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"Building peace in the minds of men and women"

UNESCO (<https://en.unesco.org/>)

(<https://en.unesco.org/>)

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# International Days



The United Nations General Assembly designates a number of "International Days" to mark important aspects of human life and history (the comprehensive list of all days celebrated by the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies is available here: International Days (<http://www.un.org/en/sections/observances/international-days/>)).

United Nations Specialized Agencies, including UNESCO, can also proclaim World Days. In this case, the proclamation of international days depends on their governing bodies and internal regulations only.

UNESCO thus celebrates UN International Days related to its fields of competence, in addition to the other World Days, proclaimed by the Organization's governing bodies or other institutions.

The list of official messages by the Director-General of UNESCO on the occasion of International Days with which UNESCO is associated is available here ([http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?req=0&mt2=100&mt2\\_p=%3C&by=2&sc1=1&look=new&sc2=1&lin=1&futf8=1&gp=1&hist=0&pn=1&submit=Ok&mt=&mtA=&tx=&tx\\_p=near&ti=&ti\\_p=inc&text=&text\\_p=phrase+word&ca=&ca\\_p=inc&M610=&M653=&la=&dafr=&dato=&se=&se\\_p=inc&me=&me\\_p=inc&M040\\_p=%3D&M040=&dc=+DG%2FME%2FID\\*&M505=&MF=&cy=&M260=&M260\\_p=in](http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?req=0&mt2=100&mt2_p=%3C&by=2&sc1=1&look=new&sc2=1&lin=1&futf8=1&gp=1&hist=0&pn=1&submit=Ok&mt=&mtA=&tx=&tx_p=near&ti=&ti_p=inc&text=&text_p=phrase+word&ca=&ca_p=inc&M610=&M653=&la=&dafr=&dato=&se=&se_p=inc&me=&me_p=inc&M040_p=%3D&M040=&dc=+DG%2FME%2FID*&M505=&MF=&cy=&M260=&M260_p=in) General+of+UNESCO+messages+on+the+occasion+of+International+Days).

## International Days observed at UNESCO

January [February](#) [March](#) [April](#) [May](#) [June](#) [July](#) [August](#) [September](#) [October](#) [November](#) [December](#)

## JANUARY

### 24 January

International Day of Education ([A/RES/73/25](#) ([http://www.un.org/fr/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/73/25&TYPE=&referer=/french/&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/fr/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/73/25&TYPE=&referer=/french/&Lang=E))))

### 27 January

International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/holocaustremembranceday>) ([A/RES/60/7](#) C/Resolution 61 ([http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001560/156046e.pdf#xml=http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=gcex&set=4F97F297\\_1\\_99&hits\\_rec=2&hits\\_ing=eng#page=78](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001560/156046e.pdf#xml=http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=gcex&set=4F97F297_1_99&hits_rec=2&hits_ing=eng#page=78)); [A/RES/60/7](#) ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/60/7](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/60/7)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/holocaustremembrance/>)


## FEBRUARY


### 11 February

International Day of Women and Girls in Science (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/womenandgirlinscienceday>) ([A/70/474/Add.2](#) ([http://www.un.org/fr/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/474/Add.2&TYPE=&referer=/french/&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/fr/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/474/Add.2&TYPE=&referer=/french/&Lang=E)))



UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/women-and-girls-in-science-day/index.shtml>)

### 13 February

World Radio Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldradioday>) (  36 C/Resolution 63

([http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002150/215084e.pdf#xml=http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=&set=4F8D6506\\_2\\_28&hits\\_rec=7&hits\\_ing=eng#page=70](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002150/215084e.pdf#xml=http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=&set=4F8D6506_2_28&hits_rec=7&hits_ing=eng#page=70));  A/67/62 ([http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002150/215084e.pdf#xml=http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=&set=4F8D6506\\_2\\_28&hits\\_rec=7&hits\\_ing=eng#page=70](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002150/215084e.pdf#xml=http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=&set=4F8D6506_2_28&hits_rec=7&hits_ing=eng#page=70)))

### 21 February


International Mother Language Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/motherlanguageday>) ( 30 C/62 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001179/117961e.pdf#page=38>);  A/RES/56/262 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/56/262](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/56/262)))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/motherlanguageday/>)

## MARCH


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### 8 March

International Women's Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/womenday>) (  20 C/Resolution 13.2 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001140/114032e.pdf#page=135>))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/womensday/>)

### 20 March



International Francophonie Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/francophonieday>) (  Message from the Director-General (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002617/261718e.pdf>)

### 21 March

World Poetry Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldpoetryday>) (  30 C/Resolution 29 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001185/118514e.pdf#page=70>))



UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/poetryday/>)

### 21 March

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/racialdiscriminationday>) (  14 C/Resolution 11 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001140/114048e.pdf#page=91>);  A/RES/2142 (XXI) ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/2142%20\(XXI\)](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/2142%20(XXI))))



UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/racialdiscriminationday/>)

### 21 March

International Day of Nowruz (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/nowruzday>) (  184 EX/SR.1-9 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001886/188645m.pdf>);  A/RES/64/253 ([http://www.un.org/french/documents/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/253&TYPE=&referer=/french/&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/french/documents/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/253&TYPE=&referer=/french/&Lang=E)))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/nowruzday/>)

### 22 March



World Day for Water (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/waterday>) (  141 EX/22 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0009/000946/094616eo.pdf#page=12>);  A/RES/47/193 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/193](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/193)))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/waterday/>)


## APRIL

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### 6 April


International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/sportpeaceday>) (  37 C/60 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002245/224545e.pdf>);  A/RES/67/296 ([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A%20/67/L.77](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A%20/67/L.77)))

### 23 April

World Book and Copyright Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldbookday>) (  28 C/Resolution 3.18 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0010/001018/101803e.pdf#page=56>))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/bookday/>)

### 30 April

International Jazz Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/jazzday>) (  36 C/Resolution 39 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002150/215084e.pdf#page=53>))

## MAY

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### 3 May


World Press Freedom Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldpressfreedomday>) (  26 C/Resolution 4.3 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0009/000904/090448e.pdf#page=76>))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/pressfreedomday/>)

### 5 May

African World Heritage Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/africanheritageday>) (  38 C/68 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002352/235262e.pdf>))

### 16 May

International Day of Light (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/dayoflight>) (  39 C/40 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0025/002589/258963e.pdf>))

### 21 May

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (<http://en.unesco.org/commemoration/culturaldiversityday>) (  166 EX/37 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0012/001295/129552e.pdf#page=8>);  A/RES/57/249 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/57/249](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/57/249)))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/culturaldiversityday/>)

### 22 May

International Day for Biological Diversity (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/biodiversityday>) (  146 EX/32 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0010/001010/101039eo.pdf#page=26>);  A/RES/49/119 (<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/49/a49r119.htm>))

UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/biodiversityday/>)

## JUNE

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**5 June**

World Environment Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/environmentday>) (📄 112 EX/15 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0004/000443/044360eo.pdf>); 📄 A/RES/2994 (XXVII)) ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/2994%20\(XXVII\)](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/2994%20(XXVII)))  
UN website (<http://www.unep.org/wed/>)

**8 June**

World Oceans Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/oceansday>) (📄 181 EX/4 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001811/181148e.pdf#page=23>); 📄 A/RES/63/111) ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/63/111](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/63/111))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/oceansday/>)

**17 June**

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/desertificationday>) (📄 A/RES/49/115 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/49/115](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/49/115)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/desertificationday/>)

## JULY

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**18 July**

Nelson Mandela International Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/mandeladay>) (📄 A/RES/64/13 ([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/13](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/13)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/mandeladay/>)

**26 July**

International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/mangroveday>) (📄 38 C/66) (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002353/235350e.pdf>)

## AUGUST

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**9 August**

International Day of the World's Indigenous People (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/indigenouspeoplesday>) (📄 146 EX/32) (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0010/001010/101039eo.pdf#page=12>); 📄 A/RES/49/214 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/49/214](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/49/214)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday/>)

**12 August**

International Youth Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/youthday>) (📄 159 EX/28 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001194/119454e.pdf#page=23>); 📄 A/RES/54/120) ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/54/120](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/54/120)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/youthday/>)

**23 August**

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/slavetraderemembranceday>) (📄 29 C/Resolution 40) (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001102/110220e.pdf#page=72>))

## SEPTEMBER

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**8 September**

International Literacy Day (<http://en.unesco.org/commemorations/literacyday>) (📄 14 C/Resolution 1.441) ([http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001140/114048e.pdf#xml=http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=&set=4F900510\\_3\\_79&hits\\_rec=111&hits\\_ing=eng#page=23](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001140/114048e.pdf#xml=http://www.unesco.org/ulis/cgi-bin/ulis.pl?database=&set=4F900510_3_79&hits_rec=111&hits_ing=eng#page=23)))

**15 September**

International Day of Democracy (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/democracyday>) (📄 A/RES/62/7 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/62/7](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/62/7)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/democracyday/>)

**20 September**

International Day of University Sport (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/universitysportday>) (📄 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0004/000492/049286eo.pdf#page=59>)) 38 C/Resolution 44 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002433/243325e.pdf?#page=44>))

**21 September**

International Day of Peace (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/peaceday>) (📄 114 EX/24 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0004/000492/049286eo.pdf#page=59>); 📄 A/RES/36/67; A/RES/55/282 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/55/282](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/55/282)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/>)

**28 September**

International Day for the Universal Access to Information (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/accesstoinformationday>) (📄 38 C/70) (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002352/235297e.pdf>)

## OCTOBER

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**5 October**

World Teachers' Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldteachersday>) (📄 27 C/INF.7 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0009/000957/095720eo.pdf#page=5>))

**11 October**

International Day of the Girl Child (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/internationaldaygirlchild>) (📄 A/RES/66/170 ([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/170](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/170)))

**13 October**

International Day for Disaster Reduction (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/disasterreductionday>) (📄 134 EX/15) (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0008/000856/085607eo.pdf#page=10>); 📄 A/RES/44/236; A/RES/64/200 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/200](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/200)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/disasterreductionday/>)

**17 October**

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/povertyeradicationday>) (📄 A/RES/47/196 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/196](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/196)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/povertyday/>)

**24 October**

United Nations Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/unitednationsday>) (📄 A/RES/168 (II) ([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/168%20\(II\); A/RES/2782 \(XXVI\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/168%20(II);A/RES/2782(XXVI))) ([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/2782%20\(XXVI\)](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/2782%20(XXVI))))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/unday/>)

**27 October**

World Day for Audiovisual Heritage (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldaudiovisualday>) (📄 33 C/Resolution 53 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001428/142825e.pdf#page=114>))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/audiovisualday/>)

## NOVEMBER

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**2 November**

International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/endimpunityday>) (📄 A/RES/68/163 ([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/163](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/163)))

**5 November**

World Day of Romani Language (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/romanilanguageday>) (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0025/002598/259822e.pdf>) (📄 38 C/65 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002352/235250e.pdf>))

World Tsunami Awareness Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/tsunamiday>) (📄 A/RES/70/203 ([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/203](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/203)))  
UN Website (<http://www.unisdr.org/2016/tsunamiday/>)

**10 November**

World Science Day for Peace and Development (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldscienceday>) (📄 31 C/Resolution 20 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0012/001246/124687e.pdf#page=51>))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/scienceday/>)

**Third Thursday in November**

World Philosophy Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/philosophyday>) (📄 33 C/Resolution 37 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001428/142825e.pdf#page=86>))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/philosophyday/>)

**16 November**

International Day for Tolerance (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/toleranceday>) (📄 28 C/Resolution 5.61 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0010/001018/101803e.pdf#page=75>); 📄 A/RES/51/95 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/51/95](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/51/95)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/toleranceday/>)

**25 November**

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/eliminationofviolenceagainstwomenday>) (📄 159 EX/28 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001194/119454e.pdf#page=23>); 📄 A/RES/54/134 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/54/134](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/54/134)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>)

**29 November**

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/solidaritypalestinianpeopleday>) (📄 114 EX/24 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0004/000492/049286e.pdf#page=75>); 📄 A/RES/32/40B ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/32/40](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/32/40)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/palestinianday/index.shtml>)

## DECEMBER

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**1 December**

World AIDS Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldaidsday>) (📄 130 EX/INF.3 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0008/000810/081088e.pdf#page=32>))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/aidsday/>)

**3 December**

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/personswithdisabilitiesday>) (📄 A/RES/47/3 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/3](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/47/3)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1597>)

**10 December**

Human Rights Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/humanrightsdays>) (📄 3 C/Resolution 14.8 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001145/114593e.pdf#page=116>); 📄 A/RES/423 (V) ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/423%20\(V\)](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/423%20(V))))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsdays/>)

**18 December**

International Migrants Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/internationalmigrantsday>) (📄 161 EX/37 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0012/001222/122220e.pdf#page=14>); 📄 A/RES/55/93 ([http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/55/93&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/55/93&Lang=E)))  
UN website (<http://www.un.org/en/events/migrantsday/>)

**18 December**

World Arabic Language Day (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldarabiclanguageday>) (📄 190 EX/Decision 48 (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002181/218189e.pdf#page=60>))

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**RELATED INFORMATION**

International Days (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/international-days>)

International Weeks (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/international-weeks>)

International Years (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/international-years/>)

International Decades (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/international-decades/>)

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Anniversaries celebrated by Member States (<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/anniversaries>)

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United Nations Observances (<http://www.un.org/en/sections/observances/united-nations-observances/index.html>)

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**RELATED LINKS**

- UN General Assembly proclaims 24 January International Day of Education (<https://en.unesco.org/news/general-assembly-proclaims-24-january-international-day-education>)
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