



**Youth, Peace & Security in the Europe and  
Central Asia Region:  
A Consultation and Dialogue  
23-25 May 2017, Istanbul, Turkey**



**Annex A  
Guidelines for Application**

**Background**

In December of 2015, the Security Council adopted the groundbreaking Resolution 2250, on Youth, Peace and Security. For the first time, the UN Security Council recognized the **positive role young people can and do play in conflict prevention, the prevention of violent extremism and peacebuilding**. The Resolution was championed by Jordan, and adopted unanimously.

[United Nations Security Council Resolution \(UNSCR\) 2250 \(2015\)](#) is premised on the fact that governments and the multilateral system have been challenged in effectively accessing, working with and fully including young people in peacebuilding, prevention efforts and decision-making at all levels.

UNSCR 2250 mandates the Secretary-General “to carry out a progress study on the youth’s positive contribution to peace processes and conflict resolution, in order to recommend effective responses at local, national, regional and international levels”, and to present the results of the [Progress Study](#) to Member States of the United Nations. The Study is being undertaken as an independent, evidence-based and participatory research process, and will produce an operational report proposing a forward-looking agenda for the international community. It will provide the evidence of young women and young men’s engagement on peace and security issues and help overturn the negative stereotypes surrounding youth in conflict by highlighting and promoting young people’s active and positive contributions to sustaining peace.

The Europe and Central Asia Consultation is part of a series of regional consultations for the Progress Study. It will also be an important opportunity to support a strategic dialogue between young people working on peace and security issues, civil society organizations, and regional partners and institutions on UNSCR 2250 to support concrete change on the ground.

**How to Apply**

Given the regional context, participants will be considered and identified through the following modalities:

- Inviting applications from country-level youth organizations involved in peace and security, particularly from among [youth-led peacebuilding organizations](#) identified by the United Network of Young Peacebuilders
- Nominations from UN offices in the region in consultation with national institutions

The selection of young people from the Europe and Central Asia will be made based on motivation and experience, with balance ensured in terms of age, gender, geography and diversity among selected participants. Successful applicants will be notified by email. The travel, visa and accommodation of the select youth participants will be provided.

The application process involves submitting an online application form, and a creative submission. Please submit your application by **Sunday, 30 April 2017 at 5 pm (Istanbul time)**. Please follow the steps below:

1. Click here to use the [online application form](#)
2. The creative submission inspired by peacebuilding could take the form of a video, a photo story/essay, a painting, a poem or a written story and should be submitted along with the online application form. The key point is that the submission tells a personal story or shares an experience, idea or vision related to youth and peacebuilding. Aspects of the creative submissions may be used to raise awareness of youth peacebuilders in the region through UN social media platforms. Please send your creative/s to [ecayouth4peace@gmail.com](mailto:ecayouth4peace@gmail.com). **For heavy files, please upload your file in any file-sharing platforms and send the link to [ecayouth4peace@gmail.com](mailto:ecayouth4peace@gmail.com).**

In order to be evaluated, your application has to be complete and submitted before the deadline. Late applications will not be accepted.

### **Eligibility**

To be eligible, applicants need to fulfill each and every one of the following criteria:

- Applicants must be between **18 and 31** at the time of the consultation, and should possess a valid passport with a minimum validity period of 6 months after the date of the consultation.
- Must be from the following: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, and Kosovo<sup>1</sup>.
- Applications must be submitted in **English or Russian** language.
- Applicants must be able to travel to and participate in the entire event in Istanbul from 23-25 May 2017 (travelling on 22<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> depending on available flights).
- Applicants must be engaged in peacebuilding or supporting youth-led organizations working on peacebuilding, which is understood in a broad sense: peace processes, social cohesion, violence reduction, reconciliation, transitional justice, preventing violent extremism, disarmament demobilization and reintegration or other relevant humanitarian work.
- All applicants must demonstrate commitment, experience and a vision for youth and peacebuilding.

### **Selection Process and Evaluation**

All applications received will be reviewed to assess their eligibility on the basis of the criteria mentioned and the quality of the submission. Only those selected will receive an email notification. The selected applicants are not chosen as representatives of their country, but will have been chosen to contribute to the representation of the diversity of youth-led organisations across the Europe and Central Asia region. Evaluation and selection will be conducted by a Selection Committee on the basis of the following criteria:

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<sup>1</sup> All references to Kosovo are understood to be in the context of UNSCR 1244.

### **Evaluation Criteria for applicant's experience in peacebuilding:**

- We aim for gender balance to ensure equal participation of female and male participants, with a mix of rural and urban based participants.
- Diversity among participants; youth from various socioeconomic backgrounds, with disabilities, varied ethnic or religious backgrounds, minority groups, the LGBTIQ community, etc. are encouraged to apply.

### **Evaluation Criteria for the creative expression:**

- The creative submission inspired by peacebuilding could take the form of a video, a photo story, a painting, a poem or a written story.
- It must be original work and not previously published or submitted to another competition.
- The creative expression submitted by the online application form may be in low-resolution, high-resolution or compressed.
- It should identify any individuals featured in the art by name and age. Any videos, photos, or posters featuring a child (defined as any individual under the age of 18) must be accompanied by a consent form duly filled and signed by the parent or legal guardian of the child.
- You can use any language but an English translation must be provided.

*\*Please note that all creative submissions will become the property of the United Nations, whether applicants are selected or not. Any future usage of designs will give credit to their creators. With your submission you are consenting to the use of your creatives.*

**We wish you the best of luck in the application and look forward to reviewing your application!**

### **More Information**

For questions please write to [ecayouth4peace@gmail.com](mailto:ecayouth4peace@gmail.com).

For more information on the Youth, Peace and Security Europe and Central Asia Regional Consultation, please see concept note.

### **Additional Resources:**

- Click [here](#) to access UNSCR 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security in all official UN languages
- Click [here](#) to visualize the UNSCR 2250 Infographics
- Click [here](#) to read the Amman Youth Declaration (2015)
- Click [here](#) to access UNSCR 2282 (2016) on the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture
- Click [here](#) to download the Overview of the Progress Study