

# WEEKLY SUMMARY



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## UPEACE Recognized by the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia

On February 15, during a distinguished ceremony held at the Presidential Palace, the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia and UPEACE graduate, H.E. Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, awarded recognized the significant contributions made by the University for Peace to peace education and development in that African nation.

This event marked the launch of the H.E. Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud Presidential Doctoral Scholarship Program, a prestigious initiative that will benefit 40 doctoral candidates. The Presidential PhD Scholarship Program represents a collaborative effort between the Presidency of Somalia, Qatar Charity, and UPEACE, aimed at enriching Somali universities with advanced scientific knowledge and research capabilities.

[Find out more HERE](#)



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## Spotlight on our POLKA Project, courtesy of our Department of Environment and Development

Our Department of Environment and Development - through its head, Dr. Olivia Sylvester - collaborates with 8 institutions from the Netherlands, Kenya, Uganda, Costa Rica, India, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Chad on the POLKA project. Funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the "Policy Learning, Local Knowledge and Advocacy" (POLKA) project bridges the gap between practice and policy for sustainable food production and ecosystem health.

[Find out more HERE](#)



## UPEACE Health Office hosted a specialized talk on how to prevent burnout, with trauma specialist Laura Ortiz



On Tuesday of last week, UPEACE welcomed psychologist Laura Ortiz, a certified expert in Somatic Trauma Therapy. Laura joined forces with our own psychologist, Valeria Benavides, to deliver an enlightening presentation titled "Accessing the Wisdom of the Body: An Introduction to Harnessing the Mind-Body Connection." This specialized talk drew attendance from UPEACE faculty and staff eager to explore the profound resources residing within our bodies beyond mere cognitive awareness.



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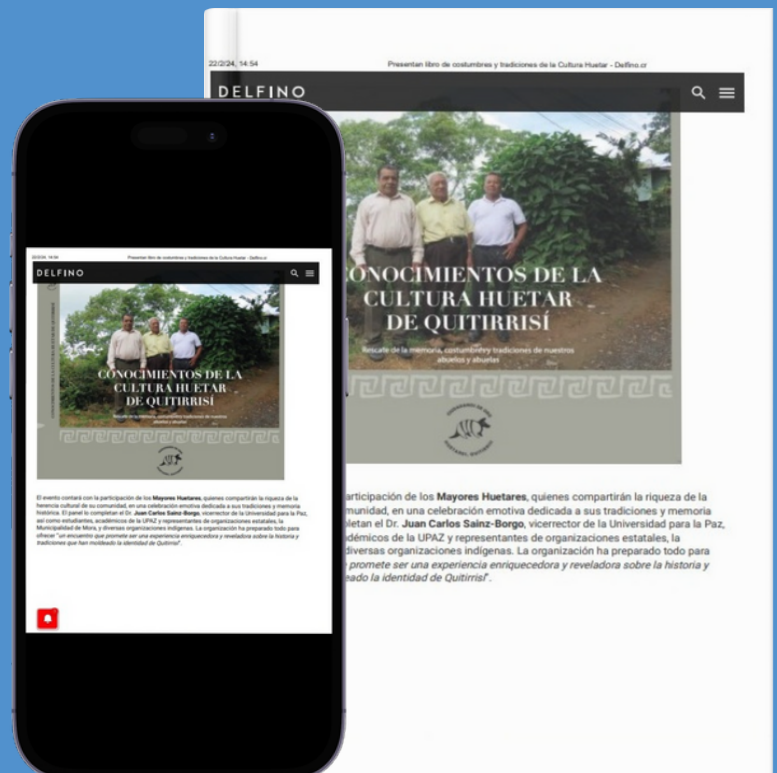
## Students of our M.A. in Religion, Culture and Peace Studies benefitted from lectures with experts in interreligious dialogue

Students enrolled in our M.A. program in Religion, Culture, and Peace Studies seized the valuable opportunity to engage with Palwasha Kakar and Melissa Nozell from the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP). Their insightful discussion delved into the realms of interreligious and interfaith dialogue, enriching the academic experience and fostering pertinent insights for navigating today's complex global contexts.

## Read the press release on our upcoming book launch

Learn more about Huetar Culture as told by Huetar Elders

[Read more HERE](#)



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