



*United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)  
Fellowship Programme 2018*

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*2018 MENA cohort  
Visit to the United States, Germany, and Spain*

*September 30 – October 14, 2018*



Federal Foreign Office

The UNAOC Fellowship Programme is made possible thanks to a grant from the Federal Foreign Office of Germany

## **Provisional Agenda (may be subject to changes)**

### **Washington DC, U.S. – September 30 to October 3**

**Hotel:** Hampton Inn, White House, 1729 H Street N.W. Washington DC 20006

#### **Sunday September 30**

- All day: Arrival

#### **Monday October 1**

- 08:00 – 10:00: 2018 MENA Fellows – Introduction session
- 10:15 – 12:00: State Department Office of Religious and Global Affairs  
The Office of Religion and Global Affairs (RGA) works to implement the National Strategy on Religious Leader and Faith Community Engagement through three overarching roles for the Department. It has the following mission: advising State Department leadership on policy matters as they relate to religion; supporting Posts and Bureaus in assessing religious dynamics and engaging religious actors; serving as a first point of entry for those seeking to engage the State Department on matters of religion and global affairs. The office collaborates regularly with other government officials and offices. (<https://www.state.gov/s/rga/>)
- 12:30 – 14:00: Luncheon at the World Bank
- 14:00 – 15:30: World Bank  
The World Bank counts 189 member countries, staff from more than 170 countries, and offices in over 130 locations. The World Bank works towards reducing poverty and building shared prosperity in developing countries through sustainable solutions. The World Bank focuses its work on development areas such as fiscal policy, climate change, environmental health and pollution management, trade, finance for development, social inclusion, education, youth employment, gender, conflict prevention and more. It provides a wide array of financial products and technical assistance, with the goal to help countries share and apply innovative knowledge and solutions to the challenges they face. (<http://www.worldbank.org>)
- 16:00 – 17:30: International Centre on Nonviolent Conflict  
International Centre on Nonviolent Conflict (ICNC) is an independent, non-profit educational foundation that develops and encourages the study and use of civilian-based, non-military strategies aimed at establishing and defending human rights, democratic self-rule and justice worldwide. The purpose of ICNC is to develop and share knowledge related to nonviolent civil resistance and its practice with interested recipients throughout the world. This includes citizens and activists living under conditions of repression, injustice and corruption, and also educators, nongovernmental organizations, media professionals and members of the policy community. (<https://www.nonviolent-conflict.org>)

## Tuesday October 2

- 09:00 – 10:30: Chemonics – Centre for Applied Approaches to CVE  
The Center for Applied Approaches to Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) aims to identify successful approaches, tools, practices, and methodologies for countering and preventing violent extremism (PVE) based on quantitative and qualitative data as well as Chemonics' extensive experience in this sector. The Center is examining best practices in supporting good governance to counter violent extremism, as well as innovative approaches to monitor and evaluate impact of PVE/CVE programming. Experts in the Center are also exploring the application of social and behavior change communications to PVE/CVE programming and the link between government service delivery and countering violent extremism. (<https://chemonics.com/center-for-applied-approaches-to-cve/>)
  
- 11:00 – 12:30: United States Institute of Peace  
The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) works to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict around the world. USIP does this by engaging directly in conflict zones and by providing analysis, education, and resources to those working for peace. Created by Congress in 1984 as an independent, nonpartisan, federally funded organization, USIP's more than 300 staff works at the Institute's D.C. headquarters, and on the ground in the world's most dangerous regions. (<http://www.usip.org>)
  
- 13:00 – 14:00: Free time for lunch
  
- 14:30 – 16:00: Quilliam International  
Created in 2007, Quilliam is a London-based think tank that focuses on counter-extremism and lobbies government and public institutions for more nuanced policies regarding Islam and on the need for greater democracy in the Muslim world whilst empowering moderate Muslim voices. At the time of its launch Quilliam published a policy proposal for the British government and journalists, in which it suggested that rehabilitation centres should be established where extremists could be deradicalised. These centres would expose extremists and terrorists who wished to leave their organisations to the work of scholars whose work had been recognized as sound and legitimate. (<https://www.quilliaminternational.com>)
  
- 16:30 – 17:30: Search for Common Ground  
Search for Common Ground (SFCG) was founded on the basis that conflict turns into violence when people focus on their differences rather than on their commonalities. SFCG seeks to find new ways of connecting people across these differences. SFCG first focused on facilitating cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union. Since its founding, the organization has expanded its work to 30 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and parts of Eastern Europe. It employs around 600 staff coming from more than 40 countries. (<https://www.sfcg.org>)

### Wednesday October 3

- 08:30: Check-out
  
- 10:00 – 11:30: Islamic Relief - USA  
Islamic Relief USA is a community of humanitarian staff, volunteers, affiliates, supporters, partners, and donors who have been working together for more than 20 years. In 1993, Islamic Relief USA became an independent member of Islamic Relief, a global family of collaborating relief organizations that share a common vision, mission and family identity. Islamic Relief USA operates seven regional offices in the United States and its headquarter in Virginia. These IRUSA offices have been serving to educate, inform, and raise awareness about our various relief and development projects for years. Additionally, IRUSA holds seminars, banquets, concerts, and other public awareness programs across the country to help fund domestic and international projects. (<http://irusa.org>)
  
- 12:00: Departure to New York by bus

## New York, U.S. – October 3 to 6

Hotel: Hampton Inn, Grand Central, 231 East 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017

### **Wednesday October 3**

- Arrival in New York

### **Thursday October 4**

- 09:00 – 10:30: Guided tour of the United Nations
- 11:00 – 12:30: Office of the United Nations Secretary General’s Envoy on Youth  
UN Secretary-General (UNSG) Ban Ki-moon has identified in his second term working with and for young people as one of his top priorities. In this regard, he established in 2013 the Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth with a mandate to harmonize the UN system efforts on youth development, enhance the UN response to youth needs, advocate for addressing the development needs and rights of young people, as well as to bring the work of the United Nations with and for youth closer to them. The Envoy on Youth also acts as the advisor to and the representative of the Secretary-General on youth related matters. (<http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/>)
- 12:45 – 14:00: Luncheon at the Institute of International Education  
Founded in 1919, the Institute of International Education (IIE) is a private not-for-profit leader in the international exchange of people and ideas. In collaboration with governments, foundations and other sponsors, IIE creates programs of study and training for students, educators and professionals from all sectors. IIE administers over 200 programs serving more than 20,000 individuals each year. IIE provides a wide range of services to and manages or administers programs for many corporations, foundations, government partners, and international agencies. (<http://www.iie.org>)
- 14:30 – 16:00: Muflehun  
Muflehun is an independent non-profit at the nexus of society, security and technology, working since 2010 against hate, extremism and violence. As a resource center, it focuses its work on: researching and analyzing current and upcoming challenges, applying knowledge and insight to design and provide systemic solutions (programs and projects), sharing lessons learned from pilot programs with our partners for localized solutions, providing analysis to policy makers for improved decision making. (<http://muflehun.org>)
- 17:00 – 18:00: Meeting with Arts and Resistance Through Education  
Arts and Resistance Through Education (ARTE) is an organization that uses art, design, and technology to empower young people to develop creative solutions and bring awareness to local and global human rights challenges, fostering leadership opportunities to train and organize other young people in their own communities. In this work, ARTE remains at the intersection of community organizing, democratic participation and global citizenry, first established as a way to make the universal

instruments of human rights and fundamental freedoms more accessible and relevant to teens between the ages of 13 and 21, through public, art-based community projects. Such projects have included, but have not been limited to, volunteer hip-hop mural projects within schools and in neighbourhood community spaces. (<http://www.artjustice.org>)

### Friday October 5

- 09:00 – 10:30: Soliya – “Connect Program”  
Soliya is a network of staff, universities, volunteers, trainers and coaches, experienced in the fields of new media, new technology, social entrepreneurship, conflict resolution, advocacy and international affairs. In 2009 Soliya became a UNAOC partner and has been supporting UNAOC’s efforts to engage young people and to use media and communications technologies to foster greater cross-cultural understanding. The Connect Program is Soliya’s flagship virtual exchange initiative. It is an online cross-cultural education program integrated into curriculum that provides students with a unique opportunity to establish a deeper understanding for the perspectives of others around the world on important socio-political issues. Since 2003, the Connect Program has linked students from over 100 universities in 27 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, South Asia, Europe and North America. (<http://soliya.net>)
  
- 11:00 – 12:30: United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate  
Guided by Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1624 (2005), the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee (UN-CTC) works to bolster the ability of United Nations Member States to prevent terrorist acts both within their borders and across regions. It was established in the wake of the 11 September terrorist attacks in the United States. The CTC is assisted by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), which carries out the policy decisions of the Committee, conducts expert assessments of each Member State and facilitates counter-terrorism technical assistance to countries. (<https://www.un.org/sc/ctc/>)
  
- 12:45 – 13:45: Free time for lunch
  
- 14:00 – 16:00: United Nations Alliance of Civilizations  
The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) was established in 2005, at the political initiative of then UN Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan, and co-sponsored by the Governments of Spain and Turkey. A High-Level Group of experts was formed by Mr. Annan to explore the roots of polarization between societies and cultures today, and recommend a practical program of action to address the issue. In 2006, the High-Level Group identified four priority areas: Education, Youth, Migration, and Media. The UNAOC projects and activities revolve around these areas, guided by the assumption that they can play a critical role in reducing intercultural tensions and in building bridges between nations. In 2013, Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser became UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, operating with UNAOC Secretariat from New York City. ([www.unaoc.org](http://www.unaoc.org))

- 17:00 – 18:00: Bronx Documentary Centre  
The Bronx Documentary Centre (BDC) is a non-profit gallery and educational space. Through exhibitions, screenings, and public programming, it shows the work of renowned and emerging photographers and filmmakers who are dealing with the themes that guide the BDC: justice, education, community-building, and positive social change. The Centre also provides free education programs for middle and high school students as well as a professional education program for historically underrepresented adult Bronx-based photographers. This program provides opportunities for professional development and skills training in photojournalism, filmmaking and documentary photography. (<https://www.bronxdoc.org>)

### **Saturday October 6**

- 18:30: Departure to New York JFK airport, Terminal 1
- 22:30: Flight Norwegian Air Shuttle DY 7702 to Madrid, Spain

## Madrid, Spain– October 7 to 10

Hotel: Hotel NH Madrid Colón Calle Marqués de Zurgena, 4. 28001, Madrid

### **Sunday October 7**

- 11:40: Arrival in Madrid Adolfo Suarez Barajas Airport, Terminal 2

### **Monday October 8**

- 9:00 – 12:00: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain
- 12:30 – 14:00: Casa Arabe  
Casa Arabe is a Spanish public consortium led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, which operates as a strategic center in Spain's relations with the Arab and Muslim world. It is a meeting point where different actors and institutions, private and public, from the field of business, education, the academic, political and cultural world, can meet, interact and build partnerships. It also defines itself as a public diplomacy institution that allows joint projects to be undertaken to contribute to better knowledge among the societies of the Arab countries and Europe, and to promote a better representation of the diverse societies of the 21st century. (<http://en.casaarabe.es>)
- 14:30 – 16:00: Free time for lunch
- 16:30 – 17:30: Al Umma Youth Association of Fuenlabrada  
Al Umma Youth Association of Fuenlabrada promotes intercultural dialogue and activities and works on the social and cultural integration of Muslim youth within the Spanish society. By encouraging young people to engage in community activities, the association seeks to address and challenge stereotypes about Islam and Muslim communities. (<https://www.facebook.com/Jovenesalumma/>)
- 18:00 – 19:00: Garage Association  
Garage is an interdisciplinary creative space working on developing innovative approaches in the field of non-formal education. Its team uses art as an educational and communication tool to help reduce urban violence among youth. Garage's team is comprised of professionals with background in education, community work and art. Together they collaborate on different social, cultural and educational projects targeting youth and marginalized communities such as Roma and migrants. (<http://www.asociaciongaraje.es>)

### **Tuesday October 9**

- 9:00 – 10:30: Intelligence Center for Counter-Terrorism and Organized Crime  
Created in 2014 as a department of the Ministry of Interior, the Intelligence Center for Counter-Terrorism and Organized Crime (CITCO) is a Spanish intelligence agency working on preventing domestic terrorism, organized crime and violent extremism. CITCO processes and analyzes strategic information and design specific strategies and responses to address these threats in collaboration with the National Police Corps, the



Civil Guard, the Customs Surveillance Service, the Armed Forces and the National Intelligence Centre. (<http://www.interior.gob.es>)

- 11:00 – 12:30: Observatory of Islamophobia in the Media  
The Observatory of Islamophobia in the Media, is a project led by the Al Fanar Foundation and The Mediterranean European Institute with the support of various foundations involved in the promotion of interfaith and intercultural dialogue. The Observatory monitors Spanish newspapers and their website to flag articles resorting to Islamophobia and stigmatization against Muslims. It issues recommendations and good practices for more inclusive narratives in the media.  
(<http://www.observatorioislamofobia.org>)
- 13:00 – 15:30: Free time for lunch
- 16:00 – 17:30: The Elcano Royal Institute – Programme on International Terrorism  
The Elcano Royal Institute is a think-tank for international and strategic studies that analyses world events and trends from a Spanish, European and global perspective. The Institute was established in 2001 as a private foundation under the honorary presidency of H.M the King. Its Board of Trustees comprises prominent figures linked to Spanish foreign policy and representatives of both the companies that fund the Institute and of the Spanish Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Defense, Education, Culture and Sport, and Economy and Trade. (<http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org>)
- 18:00 – 19:00: Movement Against Intolerance  
The Movement Against Intolerance is a participative movement that works on combatting intolerance, racism and violence, and promotes solidarity, coexistence, and tolerance. Among its various activities, the Movement works on the quick organization of peaceful mobilization in response to manifestations of violence and racism. It organizes conferences in schools and universities to promote tolerance and diversity by inviting speakers from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds. It is also working on a collection of educational material addressing intolerance aimed at teachers, students, social workers and youth. (<http://www.movimientocontralaintolerancia.com>)

### **Wednesday October 10**

- 08:30 – 10:00: Foro Abraham  
Foro Abraham is a non-profit association that seeks to enhance mutual knowledge between people of different religions through cultural and educational activities. The Foro cooperates with national and international entities for the promotion, the development and the organization of artistic and cultural events and trainings. Foro Abraham aims to create a space for interreligious and intercultural dialogue through an apolitical and non-denominational perspective to respect the beliefs of everyone involved in its activities. The Foro also seeks to promote research in the field of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and cooperation between academia and civil society in Spain and across the world. (<http://www.foroabraham.org>)

- 10:30 – 11:30: 2018 MENA Fellows – Mid-trip debriefing session
- 12:15: Departure to Madrid Adolfo Suarez Barajas Airport, Terminal 4
- 15:55: Flight Iberia IB 3672 to Berlin

## Berlin, Germany – October 10 to 14

Hotel: Amano Grand Central, Heidestraße 62, 10557 Berlin

### **Wednesday October 10**

- 19:00: Arrival in Berlin Tegel Airport

### **Thursday October 11**

- 09:00 – 10:30: Extremely Together
- 11:00 – 12:30: Federal Foreign Office of Germany
- 13:00 – 14:00: Free time for lunch
- 14:30 – 16:00: Deutsch Welle Arabic  
Deutsche Welle is Germany's public international broadcaster. The service is available in 30 languages in order to further promote German culture and interests to an international audience. Deutsche Welle has been broadcasting since 1953. Its radio services in Arabic were launched in 1959. (<http://www.dw.com>)
- 16:30 – 17:30: Sea Watch  
Created in 2015, Sea Watch is a non-profit organization that conducts civil search and rescue operations in the Mediterranean Sea. While advocating for political solutions, Sea-Watch provides emergency relief capacities, demands and pushes for rescue operations by European institutions and stands up publicly for legal escape routes. Sea Watch is politically and religiously independent and funded solely through donations. (<https://sea-watch.org>)

### **Friday October 12**

- 09:00 – 10:30: Kiron Open Higher Education  
Kiron Open Higher Education is a non-profit EdTech organization founded in 2015 that provides access to higher education for refugees through scalable digital technology and strategic collaborations with universities and online education providers. Kiron's program consists of tailor-made curricula, a digital collaborative platform and an extensive range of supportive services that enable refugees to begin their studies online while they work towards fulfilling formal requirements to apply to a university. Kiron is made possible through a global network of educational partners and collaborators. Kiron currently has partnerships with 47 Universities. (<https://kiron.ngo>)
- 11:00 – 12:30: Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth – “Live Democracy” programme  
Launched in 2015, “Live Democracy” is a programme run by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth to support initiatives and associations committed throughout Germany to promote a diverse, non-violent and democratic society. The programme primarily targets children, young people, parents

and relatives, education professionals and civil society actors. "Live Democracy!" is also a cornerstone of the Federal Government's strategy to prevent extremism at a local, regional and national level. (<https://www.demokratie-leben.de>)

- 13:00 – 14:00: Free time for lunch
- 14:30 – 16:00: Dialogue With School  
Dialog Macht Schule is German for “Dialogue with school”. It teaches schools on ways to commit to a democracy in which all social groups can shape society regardless of their social and cultural origins. The association aims at helping schools to meet the demands of an increasingly diverse student body. It also help schools promote democratic awareness to encourage students to develop into self-determined individuals, guided by their own strengths and in collaboration with others’. Dialogue in school has been designed by taking into consideration the needs of ethnically diverse schools with a high proportion of socially disadvantaged students. The program focuses on enhancing personal development, civic education and inclusive teamwork. (<http://www.dialogmachtschule.de>)
- 16:30 – 17:30: Neighbourhood Network  
Neighbourhood Network is a small organisation in Berlin that works in sensitive areas and engages young people to prevent violence. The network partners with the local police and organize events such as football matches to develop trust between law enforcement and local youth. (<https://www.kbna-berlin.de>)

### **Saturday October 13**

- 09:00 – 10:30: 2018 MENA Fellows – Conclusion session
- 11:00 -12:30: FANN Magazine  
FANN Magazine was launched by a group of artists, journalists and writers from various cultural backgrounds. Together they apply a multicultural approach in promoting literature, films, conferences and other cultural events that promote arts from diverse corners of the world. (<https://www.fann-mag.com/de/>)

### **Sunday October 14**

- All day: Departure

## **Advisory Note**

In the cities we are going to visit, meetings have been arranged with local organizations and partners. They all lead busy professional lives and there might be some last minute changes in the programme. This also implies that all information might not be available at the time of departure.

Meetings will not last longer than an hour to an hour and half. Please be mindful of that when you ask questions or share ideas, so everyone has a chance to participate. The Fellowship is an opportunity to network and to start long-term conversations and collaborations with the people you will meet. Do not hesitate to share your business cards. Please come prepared. Read the agenda and research the organizations you are going to meet. Think about a series of questions you would like to ask.

Because in each city our stay is relatively short, the pace is going to be intense and sometimes demanding. It is important that you always have with you a bottle of water and some snacks in case meetings last longer than anticipated.

UNAOC and partners have been planning the program to ensure that everyone has a positive experience. However, if you face any challenges, do not hesitate to speak with the UNAOC Fellowship coordinator who will do their best to assist you. Please be respectful of other fellows and help out one another during the trip.

### **Meeting points**

We will establish a meeting point and time for the beginning of each day and before each break. Please make sure you are always aware of where and when we meet so the group can be on time. We want to be courteous to our hosts and show respect. If you fail to arrive on time, it will be your responsibility to find a way to catch up with the group. Our schedule is busy and we can't afford to wait for late participants.

### **Wi-Fi and Cell-phones:**

During meetings, Wi-Fi might be available but please refrain from using or checking your cell-phones. There will be Wi-Fi in each hotel you will be staying at with plenty of time to catch up with emails and social media.

### **Passport and money**

Please make a copy of your passport and visas before departure and bring these copies with you. Leave these copies at the hotel and have your passport with you at all time. You will be required to show a form of identification to enter most of the sites we will visit.

It is recommended to change money prior departure. The U.S. use US dollars, while Spain and Germany use euros. When shopping, eating or going out, it is best that you pay in cash rather than by card. However try not to carry large amounts of money on you.

In Europe, taxes and service are included. However it is recommended to tip waiters with a

couple of coins. It is not necessary to tip taxi drivers. In the U.S. however, taxes are not included so the amount you will pay will always be higher than the prices indicated. Service fees are not included either, and it is strongly recommended to leave the equivalent of 15% to 20% of the total bill for gratuity. The same goes for taxi rides.

### **Transportation**

We might have to use public transportation. If we do, you will be given a pass in each city that will be valid for the entirety of our stay. It is your responsibility to make sure you don't lose it. When using public transportation, please stay with the group and remain vigilant for pickpockets. Always make sure to know at which stop the group is getting off.

### **Dress Code**

Formal business attire is required for meetings. You will be introduced as UNAOC Fellows and our counterparts expect to meet young professionals and civil society leaders.

#### *Footwear*

Wear comfortable footwear (no sneakers please when formal attire is requested) or have a change of shoes in your bag to walk between meetings. During cultural visits and outdoor activities, you can wear business casual attire. While travelling, wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

### **Local laws and customs**

The United States, Spain and Germany have diverse populations, with a multitude of cultural backgrounds. It is important to respect the beliefs of everyone we meet during the Fellowship.

#### *Greetings*

Standing up and shaking hands is the most common form of greetings. However in a less formal context and after having met a couple of times, it is not uncommon to exchange kisses on the cheek in Europe, or to hug in the United States. If you don't feel comfortable with these greeting practices, just extend your hand for a handshake and smile.

#### *Liquor*

Most restaurant and bars serve alcohol. However it is forbidden to drink alcohol in the street and on public transportation, especially in the United States.

#### *Smoking*

It is forbidden to smoke in most restaurants and bars in Europe. In the United States, it is forbidden to smoke in public spaces, restaurants, hotels, and bars unless stated otherwise.

### **Security**

Washington D.C, New York, Madrid and Berlin are generally safe. However, tourists are always more vulnerable than locals to small crime, especially at night. If you decide to explore the city on your own or to stay out late, remain vigilant and try to go with someone from the group. Avoid displaying expensive items such as smartphones, tablets, camera,

and cash. Please inform the UNAOC Fellowship coordinator if you decide to go out on your own and provide a way to reach you in case of emergency.

### **Free time**

During your free time, you are welcome to explore the city or to rest. Make sure you know where and when the group will meet next. If you have any questions or need advice, please ask the UNAOC Fellowship coordinator, the organizers, or the front desk at the hotel. Websites like TripAdvisor are also good sources of information for travellers. Please inform the UNAOC Fellowship coordinator if you decide to go out on your own and provide a way to reach you in case of emergency.

### **Health & Medication**

Water is drinkable in all the cities that we will visit. In addition to the medication you might need to take at the time of travel, you might want to bring medication along with you in case of headaches, stomach- aches, etc.

### **Weather**

The average temperature in October is:

Washington D.C.: 15°C/59°F

New York: 15°C/59°F

Madrid: 17°C/63°F

Berlin: 9°C/48°F

Kindly check weather reports before travelling.