



Celebrating Peace: A guideline for creating educational spaces on International Day of Peace

A guideline for creating educational spaces on International Day of Peace

Introduction

International Day of Peace is celebrated annually on 21 September to promote peace, non-violence, and cessation of hostilities among all nations and peoples. Established by the United Nations in 1981 and designated for a global ceasefire in 2001, it serves as a day for global celebration, education, reflection, and to encourage actions that foster a more peaceful and sustainable world. The UN updates the theme for the International Day of Peace each year through consultations with member states, assessment of current global issues, proposals from UN bodies, deliberations in the General Assembly, and an official announcement by the Secretary-General. The theme emphasizes the urgent need for collective action to foster peace and harmony across the globe. This day serves as a reminder of our shared responsibility to promote a culture of peace and understanding. [[Learn more about the International Day of Peace](#)].

1. Purpose

This guideline aims to equip National Scout Organizations (NSOs) with effective strategies and activities to create meaningful learning experiences in celebration of the International Day of Peace. By fostering a deeper understanding of peace and conflict resolution, the document seeks to inspire participants to engage actively in promoting harmony within their communities.

2. World Scouting: shaping young peacebuilders

World Scouting has long championed initiatives that empower young people to become catalysts for peace. Through programmes like Messengers of Peace under the Scouts for SDGs initiative, Scouts learn essential skills—dialogue, empathy, and community engagement—that equip them to contribute meaningfully to peacebuilding efforts.

3. Our commitment: Resolution 2024-10

The Resolution 2024-10: **Living Together in Peace** calls on all National Scout Organizations to take action in shaping a world where peace, compassion, and unity are everyday realities. Now is the time for us to come together as a global Scouting family to enhance our commitment to peace.

4. Objective of this guiding document

This document aims to support NSOs in developing or adapting plans to celebrate the International Day of Peace by creating meaningful spaces that promote peace and inclusivity.

- **Promote peacebuilding and non-violence:** Emphasise the importance of taking an active role in creating harmonious environments and practising nonviolence in our communities.
- **Mobilise youth-led peace efforts:** Inspire Scouts to take tangible steps toward building peaceful communities.
- **Active Engagement:** Encourage Scouts to embody the culture of peace through active engagement in their communities.

5. How Can NSOs Get Engaged

National Scout Organizations can create meaningful learning spaces on the International Day of Peace at the local level through the following keyways:

1. **Organize Educational Workshops:** that focus on peacebuilding skills such as conflict resolution, active listening, and empathy. These sessions can engage participants in discussions and activities that promote understanding and cooperation.
2. **Community Service Initiatives:** local service projects that address community needs and foster social cohesion, such as coordinating cultural exchange events or religious celebrations, cleaning up neighborhoods, supporting vulnerable populations, or promoting environmental sustainability. These initiatives can demonstrate Scouts' commitment to peace and community well-being.
3. **Engage in Dialogue and Reflection:** Facilitate community dialogues or reflection circles where Scouts and community members can share their thoughts and experiences related to peace. This space encourages open communication and fosters a sense of unity.
4. **Social Media Campaigns:** Launch social media initiatives to amplify key messages like "Together for Peace," "End Violence. Build Peace," and "Act for Peace!" Encourage Scouts to share their peace initiatives using the hashtag #Scouts, promoting visibility and engagement across platforms.

It's essential that the educational spaces created around this day connect with the everyday work NSOs engage in to promote peace. NSOs can be innovative in their approaches to creating these spaces, fostering cross-regional and national collaboration with other organizations. By sharing experiences and learning from one another, NSOs can enhance their impact and inspire broader community engagement in peace initiatives.

For additional inspiration, NSOs can refer to and engage in World Scouting's planned activities for 2025, including:

- **Webinar on Peaceful and Inclusive World:** Join us on **September 2nd** for an engaging webinar designed for NSOs and adult leaders. Registration is open for all!
 - Visit the [Treehouse page](#) for more information and to register.
- **Social Media Campaign:**

- Key Messages: "Together for Peace," "End violence. Build Peace," "Act for Peace!"
- Theme 1: Inspire Scouts to reflect on their role in peacebuilding and encourage them to participate.
- Theme 2: Highlight the impactful work of Scouts and encourage others to engage in similar initiatives.
- Share your peace initiatives using [#Scouts](#)

6. Key Resources

Explore the [Scouts for SDGs Hub](#) for resources that promote peace and non-violence throughout the month of peace and beyond. We encourage NSOs to create engaging spaces for young people to participate in peace-promoting activities at the community level, utilizing the following resources:

- Activities designed to promote peace and social cohesion:
 - [Dialogue puzzle](#)
 - [Peacebuilding map](#)
 - [Dialogue cafe](#)
 - [Boat building](#)
 - [Diversity bingo](#)
 - [Kindness Jar](#)
 - [Ballon perceptions](#)
- Links to the Messengers of Peace program and its resources:
 - [Building Bridges - Guide for Dialogue Ambassadors](#)
 - [Dialogue for Peace Facilitator Manual](#)
 - [Peace and Human Rights Education in Scouting](#)
 - [Intergenerational Dialogue - how to enhance learning and cooperation across generations](#)
 - [Youth and Peacebuilding: Being an advocate for Peace](#)

7. Call to Action

We invite all NSOs to create spaces where young people can engage in activities that promote peace within their communities. Together, let's harness our collective energy and commitment to make peace a reality.

Let us unite in our efforts to celebrate the International Day of Peace. Together, we can inspire a movement of compassion, understanding, and action.

Every effort counts—let's [ActForPeace! #Scouts](#)