

3rd ASEF ETHICAL
YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT LEADERSHIP
15-19 October 2018, Brussels, Belgium.
In conjunction with the 12th ASEM Summit (ASEM12)

**Representing Young Leaders of the
3rd ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS3) on “Ethical Leadership”
in conjunction with the 12th ASEM Summit (ASEM12)
18-19 October 2018, Brussels, Belgium**

Honourable Chair, Your Excellencies,

We express our deep gratitude for this opportunity to represent the voices of 120 “young” leaders that have gathered here in Brussels from all 51 ASEM Partner countries to engage in a dialogue on Ethical Leadership. Thank you.

Today, marks just over two years since four other fellow “young” leaders sat amongst you during the 11th ASEM Summit in Mongolia urging you to focus on social, environmental and economic connectivity between Asia and Europe.

Since then, Asia and Europe have been confronted with unprecedented challenges and events that have a global impact. Facing these challenges requires decisive and bold leadership as well as the need to work closer than ever before. Many of these challenges question the very core of our society. Collectively, we have the obligation to engage in a deeper discussion on values and ethics within leadership.

Ethical leadership is not simply touching the political sphere but goes deep into all domains of our daily lives. As the participants of the 3rd ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS3), we have identified several areas ranging from the nucleus of our society – the family – to the very topical and global issue of environment and make a pledge, which demonstrates our commitment to take action within our communities. We call upon you leaders to join us in this effort.

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We believe it is vital to identify positive elements across diverse beliefs and confront stereotypes that will enable us to value our heritage and common future. Tackling climate change requires us to empower civic leadership and nurture a new generation of ethical climate leaders.

The challenges that technology poses demand the creation of effective strategies that will foster a greater awareness of rights and responsibilities. New and sustainable economic models provide us with the opportunity to adapt, track and document a change in our consumption and production patterns, which leads to better economic, environmental and social outcomes.

To successfully tackle these challenges, the need to operate within the multilateral system in order to maintain international peace and security, promote inclusive and sustainable development, protect human rights and fundamental freedoms is paramount. The above actions require a shared commitment from you, the leaders of today, and us, the leaders of tomorrow.

We “young” leaders have committed ourselves to fulfilling our pledges and implementing, as a group, a number of ethical actions over the coming months, with the support of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), and we invite you all to join us in this pledge.