

Disarmament and Youth

Young people around the world have a **key role** to play in **raising awareness and developing new strategies** to **reduce threats** from all types of arms and their proliferation, including weapons of mass destruction and conventional arms.

It is **very important** to **hear the voices** of this generation and **engage its members** in discussions on disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control issues for the world they live in.

SECURING
OUR COMMON
FUTURE

“A Tremendous Force for Change”

10–24

years old

In *Securing Our Common Future*, young people are recognized as a **tremendous force for change in the world**, noting how they have “proved their power time and time again in support of the cause of disarmament”.

1.8 BILLION

young people in the world

Young campaigners have **worked at the forefront** of successful international campaigns to **ban landmines, cluster munitions and nuclear weapons**. Every member of the staff of the **International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons** was under the age of 35 when it was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017. Recognizing the important role of young people as **key agents of change**, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) launched its youth outreach initiative, “#Youth4Disarmament” in 2019 to **engage, educate and empower** young people with the aim of facilitating their **meaningful and inclusive participation** in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

YOUTH
4 DISARMAMENT
INITIATIVE

Youth, Peace and Security Agenda

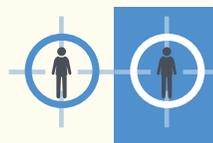


In 2015, the UN Security Council adopted **resolution 2250**, the **first ever thematic resolution on Youth, Peace & Security**. The landmark resolution **recognized the positive contribution of youth** in efforts to maintain and promote peace and security. In 2018, the UN Security Council unanimously **reaffirmed the important role** that **youth and youth-led civil society** can play in peacebuilding and sustaining peace in **resolution 2419**. The **important and positive contribution** that young people can make in sustaining peace and security was **reaffirmed** by the UN General Assembly in 2019 through its **unanimous support** for a new resolution entitled “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation”.

Inclusivity

90% of young people reside in developing countries

Over 60% of the world’s youth live in Asia and the Pacific. This translates into **more than 750 million young women and men aged 15 to 24 years**. Almost half of these youth are concentrated in **South and South-West Asia**. Engaging with these youth is central to pursuing a sustainable peace.



As a group, children, adolescents and youth are the primary victims, witnesses and perpetrators of armed violence.

What can we do ...

- Increase youth participation and create space for young people to make meaningful substantive contributions.
- Impart knowledge and skills to young people to empower them towards making their contributions, as national and world citizens.



Participation

5 PILLARS FOR ACTION

UNSCR 2250



Partnerships



Prevention



Protection



Disengagement & Reintegration

