



INTERNATIONAL CENTER
ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS

FLASH REPORT

Volume 3,  2023 - 2024





SKOPJE CULTURAL DIPLOMACY FORUM 2023



The **Skopje Cultural Diplomacy Forum 2023** took place in Skopje from September 4-6, 2023, bringing together distinguished figures from international politics, business, arts, and academia. Organized by the **Office of President Gjorge Ivanov**, the **International Center Alliance of Civilizations**, and the **Academy for Cultural Diplomacy**, the Forum provided a platform for meaningful dialogue and collaboration.

With an interdisciplinary audience, including diplomats, political representatives, scholars, and academics, the event featured a diverse program of lectures, discussions, debates, and cultural activities. The Forum focused on the theme:

"Promoting Democracy, Unity, and Peace through Cultural Diplomacy in a New Era of Conflict and Violence."





As part of the Skopje Cultural Diplomacy Forum 2023, a meeting and discussion were held with the President and members of the National Council for European Integration at the Macedonian Assembly. This session provided a platform for in-depth dialogue on European integration, highlighting key challenges, opportunities, and the role of cultural diplomacy in advancing the EU accession process.

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SKOPJE CULTURAL DIPLOMACY FORUM 2023 (CONTINUED)



Gjorge Ivanov,
President of the Republic of
Macedonia (2009–2019)



Aleksandar Nikoloski,
Member of the Macedonian
Parliament



Mladen Ivanic,
Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia
& Herzegovina (2014–15, 2016–2017)



Armin Laschet,
Chancellor – Candidate of the Christian
Democratic Union of Germany (2021)



Elmar Brok,
Chair of the European Parliament
Foreign Affairs Committee (2012–2017)



Ivo Josipovic,
President of Croatia (2010–2015)



Natalia Gavrilita,
Prime Minister of Moldova
(2021–2023)



Hassan Diab,
Prime Minister of Lebanon
(2020–2021)



Bamir Topi,
President of the Republic of Albania
(2007–2012)



Boris Tadic,
President of the Republic of Serbia
(2004–2012)



Petar Stoyanov,
President of the Republic of Albania
(1997–2002)



Ann Linde,
Former Minister of Foreign
Affairs of Sweden



Danela Arsovska,
Mayor of Skopje



Mohammad Hanif Atmar,
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of
Afghanistan



Onur Kadir Eryüce,
Counsellor to the Mayor of Izmir



Michelle Thomson,
Member of the Parliament of
Scotland



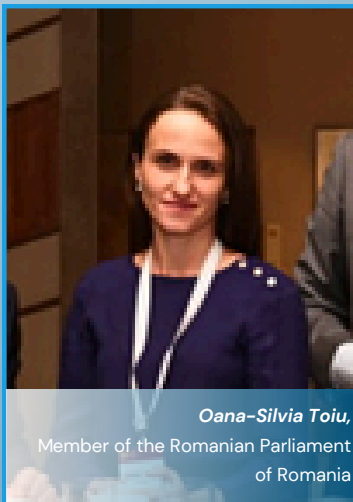
Fiona O'Loughlin,
Member of the Irish Senate



Ash Regan,
Member of the Parliament of
Scotland



Oana Murariu,
Member of the Romanian Parliament
of Romania



Oana-Silvia Toiu,
Member of the Romanian Parliament
of Romania



Dalija Oreskovic,
Member of the Parliament of Croatia



Uli Brückner,
Professor, Academy for Cultural
Diplomacy



Hans Köchler,
Professor, Academy for Cultural
Diplomacy



Karl-Erik Norman,
Professor, Academy for Cultural
Diplomacy

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL DIPLOMACY



In the fall of 2023, within the framework of the **Skopje Cultural Diplomacy Forum**, the **Institute for Cultural Diplomacy (Berlin)** and the **International Center Alliance of Civilizations** signed a partnership agreement. This collaboration aims to strengthen cooperation and foster future initiatives in the field of cultural diplomacy.

With this, **ICAC** and the **ICD Academy for Cultural Diplomacy** have joined forces to **advance intercultural understanding** and **global cooperation**. Their collaboration will focus on key areas, including **cultural diplomacy**, **global governance**, **human rights**, and **sustainable economies**.

The partnership will **empower young leaders** through leadership programs and exchange initiatives, fostering the next generation of advocates for intercultural dialogue. Additionally, ICAC and ICD will co-host the annual **Skopje Cultural Diplomacy Forum**, a global platform for dialogue and collaboration among scholars, policymakers, and cultural leaders.

By combining their expertise and resources, ICAC and ICD aim to **strengthen cultural diplomacy** and **promote a more cohesive and interconnected world**.



EXPANDING HORIZONS: PARTNERSHIP WITH UT TYLER



The Ivanov School of Young Leaders, co-organized by the **International Center for Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC)**, announced its official partnership with **UT Tyler University**.

This significant collaboration marks the beginning of numerous opportunities for young leaders, opening doors to student exchange programs, joint research initiatives, academic cooperation, and innovative projects.

Through this partnership, participants will gain access to world-class resources, mentorship, and cross-cultural experiences, further equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to become the leaders of tomorrow.



The School for Young Leaders was founded by President Dr. Gjorge Ivanov (2009–2019), driven by his vision to support and empower young, talented, and ambitious individuals from around the world.



The program is designed to help participants enhance their leadership skills, develop creative and strategic thinking, and strengthen their managerial capacities.

By fostering an environment of collaboration, innovation, and excellence, the School continues to shape the next generation of global leaders.



THE RECOGNITION OF POPE FRANCIS BY THE IVANOV SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LEADERS



During the 13th School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov (September 16–30, 2022) co-organized by ICAC, on the topic “Moral Leadership,” the School for Young Leaders decided to present an award to **His Holiness Pope Francis**, recognizing him as a **moral leader of our time**.

Following the conclusion of the 13th School for Young Leaders, and upon the initiative of the Catholic Church in the Republic of Macedonia, it was arranged for a delegation to attend the General Audience of Pope Francis on March 29, 2023. During this occasion, the award was personally presented to His Holiness by President Ivanov.

Pope Francis expressed his gratitude to President Ivanov for the recognition and noted that he still vividly remembers the warm reception he received during his visit to Macedonia, which was hosted by President Ivanov. Additionally, Pope Francis sent his greetings to Macedonia and the Macedonian people.

Accompanying President Ivanov and his Cabinet were Bishop Kiro Stojanov of the Catholic Church in the Republic of Macedonia, representatives of the ISLAA Alumni Association, the leadership of ICAC, as well as friends and supporters of the School for Young Leaders.



*To His Excellency Gjorge Ivanov
Former President of the Republic of North Macedonia*

Thank you for your letter forwarding a gift of the volume commemorating the third anniversary of my visit to the Republic of North Macedonia. I am grateful too for your invitation to address some words to the thirteenth edition of the School for Young Leaders, and I send good wishes to all attending the opening ceremony.

In a particular way, I greet the young participants from North Macedonia and beyond, gathered to consider the theme of "Moral Leadership" in today's world. The various crises and challenges experienced in recent years – from the pandemic to the global impact of war – make even more evident the importance of forming tomorrow's leaders in the perennially valid virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance.

Yet, such virtues come not merely as the result of human effort, but are also divine gifts that open our hearts in loving concern for others. Indeed, we can say that the whole interior and spiritual stature of a person's life is ultimately measured by *love*, which gives direction to the virtues and makes them fruitful (cf. *Fratelli Tutti*, 92).

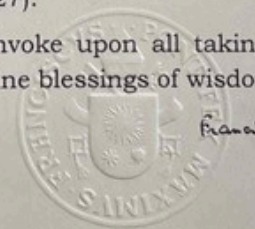
In the essential task, then, of preparing young people to take on the high responsibilities of leading others in the future, I pray that

they will be receptive to that wisdom spoken of by Saint Paul in his First Letter to the Corinthians: "If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing" (13:1-2).

It is thus my hope that with hearts and minds marked by the virtues and governed by charity, the young people present will be able to offer "moral leadership" for building a future based on cooperation that can overcome division and foster the peace and fraternity of our human family (cf. *Fratelli Tutti*, 127).

With these sentiments, I invoke upon all taking part in the School for Young Leaders the divine blessings of wisdom and peace.

From the Vatican, 7 July 2022



XXVI HIGH-LEVEL MEETING AT UNGA: REBOOTING MULTILATERALISM WITH NIZAMI GANJAVI INTERNATIONAL CENTER



During the event, Gorge Ivanov, President of the Advisory Board of ICAC and former President of the Republic of Macedonia, addressed a panel, highlighting the importance of UNAOC in promoting intercultural dialogue and global cooperation



The Nizami Ganjavi International Center (NGIC) aims to promote learning, tolerance, dialogue, understanding, and the development of inclusive societies.



The International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC), represented by President of the Republic of Macedonia (2009–2019), Dr. Gorge Ivanov, and Executive Chairman Ivan Ivanov, participated in the XXVI High-Level Meeting during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The event, titled "**Shaping the Future: Rebooting Multilateralism**" was organized by the **Nizami Ganjavi International Center** and brought together global leaders for a critical discussion on the future of international cooperation.

In an era of unprecedented global challenges, strengthening multilateralism remains essential. The meeting emphasized the importance of collaboration among nations to build a future that is more inclusive, sustainable, and equitable. ICAC was honored to contribute to this dialogue, reaffirming its commitment to fostering meaningful partnerships for a more united world.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS (UNAOC)

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PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH UNITED NATIONS ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS (UNAOC)



During the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York City, a landmark partnership agreement was formally signed between the **International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC)** and the **United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)**.

The agreement was represented by **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, the **United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for UNAOC**.

Under this important partnership, both organizations have committed to collaborate on a wide range of projects and events, aligning their efforts with their shared missions and primary objectives:

- Promotion of intercultural and interreligious dialogue
- Fostering social inclusion and combating xenophobia, hatred, and religious intolerance
- Implementing the United Nations Plan of Action to safeguard religious sites
- Sharing best practices and knowledge
- Empowering young individuals from diverse backgrounds to become advocates for intercultural understanding and cooperation



ICAC LEADERSHIP MEETS WITH CONCORDIA SUMMIT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



The Executive Branch of the International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC), including President of ICAC Advisory Board Dr. Gjorge Ivanov, the ICAC Director Mr. Ilija Tonevski, Chairman of the Executive Board Mr. Ivan Ivanov, and Executive Board Member Mr. Boris Josifovski, held an inspiring meeting at Concordia with Matthew Swift, Co-founder and CEO of Concordia Summit.

During the meeting, they engaged in a productive discussion about the promising opportunities for economic growth and cultural diplomacy in the Balkan Region, exploring potential avenues for collaboration and development.



PISYL 14

The 14th School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov, co-organized by the International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC), was a highly successful event centered on the theme of "Education, Transformation, Leadership." This edition provided a transformative platform for emerging leaders, fostering deep discussions on reshaping leadership in today's world.



Over the course of **12 days**, the event hosted **30 engaging sessions** and **28 enlightening lectures** by distinguished global experts. These sessions offered valuable insights into leadership, education, and personal growth, equipping participants with the skills to lead change.

Forty talented young leaders from around the world gathered with a shared commitment to drive positive leadership transformations. We are grateful to every participant for their unique contributions and dedication, which made this event truly memorable. We look forward to continuing our journey together in shaping the leaders of tomorrow.



ICAC AT THE 9TH CHINA-CEEC HIGH-LEVEL THINK TANKS SYMPOSIUM

The Chair of the Executive Board of ICAC, Ivan Ivanov, participated in the 9th China-CEEC High-Level Think Tanks Symposium in Beijing, focusing on "China-CEEC Cooperation under the New Circumstances: The Status Quo and Aspirations."

During the event, he engaged in discussions with Feng Zhongping, Director of the Institute of European Studies and President of the Council of China-CEEC Think Tanks Network, exploring opportunities for enhanced collaboration.

Hosted by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and organized by the Institute of European Studies and CASS China-CEEC Think Tanks Network, the symposium provided a valuable platform for global dialogue and cooperation.



XXVII HIGH-LEVEL MEETING: “THE FUTURE OF MULTILATERALISM: THE SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE & THE NEED FOR A NEW GLOBAL PACT FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION”



ICAC members participated in impactful discussions at the **high-level meeting** organized by the **Nizami Ganjavi International Center** and the **UN Office in Geneva**. In response to global challenges, the **UN Secretary-General** has called for a “**Summit for the Future**” in **New York** in **September 2024**. To contribute to this crucial initiative, key stakeholders are exploring the many pressing issues that will be addressed.

The two-day meeting, held on **January 11-12, 2024**, brought together diverse voices to begin tackling these challenges. Preliminary discussions have identified six key topics to be covered in upcoming panel sessions, providing a foundation for deeper insights and deliberations ahead of the Summit for the Future.



ICAC AT THE WORLD FORUM ON DEMOCRACY



During their visit to **Berlin**, **ICAC representatives** had the privilege of meeting **H.E Ban Ki-moon, former UN Secretary-General**, at the **Cinema for Peace** event. His exceptional contributions to global diplomacy and peace left a lasting impact. It was an honor to engage with such a distinguished leader.

Additionally, the **Chairman of the Executive Board of ICAC** addressed the dynamic community at the **Institute for Cultural Diplomacy**, highlighting the vital role of cultural diplomacy in shaping global leaders. His remarks underscored the importance of fostering meaningful dialogues with students and advancing the shared mission of **ICAC and the Ivanov School for Young Leaders**.



ICAC AT THE XI GLOBAL BAKU FORUM



Reconnected with H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for UNAOC, during the Global Baku Forum by the Nizami Ganjavi International Center. Our discussion focused on strengthening the UNAOC-ICAC partnership, emphasizing the need for cross-cultural understanding and collaboration to tackle global challenges. We reaffirmed our shared commitment to promoting dialogue and cooperation as key drivers for peace and sustainable development worldwide.



ICAC representatives participated in the prestigious XI Global Baku Forum, themed “Fixing the Fractured World,” hosted by the Nizami Ganjavi International Center.

The forum gathered over **400 distinguished participants**, including current and former heads of state, Nobel Laureates, and leaders from international organizations and civil society. It served as a vital platform for open and constructive dialogue on addressing global challenges.

Throughout its **10-year history**, the **NGIC** has played a **crucial role** in facilitating discussions that draw upon the collective wisdom and experience of its members. **ICAC** is honored to have contributed to these critical conversations, reaffirming its commitment to fostering global cooperation and shaping a more cohesive and prosperous world.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO EMPOWER FUTURE LEADERS



In a significant collaboration, **Baybars Altuntas, Executive Chairman of the World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF)**, and the **International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC)** have joined forces to empower the leaders of tomorrow and drive positive change worldwide.

This partnership was officially announced during a **signing ceremony**, which also unveiled the exclusive **15th Anniversary Programme for the School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov (PISYL)**. As an affiliated partner of the **G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII)**, WBAF lead this special initiative, bringing its expertise to the 15th term of the School.

The exclusive **WBAF curriculum**, tailored for 100 selected young leaders and startup founders, provided strategies for navigating the entrepreneurial landscape. Participants received guidance on everything from launching a business to scaling operations and planning exit strategies. Running from **June 8th to June 31st**, the program featured 10 international faculty members from the **WBAF Business School**, offering valuable insights into business, leadership, and investment.

This milestone event not only celebrated a significant anniversary for the School but also reinforced **ICAC's and WBAF's commitment to fostering intercultural understanding, promoting entrepreneurship, and empowering the next generation of global leaders.**



ICAC ORGANIZED MASTERCLASSES



In June 2024, the WBAF Exclusive Classes for the School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov (PISYL) kicked off the event that marked the beginning of an inspiring learning journey for young entrepreneurs. The opening sessions featured distinguished speakers, including Prof. Inderjit Singh, one of Asia's first unicorn founders; Dr. Nikhil Agarwal, WBAF Angel Investment Fund Committee member; and Maryam Najafi, Head of WBAF International Mentorship.

During the same month, ICAC hosted an exclusive **Masterclass** by **Renato Toffanin**, **Director of ARCHES** and **Co-founder of The Knowledge4Innovation Forum** at the **European Parliament**.

Focusing on "**Systemic Innovation, Foresight, and Policy Learning**," the session provided valuable insights into innovative strategies, future-oriented thinking, and policymaking approaches to drive sustainable progress.



ICAC AT THE WORLD FORUM ON DEMOCRACY & PEACE 2024



Ivan Ivanov, Chairman of the Executive Board of ICAC, attended the World Forum on Democracy & Peace 2024, held from July 26–28 in Berlin.

The event, under the theme “United in Advancing Development, Democracy, and Peace,” brought together distinguished leaders from international politics and academia, including diplomats, scholars, and young professionals.

The forum provided a platform for inspiring dialogue and innovative ideas through interdisciplinary discussions.

Organized by the **Institute for Cultural Diplomacy (ICD)**, the forum addressed the challenges facing democratic institutions globally, with Ivanov delivering an insightful address on “democratic recession” and the growing need to revitalize democratic values amid rising authoritarianism. Ivanov also moderated sessions with key figures including: **Catherine Ashton, Former High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs; Mladen Ivanic, Former Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia & Herzegovina; Natalia Gavrilita, Former Prime Minister of Moldova; Meenakshi Lekhi, Former Minister of State for External Affairs of India.**

These sessions focused on pressing issues in international politics and peacebuilding.



ISMAIL SERAGELDIN DELIVERS LECTURE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AT ICAC EVENT



In celebration of the **15th anniversary of the School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov**, ICAC hosted a special lecture by **Ismail Serageldin, former Vice President of the World Bank and Founding Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandria**. Serageldin's lecture emphasized the critical need for global collaboration and action to combat climate change. He challenged the audience to reflect on the shared responsibility we all carry in ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come. His compelling insights left attendees motivated to take tangible steps toward addressing environmental challenges at both the local and global levels.

ICAC & ISLAA IN BRUSSELS: STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

On **January 30-31, 2024**, members of ICAC and ISLAA participated in a two-day event at the **European Parliament** in Brussels, organized by the **ACRID Network** and **K41 Forum**.

Under the theme "**Supporting the Drivers of the Green and Digital Transition in Associated and Candidate Countries**," the event provided a platform to engage with organizations from across Europe, showcase our initiatives, and explore new partnerships and collaborations to drive meaningful change.



At the headquarters of the **Europeans People's Party (EPP)**, representatives from ICAC and ISLAA engaged in discussions with **Patrick Voller, the Secretary of External Relations**.

The meeting centered on the prevailing issues within the European Union and the political dynamics in Macedonia.

15TH SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LEADERS OF PRESIDENT IVANOV: EDUCATION, TRANSFORMATION, AND LEADERSHIP

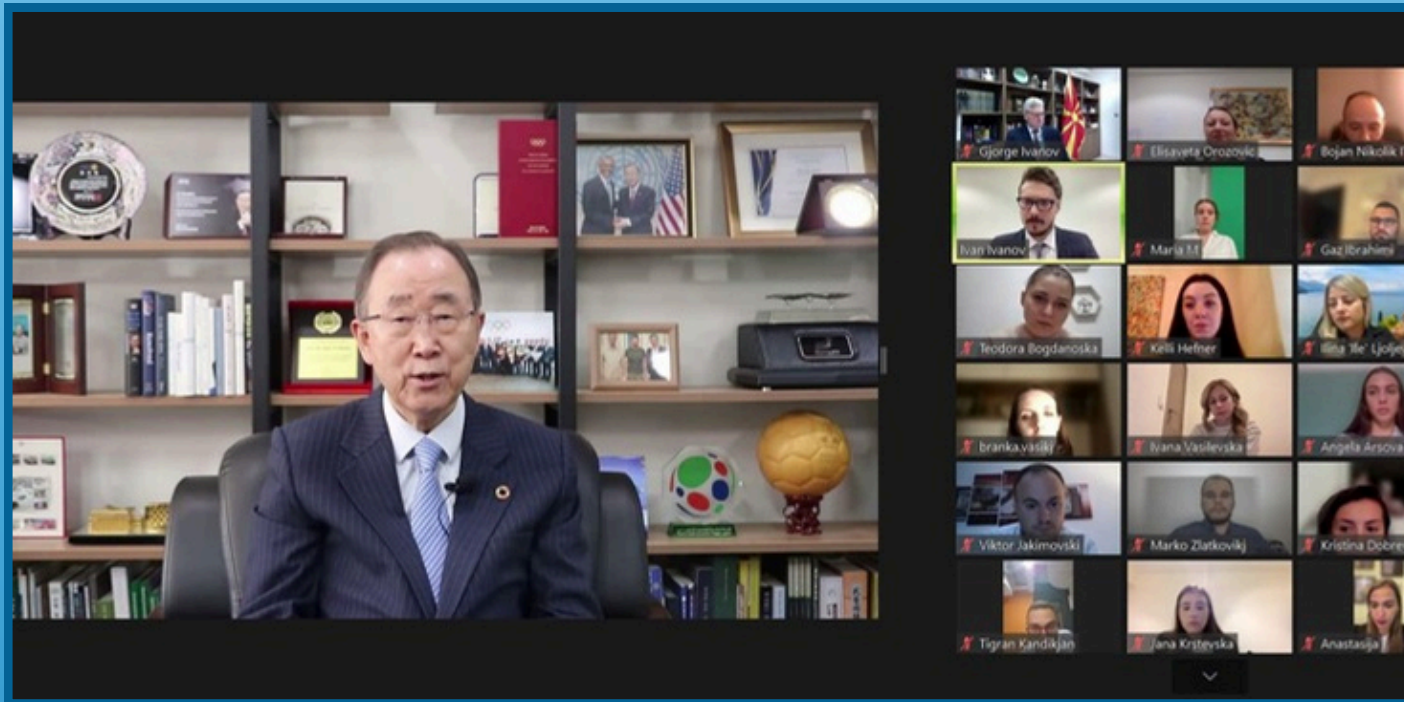


The **15th School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov**, co-organized by ICAC, successfully brought together **38 exceptional participants** under the theme "**Leadership for Peace.**" Over the past months, they demonstrated dedication, vision, and a commitment to excellence, shaping them into future changemakers.

From **October 1 to 13, 2024**, the program featured over **30 lecturers** and **global experts**, providing valuable insights into leadership, peacebuilding, education, and personal growth.

This year's program also hosted the **Second Cultural Diplomacy Forum**, where esteemed panelists emphasized the role of cultural diplomacy in bridging cultures and fostering global dialogue. With the guidance of inspiring lecturers, participants gained the skills and mindset to lead meaningful change, reinforcing the importance of collaboration and dialogue in building a more peaceful world.

FORMER UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON INAUGURATES THE 15TH PISYL



Former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon delivered an inspiring address at the inauguration of the **15th School for Young Leaders**, commending President Ivanov's initiative and celebrating the school's **15-year legacy of leadership development**. Reflecting on his previous lecture to the third cohort during his official visit to Macedonia in 2012, Ban Ki-moon praised the remarkable achievements of the Ivanov School for Young Leaders.



Encouraging participants to strive for excellence, he emphasized the importance of **global citizenship**, a concept rooted in tolerance, goodwill, compassion, and selflessness. He underscored that by embracing these values, young leaders can create a better future and effectively address humanity's most pressing challenges.

His words served as a powerful reminder that leadership is about more than personal success, it is about building a more inclusive and compassionate world through collaborative action and global responsibility.

ICAC HOSTS A LANDMARK SESSION ON GLOBAL PEACE WITH UNAOC'S MIGUEL ÁNGEL MORATINOS



The **International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC)** proudly hosted a key session within the **School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov**, uniting young visionaries for a discussion on peace-building and cross-cultural understanding.

Chaired by **ICAC Executive Chairman Ivan Ivanov**, the session, **"Bridging Cultures: The UN Alliance of Civilizations' Impact on Global Peace,"** featured **H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and High Representative for UNAOC**.

A distinguished advocate for peace, Mr. Moratinos emphasized the power of dialogue, respect, and unity in tackling global challenges.

Beyond a lesson in diplomacy, the session was a call to action—urging young leaders to build bridges across cultures and ensure peace becomes a reality for future generations.



OHRID CULTURAL DIPLOMACY FORUM 2024



From **October 10–13**, the 2nd Forum on Cultural Diplomacy took place in Ohrid, co-organized by the **Office of Former President Ivanov**, the **International Center “Alliance of Civilizations,”** and the **Institute for Cultural Diplomacy** from Berlin.

Under the theme **“Young Leaders for International Cooperation, Sustainable Development, and Global Peace,”** the forum gathered distinguished speakers and young participants from the 15th School for Young Leaders, offering them a platform for discussion and engagement.



The event highlighted the Macedonia's rich cultural heritage through traditional music, dance, and artistic expression, reinforcing the importance of cultural diplomacy in fostering mutual understanding and global connections.



The School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov and the Second Cultural Diplomacy Forum facilitated a meeting at Villa Biljana in Ohrid between UN Under-Secretary-General Miguel Ángel Moratinos and President Gordana Siljanovska Davkova, joined by Former President Gjorge Ivanov, to discuss intercultural and interreligious dialogue for conflict prevention and social cohesion.

OHRID CULTURAL DIPLOMACY FORUM 2024: "LEADERSHIP, CULTURAL BRIDGES & POST-CONFLICT RECONCILIATION"



The forum's opening remarks were delivered by **Former President Gjorge Ivanov**, **Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Timčo Mucunski**, **Mayor of Ohrid Kiril Pecakov**, and **Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca**, **Former President of Malta**. The session was moderated by **Ambassador Ivica Bocevski**, **Special Representative of the Government under the Hungarian EU Presidency**, carrying the topic "**Leadership, Cultural Bridges & Post-Conflict Reconciliation**"

Esteemed panelists included: **Mladen Ivanić** – **Former Chair of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina**; **Alex Salmond** – **Former First Minister of Scotland**; **Yossi Beilin** – **Former Minister of Justice of Israel**; **Dragoljub Popović** – **Former Judge at the European Court of Human Rights**; **Katalin Bogyay** – **President of UNESCO's 36th General Conference & Former Ambassador of Hungary to the UN and UNESCO**; **Rashela Mizrahi** – **Member of Parliament of Macedonia**. During the discussion, President Ivanov underscored the importance of intercultural dialogue as the foundation for building cultural bridges among youth, highlighting the role of the School for Young Leaders in fostering global connections over the past 15 years.

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OHRID CULTURAL DIPLOMACY FORUM 2024: “SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, SECURITY & ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY”



The second part of the forum commenced with remarks by **Zoran Ljupkov, Minister of Culture and Tourism**, and **Elena Kuzmanovska, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**.



The panel discussion carried out the topic “**Sustainable Development, Security & Economic Diplomacy**”

The panel featured insights from: **Ali Jalali – Former Minister of Interior of Afghanistan**; **Davor Filipović – Former Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Croatia**; **Dr. Hans Koehler – President of the International Progress Organization**; **Nondas Metaxas – Former CEO of the Cyprus Stock Exchange**; **Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh – Leader of the Alba Party, Scotland**.



The keynote address was delivered by **Dr. Ivan Ivanov, Professor and Chair of the Executive Board at the International Center “Alliance of Civilizations.”** The session was moderated by **Mark Donfried, Director of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy**.



The 2nd Forum on Cultural Diplomacy reaffirmed the significance of leadership, dialogue, and international cooperation in addressing global challenges and fostering sustainable peace.

OHRIDCULTURAL DIPLOMACY FORUM 2024: "VOICES OF EXPERIENCE: DISCUSSION ON LEADERSHIP AND GROWTH"



The third and final panel of the Forum on Cultural Diplomacy featured a presentation on the activities of the **Alumni Association of the School for Young Leaders (ISLAA)**. The session highlighted the impact of ISLAA and its members' contributions through the topic **"Voices of Experience: Discussion on Leadership and Growth"**

The Panel Discussion included: **Danche Azmanova Mirchevska**, ISLAA member (Generation 2016); **Katerina Antovska**, ISLAA Former President (Generation 2020); **Stefan Andonovski**, Minister of Digital Transformation of Macedonia, ISLAA member (Generation 2015); **Adedrian Adedapo**, ISLAA member (Generation 2023); **Anastasija Ilievska**, ISLAA member (Generation 2023); **Andrea Iloski**, ISLAA Vice President (Generation 2021).



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OHRID CULTURAL DIPLOMACY FORUM 2024 (CONTINUED)



Gjorge Ivanov,
President of the Republic of
Macedonia (2009–2019)



Miguel Ángel Moratinos
Under-Secretary-General of the United
Nations and High Representative of
UNAOC



Kiril Pecakov,
Mayor of Ohrid



Alex Salmond,
First Minister of Scotland
(2007–2017)



Ali Jalali,
Former Minister of Interior Affairs of
Afghanistan (2003–2005)



Davor Filipovic,
Former Minister of Economy and
Sustainable Development of Croatia



Elena Kuzmanovska,
State Secretary at the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade



Hans Köchler,
Professor, Academy for Cultural
Diplomacy



Ivan Ivanov,
Chairman of the Executive
Board of ICAC



Katalin Bogay,
President of UNESCO's 36th General
Conference; Former UN and
UNESCO Ambassador of Hungary



Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca,
President of Malta (2014–2019)



Mark Donfried,
Director, Institute for Cultural
Diplomacy



Mladen Ivanic,
Chairman of the Presidency of
Bosnia & Herzegovina (2014-15,
2016-2017)



Nondas Metaxas,
Director General and Chief Executive
Officer of the Cyprus Stock Exchange



Rashela Mizrahi,
Member of Parliament of the
Republic of Macedonia



Stefan Andonovski,
Minister for Digital Transformation of
Macedonia



Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh,
Chair of the Alba Party, Scotland



Timcho Mucunski,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign
Trade



Yossi Beilin,
Former Minister of Religious Services
of Israel; Leading "Architect" of the
Oslo and Geneva Accords



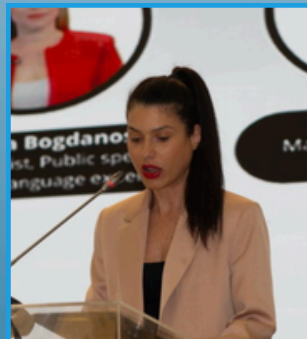
Zoran Ljutkov,
Minister of Culture and Tourism of
Macedonia



Adederian Adedapo,
Business Development
Manager



Anastasija Ilievska,
Editor, Journalist, Public Speaking
and Body Language Expert



Andrea Iloski,
Manager of Hotel "Inex Olgica"



Danche Azmanova Mirchevska,
Founder of "Working Mom"



Mare Ushkovska,
Assistant Professor, International
Balkan University



Katerina Antovska,
Chief of the Cabinet of Ministry of
Finance

H.E MIGUEL ÁNGEL MORATINOS AWARDED “GLOBAL LEADER FOR PEACE”



On October 12, during the 15th Anniversary Reunion of the School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov (PISYL), H.E. Dr. Gjorge Ivanov awarded Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), the esteemed title of “Global Leader for Peace.”

This recognition celebrates **Mr. Moratinos' lifelong dedication to peace, dialogue, and global cooperation**. From his tenure as Spain’s Minister of Foreign Affairs to his pivotal role at the United Nations, he has championed initiatives fostering mutual respect, coexistence, and diplomacy as a tool for unity.

As PISYL marks 15 years of shaping future leaders, it is fitting to honor a figure whose work embodies its core values. Mr. Moratinos' unwavering commitment to peace continues to inspire leaders worldwide.

ICAC AT THE 10TH UNAOC GLOBAL FORUM



Representatives from the **International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC)**, including the Chairman of the Executive Board, proudly participated in the **10th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)**, held from November 25 to 27, 2024, in Cascais, Portugal.

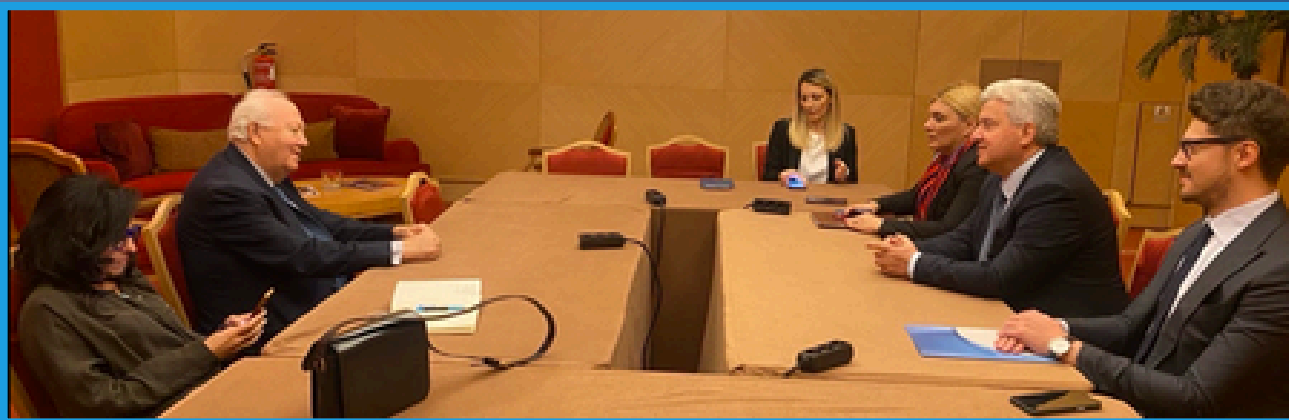
Under the theme “**United in Peace: Restoring Trust, Reshaping the Future — Reflecting on Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity**” the Forum convened high-level political leaders, Heads of State and Government, Ministers, international organization leaders, and distinguished figures from diverse sectors. Discussions centered on UNAOC’s twenty-year legacy and its role as a leading UN entity in fostering global understanding and cooperation.

ICAC’s participation underscored its commitment to intercultural dialogue, mutual understanding, and collaborative solutions to pressing global challenges. The Forum provided an opportunity to celebrate UNAOC’s achievements while exploring innovative strategies for strengthening unity and trust in an increasingly complex and divided world.

ICAC remains dedicated to supporting the Alliance of Civilizations’ mission and advancing collective efforts toward a more harmonious and interconnected global future.



STRENGTHENING ICAC-UNAOC COLLABORATION AT THE GLOBAL FORUM IN CASCAIS



During the **Global UNAOC Forum in Cascais**, **Gjorge Ivanov**, President of the Advisory Board of ICAC and former President of the Republic of Macedonia, **Elena Kuzmanovska**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, and **Ivan Ivanov**, Chairman of the Executive Board of ICAC, held a productive meeting with **H.E Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and High Representative for UNAOC, and **Nihal Saad**, Director of UNAOC.

The discussions focused on enhancing **collaboration** between **ICAC and UNAOC**, emphasizing the importance of regional UNAOC summits in promoting intercultural dialogue, strengthening cooperation, and addressing key regional challenges. This engagement highlights the shared commitment to fostering mutual understanding and building bridges between communities on both a regional and global level

ICAC AT THE 16TH MEDAYS FORUM



The International Center Alliance of Civilizations (ICAC) was honored to participate in the 16th Edition of the MEDays Forum, held under the theme **“Sovereignities and Resiliences: Towards a New Global Balance.”**

This prestigious forum brought together global leaders, policymakers, and experts from various fields to address pressing challenges and explore opportunities in reshaping the international order. Key discussions focused on issues such as geopolitical realignments, economic resilience, and the complex dynamics of sovereignties in an evolving world.

The **MEDays Forum** continues to be a vital platform for advancing innovative ideas and building bridges across nations. ICAC looks forward to contributing further to these crucial conversations and helping shape actionable strategies for a more balanced and resilient global future.



ICAC'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY & 15 YEARS OF THE SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LEADERS



2024 marked a milestone year, celebrating ICAC's 10th anniversary alongside the 15th anniversary of the School for Young Leaders of President Ivanov. Bound by a shared vision, both organizations have spent years cultivating leadership, promoting cultural diplomacy, and fostering global understanding. For a decade, ICAC has bridged cultures and championed inclusion, using intercultural dialogue to combat divisions. As a co-organizer of this significant event, ICAC proudly celebrates its partnership with the School for Young Leaders, empowering the next generation to embrace innovation and collaboration in tackling global challenges.



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IN LOVING MEMORY OF ALEX SALMOND



Alex Salmond, former First Minister of Scotland, made his final public appearance at the 2nd Forum for Cultural Diplomacy, co-organized with the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy (ICD) from Berlin, as part of the 15th School for Young Leaders. He exemplified the passion and dedication that defined his life and career. His wisdom, leadership, and unwavering commitment to public service will be deeply missed, leaving a lasting legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.





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