

Media Update

10 December 2017

United Nations

Press Release

Human Rights Film Tour launched in Pakistan on Human Rights Day

Islamabad, 10 December 2017: Human Rights Day was observed by the launch of the “Human Rights Film Tour” and the closing ceremony of the “Human Rights through Cinematography” film festival on Sunday at Lok Virsa, Islamabad. The closing event was co-organized by European Union, the United Nations and the Embassy of Switzerland.

At this occasion the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights in Geneva (FIFDH), the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) joined forces to launch an international tour “Human Rights Film Tour” spread over 45 countries including Zimbabwe, China, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Nigeria, Brazil, Cuba and Guatemala to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Swiss embassies all over the world will screen Crime Hunters between 10 December 2017 and 10 December 2018, by organizing events based on the FIFDH’s “one film, one topic, one debate” format: screenings followed by debates with local NGOs, journalists, students and activists.

Cosmopolitanism, another documentary was also showcased at the ceremony which marked the conclusion of the “Human Rights through Cinematography” film festival.

Running from November 23 to December 10, this film festival travelled to different cities including Gujrat, Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Multan, Peshawar, Quetta and Rawalpindi.



The screenings were held in embassies, UN Information Centre, Goethe-Institut, universities and Pakistan National Council of Arts, as in previous editions, with the support of the European Union.

A highlight of the film festival was the participation of young students of universities at all venues especially in many universities across the country. The human rights through cinematography film festival presented 25 documentaries on human right violations across the world.

The screenings on the Human Rights Day were followed by panel discussion on “Defending Human Rights in troubled times: Dignity and Adversity”. Jan Figel Special Envoy of the European Union, Rabiya Javeri Agha, Federal Secretary Ministry of Human Rights, Isabelle Gattiker Director of the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights, Juan Lozano Director Crime Hunters, Sara Belal Founder of Justice Project Pakistan, and Christine Chung Human Rights Officer at the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights participated in the panel discussion.

On the same day, United Nations in Pakistan launched the Urdu and Pashto versions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and UN Charter and Statute of the International Court of Justice in Urdu language.

Jean-Francois Cautain, Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan on the occasion said: “Human Rights are violated all around the world. They cannot never been taken for granted. They need to be cherished and defended. The Human Rights Film Festival, especially with the screenings in universities, is an excellent tool to raise awareness about the different facets of Human Rights and to engage students in constructive debates”.

Isabelle Gattiker, Director FIFDH said:“The International Film Festival and forum on Human Rights in Geneva is extremely proud to collaborate with the Human Rights through cinematography film festival in Pakistan, and we hope to continue this work together, sharing visions, stories and films that unite us for the defence of peace and human rights. Congratulations to the whole festival team, they have done a tremendous work”.

Thomas Kolly, Ambassador of the Switzerland said: “The Universal Declaration of Human Rights has set forth a common standard of achievement for all people and all nations and is as relevant as was in 1948. Swiss political model and the core values embedded in its historical tradition

and legal orders defend and promote the universality, the interdependence and indivisibility of human rights”.

Neil Buhne, Resident Coordinator UN and Acting Director UNIC said: “As we enter in the 70th year of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, what was aspirational in 1948 is increasingly a reality. The Declaration asks us to stand up for our own rights and those of others.” He hoped that these screenings of films and translated versions of the UDHR and UN Charter in local languages will help Pakistani people, particularly youth to deepen their understanding of their rights.

The film festival was organized in partnership with embassies and High Commissions of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the European Union, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and with the International Film Festival and Forum of Human Rights, the Goethe-Institute, the Pakistan National Council of Arts and the United Nations Information Centre in Islamabad.

For further information, please contact: Ishrat Rizvi, National Information Officer, E-mail: rizvii@un.org, Cell 03315109627

UNICEF

Press Release

EMBARGOED until 00.01am GMT 11 December 2017 – Kindly observe the embargo

UNICEF: Make the digital world safer for children – while increasing online access to benefit the most disadvantaged

Flagship report highlights digital divides and explores current debates about the impact of the internet and social media on children’s safety and wellbeing

Download photos, videos and a copy of the report: <http://uni.cf/2j2GvHC>



NEW YORK, 11 December 2017 – Despite children’s massive online presence – 1 in 3 internet users worldwide is a child – too little is done to protect them from the perils of the digital world and to increase their access to safe online content, UNICEF said in its annual flagship report released today.

[The State of the World’s Children 2017: Children in a digital world](#) presents UNICEF’s first comprehensive look at the different ways digital technology is affecting children’s lives and life chances, identifying dangers as well as opportunities. It argues that governments and the private sector have not kept up with the pace of change, exposing children to new risks and harms and leaving millions of the most disadvantaged children behind.

“For better *and* for worse, digital technology is now an irreversible fact of our lives,” said UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake. “In a digital world, our dual challenge is how to mitigate the harms while maximizing the benefits of the internet for *every* child.”

The report explores the benefits digital technology can offer the most disadvantaged children, including those growing up in poverty or affected by humanitarian emergencies. These include increasing their access to information, building skills for the digital workplace, and giving them a platform to connect and communicate their views.

But the report shows that millions of children are missing out. Around one third of the world’s youth – 346 million – are not online, exacerbating inequities and reducing children’s ability to participate in an increasingly digital economy.

The report also examines how the internet increases children’s vulnerability to risks and harms, including misuse of their private information, access to harmful content, and cyberbullying. The ubiquitous presence of mobile devices, the report notes, has made online access for many children less supervised – and potentially more dangerous.

And digital networks like the Dark Web and cryptocurrencies are enabling the worst forms of exploitation and abuse, including trafficking and ‘made to order’ online child sexual abuse.

The report presents current data and analysis about children’s online usage and the impact of digital technology on children’s wellbeing, exploring

growing debates about digital “addiction” and the possible effect of screen time on brain development.

Additional facts from the report include:

- Young people are the most connected age group. Worldwide, 71 per cent are online compared with 48 per cent of the total population.
- African youth are the least connected, with around 3 out of 5 youth offline, compared to just 1 in 25 in Europe.
- Approximately 56 per cent of all websites are in English and many children cannot find content they understand or that is culturally relevant.
- More than 9 in 10 child sexual abuse URLs identified globally are hosted in five countries – Canada, France, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation and the United States.

Only collective action – by governments, the private sector, children’s organizations, academia, families and children themselves – can help level the digital playing field and make the internet safer and more accessible for children, the report says.

Practical recommendations to help guide more effective policymaking and more responsible business practices to benefit children include:

- Provide all children with affordable access to high-quality online resources.
- Protect children from harm online – including abuse, exploitation, trafficking, cyberbullying and exposure to unsuitable materials.
- Safeguard children’s privacy and identities online.
- Teach digital literacy to keep children informed, engaged and safe online.
- Leverage the power of the private sector to advance ethical standards and practices that protect and benefit children online.
- Put children at the centre of digital policy.

“The internet was designed for adults, but it is increasingly used by children and young people – and digital technology increasingly affects their lives and futures. So digital policies, practices, and products should better reflect children’s needs, children’s perspectives and children’s voices,” said Lake.

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About UNICEF

UNICEF works in some of the world's toughest places, to reach the world's most disadvantaged children. Across 190 countries and territories, we work for every child, everywhere, to build a better world for everyone. For more information about UNICEF and its work for children visit www.unicef.org. Follow UNICEF on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

For more information, please contact:

Georgina Thompson, UNICEF New York, Tel: [+1 917 238 1559](tel:+19172381559),
gthompson@unicef.org

UNDP**Media Advisory**

UNDP is pleased to invite you to the International Mountain Day-2017 event in collaboration with partner organizations. The theme of the event is "Mountains under pressure: Climate, Hunger, Migration".

Please note that the event will start at **0900am** on **Monday, Dec 11, 2017** at **Pakistan National Council of Arts, F-5/1, Islamabad**. The detailed programme for the event is attached

Appreciate if you could confirm your availability for the event. We look forward to seeing you there. (*invitation is attached herewith*)

