



FACT SHEET: UNITED NATIONS DAY

United Nations Day is the birthday of the Organization celebrated on 24 October.

Observing United Nations Day provides an opportunity to reaffirm the commitment to the ideals of the United Nations. In every corner of the world, the United Nations is a living testament of hope. It lives in the hearts and minds of every citizen to end violence and promote tolerance, advance development and ensure equality, protect human rights and alleviate poverty.

The United Nations, it's your world!

Learn more about how is the UN Day observed at United Nations Headquarters:
www.un.org/en/events/unday/2009/index.shtml

What can you do to celebrate UN Day?

The observance of UN Day serves as a reminder that the world is our common home, and, through dialogue and cooperation among all, our problems could be solved. There are many ways you can celebrate the day. Here are a few suggestions:

In your school:

- Raise the UN flag at a school assembly.
- Hold a school or classroom meeting. Discuss how young people can help the UN.
- If you have students from various countries in your school, ask them to wear national costumes, sing national songs or simply share stories from their native countries.
- Organize an essay contest on the role of the UN.
- Invite a guest speaker, perhaps a diplomat with a UN background.
- Design a wall display.
- Watch a video about the work of the UN.
- Write letters from your class to local newspapers and to your lawmakers urging them to support the United Nations.

In your community:

- Arrange a seminar, involving civic leaders and media representatives.
- Ask your city or state authority to issue a UN Proclamation or a UN stamp.
- Clean up your neighbourhood.
- Volunteer time to a local charitable organization.
- Make a new friend. Plant a tree.

DID YOU KNOW?

On 24 October 1945, the United Nations was formally established after a majority of its founding members ratified the Charter setting up the world body.

On 31 October 1947, the United Nations General Assembly declared (resolution A/RES/168 (II)) 24 October the anniversary of the coming into force of the Charter of the United Nations and from then on officially called the United Nations Day. On 6 December 1971, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/2782 (XXVI) recommending that the day be observed as a public holiday by Member States.

Learn more about UN Observances: www.un.org/observances/days.shtml

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