

ASEF Policy Dialogue with Youth

Higher Education Policies Working Towards the SDGs in Asia and Europe

A side event to the ASEAN Youth Conference 2023

2 November 2023
Jakarta, Indonesia

PARTICIPANTS BOOKLET



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Position	Organisation	Country of Residence
Ms Grace Kate Franco	Steering Committee Member	Global Student Forum	Australia
Mr Arno Schrooyen	Member of the Executive Committee	European Students' Union	Belgium
Ms Mengchou Long	Focal Person for Provincial Members	Union of Youth Federation of Cambodia - Siem Reap Province	Cambodia
Mr Ioannis Stamatonikolos	Project Officer for External Communications and Advocacy	United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth	Greece
Ms Monmi Barua	Network Coordinator	UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Youth South Asia	India
Mr Viqra Rahmatillah Budiningtyas	Program Team	ASEAN Youth Organisation	Indonesia
Ms Salma Cahyariyani	Youth Representative for Indonesia	UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) - Youth Initiative	Indonesia
Ms Merlina Dewi Khaerun Nisa	Student Representative for UNAIR SDGs Centre	Universitas Airlangga	Indonesia
Mr Yusril Nurhidayat	Co-President	Student Think-Tank for Asia-Europe Relations	Indonesia
Ms Olivia Parczyk	Liaison Officer for Asia	Erasmus Student Network	Japan
Mr Koen Le-Huai Donatz	Co-President	Student Think-Tank for Asia-Europe Relations	Netherlands
Mr Prince Ernest Eugene Ronson Sabado	Deputy Secretary-General at the UST Model United Nations	University of Santo Tomas	Philippines
Mr Yee Teng Low	Regional Representative	AIMS Alumni Network	Thailand
Ms Ho Thuy Huyen	Vice President of Training, Exchange, and Development	Asian Law Students' Association International Board 2022/2023	Vietnam
Mr Teddy Farhan	Social Media Specialist	ASEAN Youth Organisation	Indonesia
Ms Cleo Cachapero	Senior Project Executive	Asia-Europe Foundation	
Ms Reka Tozsa	Director for Education Department	Asia-Europe Foundation	

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Ms Grace Kate Franco
Steering Committee
Member, Global Student
Forum
Australia



Grace Franco (she/her) is currently a Steering Committee Member at the Global Student Forum and the National Welfare Officer for the National Union of Students Australia). She resides on Kaurana Country (Adelaide, South Australia), where she studies an undergraduate double degree of Law and International Relations at the University of Adelaide.

Grace is a Narungga woman; her lived experience provides a deeply sad but unique outlook, giving her the ability to empathise with people who are struggling with the effects of systemic inequality and who are fighting for equal representation. Grace's Indigenous heritage empowers her to advocate for the rights of Indigenous students. She also advocates for women's rights, climate action, and the right to education. Grace is honoured to utilise her platforms through amplifying the voices of people and students from minority backgrounds.

Mr Arno Schroyen
Member of the Executive
Committee, European
Students' Union
Belgium



Arno is a 23-year-old master's student in Brussels, Belgium. He's been active as a student representative for more than five years, first at the local level for one year followed by a stint at the national level for three years. Last July, he joined ESU as a member of the Executive Committee to work mostly on the social dimension of higher education and public responsibility.

Ms Mengchou Long
Focal Person for
Provincial Members,
Union of Youth
Federation of Cambodia -
Siem Reap Province
Cambodia



Mengchou studies English Literature at the University of Southeast Asia. She currently works as an English teacher, and prior to this, she was a passionate tour guide whose goal is to build communication and friendship.

Mengchou also serves as a focal person for Provincial Members of the Union of Youth Federation of Cambodia, focusing in the Siem Reap Province.

Mr Ioannis Stamatonikolos
Project Officer for
External Communications
and Advocacy, United
Nations Sustainable
Development Solutions
Network Youth
Greece



Ioannis Stamatonikolos is a student at the Law School of University of Athens. He works as Business Development Associate, GenAI Summit at 100mentors. He serves as Project Officer for External Communications and Advocacy of UN SDSN Youth and Deputy Network Coordinator of SDSN Youth Greece. He is also member of the Global Shapers Athens Hub and Future Thought Leader of Illuminem, the world's leading sustainability information and data platform.

Ms Monmi Barua
Network Coordinator, UN
Sustainable Development
Solutions Network
(SDSN) Youth South Asia
India



Monmi is leading the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Youth-South Asia as the Network Coordinator and working as an Associate Fellow at the Environment Education and Awareness Area of TERI, New Delhi. A thorough professional, she has been working on projects and campaigns for youth on issues related to the environment and sustainability. She has over ten years of professional experience and has conducted environmental awareness programs such as interactive sessions, seminars, conferences, youth meets, sensitization, and capacity building workshops. These programs aim to disseminate knowledge, foster networking among like-minded individuals, and effect behavioural changes for long-term development.

She holds a master's degree from the University of Delhi, India, and a post-graduate diploma in Environmental Law and Management.

Mr Viqra Rahmatillah Budiningtyas
Program Team, ASEAN
Youth Organisation
(Indonesia Chapter)
Indonesia



Viqra is a community development enthusiast who has always been passionate about international and development issues that tune in with his interest and background in International Relations.

Since 2019, he has been involved in supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to advance and support community development through youth empowerment in Indonesia.

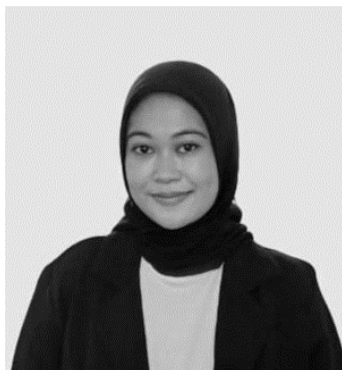
Ms Salma Cahyariyani
Youth Representative for
Indonesia, UN
Sustainable Development
Solutions Network
(SDSN) - Youth Initiative
Indonesia



Salma is a dedicated undergraduate pursuing Metallurgical and Materials Engineering at the University of Indonesia, currently recognised as the most outstanding student of the Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering in 2023. Alongside her academic endeavors, she holds the position of UN SDSNYOUTH INDONESIA Network Coordinator, leading a series of impactful initiatives that align with the five pillars of the SDGs. Through this role, she has facilitated five flagship programs focused on crucial areas such as sustainable mineral processing, renewable energy, energy transition, circular economy, and green economy, aimed at fostering sustainable development within Indonesia.

Her leadership journey has been further enriched by her role as the President of the Green Polymer Technology Student Chapter at Universitas Indonesia in 2023. She was also the Indonesia Representative on Nuclear Technology Plastic Research Fellow at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Additionally, serving as the Ministry of Development of Planning Campus Ambassador for SDGs enabled her to advocate for sustainable development practices and policies, emphasising the significance of environmental conservation and the transition to renewable energy sources. Her interest in the environmental pillar of the SDGs has further motivated her research efforts within the National Research Agency of Indonesia, focusing on advancing nuclear energy technologies to mitigate environmental challenges and foster sustainable development in the country.

**Ms Merlina Dewi
Khaerun Nisa**
Student Representative
for the SDGs Centre,
Universitas Airlangga
Indonesia



Merlina is a final year student of English Language and Literature at Universitas Airlangga. She is passionate in developing and innovating herself through problem solving, critical thinking, and analysis skills acquired through her studies. She loves challenges and curious to learn new things. Merlina has experience in some organisation activities such as BEM (Student Executive Board) and UKM (Student Activity Unit) that improved her soft skills such as organisational and event planning, problem-solving, time management, interpersonal skills, activity coordination, networking, and communication.

With a resounding passion for driving change and making meaningful impact, since May

Mr Yusril Nurhidayat
Co-President, Student
Think-Tank for Asia-
Europe Relations
Indonesia



2023 she has been actively engaged as a volunteer in the SDGs Centre of Universitas Airlangga, where she worked on projects and initiatives on the SDGs.

Yusril, originally from Indonesia, has lived, studied, and worked in over 21 countries. He graduated with distinction from NYU Abu Dhabi with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Research and Public Policy, specializing in Sociocultural Anthropology, Applied Performing Arts, and German. He is interested in the employment of performing arts for social equity and ultimately transnational activism. His latest research projects explore how applied theatre can foster refugee integration processes in Germany and self-identity-making within the social, urban, and environmental rhythms in Abu Dhabi's most diverse neighbourhood.

Yusril is affiliated as a researcher with NYU Anthropocene Research Kitchen. Given his passion for youth empowerment, he has been involved in 10+ cross-regionals youth collaborations. He currently serves as the Co-President of STEAR, and the Advisory Board Chair for Bangun Bangsa Indonesia, a national youth volunteering organization he co-founded when just 17 years old.

Ms Olivia Parczyk
Liaison Officer for Asia,
Erasmus Student
Network
Japan



Olivia is currently a graduate student of psychology at the University of Cologne (Germany) and Keio university (Japan). Originally from Germany, following an academic exchange she has since relocated to Japan where she is intending to pursue a PhD. Academically, she focuses on political psychology. Her thesis in this field focuses on a cross-cultural comparison of traditional vs. progressive values between Europe and East Asia. Furthermore, she is working as a research assistant in the field of medical leadership research.

Besides university, she has been volunteering for the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) for many years. After a mandate as president of ESN Germany, she took on the role of Liaison Officer for Asia which she is currently still holding. In this role, she represents ESN towards stakeholders, higher education institutions, and other youth organisations in Asia. She represents the student voice in policy dialogues, and advocates for more accessible cross-regional mobility as well as more active participation of students in education-related policymaking.

Mr Koen Le-Huai Donatz
Co-President, Student
Think-Tank for Asia-
Europe Relations
The Netherlands



Koen was born in Taiwan but grew up in the Netherlands. He is passionate about international security, international relations and politics. As such, he is currently working at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a Financial Trainee, working at the intersection of security policy and finance. Prior to Koen's current job at the Dutch MFA, he interned at the Dutch House of Representatives and the Public Prosecution Service, focusing on political affairs.

He obtained master's degrees in China and Globalisation from King's College London, International Security from the VU Amsterdam and International Relations from the University of Amsterdam. Koen also spent an exchange semester at Keio University in Japan and did summer schools in China and Norway. In his studies, Koen mainly focussed on China's foreign and security policy. He also served in various roles in student government for 5+ years, advocating for the interests of students at several universities. He is and has been a board member of multiple other organisations that represent the interests of youth. Koen is, for instance, the secretary of the Youth Scientific Bureau of the Dutch Green Left Party.

Koen joined STEAR in October 2021 as Secretary-General and became Co-President in August 2022. During his time at STEAR, Koen has been committed to making STEAR an inclusive community where young people from across Eurasia can meet each other and share their perspectives. He also aims to promote youth voices in policymaking and culture in Eurasia via STEAR.

**Mr Prince Ernest Eugene
Ronson Sabado**
Deputy Secretary-General
at the UST Model United
Nations, University of
Santo Tomas
The Philippines



Prince is a 4th year student pursuing a bachelor's degree in Asian Studies at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines. As a campus journalist and a youth volunteer, Prince has been in various national and international conferences that advocate for the realisation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with his current academic background in diplomacy, international relations, history, cultural sciences and area studies. He is currently the Deputy Secretary-General of the University of Santo Tomas Model United Nations and the Associate Editor of *The Flame*, the official student publication of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Arts and Letters.

Mr Yee Teng Low
Regional Representative,
AIMS Alumni Network
Thailand



Yee Teng is currently working as a Programme Officer on Mobility and Linkages in Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Regional Centre specialising in higher education and development (RIHED). He is an alumnus of the Asian International Mobility for Student (AIMS) Programme who holds a Bachelor Degree of Science in Conservation Biology from Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Malaysia. With his unique background, he has a global perspective and passion to delve into internationalisation, sustainable development, nature conservation and global citizenship. He is also a dedicated volunteer and experienced panellist in discussions related to the SDGs and cultural exchange.

Ms Ho Thuy Huyen
Vice President of
Training, Exchange, and
Development
Asian Law Students'
Association International
Board 2022/2023
Vietnam



Huyen participated in the Asian Law Students' Association (ALSA) in 2021. She is a student at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law, and she is currently working as the Vice President of Training, Exchange, and Development of ALSA. She worked with several students from Southeast Asian nations, facilitating exchanges and internships for law students. She has also arranged several workshops and webinars to help students improve their abilities, as well as providing legal and policy knowledge to law students.

Mr Teddy Farhan
Social Media Specialist,
ASEAN Youth
Organisation (Indonesia
Chapter)
Indonesia



An international relations graduate, passionate about cross-cultural activities, and enthusiast in digital marketing.

He currently serves at AYO's Indonesia Chapter as its Social Media Specialist.

Ms Cleo CACHAPERO
Senior Project Executive,
Higher Education Policy
Programme
Asia-Europe Foundation



Cleo, a Filipino national, joined ASEF's Education Department in July 2023 and now handles part of its higher education portfolio, particularly the ASEF Regional Conference on Higher Education (ARC) project series.

Prior to joining ASEF, Cleo worked at the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) of the Philippines for 10 years as the Desk Officer for ASEAN and SEAMEO Affairs of its International Affairs Service (IAS). In this capacity, her work focused on organising and facilitating the sector's participation in international higher education events, handling scholarships and trainings, conducting policy research for the promotion of Philippine higher education, bilateral and multilateral partnership-building, and project implementation.

Cleo earned her undergraduate degree Bachelor of Science in International Relations major in Diplomacy from Lyceum of the Philippines University - Manila in 2013 and finished her Master of Public Administration at the University of the Philippines - Diliman's National College of Public Administration and Governance in 2021. She is also an alumna of the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) Programme.

Ms Reka TOZSA
Director, Education
Department
Asia-Europe Foundation



Réka, a Hungarian national, joined ASEF in 2017 and became Director of Education Department in June 2022. In this capacity she coordinates the youth, secondary school teacher and higher education policy projects of ASEF, which include high level forums, policy dialogues, and capacity building trainings.

Prior to joining ASEF, Reka was the Head of International Office at the University of Public Service in Hungary, and a government official, appointed to Chief of Cabinet of the Deputy State Secretary for Higher Education and to staff member of the Hungarian EU Presidency.

Reka holds Master of Public Policy degrees from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, and from the Corvinus University of Budapest.

ORGANISED BY



Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). ASEF promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, governance, sustainable development, economy, public health and media.

One of ASEF's flagship projects is the [ASEF Regional Conference on Higher Education \(ARC\)](#), the Official Dialogue Partner of the ASEM Education Ministers Meeting (ASEMME) and the only bi-regional multi-stakeholder dialogue platform for university and student leaders, policymakers and ministers to discuss higher education issues and shape the education landscape in Asia and Europe.

For more information, please visit www.asef.org.



ASEAN Youth Organisation (AYO)

ASEAN Youth Organization is an international non-partisan, non-profit, and non-governmental organization established to promote international understanding and goodwill parallel to the ASEAN Motto and constitutes one vision, identity, and community. Our vision is to create a world where youths exhibit a heightened interest in ASEAN through our activities that Empower Youth, Engage, & Educate Communities to implement ideas that enable Positive Sustainable Change.”

With 10 years of experience in Community Development, ASEAN Youth Organization provides Youth with knowledge, skills, and abilities to bring back to their communities, as well as boosting the regional development by fostering partnerships with various stakeholders.

For more information, please visit <https://aseanyouth.net/>

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