



In a hectic everyday life the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, took the time to meet and talk with the Youth Delegates. Photo: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

Speaking in the UN General Assembly

At the very first day of the 3rd Committee a large number of Youth Delegates spoke on behalf of their countries. As youth is not a homogeneous group, the priorities of the delegates also varied. On page 2 you meet four Youth Delegates – you can download all the speeches and watch videos of them on www.youthdelegates.org

Dialogue Initiatives

- Our differences are essential, motivating, and valuable, said Abdulaziz Tarabzoni, the Youth Delegate from Saudi Arabia, in a workshop on how to increase the dialogue between nations and youth in the framework of the International Year of Youth. The Saudi Arabian Mission to the UN hosted the event. Read Mr Tarabzoni's article on dialogue and politics on www.youthdelegates.org

The Yogyakarta Principles

Several Youth Delegates spoke about discrimination of LGBTTIQ youth. As a response to well-documented incidents of abuse, a group of human rights experts met in Indonesia in 2006, to outline a set of international principles relating to sexual orientation and gender identity. Read Felix König's and Jens Parker's article about the Yogyakarta principles on www.youthdelegates.org

Our Year, Our Voice – Bulgaria

The Bulgarian Youth Delegate has the pleasure to invite you to two events commemorating the 25th anniversary of the first international year of youth and the 5th anniversary of the campaign "Bulgarian Youth Delegate" under the motto "Because the youth is the solution, not the problem":

October 11, 13:30 – 14:30:

A panel discussion on "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding", with the support of UNESCO, at UNESCO's office 2 UN plaza, DC-2 building, 9th floor. Please note that it is a brown-bag lunch event, so feel free to bring your own lunch.

October 12 from 13:30:

A unique exhibition of the Bulgarian artistic interpretation of the priority areas from the World Programme of Action on Youth at the Bulgarian General Consulate, 121 East 62nd Street.

Read more about the International Year of Youth on www.un.org/youthyear



Speaking in the 3rd Committee:

Yoon Jeong Kang (Republic of Korea) focused on youth participation in decision-making processes and social integration. She highlighted 3 messages related to these priorities of Korean youth. 1) how the Government in the Republic of Korea has been doing so far in order to encourage youth participation in decision-making processes and social integration. 2) the importance of ICT, which is used widely and universally by youth. 3) the need for coordination and cooperation of those who are working with youth and continuous support from the UN.

Dana Vyzinkarova (Slovakia) used her speech to advocate for youth everywhere to get a basic knowledge of development. This, she emphasized, would lead to every young person forming their own opinion on global issues. Ms Vyzinkarova is concerned about the fact that there are too many young people in developed countries who misunderstand the concept of development as well as humanitarian aid and carry a negative attitude, most of the times without having sufficient background information.

Abdulaziz Tarabzoni (Saudi Arabia) (right) asked the General Assembly to – “for a moment, put aside the usual rhetoric on the concerns of under-development, and look at the upside of what we can do together” – and reminded the member states that “we’re living in times where the world is becoming smaller, and the network effects are leveraged by the internet and new media: meaning, any local opportunities could turn into large scale success stories”.



Felix König (Sweden) addressed issues of discrimination and inequalities: “Any discrimination ground paired with being young can create another kind of stigma, and in the long run inequalities and discrimination will lead to continued exclusion, making it impossible for decision-makers to deal with issues such as bad health or youth unemployment.” The young Swede stressed that “young people need to be trusted with their own decisions and design their lives in the way that suits them, otherwise mistakes from earlier generations will be passed on to the young people of today.”



Meet with us – come to our seminars and workshops!

Want to know what young people and our organisations think, know and do about climate change, inter-cultural dialogue or employment? Talk to us – or come to our events!

October 12, 08:30 – 09:30: Swiss Working Breakfast

Welcome to a Working Breakfast on the topic “Successful Environmental Policy; Youth participation in decision making processes”.

Our aim is to establish a Guide of Best Practices and a Course of Action for youth participation in environmental policies by sharing the expertise and experience of sustainable development officers (from UNICEF and UNDESA among others), youth organisations representatives and UN delegates.

Youth participation in environmental decision-making processes is a green motor towards sustainable development and a benefit for young people and society as a whole. Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN: 633 Third Avenue, 29th floor.