YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

IN PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND RADICALIZATION

WORLD CONGRESS ON JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN
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WHAT IS THE OSCE?
Comprehensive approach to security

**POLITICO – MILITARY DIMENSION**
- Arms control
- Border management
- Anti-terrorism
- Conflict prevention
- Military reform
- Policing

**HUMAN DIMENSION**
- Anti-trafficking
- Democratization
- Education
- Election assistance
- Gender equality
- Human rights
- Media freedom
- Minority rights
- Rule of law
- Tolerance
- Non-discrimination

**ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION**
- Money-laundering
- Financing of terrorism
- Good governance
- Migration management
- Water resource management
- Disposal of hazardous waste
Why Youth Engagement?
UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2250 (2015)
ON YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY

"Today's generation of youth is THE LARGEST the world has ever known, and... young people often form the majority of the population of COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLICT."

"Disruption of youth's access to EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES has a dramatic impact on durable peace and reconciliation."

"Youth should actively be engaged in shaping lasting PEACE and contributing to JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION."

"A large youth population presents A UNIQUE DEMOGRAPHIC dividend that can contribute to lasting peace and economic prosperity if INCLUSIVE POLICIES are in place."
The OSCE Youth and Security Agenda

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE POTENTIAL OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND THAT THEY CAN SUPPORT PARTICIPATING STATES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITMENTS IN ALL THREE DIMENSIONS OF THE OSCE.

Ministerial Declaration on Youth, 5 December 2014
SRs on Youth and Security

>> advocate for **youth participation** and **youth mainstreaming**

>> represent and advise the CiO on youth policy issues

>> advocate for needs and rights of youth

>> bring the OSCE closer to youth

>> promote UNSCR 2250(2015)

>> advance priority topics:

  • counter terrorism
  • cyber security
  • digitalization
  • trust and confidence building
  • tolerance & non-discrimination
Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization That Lead to Terrorism

Engage and empower youth by:

- Supporting youth which are willing to contribute to such efforts, through education in schools and higher education institutions
- Supporting youth-led and youth focused awareness raising initiatives, including through the Internet and social media, to prevent and counter their radicalization to terrorism, and to promote respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, tolerance and non-discrimination

Creating an enabling environment and opportunities for youth to participate and engage voluntarily and freely in public life and in the promotion of human rights, fundamental freedoms, democratic principles, the rule of law, tolerance, non-discrimination, dialogue, mutual respect and understanding, and to facilitate their access to social services

Promoting programmes to facilitate youth access to employment

#OSCEyouth

@OSCEyouthSR
P/CVERLT – Engaging Youth

- ‘Youth are part of the solution, not simply part of the problem’

- Challenge today: move from policy dialogue to implementation of the good practices

- We must bridge this work with bottom-up capacity building for practitioners from government and civil society
Get youth on and around the table!

Series of Youth and VERLT Workshops

✓ Tunis
✓ Vienna
✓ Chisinau
✓ Sarajevo
✓ Almaty

>> Counter-Terrorism Conference

>> Mediterranean Conference
Youth recommendations to move forward. . .

- POLITICAL PARTICIPATION
- PEACE AND CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION
- MEDIA AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE
- RESEARCH/ACADEMIA
Youth recommendations to move forward...

- EDUCATION
- REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION
- ENGAGE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES
- HUMAN RIGHTS, SOCIAL & POLITICAL INCLUSION
HUMAN RIGHTS, SOCIAL & POLITICAL INCLUSION

- Investigations in accordance with fundamental principles and rule of law
- Data collection on hate crimes
- Legal service & aid to vulnerable & marginalized groups ➞ equal access to justice
- Invest in rehabilitation, reintegration & counselling
Málaga Youth Forum & Decalogue

- Develop a cross-cutting OSCE policy on youth matters;
- Create online platforms, awareness campaigns and education programmes to counter and prevent violent extremism and radicalization that leads to terrorism;
- Promote computer literacy and online security awareness to protect young people from cyber threats;
- Harness the skills and motivation of young people to build cyber resilience;
- Establish clear mechanisms for youth engagement in implementing, monitoring and reviewing states’ efforts on the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Enable youth to contribute to the transition to green economies;
- Encourage civic education and democratic values among young people to strengthen their capacity to critically engage with the media and the digital world;
- Urge all media and digital actors to acknowledge their social responsibility and influence, and their resulting accountability, to raise the visibility of stories and opinions of young people;
- Support OSCE participating States in promoting youth-impact assessment mechanisms on national legislation;
- Establish structural mechanisms for the meaningful and inclusive participation of young women and men from OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation.
To prevent violent extremism, we need to address the alienation of people from their societies.

Dina Iglikova
Participant of AUT_OSC regional youth workshop on PVE, resident coordinator of the mampassi collective

I am happy to see how youth and security portfolio has become more tangible at the OSCE.

Thomas Greminger
OSCE Secretary General

We need more innovative and inspiring initiatives - not for, but with youth.

Christian Strohal
Special Representative for the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship
Youth is still an untapped resource and can add much to achieving security and stability in the OSCE area.

Asif Safdary
Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Youth and Security

By bringing young women and men closer to policy makers we can make our societies more resilient.

Anna-Katharina Deininger
Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Youth and Security
Terrorism is a crime that has no justification, and it should not be associated with any race, ethnicity, nationality or religion. No state alone can counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. We must co-operate at all levels!

Objective: promotion of tolerance, mutual respect and pluralism to challenge violent extremism.
Awareness-raising
- 40+ videos, hundreds of social media posts

Peer-2-Peer
- #LetsDoodle contest and #DailyThrills social media challenge
- P2P Student Challenge in partnership with Facebook
Leaders against Intolerance and Violent Extremism (LIVE)

- LIVE pilot for youth leaders completed
- LIVE youth course materials finalized
- Train-the-Trainers
- Roll-out ongoing
The LIVE initiative seeks to enable civil society efforts in particular for:

- Grassroots and peer-to-peer awareness-raising against violent extremism
- Counter-messaging to challenge and delegitimize violent extremism and terrorism
- Promoting alternative narratives and opportunities for positive engagement that mitigate the lure of violent extremism and radicalization to terrorism
- Policy advocacy in support of effective measures to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism
Thank you!

- Follow @OSCEyouthSR on Twitter and Facebook
- Join the discussion via #OSCEyouth
- More info: www.osce.org/youth
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