
ACTIVITY REPORT

YOUNG MEDITERRANEAN VOICES

*Series of High-level Virtual Debates:
April — July 2020*

YOUTH AS DRIVERS OF CHANGE

An initiative of:



In coordination
with:



Co-funded by
the European Union:



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WHAT PEOPLE SAID

"The EU strongly supports the work of the Anna Lindh Foundation, to act as a facilitator of dialogue between citizens of the EU, North Africa, Middle East and the Balkans".

Josep Borrell High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission
16.06.2020

... "Our Young Mediterranean Voices initiative connects civil society, educational institutions and policy makers across the Euro-Med region to promote mutual understanding and to foster youth engagement and leadership in view of shaping solutions to common challenges."

EU Statement United Nations Security Council: Open debate on Youth, Peace and Security
27.04.2020

"WE ARE STEPPING UP TO THE COVID-19 CHALLENGE, NOT ONLY HAVING IDEAS, BUT HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE FROM FIELD WORK, AS YOUNG PEOPLE ARE LEADING AT THE FRONTLINE. TIME TO CAMPAIGN FOR OUR FUTURE – OUR VOICE"

CATARINA NEVES

Young Mediterranean Voices Alumni, Portugal
16.06.2020

"I think this model is perfect in times of COVID-19 but it could also reinforce the digital network connection that enables young people to interact more and faster in an international environment with a single tool: virtual debate spaces."

Ariadna Romans Young Mediterranean Voices Alumni, Spain
07.07.2020

"YOUNGER PEOPLE ARE ASKED TO FIGHT THE WARS, BUT WHEN IT COMES TO CREATING PEACE THEY ARE EXCLUDED"

HITHAM EL HIMMALY

Young Mediterranean Voices Alumni, Libya
23.04.2020

"Youth are too often seen as a threat, but they are the best actors for peace. The Anna Lindh Foundation supports the inclusion of youth in decision-making and is committed to having their voices heard"

Elisabeth Guigou President of Anna Lindh Foundation
23.04.2020

"The European Commission supports the work of the Foundation and will ensure the necessary support for the Foundation's future. Intercultural dialogue is essential between institutions, youth and civil society."

Christian Danielsson Director-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations at the European Commission
07.07.2020

"YOUTH INCLUSION IS THE WAY TO BRING MIDDLE EAST PEACE MAKING PROCESS FROM NEAR DEATH, WITH A NEED FOR UN TO DEVISE A YOUTH MAINSTREAMING MECHANISM"

FARIS AROURI

Young Political Leaders Alumni, Palestine
16.06.2020

THE SERIES OF THE HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL DEBATES:
IN FIGURES

60+
OBSERVERS
INVOLVED

 **10+** HIGH-LEVEL
GUESTS
INVOLVED

 **3**
THEMES
DISCUSSED



15
COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

*Algeria, Azerbaijan, Egypt,
France, Germany, Israel,
Italy, Jordan, Libya, North
Macedonia, Morocco,
Palestine, Portugal, Serbia,
Spain*

20+
YOUTH
VOICES
HEARD



1
UN SECURITY
COUNCIL
RESOLUTION
TACKLED

**@Young
Med
Voices**

40 TWEETS PUBLISHED
84K TWITTER IMPRESSIONS

**@Young
Mediterranean
Voices**

8 FACEBOOK POSTS PUBLISHED
25K PEOPLE REACHED

INTRODUCTION

In these times of a major health crisis, with global and local concerns, restrictions in mobility and physical distancing, it is key to continue engaging with youth and virtually break the isolation in order to join forces and continue - in spite of the crisis - to be **active drivers of change**, wherever we are from.

Therefore, based on successful past joint activities, the Anna Lindh Foundation's Young Mediterranean Voices (YMV) programme alumni, together with the European Parliament's Young Political Leaders (YPL) alumni, engaged in a **series of Virtual Debates with high-level policy-makers** from April to July 2020.

Through digital means, youth from different regions and backgrounds, and policy-makers had the opportunity to jointly address critical foreign affairs policy discussions on cross-cutting themes in the framework of intercultural dialogue.

OPEN METHODOLOGY: FROM YOUNG DEBATERS TO DRIVERS OF CHANGE

The methodology is based on principles of active listening, formulating arguments through one's own background and experience (but considering the regional and global perspectives), as well as constructively incorporating feedback in the compilation of policy recommendations.

These debates with high-level EU representatives, stakeholders in the topics discussed in specific debate sessions, are also based on the skills and attitudes the young people have developed through their participation in YMV, YPL and civil society activities in general. Among those skills are self- and global-awareness, persuasion, empathy, critical thinking, inclusive leadership.

MAIN AIMS OF THE VIRTUAL DEBATES

TARGETED DISCUSSION BETWEEN YOUNG PEOPLE AND EU DECISION-MAKERS ON A SPECIFIC TOPIC: alumni from the Young Mediterranean Voices (YMV) and Young Political Leaders (YPL) programmes, coming from across Europe, the Mediterranean and the Balkans, discussed issues that pertain to current affairs, taking into account the difficult times we are going through with the COVID-19 pandemic.

This took place with the formulation of arguments, recommendations, and responses by the participants, ensuring the emergence of out-of-the-box thinking.

"EU INSTITUTIONS ARE DEMONSTRATING OPENNESS TO EXPLORE MEANINGFUL WAYS TO BRIDGE GEOGRAPHIC & CULTURAL DIVIDES AND TO REACH OUT TO YOUTH AS AGENTS OF CHANGE".

DR NABIL AL SHARIF

Executive Director
of the Anna Lindh Foundation
23 April 2020

The High-level Virtual Debates aimed to

EMPOWER

young voices to enhance a culture of public dialogue

SHARED

public affairs and media discourses

CREATE

a shared understanding with peers across the Mediterranean on how to address issues of common concern to their communities

EMERGENCE OF POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT CAN BE USED BY STAKEHOLDERS IN THEIR DECISION-MAKING PROCESS:

based on the needs, thoughts, fears, expectations and aspirations of the young people from the various communities, nationalities and population groups, the ideas emerging from the dialogue were formulated in a short-but-concise set of policy recommendations around the specific topic discussed.

The policy recommendations take into account the inter-regional character of the group, thus making the recommendations more inclusive and well-rounded.

STRUCTURE

The series of Virtual Debates was organised by the Anna Lindh Foundation jointly with the European Parliament’s Mediation and Dialogue Support Unit, from April to July 2020:

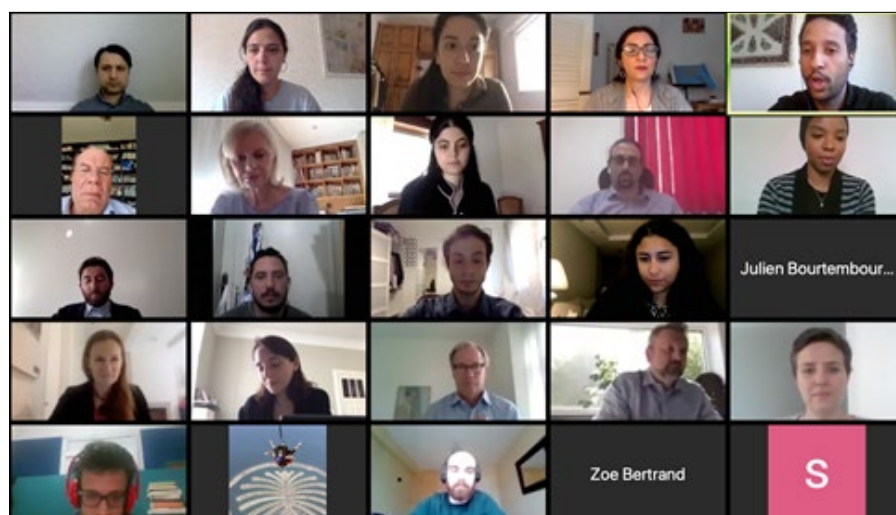
DEBATE	1	2	3
DATE	23 April 2020	16 June 2020	7 July 2020
PARTNERS & CO-ORGANISERS	Anna Lindh Foundation, the EU Delegation to the United Nations and European Parliament’s Mediation and Dialogue Support Unit	Anna Lindh Foundation, the European Parliament’s Mediation & Dialogue Support Unit	Anna Lindh Foundation, the European Parliament’s Mediation & Dialogue Support Unit
TOPIC	Security Council Resolution on ‘Youth, Peace and Security’ and the position of Euro-Med Youth	The impact of COVID-19 on youth policies and institutions	Youth perspectives in building trust in the media, through intercultural dialogue

Participants

The young participants were selected by the Young Mediterranean Voices and Young Political Leaders programmes from a wide spectrum of alumni, covering

15 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, Europe and the Balkans including:

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Egypt, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Libya, Republic of North Macedonia, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Serbia, Spain.



First High-level Virtual Debate
23 April 2020

HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL DEBATE (1): YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY: THE POSITION OF EURO-MED YOUTH

23 April 2020

ABOUT THE DEBATE

In preparation for the United Nations' Security Council Open Debate on Youth, Peace, and Security, that took place on 27 April 2020, the first Online Dialogue on Peace, Security and position of Euro-Med Youth was co-organised on 23 April 2020 by the Anna Lindh Foundation's flagship programme 'Young Mediterranean Voices and Erasmus + Virtual Exchange' and the European Union Delegation to the United Nations, in collaboration with the European Parliament's Young Political Leaders programme.

The Virtual Dialogue was an opportunity for young leaders from the Euro-Mediterranean region to exchange with EU ambassadors to the UN about the implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security agenda and recommendations for the future. Conclusions of the discussion were integrated in the EU statement to the Security Council on 27 April 2020.

The Virtual Debate was facilitated by Aissam Benaissa, Online Debate Community Manager (ALF).

The dialogue was attended by 7 Young leaders from Libya, Morocco, Italy, Portugal, France, Palestine and Israel (5 speakers from Young Mediterranean Voices and 2 speakers from Young Political Leaders).

THEME AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

The dialogue between the young people and the EU policy-makers, centered on the following set of questions:

- What are examples of best practices in the implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security agenda on both sides of the Mediterranean?
- What role can the EU play to promote and facilitate the work of young people in the field of peace and security?
- What are the main challenges for the implementation of these resolutions? How can the United Nations ensure that young people's priorities are included in international responses and that the youth, peace and security agenda is fully integrated in its strategic tools?
- What are the unexplored resources for the creation of the conditions for the inclusion of youth in the peace and security issues locally and regionally?

The high level guests were:

MR OLOF SKOOG
EU Ambassador
to the UN

MS ANNE GUEGUEN
Deputy Permanent
Representative
for France to the UN

**MADAME ELISABETH
GUIGOU**
President of the
Anna Lindh Foundation

DR. NABIL AL SHARIF
Executive Director
of the Anna Lindh
Foundation

**"YOUNG PEOPLE
ARE INVITED
TO FIGHT WAR,
BUT NOT
TO PEACE TALKS"**

said
Hitham El Himmali
YMV Alumni from Libya,
*stressing UN's crucial role
to inclusively
engage youth in the
peace-making process.*

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DISCUSSION

MR. OLOF
also expressed his will to

During the dialogue, the young people stressed the necessity to incorporate their voices in bottom-up decision-making processes related to the Security Council's youth peace and security agenda. Insights were provided on EU-supported Programmes for youth-led dialogue: Marjus Cevoli, Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange alumni from Italy, highlighted how platforms such as the "Young Mediterranean Voices" (co-funded by DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations) and "Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange" (funded by the DG Education and Culture) could strengthen the network of youth peace builders by facilitating a "safe digital space for intercultural exchange".

Fatima Zahra Outais, YMV Alumni from Morocco highlighted:

"African peace initiatives are driven by youth who believe they are drivers not subjects. There remains a need to overcome structural barriers and intergenerational gaps".

Ammon Morag, a YPL Alumni, underlined the need to invest in unexplored "digital spaces and platforms" to engage hard to reach communities of young people.

In his own reflections, H.E. Mr. Olof Skoog, Head of the European Union Delegation to the United Nations called for

"international solidarity and intercultural dialogue to counter Coronavirus effects" and highlighted "the need to find digital ways to engage young people in decision-making."

Ms Gueguen, Deputy Permanent Representative for France to the UN, underlined the risks of

"insufficient investment in education" and agreed with the demand for "support to youth-led dialogue initiatives".

"SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION'S WORK IN THE MEDITERRANEAN TOWARDS A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE REGION, TO FIGHT GROWING MISTRUST AND POLARISATION".



OLOF SKOOG
EU Ambassador to the UN
at the first High-level
Virtual Debate
23 April 2020

HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL DEBATE (2): THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON YOUTH POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS

16 June 2020

ABOUT THE DEBATE:

On **16 June, 2020**, the Anna Lindh Foundation's Young Mediterranean Voices and European Parliament's Young Political Leaders participated in a virtual discussion with EU High-Level Representatives, including High Representative/Vice-President, **Josep Borrell** as well as European Parliament's Vice-President, **Fabio Massimo Castaldo**.

The discussion was the **second** in a series of virtual debates, aiming to factor in multi-dimensional youth perspectives in the process of cross-cultural decision-making. Young leaders expressed their opinions on the COVID19 impact on youth policies and institutions. Restrictive measures on freedom of movement as well as the fight of disinformation and the need to enforce digital infrastructures, were highlighted as potential threats in the aftermath of the Crisis.

The Virtual Debate was facilitated by **Fatima Zahra Outais**, Young Mediterranean Voices Alumni from Morocco.

The dialogue was attended by **8 young leaders from Morocco**, Germany, Algeria, Portugal, Jordan, Israel, Palestine and Azerbaijan (5 speakers from Young Mediterranean Voices and 3 speakers from Young Political Leaders).

THEME AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Challenges and Solutions for Youth Inclusion and Equality Across Cultures

The inclusion of youth in the measures taken during the COVID- 19 crisis and in the recovery phase (education, societal, economic and political): what has been the situation in your communities and your region? How can opportunities and inclusion for youth-led dialogue with policy-makers be established after the pandemic?

2. Youth promoting exchanges and reconciliation in the framework of intercultural dialogue

Focus on the importance of breaking the isolation and engaging with others – What innovative solutions (including tech-enabled solutions), based on 'out-of-the-box' thinking can we apply to remedy the weaknesses we have observed in youth policies and institutions? (Best practices and own experience)

The high level guests were:

MR. JOSEP BORRELL
High Representative
of the Union for Foreign
Affairs and Security
Policy/Vice-President
of the European
Commission

FABIO MASSIMO CASTALDO
Vice President of the
European Parliament

PIETRO DUCCI
European Parliament's
Director General
for External Policies

**MADAME ELISABETH
GUIGOU**, President of the
Anna Lindh Foundation

DR. NABIL AL SHARIF
Executive Director of the
Anna Lindh Foundation

High Representative/Vice-President

JOSEP BORRELL
underlined:

**"YOUNG PEOPLE
ARE THE MAIN
STAKEHOLDERS IN
OUR INVESTMENT
IN THE WORLD'S
FUTURE."**

3. Solidarity and cooperation within and across communities

Examples and recommendations on how to include youth perspectives in policies (including external policies), and how to bridge the gap between youth and regional and international institutions, to build more open, inclusive and resilient societies.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DISCUSSION

During the discussion, the young leaders highlighted the importance of breaking the isolation and engaging with others leaders, and shared best practices and own experience on how to bridge the gap between youth and regional and international institutions

The young leaders offered recommendations and suggestions:

Ismail Abdullayev, YPL Alumni from Azerbaijan, stressed:

“With the outbreak of digitisation to counter COVID19, there remains the threat of fake news and disinformation, intensifying conflicts and violating security and privacy of online users. We now have the opportunity to rethink the use of online media”.

Constructive criticism and best practices were also mentioned by the young leaders.

Raghda Abushahla, YPL Alumni from Palestine talked about youth inclusion in Gaza, under the reality of occupation, poverty, and a refugee status of 2 million residents:

“Digital infrastructure needs to be enforced, especially in conflict zones like Gaza. Digital platforms for learning and advocacy are now more important than ever”.

“The European Union supports initiatives that contribute to removing obstacles to young people and that encourage active citizenship and promote democracy”,

highlighted High Representative/Vice-President **Josep Borrell**, hereby endorsing youth programmes such as the Young Med Voices and Young Political Leaders.



BURAK YSUMAK

YMV Alumni from Germany, highlighted the need to create a principal advisor to the European External Action Service on Youth, Peace and Security in order to bridge Europe with Africa through the Mediterranean. He mentioned,

“THE EUROPEAN UNION NEEDS CROSS-PARTY AND CROSS-INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION TO ENGAGE YOUTH INTO MULTILATERALISM AND DIPLOMACY”.

ANAS TALALQA

YMV Alumni from Jordan, was critical about the impact of COVID19 on human rights and the heavy reliance of governments and refugees on international organisations:

“THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION SHOULD SUPPORT DECENTRALISATION OF FUNDING ON NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS; PRIORITISING RURAL AREAS AND ACCESS TO EDUCATION.”

JOSEP BORELL

at the Second High-level Virtual Debate
16 June 2020

HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL DEBATE (3): YOUTH PERSPECTIVES IN BUILDING TRUST IN THE MEDIA, THROUGH INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

07 July 2020

ABOUT THE DEBATE

On **7 July 2020**, delegates from the Anna Lindh Foundation's flagship programme 'Young Mediterranean Voices' and from the European Parliament's 'Young Political Leaders programme', participated in a virtual discussion with EU High-level Representatives, including **Christian Danielsson**, the European Commission's Director-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, and a Member of the European Parliament.

The Virtual Debate was facilitated by **Marjus Cevoli**, Young Mediterranean Voices and Erasmus + Virtual Exchange Alumni from Italy.

The dialogue was attended by **6 Young leaders** from the Italy, Egypt, Spain, Morocco, North Macedonia and Serbia (4 speakers from Young Mediterranean Voices and 2 speakers from Young Political Leaders).

This discussion was the **third** in a series of virtual debates, aiming to factor in youth perspectives in the process of cross-cultural decision-making.

THEME AND GUIDING QUESTIONS

Youth perspectives in building trust in the media, through intercultural dialogue

During the online dialogue, participants from the Euro-Mediterranean region and the Western Balkans countries shared experiences on youth perspectives on building trust in the media and through intercultural dialogue.

As communities are facing challenges such as hate speech, radicalisation and conflicts, a focus on the hosting of inclusive dialogue is needed. The subsequent production of policy recommendations as part of this event, explores reforms based on critical and creative thinking, narratives challenging misperception, and youth enabling environments.

The guiding questions revolved around: *Media Awareness and Youth, Role of media in facilitating intercultural dialogue and reconciliation and Role of institutions in bridging the gap between media and youth.*

The high level guests were:

MR. CHRISTIAN DANIELSSON
Director-General
for European Neighbourhood
Policy and Enlargement
Negotiations
at the European
Commission

MR. ILHAN KYUCHYUK
Member of the European
Parliament, Foreign
Affairs Committee
standin rapporteur
for North Macedonia and Vice
chair of the delegation to the
EU-Turkey
Joint Parliamentary
Committee

MADAME ELISABETH GUIGOU
President
of the Anna Lindh Foundation

DR. NABIL AL SHARIF
Executive Director of the Anna
Lindh Foundation



JOSEP BORELL

at the Second High-level Virtual Debate

16 June 2020

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DISCUSSION

Young delegates from the Euro-Mediterranean and Western Balkans regions explored reforms focused on the importance of promoting media literacy amongst young people, supporting the safeguard of media pluralism and fostering reconciliation and facilitating intercultural dialogue. They suggested a number of concrete policy recommendations, focused on bridging the gap between youth, media and institutions.

Ahmed Yassin, YMV Alumni from Egypt, stressed:

“There is a need to create a youth-oriented Media Platform with the capacity to withstand the fast pace of information streaming and to connect and promote collaboration between today’s media landscape and: young artists, researchers, content creators, advocates, social media influencers and fake news checkers.”

In their reflections on the theme and the context of the conversation,

Christian Danielson underlined that

“The European Commission supports the work of the Foundation and will ensure the necessary support for the Foundation’s future. Intercultural dialogue is essential between institutions, youth and civil society”.

He also highlighted the need to address issues of media and digital literacy, fact checking and accountability.

Ilhan Kyuchyuk, MEP and Vice-Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee, stressed

the importance of fighting disinformation and fake news in order to protect and safeguard fundamental rights, such as media freedom. In this regard, he mentioned an initiative of the European Parliament to create a Digitalisation Committee to fight disinformation. He also underlined that the use of information and communication is essential to healthy pluralistic democracies, as well as to ensure mutual understanding among people and between cultures.

ARIADNA ROMANS

YMV Alumni from Spain,

underlined the need to

“PROMOTE TRUSTFUL MEDIA THROUGH COMMON POLICIES AND REGULATION THAT RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND ENHANCE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION”.

NATAN ALBAHARI

YPL Alumni from Serbia,

also underlined

THE NEED TO PROVIDE FREE DIRECT ACCESS TO PRESS AGENCIES FOR MEDIA OUTLETS, AS WELL AS TO DEVELOP INDEPENDENT SOCIAL MEDIA ALGORITHMS ADAPTED TO LOCAL CONTEXTS.

*The formulation of policy recommendations will take into account the inter-regional character of the group and will be disseminated amongst relevant stakeholders and policy-makers. While it is not currently feasible to organise face-to-face encounters, the Anna Lindh Foundation continues to explore meaningful ways to bridge geographic and cultural divides and to reach out to young people as agents of change.

ARTICLES AND POSTS

 **EU at UN-NY** @EUatUN · 23 Apr
 "Younger people are asked to fight the wars, but when it comes to creating peace they are excluded"
 Powerful testimony by Hitham , one of 7 young leaders from @YoungMedVoices who shared recommendations with  Amb. @OlofBSkoog &  DPR @anngueguen on #YouthPeaceSecurity (1/2)

 **AFET Committee Press** @EP_ForeignAff
 Re-building trust between the media and young people is fundamental to healthy pluralistic democracies. On 7 July, #YoungPoliticalLeaders and #YoungMedVoices

 **Fabio Massimo Castaldo** @FMCastaldo · 16 Jun
 Replying to @YoungMedVoices, @josepborrell and 5 others
 I'll be glad to share reflections and ideas once more with our @YoungMedVoices. See you later!

Young Mediterranean Voices Retweeted
 **Burak Yusmak** @ByusmakD · 16 Jun
 Glad to speak about our policy recommendation on the creation of the #EU special Envoy for #Youth which was also proposed by @IrinavonWiese . There need to be a cross-party and cross-institutional collaboration to engage Youth into #multilateralism and #diplomacy @EU_Commission

2 8

Young Mediterranean Voices Retweeted
 **Catarina Neves** @catmneves · 16 Jun
 Another interesting policy-focused conversation on the impact of Covid-19 with @JosepBorrellF, @elisabethguigou, @FMCastaldo, alongside some of my fellow @YoungMedVoices alumni! Thank you @AnnaLindh Foundation for the invitation!
 Cc: @ByusmakD @Sid_Elmohri @FOtaiss @elladaeva

COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY

An engaging social media presence was ensured across the Young Mediterranean Voices programme official channels, supported by the Anna Lindh Foundation, and co-partners, including the European Delegation to the United Nations and the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The social media campaign amplified young people's views and recommendations, and showcased the insights shared by High-level representatives.

Moreover, **15 News about the High-level Virtual Debates and the articles** produced following the events were also disseminated extensively through Facebook and Twitter.

Participants and institutional partners contributed to the reach, sharing multiple posts about the Virtual Debates and disseminating highlights of the Virtual Debates on their social media accounts.

Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations - New York:

EU Statement – United Nations Security Council:

[Open debate on Youth, Peace and Security](#)

Anna Lindh Foundation:

[Virtual youth-led dialogue leads to recommendations for the UN Security Council Youth, Peace and Security Resolution, 23 April 2020](#)

[EU High-level virtual discussion on youth with EU High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell, 16 June 2020](#)

[EU High-level virtual discussion on 'Youth perspectives in building trust in the media through intercultural dialogue', 7 July 2020](#)

European Parliament, Young Political Leaders Programme:

[Online Dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security](#)

[Online Dialogue on 'Impact of Covid-19 on youth policies and institutions'](#)

[Online Dialogue on 'Youth perspectives in building trust in the media, through intercultural dialogue'](#)

EU Neighbours South:

[Anna Lindh Foundation holds first Virtual Dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security](#)

[Youth as drivers of change: EU-funded Young Mediterranean Voices to debate with High Representative Josep Borrell](#)

Key partners for the High-level Virtual Debates are:

[ANNA LINDH MEDITERRANEAN FOUNDATION FOR INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE](#)

Established in 2005 on the initiative of then President of the European Commission, the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) is a 42-country intergovernmental institution working from the Mediterranean to promote intercultural and civil society dialogue in the face of growing mistrust and polarisation. ALF is co-creator of **“Young Mediterranean Voices”** and member of the Global Coalition for Youth, Peace and Security, and member of the consortium of the EU Funded Programme **“Erasmus + Virtual Exchange”**. The ALF works on a three-way approach: Empowering young voices by providing platforms for young people to build together more open, inclusive and resilient communities; introducing impactful research on international policymaking, providing a unique understanding of conflict dynamics through research and opinion-leadership; and leading a movement and bringing together our networks to inspire other civil societies and multiplying our impact in that way.

[YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS](#)

The European Parliament's Young Political Leaders Programme acknowledges the importance of building dialogue between future political leaders in order to develop a climate of trust and confidence that will ultimately lead to a more peaceful world. By connecting young political activists from non-EU countries with one another and with their counterparts in the European Parliament, experiences of peace and democracy can be shared and further developed.

[DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE UNITED NATIONS](#)

The European Union (EU) has Delegations accredited to the UN in Geneva, Paris, Rome, Vienna, Nairobi and New York. Their role is to coordinate the EU's day-to-day relations with the UN. The Delegations also report back to EU headquarters in Brussels on the UN's activities. Their reports feed into the political agenda in Brussels, which in turn creates a framework for operations at the local level. In addition, the Delegations work closely with EU countries which have a presence at UN offices.

The Series of High-level Virtual Debates **brought together leading partners working to invest in youth-led dialogue and exchange** at the regional and international level.

YOUNG MEDITERRANEAN VOICES PROGRAMME

Young Mediterranean Voices is the flagship debate and dialogue programme connecting civil society, education and policy-makers across the Southern Mediterranean and Europe. The programme is coordinated by the Anna Lindh Foundation, co-founded by the British Council, and developed in partnership with the Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI), Friends of Europe, the World Leadership Alliance-Club de Madrid, MEDAC and Soliya. The programme is funded by the European Commission (Directorate General of Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations) and co-funded by the Government of Finland, World Bank Group and the British Council.

Coordinated by:



In partnership with:



Funded by the European Union:



Co-funded by:

