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UNESCO - United Nations
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"Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed."

UNESCO's main objective is to contribute to peace and security in the world, by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication. Hostelling International works with UNESCO to realise these aims through our Youth Hostelling for Peace and International Understanding campaign. To find out more, visit: www.unesco.org

The UNESCO Youth Section, which co-ordinates youth activities, recognises the vital role of young people in realising UNESCO's aims. A key activity is the bi-annual Youth Forum: the 2005 Youth Forum took place 30 September – 2 October 2005 at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. It is a unique opportunity for young people from around the world to be heard, and is an integral part of the UNESCO General Conference.

The 2005 Forum's theme "Young People and the Dialogue among Civilizations, Cultures and Peoples - Ideas for action in education, the sciences, culture and communication" reflects the desire for UNESCO to develop youth programmes and forge partnerships to actively support the initiatives of young people themselves.

Delegates from 129 Member States discussed issues of critical concern for youth:

- All different, all unique: celebrating cultural diversity through dialogue
- Safeguarding the future: practising dialogue for sustainable development
- Learning to live together: promoting dialogue for peace and reconciliation

Read the 2005 Youth Forum report and find out more about the UNESCO Youth Section here: <http://unesco.takingitglobal.org/index.en.html>

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