Economic and Social Council Youth Forum

10th Anniversary

CONCEPT NOTE

PEACE & INCLUSION - SDG 10 & SDG 16

IDENTIFICATION	
Session title as per programme	Peace & Inclusion Thematic Session
Session co-lead UN	Kirsty Rancier; UNODC Gilberto Duarte; UNODC
Session co-lead Youth	Mohamed Edabbar; Global Youth Caucus for SDG 16 Khaled Emam; Global Youth Caucus for SDG 16 Marcela Browne; Education at Fundcación SES
Session co-organizers	Emilia Harriet Hannuksela; OSGEY Gizem Kilinc; OSGEY
	Regev Ben Jacob; UNICEF
	Sue Vize; UNESCO Maria Kypriotou; UNESCO Vivian Leung; UNESCO Romina Kasman; UNESCO Yvonne Matuturu; UNESCO
	Dana Podmolikova; UNAOC

	Noella Richard; UNDP Maria Stage; UNDP
	Sylvia Poll; ITU Jenny Arana; ITU
	Danish Tariqu; Youth Advocacy Network
	Emediong Akpabio; Youth Action for Peace and United Community, Nigeria Mathilde Stephanie Ngo Pouhe; Youth Action for Peace and United Community, Nigeria
	Rosario Diaz Garavito; MGCY LAC Regional Caucus, The Millennials Movement
	Sharifah Norizah Syed Ahamad Kabeer; MGCY Asia Pacific RCC (ASEAN) and IYC4Peace of the International Youth Centre Kuala Lumpur
	Regine Guevara; Asian Youth Peace Network and Asian Youth Council
	Assia Oulkadi; European Youth Forum
	Timothy Onyango; Network of International Youth Organizations in Africa
Session moderator(s)	Kirsty Rancier, UNODC
	Mohamed Edabbar; Global Youth Caucus for SDG 16
Session note-taker(s)	Sharifah Norizah Syed Ahamad Kabeer; MGCY Asia Pacific RCC (ASEAN) and IYC4Peace of the International Youth Centre Kuala Lumpur
	Haneen Abusalah, Global Youth Caucus for SDG 16

Inclusive Peace: The Way Forward

The world has significantly changed in the past twelve months due the COVID-19 crisis. The fallout of this pandemic, and its exacerbation of pre-existing inequalities and discrimination, have highlighted the importance of peaceful, just and inclusive societies and supporting the rights of all, including youth. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a new generation of inequalities were emerging, also exacerbated by the climate crisis and deepening power imbalances. Due to the pandemic, increased inequalities are exemplified by a more evident digital gap, loss of jobs and income. These discriminatory practices also pave the way for vulnerabilities linked to trafficking in persons and unsafe migration patterns. In addition, inequalities, exclusion, discrimination and human rights violations are driving many of today's conflicts.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also affected our relationship with different forms of crime, violence and conflict, as well as people's trust in public institutions. Violence against women and girls (targets 5.2 and 16.2) increased during the pandemic while homes became "not-so-safe" spaces. The adoption of lockdown measures does not seem to affect homicide rates (target 16.1) and access to justice, especially criminal justice (target 16.3) has been severely impacted. Organized criminal groups continued to profit (target 16.4) while concerns over the transparency and accountability of emergency government funds increased (target 16.5, 16.6 and 16.10). There has also been concern for reduced civic spaces, and public participation as well as the criminalization of rights defenders in many countries (target 16.7).

To address these challenges, it will be important to enable opportunities for youth participation in decision-making processes and reducing inequalities in access to services, decent jobs, quality education and justice. Reducing inequality calls for an end to exploitation, strong mechanisms for the provision of justice, preventing crime, anti-discrimination legislation as well as combatting corruption. Indeed, targets 10.2 and 10.3 directly relate to SDG 16's commitment to non-discriminatory laws and policies (target 16.b). Additionally, progress towards SDG 10, especially the reduction of horizontal inequalities, can help advance peace and reduce the risk of conflict, crime and violence. In that context, a sustainable recovery also requires rethinking governance, bridging divides between conflicting parties, and strengthening the social contract between governments and people.

It is furthermore important to note that one of the key principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the complementarity and interdependence between its various goals and targets. Peace, justice and inclusion are not only present in Goal 16 targets, but also in those of the SDGs. For example, target 4.7 calls for education "to promote sustainable

development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development". Likewise, the issue of trafficking in persons is present on targets 5.2, 8.7 and 10.7. A final example is target 15.7, on wildlife crime, noting that the COVID-19 is a zoonotic disease. As a result, youth engagement on peace and inclusion is as much about Goals 10 and 16 as it is about other relevant targets in the SDG16+ spectrum.

This thematic session on, "Inclusive Peace", will cover four main topics that are relevant to the process of building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic and address how to achieve targets set out in both SDG 10 and SDG 16.

The four topics that will be addressed are:
1. Digital inclusion and safe spaces;
2. Participation in decision-making and peace processes;
3. Reducing inequalities and discrimination;
4. Crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law.

These topics will be discussed and analyzed in this session with the hope of having specific outcomes, related to each of these topics. The goal of this session is to have young people make recommendations on how they can be meaningfully involved in addressing these challenges and advancing sustainable development, with a focus on Peace and Inclusion.

SESSION OBJECTIVES

The objectives for this session will follow the four topics outlined in background. Through this session young people will:

1. Deepen the understanding of the impact of the COVID-19 crisis within the context of inclusive peace for young people.
2. Generate youth-led recommendations to Member States, decision makers, partners and stakeholders on topics related to SDG 10 and SDG 16.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

This session is expected to generate the following outcomes:

1. Recommendations on how Member States, decision makers, partners and stakeholders can work with youth to help recover better and achieve the various targets under Goals 10 and 16;
2. Suggestions for increased youth engagement and participation in intergovernmental processes related to the implementation of Goals 10 and 16;
3. Key avenues through which young people can become more involved with the various issues surrounding Goals 10 and 16 in a tangible and comprehensive manner.

APPROACH USED TO GENERATE CONCRETE CONTRIBUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to generate concrete contributions and recommendations, there will be a series of consultations during briefings and preparatory events. In addition, material will be gathered to share how young people have been addressing SDG 10 and SDG16 over the past year. These submissions could include:

- A collection of reflections from young people (written and video);
- Breakouts discussing specific targets - pre-sort participants by area of interest/expertise. Use "ideaboardz", or similar technologies, to quickly collect key points as the basis for SDG 16 youth outcome statemen to pass to the President of the Council and disseminate;
- An invitation for young people to share some personal experiences of the COVID-19 crisis;
- Preliminary findings from the UNESCO global youth-led research initiative, "Youth as Researchers on COVID-19" (YAR), will help to inform the draft recommendations for discussion.

OVERALL STRUCTURE AND FLOW

The session will start with opening remarks and then will be broken down into four "focus areas" (outlined in the Background) which will each have a speaker report back on each of the themes, based on the preparatory events. There will then be time for a Q&A session through the chat, following by concluding statements.

Kindly see the outline below:

14:30-14:32: Opening Remarks
14:33-14:37: Keynote speaker
14:38-14:39: Remarks from the hosts + Mentimeter launch
14:40-15:09: Key recommendations within the four focus areas based on preparatory activities and other consultations.
15:10-15:25: Q&A Session
15:26-15:30: Closing statements from hosts/Mentimeter summary

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following discussion questions are based on the discussion topics outlined previously:

1. Digital inclusion and safe spaces:
    - What measures need to be taken to ensure inclusive, equal access and use of ICTs for young people?
    - How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected young people's safety online?
    - What is the role of young people in promoting safe spaces in the digital world and how can they be engaged in this area?

2. Participation in decision-making and peace building processes:
    - How can we ensure meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes and how can it be supported in the context of the COVID-19 crisis?
    - What steps could be taken by decision makers, partners and stakeholders to increase trust and social cohesion in societies?
    - What does participation in peace processes look like today, and how can it facilitate the inclusion of the needs and aspiration of all segments of society?

3. Reducing inequalities and discrimination:

- What are the main forms of discrimination and what can be done by policymakers to reduce discriminatory practices that young people are facing in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic?
- How can youth promote the culture of peace in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic?
- Considering the plurality and diversity of youth, who is being "left behind" in global efforts to reduce inequalities?

4. Crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law:
   - How has the social impact of COVID-19 increased risks and vulnerabilities of young people that are known as risk factors for their victimization and engagement to crime and violence? What type of responses are needed to address these factors and how could these responses be youth-centered?
   - How have crime, justice and human rights been affected as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic? In particular, how have children and youth been further exposed to crime, violence and human rights violations?
   - Which good practices of meaningful youth engagement in crime prevention and criminal justice can be identified?

PREPARATORY EVENTS

The following are the suggested preparatory events for the session:

- Briefing on the outcomes of the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, including its Workshop on Education and Youth Engagement, and the pre-Congress youth forum organized by the Government of Japan. Tentatively on 24 March 2021.
- A briefing on SDG 16(+) from the Global Youth Caucus on SDG 16 and the Global Alliance on SDG 16+ (UNDP, UNODC, UNESCO, OHCHR, UNHCR, UN Women, UN Global Compact). TBC.
- Event on youth leadership in building peaceful, just and inclusive societies in the context of UNDP's Youth Global 16 x 16 Initiative, 16 March 2021 (information will be available on www.youth4peace.info)
- Presentation of the Youth, Peace and Security Programming Handbook, organized by UNDP, UNFPA, PBSO-DPPA and Folke Bernadotte Academy, 11 March 2021 (information will be available on www.youth4peace.info)
- ITU's Road to Addis event on Digital Inclusion, 18 March 2021.

SUGGESTED READING

General reading:

- Rome Youth Call-to-Action for peaceful, just and inclusive societies (2019) https://www.youth4peace.info/system/files/2019-06/Rome%20Youth%20Call%20to%20action%20-%20designed%20version.pdf
- SDG 16 breakout session ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019 reporting: https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2019doc/Online%20Reporting-SDG16.pdf and summary: https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2019doc/Summary-SDG16.pdf
- Major Group on Children and Youth (MGCY)(2019). SDG16 report. https://www.unmgcy.org/sdg-16-publication
- Global Alliance (2019). Enabling the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda Through SDG 16+: Anchoring Peace, Justice and Inclusion. Report https://www.sdg16hub.org/content/global-alliance-enabling-implementation-2030-agenda-through-sdg-16-anchoring-peace-justice
- The Global Alliance and TAP Network (2020) Mainstreaming SDG 16: Using the Voluntary National Review to Advance More Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies: https://www.sdg16hub.org/content/mainstreaming-sdg-16-using-voluntary-national-review-advance-more-peaceful-just-and
- UNSC (2020). Report of the Secretary-General on youth and peace and security (S/2020/167). https://undocs.org/en/S/2020/167
- The Amman Youth Declaration (2015). Youth, peace and security. Declaration from the global forum on youth, peace and security. https://www.youth4peace.info/node/49
- UNESCO 2020 - Youth As Researchers: exploring the impact of COVID-19
- UNESCO 2020 - COVID-19 Pandemic: Youth Engaged in the #NextNormal

Digital inclusion and safe spaces:

- ITU Digital Inclusion Thematic Priority (2020). https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/Pages/default.aspx
- ITU Generation Connect initiative. https://www.itu.int/generationconnect/
- ITU COP Guidelineshttps://www.itu-cop-guidelines.com/

- UNDP (2019). Human Development Report 2019: Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st century. http://hdr.undp.org/en/2019-report.

Participation in decision-making and peace building processes:

- UNDP (2017). Youth Participation in Electoral Processes – Handbook for Electoral Management Bodies. https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/youth-participation-in-electoral-processes-a-handbook-for-embs.html
- Marshall, Chelsea (2016). Critical agents of change in the 2030 Agenda: Youth-inclusive governance indicators for national-level monitoring. https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/critical-agents-of-change-in-the-2030-agenda.html
- UNDESA (2015). The World Youth Report on Civic Engagement. https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/world-youth-report/2015-2.html
- UN (2020) Guidance note on the protection and promotion of civic space. https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/CivicSpace/UN_Guidance_Note.pdf
- UNESCO - #YouthWagingPeace - Youth-Led Guide to Preventing Violent Extremism. https://www.unesco.at/fileadmin/Redaktion/Publikationen/Publikations-Dokumente/2017__Youth_Waging_Peace.pdf
- UNESCO (2019). Teaching and Learning Transformative Engagement. https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000368961?locale=en
- Youth, Peace and Security: A programming handbook (UN and FBA, 2021): https://www.youth4peace.info/YPShandbook
- The young leaders of the 16 x 16 Initiative. (2019-2020). The 16 x 16 blog series. https://www.youth4peace.info/node/351
- Simpson, Graeme (2018). The independent progress study on youth, peace and security 'the missing peace'. https://www.youth4peace.info/system/files/2018-10/youth-web-english.pdf
- UNSC (2020). Report of the Secretary-General on youth and peace and security (S/2020/167). https://undocs.org/en/S/2020/167
- Compact for young people in humanitarian action (2020). COVID-19: Working with and for young people
- Altiok, Ali & Irena Grizelj (2019). We are here: An integrated approach to youth-inclusive peace processes. Policy report. https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Global-Policy-Paper-Youth-Participation-in-Peace-Processes.pdf
- UNDP (2019). Frontlines: Young people at the forefront of preventing and responding to violent extremism. https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/frontlines.html

- Peace Direct and United Network of Young Peacebuilders (2019). Youth and Peacebuilding https://www.peacedirect.org/us/youth-and-peacebuilding/
- IANYD & Peace Nexus (2016). Practice note: Young People's Participation in Peacebuilding: https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/practice-note--young-people-s-participation-in-peacebuilding.html
- The Amman Youth Declaration (2015). Youth, peace and security. Declaration from the global forum on youth, peace and security. https://www.youth4peace.info/node/49
- Compact for young people in humanitarian action (2020). COVID-19: Working with and for young people
- Conducive Space for Peace and Peace Direct: COVID-19 and the impact upon local peacebuilding. https://www.peacedirect.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-19-and-the-impact-on-local-peacebuilding.pdf.
- UNSC resolutions on youth, peace and security 2250(2015), 2419(2018), 2535(2020).
- Aceproject.org. Youth Participation in Political Processes. https://aceproject.org/ace-en/topics/yt/

Reducing inequalities and discrimination:

- UNODC - The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on trafficking in persons - https://www.unodc.org/documents/Advocacy-Section/HTMSS_Thematic_Brief_on_COVID-19.pdf
- UNODC - Education for Justice (E4J) Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants modules. https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/tertiary/trafficking-in-persons-smuggling-of-migrants.html
- Forced return of migrants must be suspended in times of COVID-19. https://www.unodc.org/documents/press/releases/network_statement_forced_returns_-_13_may_2020.pdf
- UNDP (2019). Human Development Report 2019: Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st century. http://hdr.undp.org/en/2019-report
- Simpson, Graeme (2018). The independent progress study on youth, peace and security 'the missing peace'. https://www.youth4peace.info/system/files/2018-10/youth-web-english.pdf
- UNSC (2020). Report of the Secretary-General on youth and peace and security (S/2020/167). https://undocs.org/en/S/2020/167

Crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law:
- UNODC Education for Justice (E4J) - university modules on crime prevention, criminal justice and other rule of law aspects: https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/tertiary/index.html
- Conference Room Paper presented at the 29th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and criminal Justice on youth engagement and the rule of law.

https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/CCPCJ_Sessions/CCPCJ_28/E_CN15_2019_CRP5_e_V1903546.pdf
- 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice – Background paper on the Workshop on "Education and youth engagement as key to making societies resilient to crime". https://undocs.org/A/CONF.234/10
- 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice – Working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in face of the COVID-19 pandemic. https://undocs.org/A/CONF.234/15
- What crime and helpline data say about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on reported violence against women and girls. https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/covid/Violence_against_women_24Nov.pdf
- Strengthening the Rule of Law through Education: A Guide for Policymakers (UNODC/UNESCO), available in official languages and Portuguese https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/about-e4j/unodc-unesco-guide-for-policymakers.html
- UNODC-UNDP Guidance Note on Ensuring Access to Justice in the Context of COVID-19. https://www.unodc.org/documents/Advocacy-Section/Ensuring_Access_to_Justice_in_the_Context_of_COVID-191.pdf
- UNODC Research brief: COVID-19-related Trafficking of Medical Products as a Threat to Public Health https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/covid/COVID-19_research_brief_trafficking_medical_products.pdf.
- UNODC - Preventing future pandemics of zoonotic origin by combatting wildlife crime: protecting global health, security and economy. https://www.unodc.org/documents/Advocacy-Section/Wildlife_trafficking_COVID_19_GPWLFC_public.pdf
- UNODC youth crime prevention through sport. https://www.unodc.org/dohadeclaration/en/topics/crime-prevention-through-sports.html
- The challenges of protecting youth from crime and violence in a pandemic https://www.unodc.org/dohadeclaration/en/news/2020/11/the-challenges-of-protecting-youth-from-crime-and-violence-in-a-pandemic.html
- UNSC (2020). Report of the Secretary-General on youth and peace and security (S/2020/167). https://undocs.org/en/S/2020/167

OTHER RESOURCES IN SPANISH:

- ¿Quieres conocer prácticas sobre cómo otros jóvenes construyen sociedades más justas y democráticas?
- Impulsa el cambio en tu comunidad en este curso gratuito http://on.unesco.org/mooc-jovenes junto a grandes especialistas y referentes de la región
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taDC7ZML5B4&feature=youtu.be

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