



#UN4all

#youth4peace

#YOUTH2030

## 8<sup>th</sup> Economic and Social Council Youth Forum

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### Interactive Roundtable with the President of the General Assembly on Youth, Peace and Security

9 April 2019, 11.30am – 1:00 pm

United Nations Headquarters, New York

#### Background

The landmark Security Council resolution 2250, adopted in 2015, followed by Security Council resolution 2419 (2018), recognized young people's positive contribution to the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. Young people's contribution to peace and security is key to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustaining Peace Agenda, as demonstrated by the independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security, *The Missing Peace* (A/72/761; S/2018/86).

The President of the General Assembly (PGA) has declared the Youth, Peace and Security agenda as one of the thematic priorities in line with the theme of the 73<sup>rd</sup> session of the General Assembly: "Making the United Nations relevant to all people; global leadership and shared responsibility for peaceful, equitable and sustainable societies".

The 2019 ECOSOC Youth Forum will address the theme "Empowered, Included and Equal" and offers a unique space for the PGA to hold an interactive dialogue with youth leaders and youth organizations from all over the world, to discuss how best to promote youth inclusion in the political, civic and economic spheres, especially in relation to the future of work and decent work for all, and the interlinkages with peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The interactive dialogue will explore how to foster young people's participation in civic, political and economic life as conditions for their meaningful inclusion in their societies. The interactive dialogue will also be an opportunity to discuss how governments and other actors, including the private sector, can help create opportunities for decent and equitable work for young people and ensure economic inclusion. As demonstrated by *The Missing Peace*, countering the "violence of exclusion" and investing in the meaningful inclusion of young people is indispensable to address experiences of

horizontal inequalities, including lack of economic and social mobility, political exclusion, mistrust towards corrupt institutions, unmet social needs, perception of injustice and identity-based factors.

Recommendations from the dialogue will feed into the High-level Meeting on The Future of Work on 10 April and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to be held under the auspices of ECOSOC in July 2019 which will review progress in implementing SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals) - all relevant to the theme of youth, peace and security.

### **Purpose**

- **Discuss the best approaches to facilitate meaningful inclusion of youth in the civic, political and economic spheres and the inter-linkages with peacebuilding and sustaining peace:** challenges and examples of ongoing initiatives.
- **Discuss the pathways for future of work transitions for youth**
- **Discuss key recommendations of the Progress Study related to young people's inclusion, including examples of ongoing initiatives and commitments.**

### **Format**

An hour and a half dedicated agenda item during the ECOSOC Youth Forum, chaired by the President of the General Assembly and moderated by a youth representative.

The dialogue would feature a Davos-style panel including the President of the General Assembly and up to five young peacebuilders. Participants will be seated alternately with ECOSOC Member States.

### **Outcome**

The President's Summary of key submissions and recommendations of participants.

The interactive dialogue will be webcast live.

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### **Organizers**

The session will be organized in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with the United Network of Young (UNOY) Peacebuilders.