



Week of January 22-28, 2024

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

UPEACE WELCOMES 77 NEW GRADUATES FROM ITS SOMALIA PROGRAMME



Last Wednesday marked a significant milestone for the University for Peace, as 77 new graduates received their UPEACE master's and doctorate degrees. These graduates are now part of our international alumni network, contributing their knowledge and dedication to global wellbeing. Their areas of specialisation are equally impressive, spanning disciplines essential to today's world, including Leadership in Disaster Resilience and Humanitarian Action, International Law and Human Rights, Environment, Development and Peace, and Peace Governance and Development. Rector Francisco Rojas delivered a moving speech to our new Alumni; find it [here](#)

DISCOVER THE "PURA VIDA" FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME, DEVELOPED BY UPEACE AND UNITAR



In 2023, UPEACE and UNITAR developed the Pura Vida NFT collection, featuring a series of digital artworks by the talented Costa Rican artist, Gussa. Funds raised from the NFT collection will now fund the Pura Vida Fellowship Programme, which will provide 6 scholarships for our joint UPEACE-UNITAR Master's degrees and Certificate programmes, as well as 1-2 scholarships for UPEACE-UNITAR field visits to Geneva and The Hague, aimed at nationals from least developed countries and small island developing states. Find out more [here](#)

UPEACE RECTOR MODERATED PANEL AT THE GLOBAL WOMEN LEADERSHIP VOICES DIALOGUE 2024



On 23 January, UPEACE Rector Francisco Rojas-Aravena moderated a panel on violence against women at the Global Women Leadership Voices Dialogue 2024 in Madrid, an event organised by Susana Malcorra - former Argentinian Chancellor - and included opening word by Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez. UPEACE Council Members Irina Bokova, Bettina Tucci, and Fernando Blasco, we also in attendance. Find Prime Minister Sánchez's opening remarks [here](#)

UPEACE COLLEAGUES PARTICIPATED IN COORDINATION MEETING WITH NEW UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE IN COSTA RICA



Last week, the UPEACE Humanitarian Assistance Office participated in the coordination session organized by the new UNHCR representative in Costa Rica with its partner agencies and organizations. Our Vice Rector, Juan Carlos Sainz-Borgo, and our colleagues Andrea Guadamuz and Laura Fernandez, from the Humanitarian Assistance Office, shared information about the work that UPEACE carries out in this field through its work with vulnerable populations in the region and by opening spaces for training and capacity-building with these populations.

UPEACE AND HEBEI INTERNATIONAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY SIGN MOU IN MADRID



On 21 January, UPEACE Rector Dr. Francisco Rojas-Aravena, officially inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hebei International Studies University in China, whose president and rector met with Dr. Rojas-Aravena in the city of Madrid. This significant agreement is designed to facilitate the integration of students from Hebei University into the enriching realm of UPEACE's short courses and master's programs. Find out more about our new partner [here](#)

UPEACE WELCOMED DR. STEPHANIE DAGRON FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF GENEVA



On 22-23 January, Dr. Stephanie Dagron, Head of the Division of Global Health Law at the University of Geneva, gave a lecture on "Advancing Public Health (Safety) through International Law Instruments" to UPEACE students, faculty, and staff. The first session was devoted to the analysis of international strategies and norms applicable in the event of infectious disease epidemics, with the second session devoted to the main issues currently under discussion in relation to a new legal instrument on pandemic preparedness and response. Learn more about Dr. Dagron [here](#)

UPEACE SIGNED AN MOU WITH THE BULGARIAN DIPLOMATIC INSTITUTE LAST WEEK IN SOFIA



Our Permanent Representative to the UN and International Organisations in Geneva, Ambassador David Fernandez-Puyana, signed an MoU on behalf of UPEACE with H.E. Mihaylova, Director of the Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute in Sofia. The University for Peace and the Institute will work on academic and training programmes on topics such as diplomacy, multilateralism, and peace education.

UPEACE SIGNED MOU WITH MOGADISHU UNIVERSITY IN SOMALIA



Last week, during his mission to Somalia to attend the third graduation of the UPEACE Somalia programmes in that African nation, UPEACE Rector Francisco Rojas-Aravenda signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Mogadishu University. Our Permanent Observer to the UN and other International Organisations in Geneva, Ambassador David Fernandez-Puyana and UPEACE Africa Regional Director Dr. Samuel Ewusi were also in attendance.