## Justice Coalition of Religious

Guide to the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

### 20-30 September 2024

# Justice Coalition of Religious

This guide was produced by the [Justice Coalition of Religious](https://jcor2030.org) (JCoR), a coalition of 23 non-governmental organizations that are accredited to collectively represent over 200 congregations of Roman Catholic women and men Religious at the United Nations (UN). For centuries, congregations of Religious have served people who have been rendered poor, vulnerable, oppressed, and marginalized by existing global systems. Through our membership in JCoR, we have united with our sister and brother organizations to enhance collaboration among our members – at UN Headquarters and around the world – in our common mission: to improve quality of life for people who are living in poverty and to enhance our stewardship of the natural environment.

***The primary aim of our collaboration is to strengthen the capacity of Catholic Religious and their partners to address the root causes of human and environmental suffering.***

We work toward this goal by coordinating national, regional, and global efforts of Religious to call on political leaders to take action for a just, equitable, and rights-based implementation of the [Sustainable Development Goals](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/?fbclid=IwAR3XeaaMuMtX0g8Cr9IOdEGkTi_ELBu1-W3tfGIsQ7rocIv8-e40rWxUMU0) (SDGs), the United Nations' Agenda for 2015-2030.

We hope these pages will help empower you join us in this mission!

# What is the opening of the General Assembly

The **United Nations General Assembly** (UNGA) **is the main policy-making body of the United Nations** (UN), composed of representatives from each of the 193 UN Member States. It serves as a platform for discussion of specific issues that culminate in the voting on and adoption of resolutions.

The UNGA annual session commences in September of each year, welcoming heads of state and government to the UN Headquarters in New York. This year marks the **79th session of the UNGA** (UNGA79), which officially opened on Tuesday, 10 September, and the most prominent meetings of the opening of the General Assembly take place during **High-Level Week**, which runs from 22-28 September. During this time, world leaders, policymakers, experts, and other stakeholders gather to confront another year of complex issues and challenges. The conversations that transpire in this space will shape policy for the future.

A central component of High-Level Week is the **General Debate**. The General Debate provides a space for leaders from UN Member States to speak in front of the entire General Assembly. Heads of state and government take turns delivering statements and addressing topics of significance in front of a world audience.

In addition to the General Debate, this year’s High-Level Week also features the following events: the Summit of the Future, the SDG Moment, the High-Level Meeting on Sea-Level Rise, the High-Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance, and the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

The theme of UNGA79 is “Leaving no one behind: acting together for the advancement of peace, sustainable development and human dignity for present and future generations.” Accordingly, the opening of this annual session presents an opportunity for world leaders to come together and **commit to collective action to accelerate progress on creating a more sustainable and peaceful future for all** - leaving no one behind.

# UNGA79 Details

## When:

22-30 September 2024

## Where:

Online and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York

## Official website:

For additional information, visit the [UNGA79 website](https://www.un.org/en/high-level-week-2024)

## Watch:

Join online to follow the proceedings of the UNGA at [webtv.un.org](http://webtv.un.org) (streamed in multiple languages)

## Programme:

Click [here](https://www.un.org/en/ga/79/meetings/) to access the provisional schedule

**10 September:** Opening of 79th Session of the General Assembly

**20-21 September:** [Action days](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future/action-days) for the Summit of the Future

**22-23 September:** [Summit of the Future](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future)

**24 September:** [SDG Moment](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-moment/)

**24-28, 30 September:** [General Debate](https://gadebate.un.org/en) (See pages 9-11 for the programme of speakers)

**25 September:** [High-Level Meeting on Sea-Level Rise](https://www.un.org/pga/78/high-level-meeting-on-sea-level-rise/)

**26 September:** [High-Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance](https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2024/09/26/default-calendar/un-general-assembly-high-level-meeting-on-antimicrobial-resistance-2024)

**26 September:** [International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons](https://www.un.org/en/observances/nuclear-weapons-elimination-day)

# Featured Events During the Opening of the UNGA79

### [**Summit of the Future Action Days**](https://summitofthefutureun.org/action-days?_gl=1*1vjy7uw*_ga*MjEwODc5NjAxNS4xNzI1NzMwNTgy*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTcyNjQyNDE2MS43LjEuMTcyNjQyNzY4Ny4wLjAuMA..)

**20-21 September**

TheSummit of the Future will be preceded by Action Days, which will bring together stakeholders — from young people to civil society to Heads of State — for an engaging two days of discussion and action.

### [**Summit of the Future**](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future)

**22-23 September**

The Summit seeks to forge new consensus around how our international system can evolve to better meet the needs of current and future generations.

### [**SDG Moment**](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-moment/)

**24 September**

The fourth annual SDG Moment will showcase examples of progress on achieving the SDGs. It will highlight the role of political leadership, investment, and global partnerships in achieving food systems transformation, renewable energy shift, and expanded digital connectivity.

### [**General Debate**](https://gadebate.un.org/en)

**24-28, 30 September**

The annual general debate provides an opportunity for Member States to raise any topic in front of a global audience. Heads of State deliver statements in the General Assembly that reflect issues of significance to the member State.

### [**High-Level Meeting on Sea-Level Rise**](https://www.un.org/pga/78/high-level-meeting-on-sea-level-rise/)

**25 September**

Global leaders, experts, and stakeholders will convene to address the threat of rising sea levels. Participants will work towards developing comprehensive solutions and actionable commitments to combat sea-level rise, ensuring a resilient and sustainable future for all.

### [**High-Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance**](https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2024/09/26/default-calendar/un-general-assembly-high-level-meeting-on-antimicrobial-resistance-2024)

**26 September**

Governments and stakeholders will gather to accelerate progress in combating the threat of antimicrobial resistance. Participants will focus on enhancing cooperation, promoting responsible use, and the development of new treatments to safeguard global health.

### [**International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons**](https://www.un.org/en/observances/nuclear-weapons-elimination-day)

**26 September**

On this occasion the world community reaffirms its commitment to global nuclear disarmament as a priority. It provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the real benefits of eliminating such weapons, and the social and economic costs of perpetuating them.

# Summit of the Future

The Summit of the Future is a high-level event designed to bring world leaders together to examine the state of **international cooperation** and to chart a path forward, to improve the way we **collaborate to address future challenges and opportunities.**

The Summit is composed of plenaries and interactive dialogues focused on five main subjects: peace and security, sustainable development and financing, transforming global governance, youth and future generations, and a digital future for all. It will culminate in the adoption of three agreements:

* The [Pact for the Future](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future/pact-for-the-future) is an action-oriented document negotiated by UN Member States. It aims include reaffirming the UN Charter, strengthening cooperation between countries, advancing progress on existing commitments (such as the Sustainable Development Goals), agreeing on solutions to rising challenges, and restoring trust. The Pact will contain the following two agreements:
  + The [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future/global-digital-compact?_gl=1*1i4d89r*_ga*MTUxNjIyMjQ4OS4xNjkwODEzNTg3*_ga_S5EKZKSB78*MTcyNjQ0NjcyOS4zOC4xLjE3MjY0NDY3NDcuNDIuMC4w*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTcyNjQ1MTgyMy4yMzUuMC4xNzI2NDUxODIzLjAuMC4w) will establish a global framework to tackle digital, data, and technology divides. It will outline principles, objectives and actions for advancing an open, free, secure and human-centered digital future for all.
  + The [Declaration for Future Generations](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future/declaration-on-future-generations?_gl=1*1qpb91*_ga*MTUxNjIyMjQ4OS4xNjkwODEzNTg3*_ga_S5EKZKSB78*MTcyNjQ0NjcyOS4zOC4xLjE3MjY0NDY3NDcuNDIuMC4w*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTcyNjQ4OTI4MS4yMzYuMC4xNzI2NDg5MjgxLjAuMC4w) will affirm Member States’ commitment to ensure that the interests of future generations are considered in national and global decision-making, guaranteeing the rights of future generations to thrive.

Everyone has a role to play in holding our respective governments responsible for implementing the commitments detailed in these adopted agreements, delivering a safer, more peaceful, just, inclusive, sustainable, and prosperous future for everyone, everywhere. To learn more about the Summit of the Future, visit the [official website](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future) and [programme](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future/programme).

# Summit of the Future Action Days

As all individuals possess the capacity to play a vital role in the implementation of the Pact of the Future, it is important to provide a space for all stakeholders to participate in the process of its formulation, adoption, and follow-up. Therefore, the Summit of the Future will be proceeded by two Action Days, to **provide additional opportunities for broader engagement and the inclusion of all stakeholders**.

The Summit of the Future Action Days will convene representatives from UN Member States, local governments, civil society, private sector, academia, youth, and more. The two-day action-oriented event will **maintain a dedicated focus on future generations**, and it will include keynote speakers, interactive dialogues, breakout sessions, and a panel with the UN Secretary-General. The breakout sessions will address the themes of:

* Innovative solutions in humanitarian action
* Foresight in climate and environmental sustainability
* Gender equality to empower girls and young women at the heart of multilateralism
* Intergenerational equity and solidarity for a shared future
* Inclusive digital future for all
* Governance for human rights, peace and security, and political processes

If you are interested in learning more about the Action Days, visit the [official website](https://summitofthefutureun.org/action-days?_gl=1*1t66lxm*_ga*MTUxNjIyMjQ4OS4xNjkwODEzNTg3*_ga_TK9BQL5X7Z*MTcyNjQ4OTI4MS4yMzYuMS4xNzI2NDkxMTEwLjAuMC4w) for the full programme and details.

For additional information including daily updates, please follow the [Facebook account](https://www.facebook.com/claretian.ngo.un) of the Claretians, a JCoR member that will be actively participating in the Summit of the Future and the Action Days.

# General Debate: Programme of Speakers

#### Please note, this is a provisional list and is subject to change.

#### Visit <https://gadebate.un.org/en> for an updated list of speakers!

### Tuesday, 24 September

**9:00am-2:45pm (New York time)**

Brazil, United States, Turkey, Jordan, Guatemala, Switzerland, Colombia, Qatar, South Africa, Maldives, Uzbekistan, Lithuania, Tajikistan, Sierra Leone, Serbia

**3:00pm-9:00pm (New York time)**

Peru, Kyrgyzstan, Algeria, Argentina, Morocco, El Salvador, Iran, Estonia, Chile, Latvia, Paraguay, Vietnam, Angola, Poland, Monaco, Nauru, Nigeria

### Wednesday, 25 September

**9:00am-2:45pm (New York time)**

Mongolia, Seychelles, Czechia, Ukraine, Ghana, Bulgaria, Suriname, Cyprus, Ecuador, Slovakia, Namibia, Libya, Dominican Republic, Madagascar, Romania, Brunei Darussalam, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Honduras, France

**3:00pm-9:00pm (New York time)**

Cabo Verde, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Finland, Guyana, Panama, Mauritania, Senegal, Liberia, Togo, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Dominica, Marshall Islands, Guinea-Bissau, Bolivia

### Thursday, 26 September

**9:00am-2:45pm (New York time)**

Malawi, Cameroon, Kenya, Yemen, Burundi, Gabon, Central African Republic, State of Palestine, Comoros, Gambia, Haiti, Sudan, Sao Tome and Principe, Lesotho, South Sudan, North Macedonia, Uruguay, Fiji

**3:00pm-9:00pm (New York time)**

Micronesia, Djibouti, Mauritius, European Union, Cote D’Ivoire, Palau, Equatorial Guinea, Kuwait, Bahrain, Portugal, Japan, Netherlands, Armenia, Iraq, Israel, Georgia, Greece, Barbados, Nepal

### Friday, 27 September

**9:00am-2:45pm (New York time)**

Slovenia, Pakistan, Italy, Spain, Bhutan, United Kingdom, Andorra, Bangladesh, Republic of Moldova, Canada, Vanuatu, Croatia, Papua New Guinea, Ireland, Malta, Bahamas

**3:00pm-9:00pm (New York time)**

Montenegro, Antigua and Barbuda, Albania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Somalia, Eswatini, United Republic of Tanzania, Chad

### Saturday, 28 September

**9:00am-2:45pm (New York time)**

Grenada, Uganda, Guinea, Holy See, China, Kazakhstan, Cambodia, New Zealand, Luxembourg, Mali, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Mexico, Norway, Hungary, Singapore, Cuba, Philippines, San Marino, Malaysia, Australia

**3:00pm-7:00pm (New York time)**

United Arab Emirates, Turkmenistan, Germany, Liechtenstein, Saudi Arabia, Zambia, Sweden, Austria, India, Belarus, Iceland, Oman, Denmark, Thailand, Azerbaijan, Trinidad and Tobago, Ethiopia, Belize

### Monday, 30 September

**9:00am-2:45pm (New York time)**

**S**yrian Arab Republic, Venezuela, Eritrea, Nicaragua, Benin, Lebanon, Tunisia, Egypt, Costa Rica, Niger, Republic of Korea, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, Rwanda, Belgium, Saint Lucia, Jamaica, Congo, Sri Lanka

**3:00pm-9:00pm (New York time)**

Myanmar, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Kiribati

# Recommended Events

Please visit JCoR’s [UNGA79 webpage](https://jcor2030.org/unga79/) to access a curated list of UNGA side events and parallel events that are recommended by JCoR and our Religious community at the United Nations in New York.

# Social Media Recommendations

**Recommended hashtags:** #UN79, #UNGA, or #UNGA79

#### Justice Coalition of Religious (JCoR)

Twitter: [@JCoR2030](https://twitter.com/JCoR2030) Facebook: [@JCoR2030](https://www.facebook.com/JCoR2030)

#### JCoR Members

Click [here](https://twitter.com/i/lists/1482757410452385795) to access Twi﻿tter list of JCoR members

#### United Nations (UN)

Twitter: [@UN](https://twitter.com/UN) Fa﻿cebook: [@unitednations](https://www.facebook.com/unitednations) Instagram: [@unitednations](https://www.instagram.com/unitednations/)

#### President of the UN General Assembly

Twitt﻿er: [@UN\_PGA](https://twitter.com/UN_PGA) Instagram: [@unpga](https://www.instagram.com/unpga/)

#### Your Congregation’s NGO at the UN

Need he﻿lp? Find many congregations' NGO's social media details [here](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LH6FQ0-beeTK6awtixQ-cteETmeeXw_UHY7WDKfODZM/edit?usp=sharing)

#### Your Government’s Permanent Mission to the UN

# Call to Action

We are called to “continue to stand in solidarity with the people of the world through these trying times, as we seek to forge a more peaceful, healthy, equal and prosperous future together.”

*-United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres*