



**The Assistant Director-General  
for External Relations and Public Information**

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Educación,  
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

**To Non-Governmental Organizations,  
Official partners of UNESCO**

Ref. : ERI/NCS/NGO/2014/24

20 March 2014

Dear Partners,

On 6 March an intense and festive day was held at UNESCO Headquarters on the occasion of the event entitled "[Education, sport and cultural diversity - New attitudes to promote human rights in the world](#)". Eight hundred young people, aged 18 to 35, attended this event meant to raise public awareness about human rights, organized by the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee and forty NGOs, for which UNESCO was enthusiastically associated.

Over the day, nine projects from five continents developed by and for young people were presented by their leaders, covering diverse issues such as racism and sport, access and management of drinking water, fighting violence, learning in the mother tongue, and training women to demand their rights in a spirit of fairness and equality. The day was marked by the presence of highly anticipated Andrea Agnelli, President of Juventus Football Club, who presented the project implemented with the UNESCO Centre of Turin: "Kick racism out of football: Play with me". [This link](#) to the page dedicated to this event will give you an overview in pictures of the highlights of the day.

I wish to reiterate my sincere thanks to the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee and to NGOs that supported and helped these projects, and thus have helped to make this day a great success.

This event allowed the public here at Headquarters to discover another facet of youth engagement and its willingness to be active in its community, and had certainly given, to some of them, the wish to engage in a fight for the promotion of human rights on a daily basis in their town, their school, their university or through an association.

**2-15 April 2014 – 194<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board**

The 194th session of the Executive Board will be held at its UNESCO Headquarters from 2 to 15 April. As customary, in accordance with Rules, all official non-governmental partners are invited to attend as observer.

You will find the provisional agenda and timetable of work for this session [here](#). The plenary sessions will start on Monday 7 April in the morning, with the introduction of the Director-General followed by the interventions of the Board members.

At its last session, I would also like to recall that, the Executive Board decided, during this biennium, the Committee on Non-Governmental Partners (NGP) would meet once a year, as appropriate. Therefore, I wish to inform you that, subject to final approval by the plenary, the NGP Committee will meet at the autumn session of the Executive Board to examine item within its purview.

For more information on the Executive Board, please follow this link: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/executive-board/>

### **23 April 2014 - World Book and Copyright Day 2014, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France**

UNESCO has celebrated this Day for 19 years now, providing an opportunity to reflect on ways to better disseminate the culture of the written word and to allow all individuals to access it, through literacy programmes, open educational resources, and support for careers in publishing, book shops, libraries, and schools.

This year, a major celebratory event will take place at UNESCO in order to raise public awareness, especially among young people, about the publishing world. Qualified individuals and renowned institutions will introduce traditional book production techniques (typography, illustration, binding, manga...) through workshops and activities. A selection of booksellers and publishing companies will also promote their books and share their passion for reading.

To give an international dimension to the celebration, an interactive map featuring events organised by librarians, booksellers, and publishers around the world will be produced online.

We welcome and encourage the support and cooperation of civil society organisations in this celebration. If you wish to propose ideas for activities and initiatives for the celebration, please contact Ms Caroline Bordoni ([c.bordoni@unesco.org](mailto:c.bordoni@unesco.org)).

More information on this Day will be available soon at: [www.unesco.org/new/wbcd](http://www.unesco.org/new/wbcd)

Contact: Mr Ian Denison ([i.denison@unesco.org](mailto:i.denison@unesco.org))

### **30 April 2014 – International Jazz Day, Osaka, Japan**

This third edition will, once again, bring together nations and communities to celebrate the art of jazz, and to highlight its important role in encouraging dialogue among cultures and civilizations, eradicating discrimination and promoting human dignity.

As in 2012 and 2013, UNESCO's official partner for the organization of this Day is the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz. The Institute is leading both programme and outreach efforts on behalf of UNESCO.

This year, we wish to mobilize more deeply, you our official partners, in order to broaden the geographical scope, diversity and impact of this Day. Therefore I invite you to contribute to the success of this celebration by organizing events in line with your specific interests.

I should be most grateful if you would communicate any information on activities your institution is planning to organize for the celebration of this Day to the following address: [will@jazzday.com](mailto:will@jazzday.com). Your input would be included in the official programme of events that is made available on the Day dedicated website at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/jazz-day>.

Contact: Ms Naima Boumaiza ([n.boumaiza@unesco.org](mailto:n.boumaiza@unesco.org))

### **3 May 2014 – World Press Freedom Day, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France**

Every year, this Day celebrates the fundamental principles of press freedom, evaluates press freedom around the world, defends the media from attacks on their independence and pays tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the exercise of their profession.

This year, this Day focuses on three inter-related themes: media's importance in development; safety of journalists and the rule of law; and the sustainability and integrity of journalism.

The UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize, named in honour of Guillermo Cano Isaza, will also be awarded during this Day. The Prize is intended to honour a person, organization or institution that has made an outstanding contribution to the defence and/or promotion of press freedom anywhere in the world, especially when this has been achieved in the face of danger. You will find more information on this prize [under this link](#).

You are encouraged to develop initiatives in favour of press freedom but also to assess the state of press freedom worldwide. Please let us know what you are planning.

You may consult [our website](#) for more information on this Day.

Contact: Ms Sylvie Coudray ([s.coudray@unesco.org](mailto:s.coudray@unesco.org))

### **4-10 May 2014 – Global Action Week on Education for All**

The Global Action Week (GAW) on Education for All (EFA) is an annual awareness-raising campaign, organized by the Global Campaign for Education (GCE). UNESCO supports GAW every year by disseminating information and resources through its network and by organizing activities together with NGOs, GCE members and other Education For All partners.

This year, the week will focus on the theme of "Education and Disability" under the slogan "Equal Right, Equal Opportunity". This event will highlight the profound challenges faced by persons with disabilities in realizing their right to education.

I encourage NGOs to mobilize their members to be involved in the Global Week by contacting the UNESCO Field Offices and the National Commissions for UNESCO, as well as the GCE coordinators (which list you will find on website below). I invite you to consult [our website](#) for additional information.

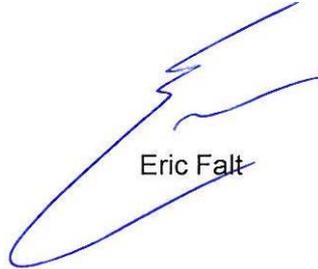
Contact: Ms Sabine Detzel ([s.detzel@unesco.org](mailto:s.detzel@unesco.org))

## UNESCO Publications

- The Gender Summary of the 11th EFA Global Monitoring Report is available at the following address:  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002266/226662E.pdf>.  
This summary, devoted to gender equality, analysis data of the latest edition of the UNESCO Global Monitoring Report on Education for All.
- The publication *The World's Heritage - A Guide to all 981 UNESCO World Heritage Sites* is available at the following address:  
[http://publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?=&Code\\_Livre=5021&change=E](http://publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?=&Code_Livre=5021&change=E).  
This volume is illustrated with over 650 stunning full-colour photographs and location maps for every site.
- The publication *Pressing for Freedom: 20 years of World Press Freedom Day* is available at the following address:  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002205/220525E.pdf>. For 20 years, UNESCO has worked on the frontline of the struggle for freedom of expression and press freedom. This publication is reflecting those years.

Finally, I am pleased to announce the admission of a Foundation as new UNESCO partner: the **World Wide Fund International (WWF)**, based in Switzerland, admitted to official relations with UNESCO as a foundation. By clicking on its name, you will be redirected to its website for more information. I welcome this well-known Foundation and am happy to extend even further our network of partners.

Yours sincerely,



Eric Falt