

Dear Ms. Klisarska,

On behalf of USG Melissa Fleming, I am writing to thank you for your kind message and for sharing the plans for Bulgaria's national observance for International Day of Peace. Congratulations on the Bell Chime Resounds for Peace event, mobilizing 10, 000 children in this national initiative must be a herculean effort!

While we are unable to participate in the event in person, we wanted to share material and resources for the International Day of Peace that we hope you will find useful in the preparations for your event.

As 21 September falls at the start of the UN General Debate and High-Level Week, the ringing of the Peace Bell ceremony was held on 9 September at UN HQ in New York and plans to mark the International Day of Peace globally are focusing on the importance of investing in people under the theme Invest in Peace - For Everyone, Everywhere, Every Day. The focus is on highlighting the importance of investing in people—addressing their daily struggles, upholding justice, gender equality, human rights and creating opportunities and funding to thrive. In response to the fragility and volatility of today, this year's International Day of Peace presents a vital opportunity to shift the narrative and spotlight towards those who are often invisible, the world's everyday architects of peace—the peacekeepers, peacebuilders, activists, community and civil society leaders, youth volunteers and students working behind the scenes to bring hope to their communities.

You will find all relevant information on the International Day Website and on the Trello Board. The hashtags are #ActNowForPeace | #InvestInPeace

There are several key initiatives being planned on the editorial side which we hope your team will find useful, including new stories of impact and of communities mobilizing for peace and taking action, all available on the Trello Board

Other planned community engagement activity currently underway includes Peace Day x ActNow for a Peaceful World Activation, from 14 to 26 September, the UN's ActNow initiative is spotlighting the Peace Day, helping connect audiences with information and opportunities to take action for peace. Through AWorld, ActNow's mobile app partner, users will be engaged through dedicated news and push notifications, while peace-related educational content will be featured on the ActNow community page.

Other resources include:

UN Secretary-General's Video Message

"Around the world, people are showing that we are not powerless. Volunteers, advocates, civil society leaders, peacekeepers and peacemakers are bridging divides, uniting communities, and pushing for dialogue. Action by action, they are building peace from the ground up," says the

UN Secretary-General in his video message for the Day. Video versions and quote cards will be available on the Trello Board.

Peace Circle of Hear Us. Act Now campaign

You may have been following our youth focused campaign over the last 12 months. On the International Day of Peace, as the UN Hear Us. Act Now for a Peaceful World campaign culminates by bringing the voices, experiences and contributions of young people into the UN Secretary-General's forthcoming independent progress study on how young people contribute to peace, expected in December 2026, there will be a high-level Peace Circle kicking off the UN General Assembly's 81st session high-level week (21 to 25 September) under the theme - Invest in Peace. In case of interest, you can follow it live on UN Web TV from 10:45am to 11:45am NY Time at the SDG Media Zone on 21 September.

My Peace, Our World: Untold Stories of Impact

An anthology of personal journeys of young peace advocates creating change in their communities and making a collective impact globally. From Japan to the United States, these advocates take us around the world to show what it means to invest in peace, in humanity.

The History of the International Day of Peace: A Timeline

The timeline traces the evolution of the International Day of Peace. See how it grew from a UN resolution into a pivotal global movement, empowering ordinary citizens to unite their communities and build lasting peace from the ground up.

All content to be available on Trello Board. If you need further information, please contact my colleagues Oisika Chakrabarti at oisika.chakrabarti@un.org and contact Devi Palanivelu at palanivelu@un.org

All the very best for The Bell Chime Resounds for Peace event. I am sure it will be a resounding success.

Maher

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