UN Information Centre (UNIC)

Vision

In 1946, the first UN General Assembly established the Department of Public Information (DPI) and set out the general guidelines for its activities. One of these guidelines called upon DPI to establish “branch offices... in order to ensure that peoples in all parts of the world receive as full information as possible about the United Nations”.

Iran, as a founding member of the United Nations, was among the first countries to have a United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), which began its operations in 1948. The Centre’s operations were suspended in 1980 and then revived again in 1991.

Work in Iran

In 1946, the first UN General Assembly established the Department of Public Information (DPI) and set out the general guidelines for its activities. One of these guidelines called upon DPI to establish “branch offices... in order to ensure that peoples in all parts of the world receive as full information as possible about the United Nations”.

Iran, as a founding member of the United Nations, was among the first countries to have a United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), which began its operations in 1948. The Centre’s operations were suspended in 1980 and then revived again in 1991.

UNIC is an active link between the UN and the local media, educational institutions, government organizations and the civil society. The Centre provides up-to-date public information on the aims and activities of the United Nations in political, economic, social and humanitarian fields. UNIC provides professional, logistical and administrative assistance in the field of information dissemination to UN offices and operations in Iran, depending on their needs and circumstances.

As Chair of the UN Communications Group (UNCg) in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the focal point for the UN’s public information activities, UNIC helps to project a unified approach and image of the UN’s work in Iran.

UNIC is linked to UN Headquarters and receives a daily roundup of news on UN activities at its Headquarters and around the world as well as news on UN agencies’ activities in Iran. Items of great interest to the Iranian people are selected and
translated into Persian and dispatched to all the major print and electronic media. UNIC also organizes press conferences for UN officials.

In order to reach a larger audience, UNIC translates major UN documents, books, brochures and publications into Persian and distributes them free of cost to the media, universities, government organizations, ministries and NGOs. UNIC staff members respond to requests from NGOs and educational institutions on the work of the United Nations. UNIC promotes teaching about the UN through direct contact with teachers and students in schools and universities by speaking to them and answering their questions, in organizing Model UN sessions and in making available documents, publications and videos designed to appeal to younger audiences.

UNIC helps and organizes workshops on finding UN information and documentation through the UN website and on issues such as MDGs, disaster risk reduction and other relevant topics, for journalists, teachers and any other group interested in such workshops.

UNIC’s bilingual website features key UN documents in Persian and English. UNIC regularly answers public inquiries on the UN, including requests for UN documents. In the ‘information age’ it has transferred its collection of reference books and documents to the National Library of the Islamic Republic of Iran and now focuses on “connections” rather than “collections”.

Contact:
United Nations Information Centre
8 Shahrzad Blvd., Darrous, Shariati Ave., Tehran. P.O.Box 15875-4557
Tel: + 98-21-22873837
Fax: +98-21-22873395
E-mail: unic.tehran@unic.org
http://www.unic-ir.org