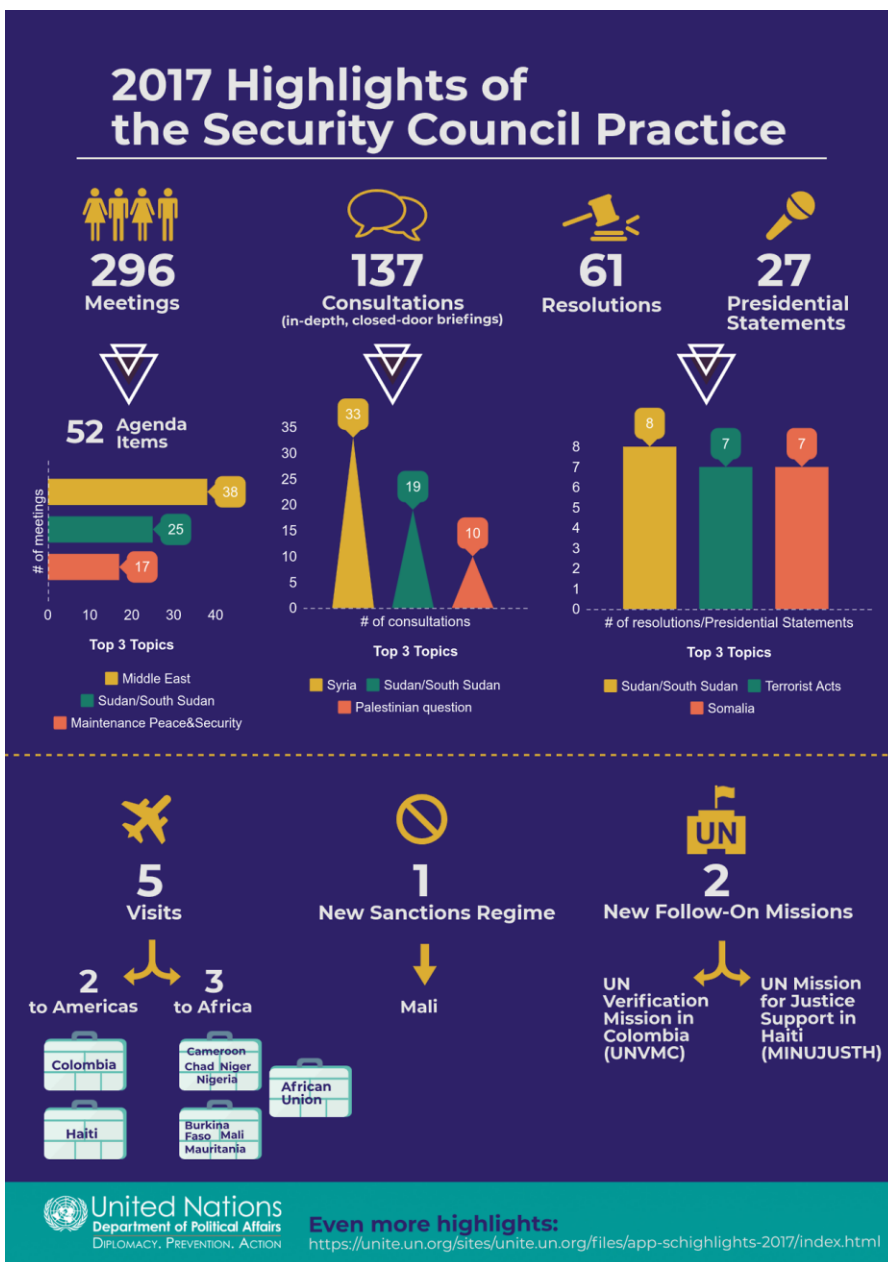
- UN News Centre Story
  English: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=58330
  French: http://www.un.org/apps/newsFr/storyF.asp?NewsID=40698
  Spanish: http://www.un.org/spanish/News/story.asp?NewsID=38603
- Press Release:
  English: http://www.un.org/press/en/2017/ga11995.doc.htm
  French: http://www.un.org/press/fr/2017/ag11995.doc.htm
- Resolution A/RES/ES-10/19:
  English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/A/RES/ES-10/19
  German: http://www.un.org/Depts/german/gv-notsondert/ar-es-10-19.pdf
- **Further information:**
  Ask DAG: Where can I find the resolution on the status of Jerusalem adopted on 21 December 2017? http://ask.un.org/faq/214435

Highlights of Security Council Practice 2017
https://unite.un.org/sites/unite.un.org/files/app-schighlights-2017/index.html
http://www.un.org/en/sc/inc/pages/pdf/highlights/2017.pdf

Introduction: In 2017, the Security Council held 296 meetings, adopted 61 resolutions and issued 27 presidential statements. It considered 52 agenda items, dispatched five missions to the field, three to Africa and two to the Americas, and established a new sanctions regime in connection with the situation in Mali. Concerning its subsidiary bodies, the Council decided to establish the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, which succeeded the United Nations Mission in Colombia, established in 2016. The Council also extended the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for a final period of six months, and decided to establish a follow-on peacekeeping mission, namely, the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH). In addition, the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) completed its mandate on 30 June 2017. On 30 August 2017, the Council issued presidential note (S/2017/507) which superseded and further developed previous notes on the working methods of the Council, outlining recent practices and newly agreed measures.

Concept note for the Security Council briefing on peacekeeping operations
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2017/1077
The Security Council held a briefing on 21 December 2017 on peacekeeping operations. The Security Council President for December, Japan, has prepared a concept note for this briefing.

Concept note for the Security Council debate on the subject "Building regional partnership in Afghanistan and Central Asia as a model for the security-development nexus"
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2018/7
The Security Council held a debate on 19 January 2018 in connection with the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security: building regional partnership in Afghanistan and Central Asia as a model to link security and development". The Security Council President for January, Kazakhstan, has prepared a concept note for the debate.

Presidential summary of the open debate of the Security Council held on 20 December 2017 on the subject "Maintenance of international peace and security: addressing complex contemporary challenges to international peace and security" (S/2017/1127, 29 December 2017)
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2017/1127
The document contains a non-paper, compiled by the delegation of Japan in its national capacity, summarizing the views expressed by the participants in the open debate of the Security Council convened on 20 December 2017 on the subject "Maintenance of international peace and security: addressing complex contemporary challenges to international peace and security"
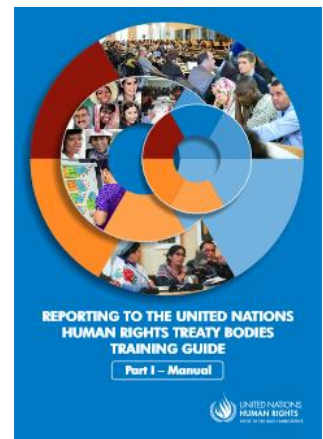
Human Rights

Professional Training Series No. 20: Reporting to the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies (OHCHR)
Part I - Manual: https://un4.me/2DDAWIC
Part II - Notes for Facilitators: https://un4.me/2B5ycRv
This Training Guide has been developed under the OHCHR Treaty Body Capacity-Building Programme as a resource for equipping potential trainers with the knowledge and tools they need to increase the capacity of State parties to fulfil their treaty reporting obligations. The Guide also informs State parties on how they can engage with the Treaty Bodies in a sustainable and meaningful way and on the important role other stakeholders – including other United Nations programmes and agencies, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations – can play in this regard.

Humanitarian Affairs

Migrant Vulnerability to Human Trafficking and Exploitation: Evidence from the Central and Eastern Mediterranean Migration Routes (IOM)
https://un4.me/2DdcK2G
There are specific risk factors associated with increased migrant vulnerability to exploitation, violence, abuse and human trafficking, according to a new report published on 21 December by IOM, the UN Migration Agency. The report analyses quantitative data on vulnerability factors, as well as personal experiences of abuse, violence, exploitation, and human trafficking collected over the past two years from 16,500 migrants in seven countries. While other IOM reports have documented the scale of exploitation on the main migration routes to Europe, this report is the first to identify key factors associated with increased vulnerability to exploitation and human trafficking during the journey. The data comes from IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM).

International Law

Audiovisual Library of International Law – new lecture:
The Crime of Aggression under International Law / by Mr. Claus Kress
http://legal.un.org/avl/ls/Kress_CLP.html

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