

United Against Inhumanity (UAI)

United Against Inhumanity (UAI) is an emerging international movement of individuals and groups outraged by the atrocities that civilians are subject to in today's wars and as they seek safety and asylum.

UAI's overall goal is to change the behaviour and policies of governments and other warring parties that perpetrate or condone illegal and inhumane attacks on civilians in conflict and during forced displacement. Through its campaigning, UAI aims to reinforce respect for human life and dignity.

UAI has been founded by a group of experienced humanitarians from fourteen countries and is today registered as an association in France.

UAI issued its Call to Action (link to www.against-inhumanity.org) in October 2018 and works in three ways:

- By recording, analysing, synthesising and publishing relevant information on the fate of civilians caught up in today's armed conflicts and forced to flee from them, UAI increases public knowledge of these atrocities. An Independent Humanitarian Watch (IHW) is the centre-piece of this effort.
- By promoting civil society action, through the establishment of UAI groups in different countries, UAI uses the data collected to advocate for positive changes in the behaviour of warring parties.
- UAI works in close partnership with other civil society groups and organisations and helps create an international civil society network to press for real change.

Starting point

UAI's starting point is the collective sense of indignation arising from the inability of the UN Security Council and the broader international community to put an end to the inhumanity experienced from Afghanistan to Yemen, and from the Central African Republic to Syria. War-affected communities and those obliged to flee for safety are paying a terrible human cost. We are shocked by the routine violation of the norms and standards adopted after World War II to make the world a safer place for everyone caught up in armed conflict or in need of refuge.

We refuse to accept in silence the suffering inflicted on war-affected individuals and communities, and we reject the deterrence measures that criminalise the asylum process and block unprecedented numbers of people in need of refuge from reaching the safety to which they are entitled.

UAI's added value

UAI starts from a sense of outrage and refusal to accept atrocities in silence, proceeds to a rigorous public analysis of atrocities in war and asylum, and calls on citizens to promote a sense of collective responsibility and to mobilise as individuals and in groups to demand changes in the behaviour of warring parties, governments and international organisations.

UAI is a collegially managed and de-centrally organised network of groups. It can give space, support and a voice to those whose views have all too often been ignored or even suppressed.

Organisation

UAI was registered as an Association in France in October 2018. It is developing organically as a broad international citizen and civil society movement in which NGOs and local groups conduct a range of activities consistent with the UAI Call to Action.

The individuals and groups that champion UAI will be supported by a small Secretariat led by a Coordinator reporting to an International Executive Committee (IEC), acting as UAI's Board. An Advisory Council will ensure representation of UAI national, regional and thematic groups and offer substantive advice to the IEC.

UAI Programme of Work – 2019-20

1. Recording, Analysis, Synthesis and Publication of Data

UAI is prioritising the development of an Independent Humanitarian Watch as a critical foundation for its advocacy campaigns. The IHW will record, independently analyse, synthesise and publish evidence-based, comparable data, using rigorous methodology developed in association with leading universities.

2. Promoting collective action in civil society

An advocacy strategy is being developed to create the capacity to share outrage and indignation with a wide range of communities and groups. The core message of this work is that the voices of a multitude of communities and committed individuals can prove a strong force against the inhumanity of contemporary warfare.

3. Support for the emergence of affiliated groups, especially in non-OECD countries

UAI is promoting the emergence of "affiliated groups", made up of individuals willing to come together to promote UAI's objectives, focusing either on a specific theme or on spreading UAI's message in a particular geographic context.

4. Networking and Partnerships: Partnering with other civil-society organisations

UAI seeks partnerships with a wide range of civil society organisations, including academic and policy groups, to work together on advocacy for changes in the policies and practices of governments and warring parties.

Full details of UAI's Programme are available at <u>www.against-inhumanity.org</u>.

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