

Report: Youth Insights Shaping the *Pact of the Future* Voices from the UNYA Denmark 10-year anniversary

In response to the challenges of our time and the pressing need for inclusive, forward-looking policy frameworks, this report encapsulates the invaluable perspectives of youth in shaping the *Pact of the Future* and the negotiations taking place in the context of the *Summit of the Future*.

These insights emerged from the recent **10-year anniversary of the United Nations Youth Association (UNYA) Denmark**, which convened to not only celebrate recent youth involvement and past accomplishments of the organization but also shine a light on prospective challenges younger generations will face.

The discussions among participants and their demands and ideas regarding the *Pact of the Future* were integral to the event.

The demographics of the target group were as follows: Individuals aged 16 to 35 with various backgrounds, predominantly students and young professionals, from youth, social and political organizations. Through structured consultations (“case solving activities”) during the anniversary event, participants were asked to debate and formulate their visions, aspirations, and priorities into actionable recommendations aligned with the five main themes (chapters) of the prospective *Pact of the Future*: Sustainable Development & Financing, International Peace and Justice, Science & Digital Technology, Youth & Future Generations, and Global Governance.

This report represents a synthesis of their contributions to the mentioned themes. We trust that this document will serve as a robust foundation for informed deliberations and strategic actions aimed at advancing the ideals embodied in the scope of the *Summit of the Future* and current gaps regarding inclusive youth involvement.

Sustainable Development & Financing:

- Adopting innovative language from the UAE Consensus for the Pact for the Future, setting a new standard for environmental negotiations.
- It is fundamental to prioritize youth investment and global education access.
- The Pact for The Future should reiterate commitment to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Agreement's 23 action-oriented targets.
- Facilitating economic growth while promoting green innovation and societal progress.
- Enhancing local financing for green projects like Chad's water management systems to combat deforestation.
- Encouraging sustainable land-use practices such as agroforestry, organic farming, and reforestation.
- Emphasize equitable access to resources and participation in environmental agreements.
- Ensure sustainable development respects Planetary Boundaries.
- Empower the Global South for a greener future, reducing Western consumption and shifting measurement beyond GDP.
- Prioritize sustainable transportation infrastructure, focusing on viable options like trains.

International Peace and Justice:

- Advocate for youth participation and voting age of 16.
- Include voices affected by conflicts globally.
- Promote equality regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, or economic status.
- Empower civil society for justice and security.
- Enhance democracy through active community participation.
- Pursue nuclear disarmament and reform of UN Security Council vetoes.
- Regulate AI use in warfare and enhance mediation processes.
- Strengthen international organizations like the UN for better oversight and control.
- Prioritize education for peacebuilding, emphasizing empathy and critical thinking.
- Foster international collaboration and avoid imposing Western-centric views.

Science and Digital Technology:

- Encourage tech giants to lead the digital transition for global equality.
- Prioritize technology and AI education in schools.
- Implement policies to label AI-generated content to prevent misinformation.
- Promote awareness of AI advantages and disadvantages globally.

Youth and Future Generations

- Ensure youth representation through official quotas.
- Teach democratic rights and confidence in schools.
- Include pressing issues in curricula and promote discussion-based education.
- Facilitate youth participation in decision-making and UN engagement.
- Ensure global access to education for all youth.
- Provide platforms for youth to engage in governance and norm criticism.
- Educate teachers in non-discriminatory practices and social education.

Global Governance:

- Create non-political safe spaces for youth participation in global issues.
- Improve accessibility to the global South and diversify meeting locations.
- Establish a designated space for youth in global governing bodies.
- Prioritize global inclusivity and representation, especially from the global South.
- Advocate for an inclusive, green transition in global governance.
- Ensure accessibility for young representatives from underprivileged regions.
- Remove veto power from the UN Security Council.
- Combat corruption and promote diversity and green transition in international organizations.

This policy report, derived from discussions at the *United Nations Youth Association (UNYA) Denmark's 10-year anniversary*, emphasizes the critical role of youth in shaping inclusive and forward-looking policies for the Summit of the Future.

The insights highlight the urgency of prioritizing sustainable development, equal education access, international peace, technological advancement, and inclusive global governance. Recommendations from young participants underscore innovative approaches to environmental negotiations, nuclear disarmament, AI regulation, and education for peacebuilding.

Key themes stress empowering youth through education, representation, and active participation in decision-making. The report calls for systemic changes in global governance, including removing veto powers in the UN Security Council and combatting corruption.

In conclusion, this report offers actionable recommendations to guide efforts towards a future that values inclusivity, sustainability, and justice, leveraging youth perspectives to create meaningful change.