

# National United Nations Youth Delegates Luxembourg

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The UNYD Luxembourg Program is a citizenship education project, which aims to support the UN Youth Delegates from Luxembourg in representing the voice of youth from Luxembourg at the UN. Furthermore, as part of their mission, the UN Youth Delegates raise awareness about the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), making them accessible, tangible and relevant for the lives of young people in Luxembourg.

At the end of 2019, the programme steering group, coordinated by the National Youth Council of Luxembourg, relaunched the programme with a call for applications. In spring 2020, the two new UN Youth Delegates for Luxembourg were officially selected and announced: Ema Mehic and Lara Schummer.

Unfortunately, upon this excitement, followed the strains of the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in Luxembourg and the lockdown, which made the implementation of the programme difficult and face to face exchanges with other young people in Luxembourg impossible. As such as the programme had to adapt to the current situation, which meant that the bulk of the UNYD's mandate had to be delivered digitally – for example through an online survey to gauge young people's perception of the SDGs, a virtual meet and greet with other UN Youth Delegates from across Europe, even their participation at the meeting of the "Third Committee" at the UN had to be carried out from a distance and with the help of video-conferencing tools. However, none of this could dampen Lara and Ema's dedication to the programme and their commitment to their role and responsibility of representing young people towards decision makers at the UN. Proof of this can be found in the diverse range of achievements both have accomplished such as:

- Drafting and Publication of a Position Paper on the 75th anniversary of the United Nations
- Intervention in the Third Committee Informal Debate of UN Youth Delegates (organised by the EU Delegation to the UN and the UN Youth Envoy), where the UNYDs from around the world shared their perspectives on challenges affecting young people and their hopes for the future.

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- Intervention in a special event to celebrate #UN75 “The Future We Want” - The Voice of Youth, Leaders and Artists, commemorating the EU’s 70th and UN’s 75th anniversary. Here, the UNYDs had an opportunity to talk about what their future should look like alongside other UN Youth Delegates! The collective message was divided into three videos, talking about reducing inequalities, protecting the environment and fostering youth participation.
- An Interview with the Luxembourg Ambassador to the UN
- Organization and Delivery of a Side Event with Ukrainian UNYDs centered around an online discussion about SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, youth participation, and voting for young people from the age of 16.

Currently Ema and Lara are busy preparing their concept note for SDG awareness raising workshops for formal and non-formal education setting.

Due to the exceptional circumstances of 2020, the programme steering group unanimously decided to prolong their mandate until 2022 to hopefully enable them more meaningful and physical interactions with other young people and a physical presence at the UN in 2021. Therefore the next call for applications will be published at the end of 2021.

## Infobox

**Vous désirez plus d’informations sur ce projet?**

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