

UNESCO is celebrating the second International Day for Universal Access to Information & wants you to join

What?

Access to information, independent media, freedom of expression and transparency – why are these elements essential for you and for our society in general? Because they all play a crucial role in the goal of creating a sustainable future, human and non-human.



To this end, UNESCO will be hosting the day-long event ‘**IPDCTalks: Powering Sustainable Development with Access to Information**’ this September. The IPDCTalks, which consist of a series of creative and dynamic talks, will be demonstrating the link between the core issues of information, media, ICT’s, and what is needed to help us achieve a sustainable society and future.

Who?

Christiane Amanpour, CNN’s leading investigative journalist, **Salil Shetty**, Secretary General of Amnesty International, and **Tarek Shawki**, Minister of Education of Egypt are among the notable speakers for the day-long event. The IPDCTalks will gather a dozen of today’s leading journalists, global and community leaders and intellectuals from all over the world. They will be discussing the core issues around Access to Information for sustainable development and good governance, and they want to hear your opinion. (For more information on the speakers and the IPDCTalks in general, please have a look [here](#))

When & Where?

Thursday, 28 September 2017, 10am to 6pm
UNESCO Headquarters, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75007 Paris, France

Why you?

UNESCO supports the role of free, independent and pluralistic media along with its elements and values that will play a crucial role in your future professional life. Thus, UNESCO wants to promote and encourage you, the next generation of journalists and media professionals, to take part in the conversation around Access to Information and a sustainable future in order to think about how each of us can make a difference in the world. At the IPDCTalks, you will have the exclusive opportunity to discuss and share your opinion with global leaders.

Interested in joining the discussion?

Event

If you want to attend the IPDCtalks 2017, please request an invitation as soon as possible as there are only limited spots available. Fill out the [registration form](#) or send an e-mail to f.drobnitzky@unesco.org / ipdc.secretariat@unesco.org. Please indicate your name and your current school.

Talk online to your favorite speaker

If you are not able to attend the IPDCtalks but still interested, make sure to join the debates via the live broadcast on our [website](#) on 28 September. You are also welcome to follow and participate in the discussion online via Twitter and Facebook: **#IPDCtalks #AccessToInfo #SDGs**. In case you want to ask questions to our #IPDCtalks speakers, you can do so via Twitter by using #AccessToInfo and #IPDCtalks. Selected questions will be answered live by the speaker you have addressed during the event.

IPDCtalks Video Contest

In addition, we want to know your opinion and invite you to record a video (3 min. max.) on why you think access to information is the critical currency for us to survive in the modern world. Tell us what access to information means to you and its role for a sustainable future!

Deadline: 7 September

The first three winners will be rewarded with various prizes: From coverage of travel expenses following UNESCO rules and procedures, to a personal meet & greet with the speakers of the IPDCtalks, to a recording of your own statement with the UNESCO video team which will be shared over UNESCO's social media channels. For more information on the awards and contest guidelines, please have a look at the IPDCtalks Video Contest-document.