

## United Nations Youth Delegates Luxembourg



### Infobox:

The UN Youth Delegates officially represent the interest of youth from their country at the United Nations (UN). They are selected to accompany the diplomatic delegation of their government to the meetings at the UN, and particularly the General Assembly of the UN.

The UNYD Luxembourg Program is an educational opportunity, a citizenship education project, which aims to support the UN Youth Delegates from Luxembourg so that the voice of youth from Luxembourg can be heard at the UN.

### **Vous désirez plus d'informations sur ce projet?**

Personne de contact:

Stéphanie Wies  
Directrice adjointe

[stephanie@jugendrot.lu](mailto:stephanie@jugendrot.lu)  
+352 40 60 90 338

On April 1, 2022, Iness Chakir and Lara Bertemes officially took up their mandate as UN youth Delegates. Their first official act as new delegates was a collaboration with the former UN Youth Delegate from Luxembourg (2020-2022), Lara Schummer and Ema Mehic, to prepare and present a statement at the ECOSOC Youth Forum. This statement focused on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on young people and highlighted the need to bridge the digital gap in education and society.

The first 6 months of the new UN Youth Delegates' mandate were dedicated to a nationwide consultation phase - during this time the two youth delegates organized sustainable picnics at the youth center in Clervaux and a move. meeting. Furthermore they enabled young people to take part in an Escape Room on sustainability in Esch/Belval. Finally, they held a coffee afternoon talk to hear more about young people's concerns and ideas. The main topics raised by young people during these consultation activities were: Education, Housing, Transport, Mental Health, Environmental Protection and Inequalities.

# International

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In July 2022, Lara Bertemes was also able to accompany the official Luxembourg delegation to the "High Level Political Forum (HLPF)" at the United Nations in New York. On behalf of Luxembourg's youth she intervened at the presentation of the national voluntary review on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in Luxembourg, focusing particularly on the topics of "mental health" and "housing".



At the beginning of September, Lara and Iness travelled to Berlin to take part in the European Sustainable Development Youth Forum, where they were able to meet with other UNYDs and exchange with them on the topics of migration and youth participation.

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From September 28th to October 15th 2022, Iness Chakir and Lara Bertemes took part in the meetings and discussions of the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly in New York as official members of the national delegation. During this stay, the two UN youth delegates wrote and presented 3 official declarations and 4 interventions in the informal dialogues which covered a huge range of topics namely: children's rights, women's empowerment, housing, work, mental health, freedom of expression and opinion, economic and social rights, greenwashing and disinformation. The complete folder with all the speeches can be found on our website of the National Youth Council in the UNYD section. Furthermore the two UNYDs organised a side event at the Luxembourg House which gathered former and current UNYDS and gave these youth ambassadors the space to freely discuss about the improvements to be put in place to optimise the UNYD programme and the future work of the UNYDs.



After their return, the two youth delegates held talks with the ombudsman for children and young people and the minister for equality between women and men, Ms. Taina Bofferding.

They also shared their experiences with the press and with the different program partners. For example, Iness Chakir participated in ALNU's Seminar "Info Sharing 2022 on Key UN Topics".



The last leg of their UNYD mandate will be focused on the preparations of workshops on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the UNYD program in Luxembourgish schools, as well as their intervention at the ECOSOC Youth Forum in 2023.