



Youth,
Peace &
Security

5th Anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 2250

December 2020

A social media toolkit prepared by
the Global Coalition on Youth,
Peace & Security

About GCYPS

The Global Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security (GCYPS) was established in 2012 as part of the broader UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD). The GCYPS is co-chaired by the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders) and Search for Common Ground (SFCG). It brings together a wide constituency of civil society organizations, including youth-led and youth-focused organizations, UN entities, donors, academia and inter-governmental bodies. The GCYPS provides overall guidance and support to the growing community of practice on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS), and helps coordinate ways to translate UN Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) policy into practice; improve and amplify evidence-based practice; and support and advocate for young people's meaningful participation in peace and security efforts everywhere.

Background

Five years ago, on 9 December 2015, the United Nations Security Council adopted UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015), urging Member States to include the voice of youth in decision-making and to participate meaningfully and comprehensively in peace processes. It has paved the way to empower a growing global youth population for peace and security. The over 1.8 billion global youth population is the largest number of people between the ages of 18-29 in history. UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015) also recognized that young people often form the majority of the population of countries affected by armed conflict.

In 2018, the Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) included three key findings: (1) the positive narrative around youth as an asset, not a problem; (2) the reciprocal mistrust among youth, governments and the multilateral system; (3) the violence of youth exclusion from political, civic, and economic life. To address these findings, two more UNSC resolutions have been adopted - UNSCR 2419 (2018) and UNSCR 2535 (2020) --ensuring that the implementation of the YPS agenda remains a priority for Member States and other decision-makers.

In a bid to celebrate UNSC 2250 and the progress for empowering youth as active agents for positive change, the Global Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security (GCYPS) has created this social media toolkit as guidance to contribute to the coalition's global efforts towards the YPS vision. The GCYPS seeks to highlight the importance of young people around the world by mobilising a global social movement. In doing so, we will celebrate the progress of the past five years, but also look forward to the next five years.

Background

The social media toolkit is organized in sections of 'general posts', which reflect subjective post content, highlighting the five pillars of youth, peace and security:

- Participation
- Protection
- Prevention
- Partnership - Intergenerational or INGO/Multilateral/Government
- Disengagement and Reintegration.

In addition, the GCYPS has also added two important sections:

- The intersection of Gender and Youth
- Youth & COVID

As suggested, these posts can be used for general languages (English, Français, Español, Arabic) ahead of and on the anniversary day, 9 December 2020.

In the spirit of collaboration, the GCYPS hopes the social media toolkit can be used as an inspiration for many young people and other youth-led organizations alike, to share their stories and program narratives. We want to hear from you on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Tik Tok, and Instagram - the more 'real' and creative the better!

Create your own YPS anniversary post:



Hashtags

We have developed hashtags for everyone to use with their social media posts. These hashtags will encourage everyone to join the global conversation. We have organized the primary hashtags and secondary ones. We encourage all social media posts to at least have the primary hashtag. The secondary hashtags can be used if you wish to reach other audiences.

Primary Hashtag:

 #Youth4Peace

Secondary Hashtags:

 #YPSAnniversary

 #ActOn2250

 #Yes4YPS

 #YouthLead

 #YPSNext5

 #YPSCall4Action

Social Media Posts

Below are the social media posts we have drafted to help inspire ideas for the global campaign to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the YPS UN Security Council Resolution 2250. Please, feel free to directly use the content below. We also encourage youth and youth-led organizations to highlight their own stories and thoughts on what more can be done in the next 5 years.

General:

- 1 in 4 young people around the world live in conflicted-affected areas. It is vital to amplify the voice of youth in decision-making & to participate meaningfully & comprehensively in peace processes.
#Youth4Peace #ActOn2250
- There are over 1.8 billion young people in the world today. Five years since the UN Sec Council Res 2250 was adopted, it continues to empower young people to be a part of peace and security processes. #YPSAnniversary #Youth4Peace
- On this day, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 2250 which recognized and empowered young people to be positive agents for peace and security. #Youth4Peace #YPSAnniversary
- Five years after UNSCR 2250, it is important to continue to translate the words of the resolution into concrete actions at the local, national and regional level that engage youth in peace and security. #YPSAnniversary #Youth4Peace
- Building lasting peace, justice and reconciliation is possible by ensuring that young people are engaged through inclusive, intersectional and youth-friendly policies. #Youth4Peace #YouthLead

Participation:

- As global conflict increases and the pandemic rages on, youth voices are essential for a path forward. #Youth4Peace #Yes4YPS
- Young people are often labeled as too naive or too inexperienced and even stigmatized as the problem. UN Security Council Resolution 2250 sought to flip the script by empowering young people to be a part of peace and security conversations. #Yes4YPS #YPSAnniversary

- We must invest in young people's talent for mediation & involve diverse young people in peace processes if we wish to achieve long-lasting peace. #ActOn2250 #Youth4Peace
- Of the 1.8 billion global youth population, 1 in 4 live in conflicted-affected countries. Their inclusion in peace and security conversation is essential for sustainable peace. #YPSNext5 #Youth4Peace
- Young people need to be recognized for the value of their informal contributions, as a critical bridge to formal peace processes. #Youth4Peace #YPSCall4Action

Protection

- While civic space is closing around the world, youth voices are needed more than ever. Young men and women are active agents for inclusive peace in their own countries. #Yes4YPS #Youth4Peace
- While UN Sec Council Res 2250 empowers young people to be active agents for positive change, youth are scapegoated and sometimes harmed for wanting to add their perspectives in the peace & security debate. The YPS agenda must continue to protect the space for young people to be agents for positive change. #Youth4Peace #ActOn2250
- Young people globally are leading movements to address violence. Yet, youth efforts for peace & security are met with violent efforts to limit their impact. Resolution 2250 seeks to protect young people from violence & all forms of sexual and gender-based violence. #Youth4Peace
- Young peacebuilders & young human rights defenders continue to be subjected to threats, violence and intimidation by state and non-state actors. Further protection mechanisms need to be implemented to support their safety & security. #YPSAnniversary #Youth4Peace

- Youth working in peace & security who experience multiple and intersecting forms (i.e. ethnicity, gender, religion) of discrimination are at higher risk of targeted violence. #Youth4Peace #YPSCall4Action

Prevention:

- Protests around the world have largely been driven by young people demanding a greater say in governance and policy development, better economic and employment opportunities, and equal participation in society. #Youth4Peace #YPSAnniversary
- UN Sec Council Res 2250 calls for mechanisms to be created to promote a culture of peace, tolerance, intercultural and interreligious dialogue involving youth in all their diversity. #YPSnext5 #Youth4Peace
- Call on governments to adopt inclusive policies to support young people's participation in peacebuilding. #Youth4Peace #YPSAnniversary
- UNSCR 2250 emphasizes peace education for youth as an approach that promotes human rights, active participation and can positively contribute to peace and security efforts. #YPSAnniversary #Youth4Peace
- By recognizing the positive role youth play in peace & security, governments should strengthen inclusive and participatory processes for young people. #YouthLead #Youth4Peace

Partnership - Intergenerational or INGO/Multilateral/Government:

- Young people should not just be labeled as beneficiaries of programs or development projects. They should be in the conversation to lead the change and be a part of the implementation. #Youth4Peace #Yes4YPS

- A majority of the youth-led organizations operate with limited funding, with 49% operating under USD 5,000 per annum and only 11% over USD 100,000. This makes investing in youth-led approaches very cost-effective. #Yes4YPS #Youth4Peace <https://unoy.org/wp-content/uploads/Mapping-a-Sector-Bridging-the-Evidence-Gap-on-Youth-Driven-Peacebuilding.pdf>
- Majority of the conflict-affected countries around the world have a majority youth population. Yet, voices of young people are often left out of the conversation. Young people must be included in conversations that will greatly impact them. #YouthLead #Youth4Peace
- Young people are the driving force for change. Collaborating with other youth-focused peace actors & intergenerational allies will ensure our impact is more sustainable. #Youth4Peace #ActOn2250
- Young people are already working for sustainable and inclusive peace and we commit to working in partnership with young people in all their diversity to realise this reality #Youth4Peace #ActOn2250

Disengagement and Reintegration:

- We must support the reintegration of young people back into society after their involvement in armed conflict. Then we must empower them to become active agents for sustainable peace & security. #YPSnext5 #Youth4Peace
- UNSCR 2250 recognizes the role of reintegration to lasting & sustainable peace. We urge governments to strengthen youth employability, capacity building efforts and the promotion of a culture of peace. #ActOn2250 #Youth4Peace
- Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration policies and mechanisms should be evidence-based and incorporate a gender-sensitive and youth-inclusive approach. #YPSCall4Action #Youth4Peace

- To ensure successful reintegration of young people back to their communities, all relevant actors - including private, public, civil society & intergovernmental must be involved to strengthen the process. #ActOn2250 #Youth4Peace

Intersection of Gender and Youth:

- The #WPS & #YPS agendas enhance the ways we understand the causes of violence and in framing how solutions are developed to address them. #Yes4YPS #Youth4Peace
- Young men are critical actors in shifting gender norms & partnering with young women in both the #WPS & #YPS agendas. Pushing beyond the gender binary is critical to shaping the future of peace & security. #Yes4YPS #Youth4Peace
- The #YPS & #WPS agendas must meaningfully work together & push beyond the gender binaries to truly support young people's meaningful participation. #Youth4Peace #YouthLead
- Too often, the #YPS agenda is assumed to be only young men. However, young women also play a pivotal role in building and maintaining peace around the world. It is important to include the participation of all youth. #ActOn2250 #Youth4Peace
- Young women too often fall through the gaps of #WPS & #YPS - synergies between the agendas must be recognised to highlight the work of young women and the importance of their participation for inclusive & sustainable peace #YPSnext5 #Youth4Peace

Youth and COVID-19:

- Youth have creative ideas of how to overcome the challenges of lockdown during #COVID19. They are skilled with technology and social media, and can strengthen the online capacity of the population. #ActOn2250 #Youth4Peace
- Youth are on the frontlines of COVID-19 prevention around the world. Empowering young people is vital to protect the physical safety of their communities, prevent violence, and build peace. #Yes4YPS #Youth4Peace
- Young people are often blamed for spreading the #coronavirus. In fact, young people around the world are on the frontlines of the #Pandemic providing necessary resources & helping curb the spread of misinformation. #YPSAnniversary #Youth4Peace
- Youth have championed innovative responses to #Coronavirus from serving as essential workers, sensitising local communities and deploying technology to help the world recover together. #Youth4Peace #ActOn2250
- Youth-led organisations have organized to rapidly identify solutions to respond to emerging issues (i.e. domestic violence, health & reproductive rights) to those most vulnerable in their communities. #YouthLead #Youth4Peace