UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Dear Dr.

On April 27th, 28th, and 29th, we will be holding the second Global Understanding conference in Barcelona (Bellaterra) organize by UAB and Arab Academy.

It would be an honor for us if you could participate and thereby enrich the discussions and conclusions. The conference activities will take place at the Hotel Campus of the UAB, which is available to offer you accommodation during these days.

Hoping that you can attend the conference, we remain at your full disposal. Best regards.

Fdo. José Manuel Pérez Tornero
Co-coordinator of the MILID and Global Understanding Conference
Coordinator and chair holder of the UNESCO UNITWIN Cooperation Program on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue
Chair-holder of UNESCO Chair Media and Information Literacy for Quality Journalism
Emeritus Professor of Universidad Autónoma Barcelona
Dirección del Gabinete de Comunicación y Educación
Blog personal: Perspectivas

Barcelona, March 8, 2025

Dear

We hope this message finds you well.
Following the remarkable success of the first edition, it is our pleasure to invite you to attend the second edition of the “Media and Information Literacy and Global Understanding: Peace for All” conference.
The 2025 edition will take place in Barcelona, Spain, with the official launch on April 28, 2025. This conference brings together policy makers, high-profile personalities, university professors, experts, educationalists, and media professionals from different geographical regions.
This conference continues to be organized by the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (Egypt), the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain) and Arab States Chapter of UNESCO’s Media and Information Literacy Alliance in collaboration with the International Media and Information Literacy Institute.
We are pleased to inform you that accommodation will be provided for conference participants for three nights: 27, 28 and 29 of April, 2025.
It would be our great pleasure and honor to have you join us for this important event. We look forward to your positive response at your earliest convenience.

José Manuel Pérez Tornero *Samy Tayie*

UAB Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
MIL Institute International Media & Information Literacy Institute. Intercultural Dialogue alliance
UNESCO MIL Alliance Media & Information Literacy for All
50 Years Of Excellence

"Media & Information Literacy & Global Understanding: Peace for all"

UAB Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

MIL Institute International Media & Information LIteracy Institute. Intercultural Dialogue *alliance*

UNESCO MIL Alliance

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SPANISH NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY INSTITUTE

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50 Years Of Excellence

Barcelona, April, 28th and 29th, 2025

Hotel Exe Campus UAB

MIL and Global Understanding

2025

Against Disinformation and Hate Speech

With the institutional support of

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INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE CIBERSEGURIDAD

MILinstitute
International Media & Information Literacy Institute

UNESCO MIL Alliance
Media & Information Literacy for All

UNESCO UNITWIN
unesco MILID Network

First Edition
Cairo, 2024 – A Landmark Event

The **First International Conference on Media and Information Literacy and Global Understanding,** held in **Cairo in 2024**, was a groundbreaking gathering organized by the **Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (Egypt)** and the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain), under the auspices of the **League of Arab States and UNESCO's MILID Network.**

Bringing together **over 250 policymakers, experts,** and **thought leaders,** the conference fostered a powerful consensus on the **critical role of Media and Information Literacy (MIL) and intercultural dialogue (MILID) in advancing global peace.** The discussions and insights shared laid the foundation for stronger international cooperation and innovative strategies to empower societies through MIL.

United for peace. Different Faiths, One Understanding.

Global understanding creates a better world. Respect diversity. Embrace unity.

Second Edition
Barcelona, 2025 – A Call to Action

One year after the **First Global Understanding Conference,** the world faces rising tensions, increasing polarization, and the urgent challenge of navigating an evolving media landscape.

Now, more than ever, **we must unite to confront disinformation and propaganda, combat hate speech, and reinforce the fundamental pillars of democracy and human rights.**

The time to act is now.

Media for Understanding. No Prejudice. Peace for All.

Focus

In response to these pressing challenges, the **Second Global Understanding Conference** will focus on:

Developing a shared MILID agenda for research, shaping policies and educational frameworks that drive meaningful change.

Establishing ethical and civic commitments regarding digital media and artificial intelligence, fostering responsible engagement among citizens, professionals, and policymakers.

Advancing new methodologies for intercultural and interreligious dialogue, countering sectarianism and fundamentalism while promoting global understanding.

Strengthening science and quality journalism, highlighting its social impact and role in fostering informed public discourse.

MILinstitute
International Media & Information Literacy Institute

Stand up to disinformation and propaganda. Stop hate speech. Promote respect. Defend democracy. Protect human rights.

Media for Understanding. No Prejudice. Peace for all.

Objectives

The conference will focus on three key objectives:

UNITWIN Cooperation Program on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue (MILID)

Advancing the creation of a Global Cooperation Platform among various MIL activists, experts, institutions, associations and networks.

Developing the foundations of a Common Action Plan in MILID to guide different activities and initiatives.

Extending opportunities for encounters between religions and cultures to promote global understanding and democracy.

Working Methodology

The conference will feature:

Plenary Sessions – Engaging discussions led by experts, policymakers, and media professionals to analyze the challenges of an evolving media ecosystem and provide actionable insights.

Workshops – Interactive sessions focused on **developing concrete initiatives, formulating innovative projects, and shaping a Common Action Plan** to address pressing MILID challenges.

The **Second Global Understanding Conference** will be structured around two key pillars:

MILID & Media – Fostering intercultural and interfaith dialogue through the lens of Media and Information Literacy.

MILID & Research, Education, and Action – Advancing scholarly research, policy development, and practical initiatives to drive meaningful change

1. MILID/ **Media: Intercultural Dialogue and interfaith dialogue.**
2. MILID/ **Research, Education, and Action.**
3. MILID/ **Rights, Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence**

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UNITWIN Cooperation Program on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue (MILID)

MILID and Global Understanding/Peace for all Action Plan Against Disinformation and Hate Speech

Hotel Exe Campus UAB

(Barcelona-Spain, 27-29 April 2025)

Agenda

27 April Arrival of participants

Welcome Dinner at 20:00 at the hotel Campus - **Room 3**
(hosted by the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport)

28 April

9:30 –10:30 **Opening Ceremony - Room 1**

Conference Objectives:
Dr. Samy Tayie (Arab Academy) / Dr. José Manuel Pérez Tornero (UAB)

Master of Ceremony:
Dr. Sally Tayie (Arab Academy) **/ Dr. Santiago Tejedor** (UAB)

Dr. Javier Lafuente (Rector UAB)
Dr. Tawfik Jalassi (Assistant Director General of UNESCO)/
Mrs. Adeline Hulin (Chief of Unit for Media and Information Literacy and digital competencies at UNESCO)
Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghaffar Farag (President of AASTMT, President of the Conference)

10:30 – 12:00 Plenary 1 - Room 1

What challenges does the emerging AI ecosystem present for media and information literacy (MIL)?

Moderator: Dr. Samy Tayie
Rapporteur: Ms. Carolyn Wilson

Speakers:
Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghaffar
Dr. Juan Manuel Corchado
Dr. Tapio Varis

12:00-12:30 Coffee Break

12:30 –14:00
Room 1

Initiatives for a safe and ethical Artificial Intelligences ecosystem

Moderator:
Alba Alsewaran

Speakers:
Ahmed Abouelfarag
Mohamed Aborizka
María Luz Loureiro
Alfonso G. Briones

12:30- 14:00
Room 2

Initiatives for quality journalism in today's media ecosystem? (Spanish session)

Moderator:
Sally Tayie

Speakers:
Santiago Tejedor
Mohamed Al-Allali
David Jiménez
Silvia Bacher

12:30- 14:00
Room 3

IA/ Innovating
MIL Curriculum

Moderator:
Tapio Varis

Speakers:
Carolyne Wilson
Vítor Tomé
Thomas Bauer

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break

15:30 – 16:30 Plenary 2. Room 1
2 MILID/ New Challenges, New Agenda
What new mil action plan for a new era?

Moderator: José Manuel Pérez Tornero

Speakers:
Adeline Hulin
Carolyn Wilson
Julian McDougall
Luciano di Mele
Jun Sakamoto
Drissia Chouit
Vítor Tomé

16:30/18:00
Room 1
MILID/
Initiatives promoting policy and regulation

Moderator:
Gabriel Jaraba

Speakers:
Irene Andriopoulou
Jun Sakamoto
Vítor Tomé

16:30/18:00
Room 2
MILID/
Initiatives promoting youth and children

Moderator:
Félix Ortega

Speakers:
Ana Filipa Oliveira
Satomi Terasaki
Aly Mahitab
Álvaro Laforet

16:30/18:00
Room 3
MILID/ in spain
(Spanish session)

Moderator:
Cristina Pulido

Speakers:
Almudena Barrientos
Javier Marzal
Antonio Acedo
Alejandro Perales
Roberto Lakidain

April 29

10:00 - 11:30

Plenary 3
Room 1
MILID/ Cooperation, Intercultural Dialogue

Moderator: Màrius Martínez

Speakes:
Jagtar Singh
Patricia Izquierdo
Nikos Panagiotou
Abdelhamed Nfissi

Room 3
MIL AND GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING INITIATIVE

Young Peace Ambassadors

Moderator: Sally Tayie

11:30 - 12:00 Coffee Break

Room 1
12:00 -14:00
MILID/ Cultural cooperation

Moderator:
Mona Makram-Ebeid

Speakers:
Heba Nayef
A. Salam Andaloussi
Sana ElEmam
Najat Mrabi

Room 2
12:00 -14:00
MILID/ Interreligious cooperation

Moderator:
Tapio Varis

Speakers:
Jagtar Singh
Heidi Rautionmaa
Gabriel Jaraba
Lamia Shehata

Room 3
12:00 -14:00
MILID/ University cooperation

Moderator:
María J. Recoder

Speakers:
Mohamed El Nashar
Cristina Pulido
Chizuko Nagaoka
Drissia Chouit
Miguel Pérez Valls
Felipe Chibás

14:00 - 15:00 Lunch Break

16 h. Departure - Casa de Convalecencia del hospital San Pau

17:00 Concluding Session

18:00 CLOSING CEREMONY

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GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING CONFERENCE

Agenda 2025

April 27

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Participant Reception

8:00 PM
Welcome Dinner (Hotel Campus)

April 28

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Opening Ceremony

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Plenary Session 1 - What challenges does the emerging AI ecosystem present for media and information literacy (MIL)?

12:00 PM - 12:30 PM
Coffee Break

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
Workshops 1
Room 1: Initiatives for a safe and ethical artificial intelligences ecosystem

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
Workshops 1
Room 2: Initiatives for quality journalism in today's media ecosystem (Spanish session)
Room 3: IA/ Innovating MIL Curriculum

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Lunch

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Plenary Session 2 - MILID/ New challenges, new agenda. What new MIL action plan for a new era?

4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Workshops 2
Room 1: MILID/ Initiatives promoting policy and regulation
Room 2: MILID/ Initiatives promoting youth and children
Room 3: MILID in Spain (Spanish session)

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