

Dear all,

Happy Fall!

As the newest member of the team of Generations United representatives to the United Nations, I am honored and delighted to share with you some highlights from the 31st annual [UN International Day of Older Persons \(UNIDOP\)](#), which focused on "Digital Equity for All Ages."

October 1, 2021 marked the second fully virtual offering of this global commemoration, which this year was held jointly with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), and the three NGO Committees on Ageing in New York, Geneva, and Vienna.

According to the UN DESA, who hosted the event and tracked the metrics of social media engagement, the live Zoom event (also live broadcasted on UN Web TV) featured an engagement of 375 unique users in the Zoom webinar, with an additional social media potential reach of more than 260 million. The impact on social media, as a result of this event, rippled all over the globe and every continent. The conversation was particularly lively in countries with an active civil society engaging with this issue. Some of the highest engagements were seen from Australia, India, UK, Spain, France, US and Canada.

In case you missed the event, there are some wonderful opportunities for you to engage with the content. Visit the [UN DESA IDOP website here](#) to view the events which occurred on October 1 as well as several side events which furthered the discourse around the themes.

To assist curating this wealth of information, please see the [program of the events](#), the list and bios of the [speakers](#), review the [concept note](#) for the 2021 IDOP, [watch the full UN Web TV recording](#) with translation or scroll below for some highlights you may enjoy:

Panel 1: ["Innovation, Access and Design"](#) (24:35-56:34)

Panelists:

- Alison Bryant, AARP
- Majd Alwan, LeadingAge

Moderator: Rajesh Mirchandani, Chief Communications Officer at UN Foundation

Panel 2: ["Working toward Digital Equity for All Ages: SDGs and Digital Technologies"](#) (57:00-1:27:08)

Panelists:

- Dr. Rajendra Partap Gupta, Chair, Dynamic Coalition on Internet & Jobs - Internet Governance Forum at the United Nations; Chairman, Drafting Committee for Digital Health Standards, NABH, India
- Claudia Mahler, Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

Moderator: Ursula Wynhoven, International Telecommunication Union Representative to the United Nations

Again, it is my pleasure to serve Generations United in this capacity and to join your community. Wishing you a safe and healthy Fall season and looking forward to connecting with you in the near future!

Warmly,

Magda Kaczmarek