

October Edition

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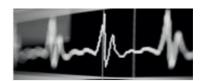
Economic

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The Outlook

Economic (jump to)

Trade in services gets a closer look: experts convene to discuss financial services, trade facilitation, and specific commitments. Read more

International trademark registration takes center stage: experts discuss key issues and opportunities in international registration of marks. Read more

Streamlining customs and transport: experts convene to discuss harmonization, facilitation, and innovation. Read more

Protecting GIs: industry leaders gather to discuss key issues in geographical indications. Read more

Shaping global patent law: experts discuss international patent systems and the role of emerging technologies, especially AI, in it. Read more

Global commodity experts convene to drive structural transformation through domestic value addition in developing countries. Read more

Intellectual property legal minds gather to discuss updates to how industrial designs are handled and registered around the globe. Read more

Global maritime experts convene to drive resilience, low-carbon transition, and sustainability in transport amid rising geopolitical, economic, and climate disruptions. Read more

Global trade and development experts meet to shape preparations for the upcoming political conference and review program performance. Read more

Standards and Regulatory (jump to)

Experts meet to act on vehicle automation and other vehicle safety concerns. Read more

There is only one universal Customs transit system in existence. Their executive board meets to discuss key issues. Read more

From EVs to forestry tractors, experts investigate pressing issues related to pollution and energy. Read more

Experts consider guidance from the decision-makers on new varieties of plants, and decide on next steps. Read more

To address the threat of glare and other issues in road traffic safety, experts meet to discuss next steps. <u>Read more</u>

Putting food on your plate. Experts work with other groups to ensure the safety of international food transportation. Read more

Communications and Digital (jump to)

Industry experts meet to discuss the future of mobile telecommunications, focusing on technical requirements and performance criteria for the next generation of systems. Read more

Cybersecurity professionals tackle pressing challenges in the media industry, exploring cutting-edge strategies and solutions for emerging threats. Read more

Key stakeholders in satellite services address the growing demand for IP-based applications and performance improvements in satellite communications. Read more

Experts in satellite technology focus on optimizing orbit and spectrum usage, with discussions on interference and efficiency. Read more

Health (jump to)

Spark a MedTech revolution as bold innovations reshape health care in the world's most unexpected places. <u>Read more</u>

Driving pharmaceutical regulation, experts ensure that medicines meet global standards of quality, safety, and efficacy, shaping the future of health care worldwide. Read more

The world of synthetic substances heats up as global health pros tackle the latest risks and trends, with a public session for bold new insights. Read more

Pharmaceutical substances get their unique International Nonproprietary Names, making sure the world speaks the same language in medicine. Read more

Environment and Sustainability (jump to)

Leaders and experts strategize on building a world resilient to the devastating effects of drought. Read more

Global trade discussions focus on integrating environmental sustainability into international policies. Read more

International experts tackle mercury pollution in land and water through discussing ways to implement relevant international legal instrument. Read more

Global leaders in conservation and business collaborate to drive innovative nature-based solutions. Read more

Key stakeholders prepare for the Global Plastics Treaty negotiations with proposals on biodiversity and community impacts. Read more

Environmental experts help nations improve data collection and analysis to address health and sustainability challenges. Read more

Social (jump to)

Mayors meet with heads of UN international organizations to discuss topics of forced displacement, sustainable urbanization, trade and urban development, as well as health and pandemic preparedness. Read more

Housing and urban development experts address challenges and priorities regarding housing affordability. <u>Read more</u>

International Labor experts convene in Geneva to examine complaints of violations of freedom of association captured in a recently published report. Read more

Following a landmark international treaty, experts continue the dialogue on indigenous peoples' traditional cultural expressions through fashion. Read more

International labor experts gather for an annual series of meetings to set the organization's policy agenda for the coming year. <u>Read more</u>

Science and Technology (jump to)

The globe's preeminent authorities on the future of weather and climate research come together to solve the international issues facing the advancement of meteorological research at a time when global climatology needs it the most. Read more

The world's leading democratic legislators join to solve the pressing issues found at the cross section of technological innovation and law. This assembly tackles the impacts of artificial intelligence on democracy and human rights and find solutions for ensuring that technological advances work for us, not against us. Read more

International government, private sector, and civil society leaders converge to address the promises and concerns of tomorrow's technology. The esteemed group broaches the economic principles necessitated by increasing digitalization and further attempts to solve the question of sustainable technological development. Read more

Global space and weather experts gather to discuss the latest advances in space weather systems and projection technology. Together they chart the near future of the natural phenomena that influence humanity both in orbit and on Earth. Read more

Youth and Sports (jump to)

Sports media executives gather in Geneva to explore the challenges and opportunities within the fast-changing industry of sports broadcasting. Read more

Youth are welcomed to gather in Geneva for the first in-person global model UN Health Conference. Read more

Humanitarian and Human Rights (jump to)

Countries conclude a session to address global human rights challenges, including conflict, climate change, and racial discrimination. Read more

Peacebuilders convene to explore resilience, climate-conflict intersections, and technology's role in fostering peace during Geneva Peace Week 2024.

Read more

The social dimension of human rights is explored with a lens of financing for development and its role in advancing human rights, equity, and social justice. Read more

Questions? As you read the below, please do not hesitate to <u>contact one of</u> <u>the authors</u> for more information.

Economic

The <u>World Trade Organization</u> (WTO) hosts a series of meetings on trade in services, including the <u>Committee on Trade in Financial Services</u> on October 1, the <u>Council for Trade in Services</u> (CTS) on October 2, and the <u>Committee on Specific Commitments</u> on October 1. The Committee on Trade in Financial Services oversees the application of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) regarding financial services, formulating proposals, considering amendments, and providing technical assistance. The CTS facilitates GATS implementation, addressing trade in services issues, while the Committee on Specific Commitments ensures technical accuracy and coherence of WTO members' services commitments.

The <u>World Intellectual Property Organization</u> (WIPO) hosts the Working Group on the Legal Development of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks from October 7-11. This <u>meeting</u> brings together representatives to discuss key issues and opportunities in international registration of marks, covering topics such as election and governance, fee structure, proposals from delegations, language expansion, and Madrid System languages. The agenda includes election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs, adoption of the agenda, recalculation of individual fees, and discussions on dependency, new languages, and translation practices. The meeting aims to facilitate international cooperation and development in intellectual property.

The <u>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</u> (UNECE) Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport holds its 167th <u>session</u> from October 9 to 11. This meeting brings together representatives to discuss key issues and opportunities in customs and transport, covering topics such as the adoption of the agenda, activities of UNECE bodies and other United Nations organizations, the TIR Convention, International Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, Convention on Facilitation of Border Crossing Procedures for Passengers by Rail, and Customs Conventions on Temporary Importation of Private and Commercial Road Vehicles. The agenda also includes the introduction of new technologies in rail, road, inland waterway, logistics, and intermodal transport until 2030, activities of other organizations and countries, and administrative matters.

Organization for an International Geographical Indications Network (OriGIn) holds its 2024 Expert Meeting on October 10-11. The meeting will discuss key issues related to geographical indications (GIs), including "evocation" beyond the EU, protection of GIs when used as ingredients, global challenges in trademark applications conflicting with GIs, best practices in establishing consumer surveys, protecting GIs online, collective GI organizations and competition law, challenges related to GI registrations, and the Lisbon System, specifically case law and implementation issues related to the Geneva Act.

The <u>World Intellectual Property Organization</u> (WIPO) Standing Committee on the Law of Patents holds its 36th <u>session</u> from October 14 to 18. The meeting will discuss key issues related to patent law, including the international patent system, exceptions and limitations to patent rights, quality of patents, patents and health, confidentiality of communications between clients and patent advisors, and transfer of technology. The agenda includes the election of a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, admission of an observer, and discussions on patentability of artificial intelligence-related inventions, expedited examination programs, and standard-essential patents.

The UNCTAD Multi-year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development <u>meets</u> October 14-16 to focus on global commodity markets, particularly in developing countries. It reviews strategies to boost domestic value in commodity production, tackling challenges like infrastructure, financing, and governance. Key discussions cover trends in food, agricultural, mineral, and energy sectors, exploring how value addition drives economic growth. Despite the importance of moving from raw material exports to higher-value manufacturing, issues like price volatility and political differences slow progress. Experts share strategies to overcome these challenges and strengthen economic resilience.

International legal experts convene from October 21 to 23 for the 13th session of the Working Group on the Legal Development of the <u>Hague System</u>. The meeting addresses key issues impacting the international registration of industrial designs, including the submission of priority documents, the potential expansion of multi-class applications, and improving the efficiency of handling registrations across multiple jurisdictions. As the Hague System nears its 100th anniversary, experts focus on aligning the system with evolving user needs and ensuring it accommodates diverse design laws and practices while maintaining centralized management for applicants.

Trade Facilitation <u>is held</u> from October 23-25. The meeting focuses on "Maritime Transport in Times of Polycrisis," addressing the sector's response to disruptions caused by geopolitical tensions, climate change, and economic uncertainty. Experts explore strategies for enhancing sustainability, digitalization, and resilience in global maritime transport, with a particular focus on the needs of developing countries, small island states, and landlocked nations. The discussions also consider outcomes from the <u>Global Supply Chain Forum</u>, held in May 2024.

The <u>UNCTAD</u> Trade and Development Board <u>holds</u> its seventy-sixth executive session from October 31 to November 1, focusing on the implementation of the <u>Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries</u> (LDCs). This session reviews UNCTAD's efforts between the second quarter of 2023 and 2024 to address challenges faced by LDCs, including climate impacts, economic slowdowns, and rising food and energy costs. Discussions cover UNCTAD's activities across research, policy analysis, and technical cooperation, with a focus on advancing sustainable development and supporting the LDCs in their path toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Standards and Regulatory

The 128th session of the Working Party on General Safety Provisions is <u>held</u> from October 7-11. The meeting <u>focuses</u> on amendments to regulations on speedometers and odometers, buses and coaches, gas-fueled vehicles, and more. The Working Party examines proposals to amend regulations regarding Liquefied Petroleum Gas vehicles and Compressed Natural Gas and Liquified Natural Gas Vehicles. Attendees also share views on vehicle automation, including autonomous shuttles. Finally, the Working Party agrees to resume consideration of the need for a second step in the use of a new technology (radiation warmer) as a heating system to maximize the energy efficiency of electric vehicles.

The 101st session of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) is <u>held</u> on October 7. TIRExB, a subsidiary body of the TIR Administrative Committee, is composed of 9 members, each from different Contracting Party to the TIR Convention. The TIRExB supervises and provides support in the application of the TIR procedure at the national and international levels.

The 91st session of the Working Party on Pollution and Energy, a group within the Inland Transport Committee, is <u>held</u> from October 14-16. Items on the <u>agenda</u> for the session include regulations for heavy-duty vehicles, motorcycles, and electric vehicles (EVs). Specifically, the Party investigates EV in-vehicle battery durability. The session also considers the Particle Measurement Programme (PMP) and UN Global Technical Resolution No. 24 on light-duty brake emissions. Finally, the Working group addresses agricultural and forestry tractors, including UN Regulation No. 96 (Diesel emissions for agricultural tractors) and UN Global Technical Regulation No. 11 (Non-road mobile machinery engines).

The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (<u>UPOV</u>) holds three sessions in October. First, from October 21-22, the Technical Committee <u>holds</u> its 60th session to consider the development of guidance and documents proposed by the Council. This includes guidance on DUS testing and on certain physiological characteristics. Second,

on October 23, the Administrative and Legal Committee <u>holds</u> its 81st session to discuss guidance proposed by the Council including measures to enhance cooperation in examination. Finally, the Council <u>meets</u> for its 58th session on October 25. It <u>considers</u> various proposals from expert bodies and develops guidance regarding exchangeable software.

The 91st session of the Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signaling, a group within the Inland Transport Committee, is <u>held</u> from October 22-25. Included in the <u>agenda</u> are discussions of device regulations and installation regulations. The Working Party also attempts to simplify lighting and light-signaling regulations. In terms of electromagnetic compatibility, GRE is informed about the activities of the Informal Working Group on Electromagnetic Compatibility and considers amendments. Amendments are considered whose adoption was postponed in order to combine them with additional amendments. Finally, in response to the expert of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) presentation of the results of their 2024 European consumer study on glare in road traffic, GRE decides whether to create a task force or an informal working group to address this issue.

The Working Group on the Transportation of Perishable Foodstuffs <u>holds</u> its 81st session from October 29 to November 1. The Group reviews the activities of other bodies of interests such as the Inland Transportation Committee and the Working Party on Agriculture Quality Standards as well as international organizations such as the International Institute of Refrigeration, Transfrigoroute International, and other standardization organizations. Also included in the <u>agenda</u> is a review of the status and implementation of the Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP). Proposals of amendments to ATP are considered.

Communications and Digital

The ITU's Working Party 5D (<u>WP5D</u>), which focuses on international mobile telecommunications (IMT) systems, convenes to discuss technical performance requirements for IMT-2030, with contributions from Apple Inc. and other stakeholders. These meetings, held on October 3-11, address sustainable data rates, sensing performance and key evaluation criteria. Interested parties can register <u>here</u>.

The EBU's <u>Media Cybersecurity Seminar</u> 2024 takes place on October 8-9, bringing together leading cybersecurity experts to address critical challenges in the media industry. Discussions will cover topics such as AI in cybersecurity, RF jamming attacks, and cybersecurity strategies for major global events. Attendees will engage in breakout sessions, demos, and discussions on emerging issues, including national regulations and AI-based solutions. Networking opportunities, including a social event aboard Le Bateau Genève, are also available. Interested parties can register <u>here</u>.

The ITU's Working Party 4B (<u>WP 4B</u>), focusing on systems, air interfaces, and performance objectives for fixed, broadcasting, and mobile satellite services, holds a series of meetings from October 16-22. This group addresses the growing demand for satellite systems to carry

Internet Protocol (IP) traffic, and continues its work on IP-based applications and satellite news gathering (SNG). Discussions will include studies on performance and availability, with close collaboration from the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector. Interested parties can register here.

The ITU's Working Party 4A (<u>WP 4A</u>), which focuses on efficient orbit and spectrum utilization for fixed and broadcasting satellite services, holds its next meeting from October 21-31. The group addresses key issues such as interference, coordination, and orbit/spectrum efficiency, with significant implications for preparatory work ahead of World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRC). Interested parties can register <u>here</u>.

Health

The <u>World Intellectual Property Organization</u> (WIPO) hosts the <u>Global Challenges Seminar</u> on driving Medical Technology (MedTech) innovation ecosystems in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) on October 1. The seminar addresses key topics like MedTech innovation, regulatory frameworks, and financing opportunities. Presentations highlight case studies on MedTech development in LDCs, followed by a roundtable discussion focusing on challenges and enablers of MedTech access. The event concludes with discussions on strategies for strengthening MedTech ecosystems and fostering innovation in LDCs.

From October 7-11, the <u>fifty-eighth meeting</u> of the <u>WHO Expert Committee on Specifications</u> <u>for Pharmaceutical Preparations</u> takes place. The committee advises the Director-General on medicine quality assurance, oversees the maintenance of The International Pharmacopoeia, and provides regulatory guidance to WHO programs and Member States. It ensures that medicines meet global standards for quality, safety, and efficacy, with a focus on multisource medicines. The Expert Committee is the highest official advisory body to WHO, established by the World Health Assembly or an Executive Board decision.

From October 14-18, the <u>forty-seventh</u> WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (ECDD) meets to review the public health risks of various substances, including synthetic cannabinoids, novel synthetic opioids, dissociative substances, and others. The committee discusses recommendations on the scope of international control, updates from international agencies, and critical reviews. A public information meeting takes place on October 14, offering an opportunity for external participants to present comments and information.

The <u>79th Consultation</u> on <u>International Nonproprietary Names</u> (INN) for Pharmaceutical Substances takes place from October 22-25. On October 22, a session with INN stakeholders precedes the main consultation. The INN system facilitates the global identification of pharmaceutical substances by assigning unique, nonproprietary names that are public property. WHO, mandated to set international standards, collaborates with INN experts and national committees to select a single name for each active substance.

Environment and Sustainability

The <u>Drought Resilience +10 Conference</u> brings together leaders, experts, and practitioners from September 30 to October 2 in Geneva. They review progress in drought management and explore strategies for building resilience against drought. The conference focuses on scaling up drought action, enhancing risk governance, monitoring and forecasting drought impacts, and integrating climate justice and social inclusion into drought resilience efforts. It follows up on the first High-level meeting on National Drought Policies in 2013 and aims to scale up and accelerate drought action on the ground. There will be a variety of sessions led by technical experts and international organization on a wide range of topics including risk management, resilience and monitoring and forecasting.

On October 7 and 11 the World Trade Organization (WTO) holds, withing its <u>Trade and Environment week</u>, informal discussions on integrating environmental sustainability into international trade policies. Sustainable development and protection and preservation of the environment are fundamental goals of the WTO. They are enshrined in the Marrakesh Agreement, which established the WTO, and complement the WTO's objective to reduce trade barriers and eliminate discriminatory treatment in international trade relations. The meeting focuses on balancing trade and environmental protection, exploring how trade can contribute to global sustainability goals, and addressing the environmental impacts of global commerce.

The Minamata Convention addresses mercury releases to land and water through Article 9. In a virtual session on October 7, the <u>session</u> outlines guidance on mercury release inventories and best practices, adopted at COP-4 and COP-5. Organized with the Global Mercury Partnership, experts present technical information on mercury emissions from coal combustion and non-ferrous metal production, showcasing efforts to minimize mercury pollution. The convention aims to protect human health and the environment, emphasizing international collaboration to reduce mercury-related risks.

From October 8-10, the <u>IUCN Leaders Forum</u> brings together changemakers in conservation and business to discuss innovative nature-based solutions. The forum emphasizes collaboration among government, civil society, the private sector, and young leaders to prioritize nature in global decision-making. Participants engage with experts, build connections, and develop ideas to promote a nature-positive future, addressing climate and biodiversity challenges through collective action.

The <u>Road to Busan webinar</u> on October 16, focuses on strengthening commitments to biodiversity and communities. This event is co-organized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (IUCN WCEL), Fauna & Flora, the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), and the Geneva Environment Network as part of the Geneva Beat Plastic Pollution Dialogues and the Road to Busan event series leading up to the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment (INC-5), which takes place from 25 November to 1 December 2024 in Busan, Republic of Korea. It discusses concrete textual proposals with biodiversity-positive

language in the current Compilation Document, including a standalone article based on a paper the organizers are about to launch.

The Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators <u>holds</u> its 21st session on October 17-18. The session covers ongoing developments on the 2023 edition of Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators, and the role of data in managing environmental health issues. The Task Force, established by UNECE in 2009, supports in improving environmental data collection and sharing, applying indicators to assess national policies, and enhancing environmental monitoring practices.

Social

The UN Forum of Mayors holds a <u>summit</u> to directly interact with leaders of international organizations titled, "The Cities' Summit of the Future." Participants will share challenges and lessons learned from dealing with topics of forced displacement, sustainable urbanization, trade and urban development, as well as health and pandemic preparedness. The meeting will also explore how international organizations can better support cities directly. The meeting embodies the UN's whole-of-government approach to multilateralism that leverages the complementary capabilities across various levels of government to address global challenges on a local scale.

The UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)'s Committee on Urban Development and Housing and Land Management <u>meets</u> from October 2-4 to address challenges and priorities regarding housing affordability in the UNECE region. The session will also promote inclusive, circular, smart and sustainable cities, as well as transparent and efficient land management.

The International Labor Organization (<u>ILO</u>)'s Committee on Freedom of Association (<u>CFA</u>) convenes from October 24-26. The Committee examines cases of complaint and violations of the labor standards and principles agreed to under conventions Nos. 87 and 98 on freedom of association and collective bargaining. The committee issues a report on said violations with recommendations for member countries reported to be in non-compliance with the treaty.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) <u>convenes</u> for the second time on October 25 to continue the dialogue on indigenous peoples' traditional cultural expressions through fashion. The group seeks to facilitate collaborations between Indigenous Peoples and fashion companies to promote innovation and creativity for a better and more sustainable future.

The International Labor Organization (ILO)'s Governing Body <u>convenes</u> from October 28 to November 8 for its annual conference. The Governing Body is the executive body of the ILO and takes decisions on the ILO policy agenda. During the conference, members discuss proposals across a variety of programs and segments, aimed at improving internal efficiency

and effectiveness, as well as exploring new areas of study. Due to geopolitical tensions and the Russian war of aggression, these issues also come to a heated discussion.

Science and Technology

The preeminent body responsible for promoting international cooperation on climate, geophysics and atmospheric science, the UN World Meteorological Organization (WMO), holds two sessions dedicated to international progress in the crucial disciplines of geophysical and climatological research. The sessions, held between October 7-11, both chart out the pressing issues facing international meteorology today, such as the growing need to research and combat a warming climate, and decide the specific international research strategies necessary to achieve global climatological unity and success.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) hosts its 149th Assembly from October 13-17, with a distinct focus on harnessing science and technology for the propagation of peace and sustainable development. All the IPU's statutory bodies, which are composed of national parliamentary leaders from around the world, discuss how technologies like artificial intelligence can be utilized to better democracies and human rights on the international scale. The group also drafts a Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology, a crucial document that will be used to guide the safe development of our world's most important technologies.

The United Nations Trade and Development (<u>UNCTAD</u>) Commission on Science and Technology for Development (<u>CSTD</u>) holds its <u>annual inter-sessional panel meeting</u>, October 21-22 to address the issues facing sustainable technological development. The meeting consists of representatives from national governments, civil society, international organizations and the private sector, all of whom tackle the economic priorities of accelerating digitalization and project the technology needs of a sustainable future. Their findings will be reported to and considered at the full CSTD in 2025.

The preeminent body responsible for promoting international cooperation on climate, geophysics and atmospheric science, the UN World Meteorological Organization (WMO), holds two meetings of its leading bodies from October 29 to November 1. The <u>first meeting</u> consists of in-depth conversations on current international space system capabilities, strategic initiatives, and future technological outlook, all in the name of ensuring the global community is prepared to tackle the growing challenges of a changing climate. The <u>second meeting</u> conducts a deep dive into the status and future of space weather monitoring, a discipline critical for a domain that is being rapidly populated with satellites by nations across the globe.

Youth and Sports

The European Broadcasting Union (EBU) hosts its bi-annual <u>Sports Assembly</u> from October 2-3. The assembly serves as a platform for sports executives to exchange ideas, share experiences, and foster collaborations that will shape the future of sports broadcasting. The

meeting will include sharing success stories on sport programming and how to reach new audiences.

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) welcome young leaders to the WHO headquarters for a <u>model UN health conference</u> from October 29 to November 1. Highschool and University students will interact with WHO experts as well as participate in committee simulations on topics ranging from climate change and pollution to antimicrobial resistance.

Humanitarian & Human Rights

The 57th <u>session</u> of the Human Rights Council takes place from September 9 to October 11 and addresses a wide array of pressing global human rights issues. Key topics include the promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, the ongoing human rights situations in conflict zones such as Myanmar, Afghanistan, and Ukraine, and the impact of environmental factors like climate change and hazardous waste management on human rights. Additionally, the Council reviews mechanisms for addressing racial discrimination, xenophobia, and the protection of the rights of vulnerable populations such as children, Indigenous peoples, and migrants. Expectedly, the Council addresses also current conflicts and their impact on human rights.

The <u>Geneva Peace Week 2024</u> offers a series of events addressing global peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and human rights from October 14-18. Featuring panels, workshops, and exhibitions, the program explores topics like resilience in peacebuilding, the intersection of climate change and conflict, gender equality, youth empowerment, and the role of technology in fostering peace. The conference attracts a diverse pool of participants from international organizations, governments, and civil society.

The 2024 <u>Social Forum</u> of the Human Rights Council focuses on financing for development and how it can support human rights. Taking place from October 31 to November 1, the forum gathers member states, civil society, and international organizations, to discuss innovative solutions for social justice and global equity. Key themes include financial inclusion, poverty reduction, and addressing the inequalities exacerbated by globalization.

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