

2021 VIRTUAL RAF JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIP

SCHEDULE

Please consult the Google calendar for the latest schedule information.

All times are in ET (Eastern Standard Time/ New York time)

Friday, 17 SEPTEMBER 2021

9:00am- 10:00am (Optional)

International Day of Peace Event

Watch: UN WebTV <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1q/k1qdlphj7>

9:00am- 10:00am (Optional)

Virtual Exhibition on women peace builders and peacemakers

Website: <https://www.un.org/en/exhibits>

9:45am-10:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session of the day

10:00am-11:00am

Meet-and-Greet

Welcome from the United Nations Department of Global Communications, Outreach Division Director, Maher Nasser. Fellows will have the chance to interact and introduce themselves. Followed by a discussion on the upcoming schedule, GA high-level week and social media with the RAF Team.

Social media handles:

Twitter: [@unraf](https://twitter.com/unraf)

Facebook: [Al Farra Memorial Journalism Fellowship](https://www.facebook.com/AlFarraMemorialJournalismFellowship)

Hashtags: #MeetTheFellows, #UNRAF, #ReportWithRAF

Link to RAF website 2021 Fellows:

<https://www.un.org/en/collection/25/14753>

Monday, 20 SEPTEMBER 2021

8:00am – 5:00pm

SDG Moment

The 2nd SDG Moment to take stock of the 2030 Agenda will take place as we experience a deeply uneven response to the pandemic which risks creating a two-tier recovery, with significant implications for SDG progress.

Website: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-moment/>

Watch here: [UN WebTV](#) [<http://webtv.un.org/>]

9:15am–9:30am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

9:30am–10:30am

UN Overview

Jacky Tong, Briefing Assistant in the UN Visitor's Services Section, will give an overview of UN key topics and issues.

10:30am–11:45am

UN Tour

A UN tour guide will take you on a virtual journey through the history of the United Nations and speak about the Organization's work in addressing global challenges. At the end, you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

Tuesday, 21 SEPTEMBER 2021

9:00am-9:00pm

General Assembly High-level General Debate starts. *For list of speaking order of Heads of State, please refer to previous email communication sent to all 2021 fellows.*

Watch on UN Web TV: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

8:45am-9:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today.

9:00am-10:00am

Meeting with SG's Envoy on Youth

Jayathma Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, will discuss her work and activities in increasing youth participation in the inter-governmental space, within the UN system, and with the engagement and mobilization of young people.

Website: <https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/about/>

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check-in

Wednesday, 22 SEPTEMBER 2021

General Assembly High-level General Debate

Watch on UN Web TV: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

9:00am-7:00pm

20th Anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA)

The 20th anniversary of the Durban Declaration and High-Level Event come at a time when the global movement against racism and racial discrimination has created new momentum to place racial equality and equity at the center of the global and national agendas.

Website: [Durban Plus 20 High-level Meeting | United Nations](#)

Watch: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

10:00am- 11:00am

Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF) UNGA

The UNGA Conference is the flagship event of the JWF, creating a platform for diverse stakeholders to discuss the Global Agenda 2030, offer innovative solutions, strategies, and policy recommendations to advance further the culture of peace, human rights, and sustainable development

Website: <https://unga-conference.org/>

Register: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/7116300253534/WN_5F4Nhb6PSSG-f7fVyfOlaA

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing) *Connect through WebEx platform, please refer to previous communication sent to all 2021 fellows.*

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check-in

Thursday, 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

General Assembly High-level General Debate

Watch on UN Web TV: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

8:30am–12:00pm

UN Food Systems Summit

The UN Food Systems Summit, held during the UN General Assembly in New York on September 23, is setting the stage for global food systems transformation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Website: <https://www.un.org/food-systems-summit>

Register here: <https://www.unfoodsystems.org/registration/index.php>.

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check-in

Friday, 24 SEPTEMBER 2021

General Assembly High-level General Debate

Watch on UN Web TV: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

9:30am –6:30pm

High Level Debate on Energy

Accelerating action to achieve SDG 7 in support of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement

Website: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/energy2021>

Watch online: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check in

Monday, 27 SEPTEMBER 2021

Last day: General Assembly High-level General Debate

Watch on UN Web TV: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

9:45am–10:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

10:00am–11:30am

UN Correspondents Association (UNCA) Meeting (**postponed**)

Meet with correspondents associated with the United Nations Correspondents Association (UNCA) representing a range of publications, news agencies, and broadcasters from all regions of the world.

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:00pm–2:00pm Lunch Break

2:00pm–3:00pm

The UN Security Council Briefing with Nikolai Galkin

Nikolai Galkin is a Senior Political Affairs Officer and Team Leader in the Security Council Secretariat, which is part of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA). A Russian national, Mr. Galkin is a graduate of the Moscow State University. His nearly three-decade-long tenure at the UN has included field assignments in Iraq, East Timor and Syria.

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA): <https://dppa.un.org/en>

3:00pm–3:30pm Daily Team Check in

Tuesday, 28 SEPTEMBER 2021

8:45am–9:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

9:00am-10:00am

Discussion with Mattias Sundholm, UN Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTED)

Mattias Sundholm works as Strategic Communications Officer for the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (@UN_CTED). In this capacity, he covers a range of issues, including the countering of violent extremism and of narratives espoused by terrorists and violent extremists, online and in the physical world.

Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee: <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/>

10:30am-11:30am

Discussion on Refugees with Firas Kayal

Firas Kayal, Senior Policy Advisor from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, (UNHCR) New York Office, will discuss the global refugee crisis and the work of UNHCR.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: <https://www.unhcr.org/>

9:30am–11:00am (Optional)

General Assembly's High-level meeting on the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/32 and subsequent resolutions, the purpose of the International Day is to further the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons through enhancing public awareness and education about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination. In so doing, it is hoped that these activities will help to mobilize new international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Website: [International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons | United Nations](https://www.un.org/en/observances/total-elimination-nuclear-weapons/)

Watch: <https://media.un.org/en/webtv>

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:00pm-2:00pm Lunch Break

2:00pm-3:00pm

Discussion with Douglas Webb from UNDP on the current global health crises

Douglas Webb, Manager, Health and Innovative Financing at the UN Development Programme (UNDP) will discuss the current global health crisis – COVID, vaccine inequity, pandemic financing, and the role of the UN and multilateral system.

UNDP: www.undp.org

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check-in

Wednesday, 29 SEPTEMBER 2021

8:45am–9:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

9:00am-10:00am

Meeting on International Law with Marcus Pallek

Marcus works in the UN's Office of Legal Affairs as a Senior Legal Officer and Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs.

UN Office of Legal Affairs: <https://legal.un.org/ola/>

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:00pm-2:00pm

Lunch Break

1:30pm-3:00pm

UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (ODA) meeting

Suzanne Oosterwijk, Political Affairs Officer, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and colleagues will discuss the UN's disarmament strategy to include topics: Nuclear Weapons: The NPT Review Conference and the First Meeting of States to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, Cyber security – what is at stake and what has been happening at the United Nations, Outer Space and Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems – what is at stake, and what is the role of multilateralism, #Youth4Disarmament initiative – how to educate, empower and engage youth around the globe on disarmament

UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (ODA): <https://www.un.org/disarmament/>

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check-in

Thursday, 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

8:45am–9:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

9:00–10:00am

Meeting with UNEP on Climate Change

Niklas Hagelberg, Coordinator of UN Environment's subprogramme on Climate Change will explore the state of the climate, what's happening now, the progress made and what needs to be done to tackle the climate emergencies.

UNEP, Climate Action: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-action>

11:00am–12:00pm

Meeting with the UN Democracy Fund

Katie Travers, Programme and External Relations Officer at the UN Democracy Fund will discuss the importance of SDG 17 and partnerships.

UN Democracy Fund: <https://www.un.org/democracyfund/>

12:00pm–1:00pm Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meeting with the UN Office on Human Rights

Craig Mokhiber is Director of the New York Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights he will discuss the UN's commitment to the promotion and protection of the full range of human rights and freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

UN Human Rights Office: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Pages/Home.aspx>

1:00pm-2:00pm Lunch Break

3:00pm-4:00pm Daily Team Check in

Friday, 1 October 2021

8:45am–9:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

9:00am–10:15am

Meeting with the UN Strategic Communications Division Director Nanette Braun, who will discuss the latest UN communications campaigns.

Department of Global Communications, Strategic Communications Division:
<https://www.un.org/en/departments-global-communications/strategic-communications>

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:00pm-2:00pm Lunch Break

2:00pm-3:00pm

Meeting with Robb Skinner, Deputy Director, Outreach Division, Department of Global Communications

Robb will discuss the UN's Verified Campaign. Verified was launched by the UN in response to the COVID crisis to deliver critical information and fact-based advice.

Verified: <https://shareverified.com/>

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check-in

Monday, 4 October 2021

9:45am–10:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

10:00am–11:00am

Effective Research with the UN Digital Library with Ariel Lebowitz, Librarian, Department of Global Communications.

Ariel Lebowitz, Librarian, Department of Global Communications, will give an overview of the Library services and a demonstration of the UN Digital Library to assist in the journalists' research. The Dag Hammarskjöld Library provides research and information to support the work

of UN Member States. The Library also aids in the dissemination of UN information to a wider public audience through online services and a global depository library network.

UN Library: <https://www.un.org/en/library>

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:00pm-2:00pm Lunch Break

2:00pm-3:00pm

Using the UN Yearbook Online

Lawri Moore and Vikram Sura from the UN Yearbook, Department of Global Communications, will showcase the utility of the Yearbook website, information that can be gleaned from the Yearbook collection, and live demonstrations of search and browse features.

UN Yearbook: <https://unyearbook.un.org>

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check in

Tuesday, 5 October 2021

9:45am–10:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

10:15am–11:15am

Meeting with USG Fleming

Melissa Fleming, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications, will discuss the communications priorities and campaigns at the UN.

UN Global Communications: <https://www.un.org/en/department-global-communications>

11:30am–12:30pm

Meeting with Human Rights Council

Rolando Gómez, Media Officer, Human Rights Council, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights will speak on the work of the Council and human rights globally.

12:00pm–1:00pm

Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:30pm-2:20pm

Meeting with the UN Deputy Secretary-General

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group will brief the fellows.

3:30pm-4:00pm Daily Team Check in

****Separate Meetings for languages with NMD producers:**

12:30- 1 pm: UN News Russian: Nargiz Shekinskaya

1pm-1:30: UN News English: Matthew Wells

2:30 pm- 3 pm: UN News Spanish: Antonio Lafuente

3 pm- 3:30 pm: UN News Arabic: May Yaacoub

3:30 pm – 4pm: UN News French: Cristina Silveiro

Wednesday, 6 October 2021

10:45am–11am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

11:00am–12:00pm

Meeting with NYC Mayor's Office

Meeting with Penny Abeywardena who is New York City's Commissioner for International Affairs.

12:00pm–1:00pm Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:00pm-2:00pm Lunch Break

2:00pm-3:00pm

The UN's Social Media Strategy

Gisel Ducatzenzeiler, Associate Social Media Officer, will discuss her work on promoting the UN's activities and campaign through social outlets.

3:00pm-4:00pm Checking in with UNCA Correspondents and DAG Fellows

Thursday, 7 October 2021

8:45am-9:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

9:00am-11:00am

Digital Security Training: Harlo Holmes and Olivia Martin, Freedom of the Press Foundation (part 1)

Freedom of the Press Foundation will provide a hands-on workshop on best practices for journalists to safely communicate online. This is the first part of a two-part training.

11:00–12:00pm

Connecting with the UN at Home

Janos Tisovszky, Director of United Nations Information Service, will brief on how to stay connected to the UN in your home countries. Janos liaises with UN Information Centres around the world.

UN Information Centre (UNIC): <https://unic.un.org/>

12:00pm–1:00pm Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

1:00pm-2:00pm

Meeting with UN News

Briefing on the UN News and Media Division's resources for journalists with Ms. Mita Hosali, Deputy Director of the News and Content Branch.

2:00pm-3:00pm

Meeting with UN Women

Laura Turquet, UN Women Policy Advisor and Deputy Chief of Research and Data will focus on the recently released UN Women's Feminist Plan for Sustainability and Social Justice, the only global roadmap with concrete solutions to address the major gendered crises of our time that have been brought to the fore by COVID-19: on livelihoods, care, and the environment.

3:00pm-3:30pm Daily Team Check in

Friday, 8 October 2021

8:45–9:00am

Please log in 15 minutes prior to our first session today

9:00am-11:00am

Digital Security Training: Harlo Holmes and Olivia Martin, Freedom of the Press Foundation (part 2)

Freedom of the Press Foundation will provide a hands-on workshop on best practices for journalists to safely communicate online. This is the second part of a two-part training.

12:00pm–2:00pm

RAF Forum

RAF Fellows will present their work over the past three weeks.

12:00pm–1:00pm Daily Press Briefing by the Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. (Noon Briefing)

Friday, 15 October 2021

10:00am-10:15am

Meeting with the Secretary-General

Secretary-General António Guterres will speak to the fellows on the UN's key messages and the role of young people and journalists.

Secretary-General: <https://www.un.org/sg/en>

Monday, 22 November 2021

8:30am-11:00am

Meeting with the President of the General Assembly

H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the General Assembly will share his priorities and vision for the 76th session of the UN General Assembly.

President of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly: <https://www.un.org/pga/76/>