## PRESS RELEASE

## UNITED NATIONS EVENT SPOTLIGHTS ROLE OF SPORTS IN PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (PVE) ON FIRST EVER INTERNATIONAL DAY

New York, 13 February 202

Mr. Leif Villadsen, Deputy Director, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI): UNICRI is pleased to be a part of celebrating and promoting the positive impact that sport can have on communities and individuals, as well as the important role it can play as a tool for the prevention of violent extremism. In highlighting the vital experience and hard work of civil society organizations implementing sport-based PVE projects, this Roundtable has been an important platform for collaboration and learning among stakeholders

Bram Van Haver, speaking on behalf of Miguel Angel Moratinos, High Representative, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC): "Sport is a key tool to prevent violent extremism as it transcends geographical borders. The universal popularity of sport presents an opportunity to attract and mobilize people of all ages, cultures, and religions, making it a unique peacebuilding tool

Jassim Al Ali, Events Director, Generation Amazing Foundation (GA): Youth organizations can play a very critical role in resilience against violent extremism. Through the power of sport, we can drive young people to impact change in their communities through these organizations