

Centre for Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue participates in 7th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, 26-27 April 2016

2016-04-29 10:06:04

President of the Centre for Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue, Prof. Dr. Mihai Vladimirescu attended the 7th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, on 26-27 April 2016, with theme: "Living Together In Inclusive Societies: A Challenge and A Goal." The Global Forum is the highest-profile event of the UN Alliance of Civilizations, bringing together prominent personalities, current and potential partners, and others from different sectors. 3000 representatives of more than 140 countries attended the Forum.

At Forum's opening ceremony participated President of Azerbaijan, Mr Ilham Aliyev, the Turkish President, Mr Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, Mr Nasser Bin Abdulaziz Al-Nasser and a host of ministers of foreign affairs, culture and religious affairs and official personalities representing countries, international and regional organizations, private sector companies, civil society, youth organizations, technical bodies, the media, and international donors.

Delivering the inaugural speech, Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev emphasised the role of UNAOC on the issues of dialogue, understanding, tolerance and co-existence between cultures and religions. He also confirmed his country's support for each of these values that it believes in.

The Azerbaijani president underlined that security, peace, tolerance and co-existence are the principles for understanding among peoples, which require the support of everyone in this regard for the alliance and for the establishment of new foundations for peace. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stressed the important role UNAOC plays in carrying out the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and addressing the root causes of violent extremism and terrorism. Division and exclusion only play into the hands of the extremists, but what they really want to destroy is our common ground, he stressed. "Stereotyping is dangerous and destabilising. Sensationalism may sell papers, but it does not solve problems," he said.

The forum is aimed at promoting the Alliance of Civilizations initiative as a platform for materializing the "Living Together in Inclusive Societies" concept, creating new partnerships between the Alliance of Civilizations and institutions sharing its goals, and launching the UNAOC Advisory Council.

The forum is deemed very important as it is aimed at achieving the goals set by the previous UNOAC Fora held in Madrid, Istanbul, Rio de Janeiro, Doha, Vienna and Bali, namely promoting peace, boosting communities development through intercultural and intercivilizational dialogue, fostering world peace and security, and combining the accomplishments of the UNAOC and the Millennium Development Goals

