

**KSAFOR  
UNESCO**  
since 1946

**Committed  
to a Better  
Future**



# Saudi Arabia presents its candidacy for a seat among UNESCO's Executive Board.

**Our candidacy is about one thing: a better future.**

We pledge to **build bridges** in service of humanity and, especially, the youth we empower. We also fully recognize our leading role in effecting change, actively cooperating with the globe as the **only Arab nation** among the G20 countries. These bridges mirror the founding principles of UNESCO, dedicated to making the world a smaller, richer place. The evidence lies in our **uninterrupted support** to the organization since our membership in 1946.

## Three pillars of belief reinforce the Kingdom's support to the Organization:

1

**Culture and the Arts:** We believe strongly in our capacity to harness the Kingdom's position as the heart of Arab and Islamic cultures.

2

**Education and Technology:** At the heart of Saudi Arabia's keenness on developing its educational system is the introduction of innovation into every level.

3

**Youth Empowerment:** Via a large, young, and vibrant society, Saudi Arabia promises to be a leader of change, crafting a generation capable of meeting the challenges of the future.



① Al-Qatt Al-Asiri, female traditional interior wall decoration in Asir

# A journey through history: Saudi Arabia and UNESCO



1946

The Kingdom was the 4th country that met in London after the end of World War II to construct peace "in the minds of men".

1964

The Kingdom appointed its first permanent representative to UNESCO, His Excellency Dr. Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Khuwaiter.



1984

The Kingdom made a significant contribution to the Organization's budget when the United States withdrew from UNESCO.



2006

Establishment of a program by HRH Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz to support the Arabic language, making it an official UNESCO language.



2007

Establishment of the first Saudi research chair in UNESCO in cooperation with the King Saud University.



2008

The Kingdom was elected as a member of the Executive Board to increase its international presence in the Organization as a key player in decision-making.



2008

The Kingdom's first archaeological site was listed on the UNESCO World Heritage List: **Al-Hijr (Madâin Sâlih)**.



2009

The first Saudi poetry evening was held in UNESCO for the poet Ghazi al-Gosaibi, which attracted large Arab and French audiences.



2010

The Kingdom recorded its second archeological site on the UNESCO World Heritage List, which is the **At-Turaif District** in the historic city of ad-Dir'iyyah.



2010

The Ministry of Education signed an agreement to establish the King Abdullah bin Abdelaziz International Program for a **Culture of Peace and Dialogue** at UNESCO.



2014

Establishment of the Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education in the Arab Region under the auspices of UNESCO in order to provide the "right to education for all".



2014

The Kingdom registered its third archaeological site on the UNESCO World Heritage List: **historic Jeddah, the Gate to Makkah**.



2014

Saudi Arabia signed a memorandum of understanding between the King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue and UNESCO to promote the **value of dialogue** between peoples and religions.



2015

The Kingdom contributed to the development of the Global Agenda for Education 2030 and works with international committees to prepare the **fourth goal of sustainable and education-based development** through the establishment of regional and international programs and workshops.



⬆ Rijal Almaa village in the Asir region



## 2010

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Award for Translation was held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.



## 2011

The Organization voted on the membership of Palestine as a Member State of UNESCO, with the Kingdom playing a major role in mobilizing support.



## 2011

The Kingdom made a **generous contribution** when the United States of America refrained from paying their share of the regular contribution of US \$ 20 million.



## 2012

The Kingdom was elected to the Executive Board for the **second time in a row** as well as to the post of Vice President of the Executive Board for the Arab Group.



## 2015

The Kingdom registered its fourth archeological site on the UNESCO World Heritage List: **rock art in the Hail region**.



## 2015

Misk Foundation provided generous support to the organization to establish the **Ninth UNESCO Youth Forum**.



## 2016

Signing of a memorandum of cooperation between Misk Foundation and UNESCO to **empower youth around the world**.



## 2017

Riyadh hosted the UNESCO NGO Forum in partnership with Misk Foundation to **empower the world's youth to enable positive social impact**.



**2017**

MiSK Foundation launched its **International NGO Award** in cooperation with UNESCO.



**2018**

MiSK Foundation sponsored the **UNESCO NGO Forum** in Moscow, Russia.



**2018**

The Kingdom registered its fifth archaeological site on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the **Al-Ahsa Oasis**.



**2019**

The **second Saudi poetry evening** was held in UNESCO for the poet HRH Prince Bader bin Abdulmohsen, attracting large Arab and French audiences.



**2019**

Signing of a memorandum of cooperation between the Ministry of Culture of Saudi Arabia and UNESCO in the presence of HH Prince Badr Al Farhan, Minister of Culture and UNESCO Director-General, Ms. Audrey Azoulay.



Hand in hand, as we solve our future challenges, **our story continues** driven by our shared convictions.



⤴ At-Turaif District in ad-Dir'iyah

## Our agenda for UNESCO

Given the profound nature of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's history and culture, we strive to empower young people, strengthening cultural ties and developing their educational prospects.

This is our goal for Saudi Arabia, and the world. This is a mission which we aspire to achieve, together with UNESCO and its member states.



- **Developing in tandem with the UNESCO Organization:** pursue its development, ensuring transparency, fairness, and efficiency to serve humanity.



- **Building Cultural Bridges:** keep harnessing the potential of youth to build cultural bridges and facilitate intercultural dialogue worldwide.



- **Meeting Future Challenges:** highlight and empower non-profit organizations to create a deeper impact, and a stronger global civil society for a more inclusive and tolerant Humanity.



- **Preserving our Islamic and Arab heritage:** undertake endeavors with our peers to preserve their collective cultural and historical legacy.



- **Enhancing Innovation:** continue to provide international youth with leading initiatives to foster innovation through technology and education.

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