

The United Nations presents

## Among the Believers

*To mark the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (21 May)*

This screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring:



### **Moad El Boudaati**

Moad El Boudaati is a prevention and community outreach specialist in Brussels. Moad has run several associations in Belgium providing support and assistance to vulnerable youth, susceptible to radicalisation. He is a political science and law graduate from the University of Brussels and the University of Lausanne.



### **Saliha Ben Ali**

Saliha Ben Ali founded the association: SAVE BELGIUM, Society Against Violent Extremism Belgium. The aim of this association is to support families weakened by the loss or departure of a child to Syria to join extremist groups. She now represents the Mothers School in Belgium, working directly with Women without Borders in Vienna and is an active member of the European campaign for Mothers School.



### **Ferran Josep Lloveras**

Ferran J. Lloveras, political scientist and international development expert, works at the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on external relations and cooperation, as well as focussing on civil and political rights. Previously he worked for the European Commission, on Education in development cooperation. Before that he held several positions in UNESCO, where he worked on Education in Emergencies in Palestine, and on Strategic Planning, Education and UN reform at the Headquarters in Paris and on several field assignments. He also worked for the General Secretariat for Youth of the government of Catalonia, and for the European Bureau for Conscientious Objection, to defend the human right to conscientious objection to military service.



### **Deborah Seward**

Deborah Seward is Director of the United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC) in Brussels. Prior to arriving in Brussels, she served as Director of the Department of Public Information's Strategic Communications Division at UN Headquarters New York. Before joining the United Nations in 2011, Ms. Seward was an international journalist for nearly 25 years, with postings in Berlin, Bonn, Moscow, New York, Paris, Prague and Warsaw.

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The United Nations Security Council increasingly emphasises the need for a comprehensive approach to countering the spread of terrorism and violent extremism.

**It is not enough to counter violent extremism, we need to prevent it.** This calls for forms of ‘soft power’, to prevent a threat driven by distorted interpretations of culture, hatred, and ignorance. No one is born a violent extremist – they are made and fueled. Disarming the process of radicalisation must begin with human rights and the rule of law, with dialogue across all boundary lines, by empowering all young women and men as early as possible, starting on the benches of schools.

### Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is mandated to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and in international human rights laws and treaties. The mandate includes preventing human rights violations, securing respect for all human rights, promoting international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinating related activities throughout the United Nations, and strengthening and streamlining the United Nations system in the field of human rights.



### The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

UNESCO is empowering young women and men to live up to their potential as positive change actors through unique cross-sectoral work on:

- *Education as a tool to prevent violent extremism* UNESCO: assists countries to deliver education programmes that build young people’s resilience to violent extremist messaging and foster a sense of identity
- *Youth participation & Empowerment*
- *Media & Online coalitions*: UNESCO is mobilising stakeholders to take effective actions to prevent and respond to violent extremism and radicalisation on the Internet
- *Celebrating Cultural Diversity*: UNESCO is engaging youth in the protection of heritage and the promotion of cultural diversity through Educational Programmes on Heritage and Creativity and the #Unite4Heritage campaign



**RAN** is a network of frontline or grassroots practitioners from around Europe who work daily with people who have already been radicalised, or who are vulnerable to radicalisation. For more information, please see: [RAN Europe](http://RAN Europe)



S.A.V.E. Belgium

**SAVE BELGIUM** - Society Against Violent Extremism, founded by Saliha Ben Ali, is a non-profit association whose goal is the fight against all forms of violent radicalisation. It is based in Brussels, Belgium. For more information, please go to [savebelgium.org](http://savebelgium.org)



United Nations  
Regional Information Centre  
for Western Europe

UNRIC is the communication hub for the United Nations in Europe. Based in Brussels, the Centre covers 22 Western European countries and maintains a website in 13 languages. Visit [www.unric.org](http://www.unric.org) for more information.