

30 April 2015

Dear Partners,

I am pleased to announce the release of the *UNESCO's 2014 Annual Report* covering UNESCO's actions throughout 2014. This publication is available [under this link](#).

I also wish to share with you the second edition of the *2014 Annual Report of the National Commissions for UNESCO*. It provides an overview of the main achievements of 137 National Commissions carried, and highlights success stories. For instance, you will find a reference to the Forum of NGO organized in Sozopol, Bulgaria in September 2014. The report is available under [this link](#).

I am sure that these two reports will allow you to appreciate the extent of UNESCO's action in its areas of competence; some NGOs will find references to their cooperation with the Secretariat and National Commissions; I am convinced that these reports will encourage us to continue to advance UNESCO's mandate in the world.

16-17 May 2015 - Youth and the Internet: Fighting Radicalization and Extremism, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

Organized within the framework of the Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP), this conference will bring together researchers, policy-makers, youth NGOs, experts and practitioners from a range of institutional types and disciplines in this field. It aims at sharing experiences on policy interventions, projects and processes for reducing the use of the Internet as a tool for youth extremism and radicalism.

The focus of the conference will be on identifying specific areas where UNESCO through its existing youth-focused interventions, Sector Programmes and networks can contribute to reducing the conditions that encourage youth extremism. A network of conference participants will also be established to support post-conference advocacy and knowledge sharing.

I am sure you will be numerous to mobilize the youth network within your organization around this event. To this end, you will find more information by following [this link](#).

Contact: Mr Paul Hector (p.hector@unesco.org)

28 June – 8 July 2015 - 39th session of the World Heritage Committee, Bonn, Germany

This 39th session is organized by UNESCO and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Committee is responsible for the implementation of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972). It defines the use of the World Heritage Fund and allocates financial assistance upon requests from States Parties. It has the final say on whether a property is inscribed on the World Heritage List. It examines reports on the state of conservation of inscribed properties and asks States Parties to take action when properties are not being properly managed. It also decides on the inscription or deletion of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

NGOs interested in assisting as an observer should send a formal request to the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention in advance.

You will find all necessary information on the site of the 39th session: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/39com/>.

Contact: Ms Mechtild Rossler (m.rossler@unesco.org)

UNESCO Publications

- Describing the emerging and unresolved issues related to the oceans and the marine environment, the book *Ocean Sustainability in the 21st Century* presents the developments made in marine science and policy since the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and implications for the sustainable management of ocean areas and resources. Topics covered include the impacts of human-induced climate change on the oceans, the marine genetic resources debate, the current legal framework for the oceans, and a comparative study of the legal issues associated with outer space. The book is available in English at the following webpage:
http://publishing.unesco.org/details.aspx?=&Code_Livre=5058&change=E
- The 2015 edition of the World Report of the United Nations on the development of water resources, led by UNESCO and entitled *Water for a Sustainable World*, is now available in English only under [this link](#). The report provides a comprehensive overview of the major and emerging trends around the world, with examples of how some of the challenges have been addressed, the implications for policy makers, and other measures that can be taken by stakeholders and the international community.
- The *Regional Report on Out-of-School Children in the Middle East and North Africa* (MENA) is part of the Out-of-School Children Initiative (OOSCI), which was launched jointly by UNICEF and the UIS in 2010. The report builds on nine recent national studies on out-of-school children in MENA: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen. It is available in English under [this link](#).

I am pleased to announce the admission of three new NGO partners of UNESCO, namely:

- **[AFS Intercultural Dialogue](#)**, an NGO based in the United States of America, admitted to official partnership with UNESCO (consultative status);
- **[Association Casamémoire](#)**, an NGO based in Morocco, admitted to official partnership with UNESCO (consultative status);
- **[Patrimoine sans frontières](#)**, an NGO based in France, admitted to official partnership with UNESCO (consultative status).

By clicking on their names, you will be redirected to their websites for more information. I welcome them and am happy to extend even further our network of partners.

Before concluding, I also wish to inform you that UNESCO will participate again this year in the European Night of Museums on Saturday 16 May 2015 from 8:00 p.m. Do not hesitate to visit the Headquarters which will open its doors to the public on this occasion.

Yours sincerely,



Eric Falt