



## NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

January 6, 2020



### **2019 in Review: The UAE's Year of Tolerance**

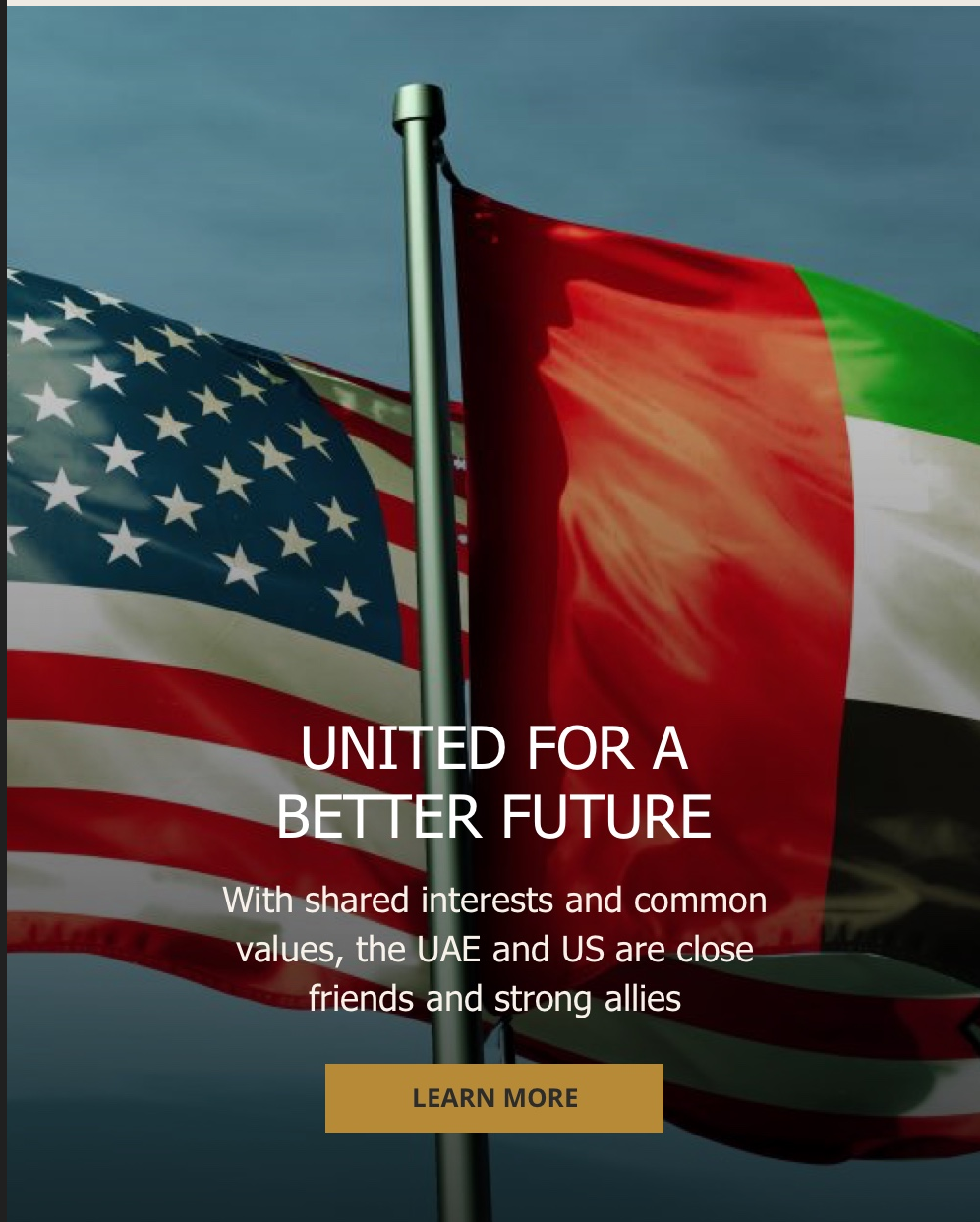
The United Arab Emirates celebrated 2019 as the Year of Tolerance in recognition of the country's inclusive, multicultural heritage and forward-looking vision. Throughout the year, the UAE made it a special priority to encourage inclusion and inspire hope for a better future.

- In February, His Holiness Pope Francis made a [historic visit](#) to the UAE. His Holiness joined Dr. Ahmed el-Tayeb, the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, to sign the Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together. Pope Francis also celebrated mass in front of 180,000 worshippers at Zayed Sports City.
- In March, Abu Dhabi hosted the [2019 Special Olympics World Games](#), bringing together 7,500 athletes from more than 190 countries. The games set new records in

terms of nations represented and participation by female athletes.

- The first Emirati astronaut, Hazzaa AlMansoori, traveled to the International Space Station (ISS), alongside American and Russian astronauts.
- UAE leadership announced plans for the [Abrahamic Family House in Abu Dhabi](#). Including a mosque, synagogue and church, the interfaith center will provide a place of worship, learning and dialogue for all visitors.

In 2020, the UAE will remain committed to the deeply held values of tolerance and inclusion in order to create a more open and peaceful region.



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