



# 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN FOR UWC DILIJAN

KNOWLEDGE  
HARMONY  
PEACE



# UWCD IN 2024

---

Our first 10 years have been full of ups and downs of a start-up with an added mix of unpredictable factors such as the pandemic and the geopolitical situation in the region. And while at times it has been difficult to fathom moving ahead, we have succeeded by all measures and, if anything, used those circumstances to build up our community and its resilience.

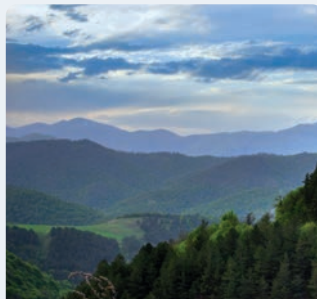
With UWCD uniqueness being highlighted through its location and association with the host country, UWC Dilijan has been opening the world to Armenia and Armenia to the world through education. It has become an impetus for the economic fabric of Dilijan and the region, and together with partner organisations, it contributes to the development of Armenia.

AS A MEMBER OF THE UWC MOVEMENT, UWC DILIJAN HAS A MISSION TO MAKE EDUCATION A FORCE TO UNITE PEOPLE, NATIONS AND CULTURES FOR PEACE AND A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE. UWC DILIJAN IS A DIVERSE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ASPIRING TO MAKE AN IMPACT:



## PERSONALLY

on the students



## LOCALLY

on the Dilijan community



## REGIONALLY

on Armenia and the Caucasus



## GLOBALLY

through education

With alumni from 118 countries, UWCD's impact on their life journeys is clear – the opportunities the school gives to the young people are empowering them to achieve personal heights. These opportunities were afforded thanks to the generosity of the individuals and organisations associated with the school, especially those who provide ongoing funding. And this in its turn enabled the school to become a player in international education in the region and a strong member of the UWC movement.

Along with delivering its academic curriculum as an IB World School, the following distinctive characteristics of the UWCD education have emerged:

- PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION
- CREATIVITY
- SUSTAINABILITY
- TECHNOLOGY

IN SHORT, WE CAN CONFIDENTLY SAY THAT UWC DILIJAN HAS FLOURISHED DESPITE THE TURBULENCE CAUSED BY THE PANDEMIC AND THE GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION. IT HAS ESTABLISHED ITSELF IN ITS FIRST DECADE AS A FORCE FOR GOOD IN THE REGION AND THE WORLD. NOW IS THE TIME TO THINK BIGGER AS WE HIGHLIGHT KNOWLEDGE, HARMONY AND PEACE AS HALLMARKS DRIVING THE SCHOOL AND ITS DEVELOPMENT.

# WHAT WE ASPIRE TO ACHIEVE IN THE NEXT DECADE

---

THE ANNIVERSARY IS AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE TO CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS WHILE GARNERING FURTHER SUPPORT AND CAPITALISING ON OPPORTUNITIES. HAVING PROVEN ITSELF AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ON PAR WITH TOP SCHOOLS IN THE WORLD THROUGH THE IB RESULTS, UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF DILIJAN AND THE REGION, UWC DILIJAN IS WELL PLACED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

Copper-fasten its position as the only UWC in the region and establish itself as an education hub through the delivery of initiatives like Samsung Innovation Campus

Continue raising the profile of UWC Dilijan globally through further engagement with the UWC family and with international and regional donors

Reach out to a wider group of individual stakeholders whose values are in line with UWCD's and who can consider supporting the school

Secure 10 multi-year scholarship commitments and commitments to support infrastructure development

Inspire every graduate to contribute \$10 for the 10th anniversary

Lay the foundation for an endowment fund for scholarships



# WHY UWCD IS WORTHY OF YOUR SUPPORT

---

WE ARE AN INTERCONNECTED COMMUNITY OF STUDENTS, STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS, PARENTS, ALUMNI, DONORS AND FRIENDS, DEFINED BY OUR BELONGING TO THE UWCD FAMILY. BELOW ARE EXAMPLES OF THE “FIRSTS” THAT HIGHLIGHT ITS UNIQUE NATURE.

**220**

students and their families



**35**

teaching staff



**917**

alumni



**118**

countries



**750**

supporters



**70**

staff



**21**

board & committee members



**10**

international partners



# POWERFUL STORIES

---



## FIRST TO DREAM

As early as 2006, Ruben Vardanyan and Veronika Zonabend started dreaming of developing an international school in Armenia. They wanted it to be an incubator for intercultural education crucial for today's fragile planet and to inspire students to respect and learn from each other and become true global citizens who will be bridge builders. To achieve this, they envisaged bringing the transformational power of education to young people from diverse geographies, cultures and backgrounds. That's how the idea of UWC Dilijan was born.

---

## FIRST SUPPORTERS TO JOIN

One of the families who have been there from the very start of the UWCD journey are Noubar and Anna Afeyan. They are both board members and Founding Patrons of the school and have been providing considerable support. Their recent efforts focused on refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh, including scholarships to attend UWC Dilijan and to participate in JDI, our summer camp. Noubar and Anna's commitment to UWC Dilijan, through their regular presence combined with multi-year support, have been an example to other donors.



## AMONG THE FIRST TO JOIN THE BOARD



**Elisabet Engellau** has been on the Board of Governors of UWC Dilijan since 2011, and sits on the Nomination and Governance, Education and Safeguarding Committees. Elisabet is Adjunct Clinical Professor of Management at INSEAD Business School in France and a Founding Partner - Director of the Kets de Vries Institute (KDVI), a consulting firm that specialises in organisational/leadership development and transformation. Elisabet's special interests include women in business, particularly in the Middle East.



**Michael Obermayer** was on the Board of Governors from 2011 to 2017. Having served on the Board of IB and with an understanding of the value of IB as a parent, Michael was passionate about UWC Dilijan selecting the IB. With a PhD in Biochemistry and an MBA, Michael spent most of his career at McKinsey & Company in a number of top positions in his native Sweden and several other countries. Michael was Managing Director of the Global Leadership Fellows Programme and served as the Chairman of the World Economic Forum.

---



## FIRST PARTNERSHIP IN ARMENIA

Ameriabank and Ameria leadership team have been generous supporters of the school since 2014, the very beginning. Every year Ameriabank allocates two full scholarships for Armenian students. In addition, the leadership team collectively supports another student from Armenia. Ten generations of Armenian students benefited from their tremendous generosity.

---



## FIRST GRADUATE TO GO TO HARVARD

Workneh Jano (Ethiopia, UWCD'18) grew up in a small village called Matala in Southern Ethiopia. His childhood was challenging. Workneh studied in a local school and also worked as a shoeshine boy in order to buy kerosene that he used at night to study. Joining UWC Dilijan at the age of 16 with a scholarship from a private donor transformed Workneh's life. Workneh was admitted to Harvard University on graduation in 2018.

---

## FIRST SUPPORTER AMONG OUR ALUMS

A member of the initial class of UWCD students, Philipp Woelk (Italy, UWCD'16) made the very first donation to UWC Dilijan in 2016 on his graduation. Philipp is now an associate at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) based in London.



## FIRST UWCD FAMILY TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL

Nieves Mantecon, from Spain, is one of the alumni parents who made significant contributions to UWCD. Nieves's daughter Lucia is a graduate of 2016, our first, and very special, class. Acknowledging the quality of Lucia's education and eager to ensure that other students have a chance, Nieves made several donations towards the student hardship fund.

---

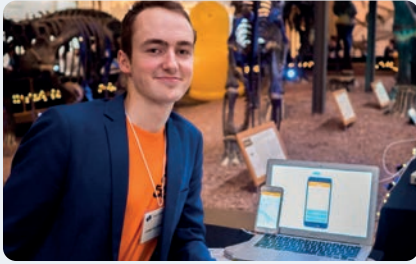
## FIRST GRADUATES TO FOUND A NONPROFIT WHILE AT UWCD

On graduation in 2017 two UWCD alumni – Cedric Solms (Germany, UWCD'17) and Misha Zamskoy (Russia, UWCD'17) – started a novel venture Re-apaga charity foundation (re-apaga means “recreating the future”), the first recycling facility in Armenia and helped raise awareness among the population about the impact of e-waste. Their organisation grew into SmartApaga LLC, a unique win-win programme where everyone can be rewarded for recycling.



## FIRST SIBLINGS TO ATTEND UWCD

Romain Bouan (France, UWCD'16) and Thea Bouan (France, UWCD'20) have a special story that connects the family to Armenia. A century ago the French Navy distinguished itself by rescuing 4,092 Armenians from the sea in what is now southern Turkey. The evacuation was organised in September 1915 by Admiral D'Artige du Fournet, a Roman and Tea's ancestor, who took sole responsibility for this initiative and saved more than 4000 lives of Armenians.



## FIRST GRADUATE TO FOUND A COMPANY

Jonas Kavaliauskas (Lithuania, UWCD'16), has a BA in Economics and Computer Science from Yale University and was selected as a Schwarzman Scholar to study in China. Having majored in economics and computer science, Jonas is the founder and CEO of Atlas Academy, a European education consulting company. He is also an Associate at Contrarian Ventures, investing in climate tech startups across Europe and Israel. Jonas aspires to combine his passion for investing, entrepreneurship, and education to benefit the global community

---

## FIRST INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TO STAY IN ARMENIA

On graduation, Jeppe Strands (Denmark, UWCD'18) stayed in Armenia and established four different educational projects for children in the Tsaghkunk and Artanish villages. He was active in the Digital Hub Armenia as a member of the Global Shapers Community, an initiative of the World Economic Forum. It is a network of social development hubs created and led by young people driving dialogue, action and change in their local communities.



---

## FIRST UWCD GRADUATES TO COME BACK TO WORK AT UWCD



### Nour Mussa

Born to a family of refugees from Sudan that has settled in Lebanon, Nour (Sudan, UWCD'18) had passion for learning and keen interest in sciences. Admission to UWC Dilijan and the Aurora Scholarship changed Nour's life. Having graduated from the University of Rochester, US, Nour is today a mathematics teacher assistant at UWC Dilijan.

### Paula Legisamo

Paula (Uruguay, UWCD'18) graduated from UWC Dilijan in 2018 and has been an active member of our community - she served on the inaugural Alumni Council and volunteered for the UWC National Committee of Uruguay. With a BA in Philosophy from her home country, Paula is now a philosophy teacher at UWC Dilijan.

---

## FIRST INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

We are proud of our partnership with Samsung Electronics, to be a site for the Samsung Innovation Campus in Armenia. The initiative is aimed at enabling Armenian youth to develop their IT skills and learn the concepts related to android mobile programming. The formal educational programme is built around the delivery of an in-person training for 100 Armenian youth ages 14-16 annually. Samsung Electronics has equipped the facility with the state-of-the-art technology. With classes taking place over weekends, our completion rates compare very favourably with the same programmes delivered in other countries.

## SAMSUNG



# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

UWC DILIJAN IS CONTINUES TO LOOK TO ALL WHO BELIEVE IN THE TRANSFORMATIONAL POWER OF EDUCATION TO SUPPORT IT BY CONTRIBUTING TO ITS LONG-TERM VIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY.



## Scholarships

Almost all the students are on some form of scholarship, enabling a true cultural, geographic and socio-economic diversity.

- ▶ Full scholarship is US\$88,000 over two years



## Peace & Conflict Resolution

UWC Dilijan is ready to contribute proactively to building peace and preventing violence through education and related activities. Funding to organise youth exchanges in the region will enable us to build bridges among youth leaders.

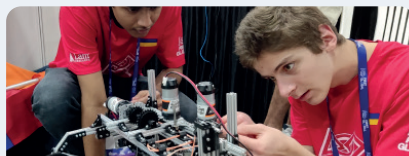


## UWC Short Course Bursary



## Endowment

It is of paramount importance to build an endowment that can help the school achieve sustainability while maintaining diversity of student population.



## Student Activities Fund

We do our best to provide all students with enriching and interesting experiences that can add value to the well-rounded UWC education. Some of the activities require additional funds to make them meaningful and transformative.

UWC Dilijan runs UWC Short Courses, a summer programme for young people ages 15-17. To maintain diversity of the students availing of the summer camp, we provide summer school bursaries to Armenian students and students from neighbouring countries.

- ▶ The cost of a two-week summer camp is US\$3,500.



## Phase II Capital Development

In the mid-term there are two major developments which can further enable UWC Dilijan to consolidate its' unique position:

- ▶ The International Performing Arts Centre - estimated construction cost \$60 mln
- ▶ Second phase of the residential quarter of UWC Dilijan - estimated construction cost \$30 mln



## Student Hardship Fund

While the scholarship covers tuition and all school costs, many students require assistance with travel costs and pocket expenses while at school.

- ▶ Depending on the distance to home US\$2,000 to \$4,000 per year is needed for each student on full scholarship (constituting 25% of the student population).

For further information and to make a gift please visit [www.uwcdilijan.org](http://www.uwcdilijan.org)

or contact

**ADAM ARMANSKI**

Head of School

[adam.armanski@uwcdilijan.am](mailto:adam.armanski@uwcdilijan.am)

**ARPEN GHAHRIYAN**

External Relations Manager

[a.ghahriyan@uwcdilijan.am](mailto:a.ghahriyan@uwcdilijan.am)

+374 (60) 750 800 (ext. 1311) or +374 (93) 206 104

