



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
European Union – United Nations Youth Delegates
2025 – 2026

The UN Youth Delegate programme

The UN Youth Delegate programme aims at enhancing the participation of young people in the work of the United Nations. Each participating Member State or Observer selects one or several young persons to attend intergovernmental meetings as their representative. The selection processes, mandates and responsibilities of Youth Delegates are determined by each partner.

The purpose of EU - UN Youth Delegates

The participation of the EU in the UN Youth Delegate programme allows the EU to be present in relevant Youth dialogues at the UN, to advocate for the interests and rights of young persons in Europe and to increase the representation and geographic coverage of the EU's youth.

The EU is delighted to continue the EU – UN Youth Delegate programme for EU Delegation to the UN in New York for a fourth year in 2025-26, in cooperation with representatives of European Youth Forum members from EU Member States, National Youth Councils and International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations.

Mission

Two EU - UN Youth Delegates will be selected to participate in the programme. The EU - UN Youth Delegates' mandate will include, inter alia:

- Participate on behalf of the EU Delegation to the UN in New York in relevant discussions, including on youth affairs and other matters as appropriate, in the UN General Assembly and its committees and the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.
- Ensure close coordination and information sharing with EU Member States' Youth Delegates, including through the organisation of regular coordination meetings with EU Member States' Youth Delegates, with the support of the EU Delegation.
- Provide input to EU Delegation staff when needed, to ensure that a youth perspective is reflected across the three pillars of the UN (peace and security, sustainable development, human rights) and in all strands of work.
- Liaise and coordinate with and report back to National Youth Councils and organisations at the EU and EU Member States' level, as well as the EU Youth Sounding Board, to ensure that their voices are reflected and that they are aware of important discussions at the UN which touch on subjects of interest for European youth.
- Communicate on their activities in the context of the Youth Delegates programme in line with the communication strategy created by the EU Delegation, which i.a. includes

hosting/participating in preparation of the “Who Rules the World” podcast episodes, promotion of the same via social media and other channels to their networks, and communicating about other aspects of their work as Youth Delegates.

- Provide guidance to the subsequent cohort of EU – UN Youth delegates, including through the provision of a written handover and a virtual meeting with the selected candidates (tentatively in August 2025).

The programme will begin in September 2025 for a duration of 12 months. It will be managed jointly between the EU Delegation in New York and DG INTPA of the European Commission in Brussels.

The EU - UN Youth Delegates will be tentatively expected to travel to New York around three times during the year, e.g. during the session of the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly, the Commission on Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, the ECOSOC Youth Forum or the High Level Political Forum. They will be embedded in the EU Delegation, and will participate in EU coordination meetings and other relevant meetings as appropriate, including some at ambassadorial level. They will attend and organise events and negotiations to promote a youth perspective across a range of topics.

They will notably be expected to prepare and deliver statements during the Third Committee debate on social development. A Visit to Brussels might also be organised. Delegates are expected to engage for approximately 40 days per year (including travel to New York and Brussels). All visits and activities will be defined in coordination with the Youth Delegates and according to their availability and priorities.

EU - UN Youth Delegates will have introductory meetings with EU officials in preparation of their mandate, and the opportunity to discuss the applicable communication strategy and general expectations with the responsible members of staff at the EU Delegation. They will be responsible for consulting and informing National Youth Councils and relevant youth organisations in the EU, as well as EU Member States Youth delegates. Close coordination will also be sought with the EU’s Youth Sounding Board.

Selection

The selection process will be managed by the EU Delegation in New York. National Youth Councils are invited to submit one candidate per EU Member State to serve for a year as EU - UN Youth Delegate to the UN. Candidates should respond to the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of an EU Member State,
- Be under the age of 30 at the time of application,
- Be able and willing to devote up to approximately 40 days per year and energy to advocacy and actions for youth rights,
- Demonstrate an interest in international relations, political science, law, human rights, international development, public health, climate or any other field related to UN activities.
- Be motivated and/or have experience in and knowledge of youth advocacy and organisations and movements, and have a vision for youth participation at the EU and UN levels,
- Be available to travel to New York around three times during the year, as well as to Brussels,

- Have excellent knowledge of written and spoken English and have good communication and presentation skills.

The EU is committed to the principle of non-discrimination. Applications from European young persons of various backgrounds are encouraged. Respect for gender equality, balance in regional representation and diversity will be key criteria during the selection process.

Timelines

Launch of the Call for Applications: 30 January 2025

The application should consist of a CV and a short motivation letter (one page max.), outlining the candidate's relevant experience, their motivation and how they will contribute to the EU – UN Youth Delegate Programme.

These are to be submitted to **National Youth Councils by 28 February 2025 at 17:00 CET**. Please see information [HERE](#) on respective web sites how to apply: The application documents are to be submitted to National Youth Councils by 28 February 2025 at 17:00 CET. Late applications will not be considered. The deadline for the nomination by the National Youth Councils of candidates from EU Member States and by the European Youth Forum for candidates from their INGO pillar to the EU Delegation to the UN in New York is 14 March 2025 at 17:00 CET.

Further selection process will be conducted in two stages:

- **First stage** - shortlisting: all candidates submitted to the EU Delegation by the National Youth Councils and the European Youth Forum will be informed of the outcome of the first stage by 31 March 2025, by the EU Delegation.
- **Second stage** - interviews: the shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews between 14-18 April 2025, by the EU Delegation.
- **Result:** all shortlisted candidates will be informed of the results by 30 April 2025.

Practical aspects

The EU - UN Youth Delegate programme is an extracurricular programme aimed at exposing young people to the work of the UN and at facilitating intergenerational dialogue. Whenever travel is involved, the EU will cover all travel costs, including flights, accommodation, daily subsistence allowances and insurances. Visa requests are arranged by the EU Delegation.

Impact

This is the fourth year of the EU – UN Youth Delegates programme. This is an innovative platform to strengthen youth participation in EU external action and multilateral activities. The programme is increasing EU coordination and representation on youth issues and beyond at the UN. It will contribute to the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027, the 2020 EU Council Conclusions on Youth in external action and the Youth Action Plan in EU External Action by supporting intergenerational and multicultural dialogue and ensuring the consultation and involvement of youth in policy decisions.

As the programme continues to grow, it is the aim to establish a network of alumni to build linkages among Youth Delegates over time.

Privacy statement

Applications will be handled according to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018R1725>

For any questions, please contact reach out to National Councils:

<https://www.youthforum.org/members?search=&category%5B%5D=304&category%5B%5D=308&category%5B%5D=309&countries=>