



14th World Congress of Consuls 2025

Marrakech, Morocco | October 29 - November 1, 2025

The 14th World Congress of Consuls brought together more than 200 participants, representing 87 countries, from around the world in Marrakech, Morocco, for four days of strategic discussions, cultural exchange, and General Assembly proceedings. Organized by the Union of Honorary Consuls in Morocco (UCHM) at the Es Saadi Resort, the Congress was a resounding success, marking a significant moment in the evolution of global consular cooperation.

Congress Overview

The Congress opened with a welcoming reception hosted by Hon. Atman Haloui, President of UCHM, and Hon. Nikolaos K. Margaropoulos, FICAC President, in the Es Saadi Palace's Salle des Lions. Distinguished speakers formally opened the Conference, beginning with H.E. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, former President of Croatia, followed by Mr. Mohammed Idrissi, representative of the city of Marrakesh, Mr. Mohamed Benjelloun, representative of the Moroccan Agency for Investment and Export Development, and concluded with Mr. Fouad M. Ammor, Vice President of the Moroccan Council for Foreign Affairs, who delivered a compelling address on "African Unity: Between the Weight of the Past and the Constraints of the Future." These opening addresses set the tone for the strategic discussions that would follow throughout the Congress.



Two comprehensive panel discussions brought together FICAC leadership and board members to address contemporary challenges in consular work. The first panel, "Bridging Nations in Modern Times," explored trust-building between nations and communities, consular diplomacy's role in economic partnerships, cultural dialogue, youth education, humanitarian engagement, and regional cooperation. Speakers included Hon. Asif Chowdhury-FICAC Vice - President, Hon. Karim Qubain FICAC Treasurer, Hon. Aykut Eken, FICAC President Emeritus, Denis Van den Weghe, FICAC Board Member, Hon. Nathalie Mimoun, Chairwoman of the FICAC Women in Diplomacy Committee, Hon. Dikshu C. Kukreja, and Hon. Cameron McKenzie. The second panel, "Navigating Modern Diplomacy," covered modern diplomacy in a multipolar world, health diplomacy, crisis management, technology and digital pathways, citizen protection, sustainability and climate issues, and cybersecurity. Speakers included Hon. Purrshottam Bhaggeria, FICAC Secretary General, Hon. Raja Aghzadi, Chairwoman of the FICAC Health Committee, FICAC Board Members Hon. Stelio Campanale, Hon. Ami Orkaby, Hon. Kwame Acquah, Hon. Fatma Gonul Oray-Eken, and Hon. Luis J. Vella, representing the global reach of the organization.



Presidential Report

In his address to the General Assembly, the President of the World Federation of Consuls (FICAC), Hon. Nikolaos K. Margaropoulos, reflected on a transformative three-year journey that



strengthened the organization's global presence and legacy. Since the 2022 Congress in Limassol, Cyprus, FICAC has welcomed 11 new member countries into its network, expanding its presence across Latin America, Eastern Europe, and the Indian Ocean region.

FICAC organized five major regional conferences—in Ghana, Honduras, the Philippines, Kazakhstan, and Greece—bringing consular training and

networking opportunities directly to different parts of the world. Strategic partnerships flourished through 11 Memoranda of Understanding with universities worldwide and a significant collaboration with the International Chamber of Commerce, recognizing honorary consuls as vital bridges in global trade. Milestones included the launch of the Executive Diploma in Diplomacy, the publication of *Contemporary Diplomatic and Consular Relations* with Springer, and the establishment of the FICAC Foundation in the United Kingdom to support scholarships and peace initiatives.

The President also celebrated the growing impact of the Women in Diplomacy Committee, the Energy Diplomacy Forum, and symbolic projects such as the planting of Trees of Peace around the world. Concluding his report, he emphasized that FICAC has evolved into a dynamic force for peace, education, and international cooperation—bridging nations, fostering trust, and shaping the diplomats of tomorrow.

A Black-Tie Gala Dinner at La Mamounia concluded the formal proceedings, with delegates traveling by horse-drawn carriage from the Es Saadi Hotel.

Cultural Programs

Delegates immersed themselves in the rich cultural and natural beauty of Morocco through a selection of distinctive experiences. Some explored the historic heart of Marrakech on a guided city tour, visiting the stunning Ben Youssef Madrasa, the vibrant Jardin Majorelle, and the elegant Yves Saint Laurent Museum. Others indulged in relaxation and rejuvenation at the Traditional



Hamam Targa, a quintessential Moroccan spa experience. For those seeking adventure, the Agafay Desert excursion offered breathtaking landscapes and a taste of the region's nomadic spirit. Meanwhile, golf enthusiasts enjoyed a serene day at the Royal Golf of Marrakech, surrounded by lush greens and views of the majestic Atlas Mountains.

