

International Years

These are the international years currently observed by the United Nations.

2017

International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development

2016

International Year of Pulses

2015

International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies

International Year of Soils [FAO]

2014

International Year of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

International Year of Small Island Developing States

International Year of Crystallography

International Year of Family Farming

2013

International Year of Water Cooperation

International Year of Quinoa

2012

International Year of Cooperatives

International Year of Sustainable Energy for All

2011

International Year for People of African Descent

International Year of Chemistry

International Year of Forests

International Year of Youth

2010

International Year of Youth (12 August 2010 — 11 August 2011)

International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures

International Year of Biodiversity

International Year of the Seafarer

2009

International Year of Reconciliation

International Year of Natural Fibres

International Year of Human Rights Learning

International Year of Astronomy

Year of the Gorilla (UNEP and UNESCO)

2008

International Year of Planet Earth

International Year of Languages

International Year of Sanitation

General Knowledge

International Year of the Potato

2007-2008

International Polar Year (WMO)

2006

International Year of Deserts and Desertification

2005

International Year of Microcredit

International Year for Sport and Physical Education

International Year of Physics

2004

International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition

International Year of Rice

2003

Year of Kyrgyz Statehood

International Year of Freshwater

2002

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage

International Year of Mountains

International Year of Ecotourism

2001

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

International Year of Volunteers

International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

2000

International Year of Thanksgiving

International Year for the Culture of Peace

1999

International Year of Older Persons

1998

International Year of the Ocean

1996

International Year for the Eradication of Poverty

1995

United Nations Year for Tolerance

World Year of Peoples' Commemoration of the Victims of the Second World War

1994

International Year of the Family

General Knowledge

International Year of Sport and the Olympic Ideal

1993

International Year for the World's Indigenous People

1992

International Space Year

1990

International Literacy Year

1987

International Year of Shelter for The Homeless

1986

International Year of Peace

1985

Year of the United Nations

International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace

1983

World Communications Year; Development of Communication Infrastructures

1982

International Year of Mobilization for Sanctions Against South Africa

1981

International Year for Disabled Persons

1979

International Year of The Child

1978/79

International Anti-Apartheid Year

1975

International Women's Year

1974

World Population Year

1971

International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Prejudice

1970

International Education Year

1968

International Year for Human Rights

General Knowledge

1967

International Tourist Year

1965

International Co-operation Year

1961

International Health and Medical Research Year

1959/1960

World Refugee Year

International Decades

These are the international decades currently observed by the United Nations.

2016–2025

United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition

2015–2024

International Decade for People of African Descent

2014–2024

United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All

2011–2020

Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Decade of Action for Road Safety

2010–2020

United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification

2008–2017

Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

2006–2016

Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions (third decade after the Chernobyl disaster)

2005–2015

International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”

2005–2014

United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

Second International Decade of the World’s Indigenous People

2003–2012

United Nations Literacy Decade: Education for All

2001–2010

International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World

Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

1997–2006

Decade for The Eradication for Poverty

1995–2004

Decade for Human Rights Education

1994–2004

Decade of the World's Indigenous People

General Knowledge

1993–2003

Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

1991–2000

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

United Nations Decade Against Drug Abuse

Fourth United Nations Development Decade

1990–2000

International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

1990–1999

United Nations Decade of International Law

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

1990S

Third Disarmament Decade

1988–1997

World Decade for Cultural Development

1983–1993

Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

1983–1992

United Nations Decade for Disabled Persons

1981–1990

International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade

Third United Nations Development Decade

1980–1990

Second Disarmament Decade

1980S

Industrial Development Decade for Africa

1978–1988

Transport and Communications Decade for Africa

1976–1985

United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

1973–1983

Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

1971–1980

Second United Nations Development Decade

General Knowledge

1970S

Disarmament Decade

1960–1970

United Nations Development Decade