

DÉCLARATION DE MONTPELLIER

DECLARATION OF THE YOUTH SUMMIT ON PEACE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE, MONTPELLIER, FRANCE

Under the auspices of the city of Montpellier, represented by its Mayor Michaël DELAFOSSE, and of the Institute of Public Policy and Diplomacy Research (IPPDR), represented by Dr Andrise BASS, Founder,

We, the youth of nations united, gathered at the Youth Summit on Peace and Sustainable Future at the City Hall in Montpellier, France.

We renew our commitment to the United Nations Charter and recognize the pressing wish to contribute further to global peacebuilding efforts. We declare our collective need to better reflect the current global landscape and the vital role of youth in fostering peace and sustainability within the framework of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015).

To this end, we declare the following:

Preamble

The global community faces unprecedented challenges, including escalating conflicts, increased migration, and the intensifying climate crisis, all of which necessitate integrated, innovative and inclusive solutions;

Whereas the meaningful inclusion of youth in peacebuilding efforts is essential for creating sustainable societies;

Whereas the principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities underscore the necessity of inclusion and empowerment of all individuals, particularly youth, in peacebuilding processes;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015) emphasizes the critical role of young people in preventing and resolving conflicts and in sustaining peace;

We, the participants of the Youth Summit on Peace and Sustainable Future, propose the following recommendations and suggestions to enhance the implementation of UNSCR 2250 and to promote a peaceful and sustainable future:

Participation

Active Representation and Participation in Peace Processes:

Call on all relevant actors to actively involve marginalized young people including persons with disabilities, indigenous, displaced, migrants, refugees, and LGBTQAI + and consider their views, including when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, recognizing that their marginalization is detrimental to building sustainable peace.

Youth Engagement Strategy:

Promote the development and the implementation of a youth-led peace strategy including representation, participation, social and economic development, local economies, youth employment, vocational training, education, political engagement, capacity building and monitoring and evaluation.

Protection

Compliance with International Law:

Emphasize that all previous UN Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions to end impunity be implemented.

Financial Assistance:

Further call upon Member States to reinforce and provide financial assistance to youth organizations involved in peace initiatives.

Prevention

Culture of Peace: Emphasize UNESCO's role on the Culture of Peace and call on Member States and all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector to support mechanisms that promote a culture of peace, tolerance, and dialogue, involving youth and discouraging participation in acts of violence, terrorism, xenophobia, hate speech, discrimination, and disinformation/misinformation.

Partnerships

Collaborative Initiatives: Support collaborative initiatives among youth and between youth organizations and the public and private sector to foster dialogue, peace, and reconciliation.

Disengagement and Reintegration:

Capacity Building and Orientation: Support adequate structures, and institutions, such as vocational and orientation centres for disengaging from conflict and reintegrating the youth into society.

Next Steps

Request the Secretary-General to review the progress and impact of youth contributions to peace processes and conflict resolution, and report to the Security Council every three years.

Member States are to ensure inclusive representation of youth in decision-making processes at all levels and in mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflict. Consider developing a Peace Index with a set timeframe and targets to facilitate monitoring and evaluation.

We, the youth, united in our resolve, call upon the United Nations and its Member States to heed these recommendations and work collaboratively towards a world where peace and sustainability are not just aspirations but realities. We stand ready to lead and support these efforts, ensuring that the voices of the youth are integral to the global peacebuilding agenda.

The following countries represent the youth delegates who participated in the youth summit and contributed to this document. The delegates hail from various continents (Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, and Oceania), showcasing a diverse range of perspectives and experiences. Here are the countries they represent:

Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Laos, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.

Signed in Montpellier on July 25th, 2024

Michaël DELAFOSSE



Mayor of Montpellier

Andrise BASS



**Founder, Institute of Public Policy
and Diplomacy Research (IPPDR)**