



UN Information Centre (UNIC)

Vision



International Day of Peace ceremony.

In 1946, the first UN General Assembly established the Department of Public Information (DPI) and set out the general guidelines for its activities. One of these guidelines called upon DPI to establish *“branch offices...in order to ensure that peoples in all parts of the world receive as full information as possible about the United Nations”*.

Iran, as a founding member of the United Nations, was among the first countries to have a United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), which began its operations in 1948. The Centre’s operations were suspended in 1980 and then revived again in 1991.

Work in Iran

UNIC is the principle source of public information about the United Nations system in Iran and around the world. Its key objective is to enhance UN visibility, promote UN values, coordination, effectiveness and accountability in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

UNIC is a proactive link between the United Nations and the local media, educational institutions, government organizations, private sector and the civil society. The Centre provides up-to-date information on the aims and activities of the United Nations in political, economic, social and humanitarian fields.

UNIC provides professional, logistical and technical assistance in the field of information dissemination and strategic communications to UN colleagues in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Headquarters, depending on their needs and circumstances.

As Chair of the UN Communications Group (UNCG) in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the focal point for UN’s public information activities, UNIC helps to project a unified approach to United Nations communications and advocacy efforts and promotes information on the UN’s work in Iran. Its work is aimed to increase UN transparency, openness and ensure that general public and core audiences have easy access to all UN information and documentation.

UNIC is linked to United Nations Headquarters and receives a daily roundup of news on the United Nations Secretary-General’s agenda and UN activities around the world as well as



news on UN' activities in Iran. Items of interest to the Iranian people are selected and translated into Persian and dispatched to all the major print and electronic media and to all other interested groups and people.

UNIC also organizes press events for UN officials and various public outreach campaigns and activities.

In order to reach a larger audience, UNIC translates major UN multimedia materials, documents, books, brochures and publications into Persian and distributes them free of cost to the partners from the government, media, universities, civil society and others. UNIC responds to public inquiries from journalists, scholars, academicians, government officials, students, NGO members as well as general public and provides with timely, relevant and important information and multimedia materials on the work of the United Nations.

UNIC promotes better public knowledge about the UN values, UN system and functioning in Iran through direct contact with teachers and students in schools and universities by speaking to them and answering their questions, in organizing Model UN Conferences and sessions and in making available documents, publications and videos geared to young audiences.

UNIC organizes workshops for all interested groups on finding UN information and documentation through UN website and on issues such as Millennium Development Goals, Sustainable Development Goals, climate change, poverty reduction, health care,

disaster risk reduction and other relevant topics.



27th Tehran International Book Fair, April 2014.

UNIC in cooperation with the different government organizations, educational institutes, research centers and other partners promotes UN values and visibility by commemorating UN Days and Observances.

UNIC's bilingual website www.unic-ir.org features news, key UN multimedia materials and documents in Persian and English.

United Nations supports four UN Depository Libraries in Iran: at the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Parliament), Centre for Graduate International Studies, Shahid Beheshti and Shiraz Universities. UNIC's collection of UN multimedia materials is available at the National Library of the Islamic Republic of Iran and now focuses on "connections" rather than "collections".

UNIC is engaged in dialogue with youth and promotes UN values and activities using social media (<https://www.facebook.com/UNICTehran>, twitter.com/unictehran, [instagram.com/unic.tehran](https://www.instagram.com/unic.tehran))

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