



# UN 75

2020 AND BEYOND

## SHAPING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER



1 January 1942 || The name "United Nations" is coined

The name "United Nations", coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt was first used in the Declaration by United Nations of 1 January 1942, during the Second World War, when representatives of 26 nations pledged their Governments to continue fighting together against the Axis Powers.

United Nations Day marks the anniversary of the UN Charter's entry into force, and celebrates everything that the UN represents and has achieved since its establishment in 1945. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.

24 October has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948. In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly recommended that the day be observed by Member States as a public holiday.

Each year, the global network of UN Information Centres organizes a variety of events to mark UN Day. Activities range from ceremonies, seminars, panel discussions, symposiums to series of briefings for students, art competitions, rallies, film screenings and book/photo exhibitions, media campaigns- including interviews and newspaper supplements- and social media campaigns.



UN Secretary General—Antonio Guterres

### UNITED NATIONS DAY October 24

Working for peace and security, development, and human rights since 1945.



## 75 years working for peace

The year 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and its founding Charter. This anniversary comes in a time of great disruption for the world, compounded by an unprecedented global health crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with severe economic and social impacts. But it is also a reminder that times of struggle can become an opportunity for positive change and transformation.

### Secretary General's message - 2020

The 75th anniversary of the United Nations falls in the middle of a global pandemic.

Our founding mission is more critical than ever.

To promote human dignity.

Protect human rights.

Respect international law.

And save humanity from war.

When the pandemic hit, I called for a global ceasefire.

In our world today, we have one common enemy: COVID-19.

Now is the time for a stepped-up push for peace to achieve a global ceasefire.

The clock is ticking.

We must also make peace with our planet.

The climate emergency threatens life itself.

We must mobilize the whole world to reach carbon neutrality -- net zero emissions of greenhouse gasses by 2050.

A growing number of countries and companies have already pledged to meet this goal.

Around the world, we must do more to end human suffering from poverty, inequality, hunger and hatred -- and fight discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender or any other distinction.

The months of pandemic have seen a horrific rise in violence against women and girls.

We must build on progress.

A remarkable global collaboration is under way for a safe, affordable and accessible COVID-19 vaccine for all.

The Sustainable Development Goals give us an inspiring blueprint for recovering better.

We face colossal challenges.

With global solidarity and cooperation, we can overcome them.

That's what the United Nations is all about.

On this anniversary, I ask people everywhere to join together.

The United Nations not only stands with you...

The United Nations belongs to you and is you: "we the peoples".

Together, let us uphold the enduring values of the United Nations Charter.

Let us build on our advances across the decades.

Let us realize our shared vision of a better world for all.

António Guterres

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