

**The Portail des Nations opens its doors and launches *Together*,
a unique immersive experience at the heart of the UN in Geneva**

Geneva, 28 May 2026 – The Portail des Nations, the future UN Geneva Visitor Centre, is set to open its doors to the public on 12 June 2026. Located in the park of the Palais des Nations, below the Flag Alley, this major project creates a unique venue designed to bring the general public closer to the UN, its missions and the major global challenges. At the heart of the visitor experience, the immersive *Together* experience offers a unique blend of technology and storytelling, inviting visitors to feel, understand and experience multilateralism. With the Portail des Nations, Geneva is gaining a new space for learning and engagement, designed to raise awareness – both in Switzerland and internationally – of the vital role of international cooperation and the day-to-day work of UN institutions.

Conceived and created by the Portail des Nations Foundation, in close collaboration with the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Portail des Nations offers a unique visitor experience, at the crossroads of architecture, technology and civic engagement. It enables local residents, visitors from around the world and schools to gain a better understanding of the role of the United Nations, the work of the UN agencies based in Geneva and the importance of international cooperation in addressing today's major challenges.

“Together with the project team, we are delighted that the Portail des Nations is opening its doors to the public. This new visitor attraction, the Portail des Nations, was born out of a strong conviction: multilateralism belongs to everyone. Our ambition is to open the doors to a system often perceived as complex and distant, to enable the public to understand it, experience it and feel a sense of ownership,” explains Ivan Pictet, President of the Portail des Nations Foundation, the project's initiator and main donor.

António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations noted in his remarks at the Portail des Nations' topping-out ceremony in February 2026 that *“The Portail des Nations will welcome around 200,000 visitors each year. They will learn how the UN's work around the world benefits people and the planet every day. They will discover immersive content that touches the conscience, inspires engagement and encourages action, and helps them carry our message into their communities. Above all, they will see that the United Nations is a gateway to peace. A bridge to justice and opportunity, where rights are respected and no one is left behind.”*

For Tatjana Darani, CEO of the Portail des Nations, the challenge lies precisely in transforming an institutional reality often perceived as distant into an experience accessible to as many people as possible. *“International cooperation, and more specifically multilateral diplomacy, embodied at the highest level by the UN, is not a choice, but a necessity. It is only together that we can respond to challenges that transcend borders,”* she points out. With the Portail des Nations, the aim is to raise awareness, both in Switzerland and internationally, of the essential role of multilateralism and the day-to-day work of UN institutions in Geneva.

At the heart of the Portail des Nations lies *Together*, a 60-minute immersive experience designed as a true technological and narrative spectacle. Produced by Downtown Studio in Geneva, *Together* employs large-scale scenographic, visual, audio and interactive elements to bring the mechanisms of multilateralism to life for visitors. The experience is not a traditional exhibition: it offers a sensory and participatory immersion in international cooperation, combining narrative, images, sound, immersive technologies and direct interaction with the public.

Spread across three pavilions, *Together* takes visitors through the key stages of international cooperation: coming together around a common language, building a shared knowledge base, and then developing a collective response. The final sequence places them at the heart of a negotiation simulation, allowing them to experience first-hand what it means to debate, compromise and decide together despite differences.

Available in eight languages, the experience addresses the major themes that underpin the work of International Geneva: peace and security, human rights, humanitarian action, the environment, health, development, education, employment, trade, technology and innovation. By appealing to emotion, participation and the power of staging, *Together* transforms a concept sometimes perceived as abstract – multilateralism – into a concrete, accessible and memorable experience.

“Together was conceived from the outset as an immersive experience, not as a traditional museum exhibition. The aim is to take visitors through a reality, to make them feel its tensions, dynamics and challenges. A key part of understanding is built into the experience itself,” explains Olivier Pictet, creative director of *Together*.

Conceived as a series of pavilions integrated into the site, the Portail des Nations was designed by the Geneva-based architects Charles Pictet Baptiste Broillet Associés. The architecture of the site enhances the experience offered to visitors: the spaces, materials, lighting and furnishings have been designed to create a welcoming, accessible and open environment, in harmony with the grounds of the Palais des Nations and the values of cooperation, dialogue and mutual understanding championed by the UN.

The Portail des Nations will be able to welcome up to 200,000 visitors a year. Tickets for the *Together* experience are available exclusively online on the Portail des Nations Foundation website (www.portaildesnations.ch). The visit can be preceded by a guided tour of the Palais des Nations organised by the UN Geneva Visitors Service (www.ungeneva.ch/visit), offering a deeper understanding of how the UN in Geneva operates.

The project came to fruition thanks to the personal and financial commitment of Ivan Pictet, President of the Portail des Nations Foundation, with the support of the Hans Wilsdorf Foundation, the Loterie Romande, Dona Bertarelli Philanthropy, as well as start-up funding from the Swiss Confederation, the Republic and Canton of Geneva and the City of Geneva.

The Portail des Nations will be operated by the Portail des Nations Foundation during a 19-month transitional period, until the end of December 2027. From 2028, the UN will take over the running of the centre, which will then formally become the UN Geneva Visitor Centre, the starting point for guided tours of the Palais des Nations and the *Together* immersive experience.

Practical information and ticketing: <https://www.portaildesnations.ch/>

Royalty-free photos: <https://www.portaildesnations.ch/media-et-newsletter>

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