



colloquial,” he stressed.



"Multilingualism does much more than merely allow us to communicate with each other," said Peter Launsky-Tieffenthal, Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information and Coordinator for Multilingualism at the UN, and he added "it enriches our understanding of each other and the human experience."

One of the contest winners, Karim Ibrahim, born in Portugal to an Egyptian father and mother of South-African and Portuguese descent, brought up in France, attended school exchange in Hong Kong, and now studies in London proudly [expressed this view](#) by saying, "My experience has taught me to lift myself up beyond national borders and to better understand other parts of the world."

UNAI, launched by the Secretary-General in 2010, is a global initiative that aligns institutions of higher learning and research with the UN and counts 1,000 members in 120 countries. In this context a youth forum, kicked off on June 27, launched 16 months of planned events to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the United Nations.

Source: [UN News Centre](#)