

PLURAL+ screening and roundtable discussion on youth participation in media at the Turkish Cultural Center of New York

Posted 18 May 2011

On May 26 the Turkish Cultural Center of New York, in collaboration with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the International Organization for Migration, is screening award winning videos from FilmTurkey and the PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, followed by a panel discussion on youth participation in media. The interactive panel will engage with the audience on a range of perspectives on this topic. The event is open for all to attend.

The PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival, a joint effort between UNAOC and IOM, with the support of over 50 partner organizations, is conceived as a media literacy education and multi-media distribution platform to engage young people in addressing the key challenges of their communities. The festival is an important recognition of the role of youth as agents of social change in a world often characterized by intolerance and cultural and religious divisions. The youth-produced videos to be screened on May 26 have been selected from among the past two years' PLURAL+ award winners, offering young people's perspective on issues of migration, diversity and social inclusion.



Close Your Eyes, a [PLURAL+2010](#) award winning film directed by students at FilmTurkey

Close Your Eyes, a [PLURAL+2010](#) award winning film directed by students at FilmTurkey. The FilmTurkey project is funded by the U.S. State Department and run by the State University of New York at Fredonia and Atlantik Film, Istanbul. Seventy-two students from 6 different cities in Turkey have learned how to create short films, focusing on issues of democracy and human rights. The films produced by these students are now being shown at film festivals all around the world.

The May 26 event will be opened by Mr. Marc Scheuer, Director of the Secretariat of UNAOC, and Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon, IOM Permanent Observer to the UN, followed by a 45 minute screening of youth produced videos, including *Close Your Eyes*, a short film directed by students at FilmTurkey. The panel discussion, moderated by Mr. Mehmet Kilic, Director of the Turkish Cultural Center, will include Mr. Jordi Torrent, PLURAL+ Project Manager; Ms. Amy Muedin, Programme Specialist at IOM; and Ms. Nefin Dinc, Project Director of FilmTurkey. Please contact the Turkish Cultural Center if you have any questions, by phone (212) 696-1060, or email: mkilic@turkishculturalcenter.org. The event will take place 6:30-8:30pm on May 26 at the Turkish Cultural Center, 6th floor, 535 Fifth Avenue, New York.

The PLURAL+ 2011 Festival is open for entries until 1 July, so please support and encourage talented young filmmakers to submit their dynamic and forward thinking videos. Visit the PLURAL+ website at www.unaoc.org/pluralplus for more details.

PLURAL+ is organized by the UNAOC and IOM, in collaboration with many partners, including:

