YOUNG LEADERS IN SOCIETY SUMMIT 5.0

July - October 2025 | Osaka, Japan In conjunction with Japan World Expo 2025





Participants Booklet









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Participants List

	Salutation, First Name, LAST NAME	Country of Citizenship	Designation	Name of University/ Organisation & Volunteer/ Youth engagement
1	Ms Kelsey GRAY	Australia	Senior Policy Officer	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, and Water, Australia
2	Ms Izabella MANCEWICZ	Australia	Student Co-Founder & President	Monash University Nexus
3	Ms Sarah MAYRHOFER	Austria	Student	Johannes Kepler Universität
4	Ms Mayabee ARANNYA	Bangladesh	Project Coordinator - PASCH & Educational Services (BKD)	Goethe-Institut Bangladesh
5	Mr Syed Nazmus ZAWAD	Bangladesh	Graduate Student Co-Founder	Wuhan University Bondi Pathshala
6	Mr Théo DESWAEF	Belgium	Vice-President in Charge of Competitions	European Law Student Association Belgium
7	Mr Maxim VANDEKERCKHOVE	Belgium	Attaché	Belspo (Belgian Science Policy Office)
8	Mr Arif Syazwan BIN BUJANG	Brunei Darussalam	Sr. Coordinator, Partnerships & Growth (Brunei)	UN Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei
9	Mr Adi PETROV	Bulgaria	Project Coordinator Law Student	Bilitis Foundation Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"
10	Mr Dararith PISETH	Cambodia	Undergraduate Student	American University of Phnom Penh
11	Ms Rachna THIM	Cambodia	Graduate Student	University of Kiel
12	Ms Yurong WANG	China	Director and Internet Writer	China Internet Writers Village
	Mr Luka LINDIC	Croatia	Graduate Researcher	The University of Melbourne
13			President	Mechanical Engineering Research Student Association

	Salutation, First Name, LAST NAME	Country of Citizenship	Designation	Name of University/ Organisation & Volunteer/ Youth engagement
14	Ms Anastasia ANDREOU	Cyprus	Communication Community Manager	Erasmus Student Network
15	Mr Antonis STYLIANOU	Cyprus	Senior Specialist	European Commission
16	Ms Natálie TERCOVA	Czech Republic	Researcher European representative Chair	Masaryk University ICANN's At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) IGF Czechia
17	Mr Nikolaj KORNERUP	Denmark	Political Officer (JPD)	Delegation of the European Union to the Kingdom of Cambodia
18	Ms Julie RUBY	Denmark	Vice President	International Federation of Liberal Youth
			Undergraduate Student	University of Tartu
19	Ms Lisett HANSEN	Estonia	Estonia's Youth Delegate	The Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
20	Ms Sarella ARKKILA	Finland	PhD Researcher	Finnish Museum of Natural History
			Graduate Student	Science Po Paris
21	Ms Otsana SMITH	France	Researcher	Vanguard and V-Brydge Think Tanks
			Graduate Student	Sciences Po Paris
22	Ms Elizabeth HEHL	Germany	Vice-President	Alumni Association of the Académie Notre Europe
23	Mr Jonas NITSCHKE	Germany	Programme Manager for Democracy and Governance	Multinational Development Policy Dialogue of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation
			Digital Marketing	Keystone Education Group
24	Mr Christos NTONIS	Greece	Assistant Greece's Youth Delegate	The Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
25	Ms Maryli POULI	Greece	Program Officer	Columbia University- Athens Global Center
26	Ms Petra GOMBÁR	Hungary	President	AEGEE-Europe
27	Ms Virag KEMECSEI	Hungary	Communications Consultant	Freelancer
00	Ma Character I/DIOLINA		Graduate Student	Hokkaido University
28	Ms Shraddha KRISHNA	India	Member	IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management

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29	Mr Manan SOAM	India	Asia-Pacific Representative	Global Student Forum
30	Ms Vanissa AULIA	Indonesia	Program Manager, AYO Academy	ASEAN Youth Organization (AYO)
31	Mr Shabil Sach (Jau) PACHLEFI	Indonesia	AYO Academy Director	ASEAN Youth Organization
32	Ms Lauren JONES BRENNAN	Ireland	Graduate Student	The London School of Economics and Political Science
22	Ma Adom LAMPE	luala a d	Student	University of Amsterdam
33	Mr Adam LAMBE	Ireland	Representative	National Youth Council of Ireland
34	Mr Costantino LANDI	Italy	Project Manager	SenzaConfini NGO - University of Florence
35	Ms Sara TAGLIABRACCI	Italy	Global Mobility Coordinator	Erasmus Student Network
36	Ms Kanon KANABAYASHI	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Tohoku University
37	Mr Kosuke KAWAUCHI	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Kansai University
38	Ms Oura NISHIDA CAPIGLIA	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Kansai University
39	Mr Kaito OCHIAI	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Chiba University
40	Ms Mayu OGURO	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Chiba University
41	Mr Rio OKAMOTO	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Tohoku University
42	Mr Jin TADA	Japan	Student	National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
43	Mr Sora TAKAHASHI	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Tohoku University
44	Ms Yuki TAKEMOTO	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Kansai University
45	Mr Itsuki TSUCHIDA	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Tohoku University
46	Mr Koji YATOMI	Japan	Undergraduate Student	Chiba University
47	Mr Tomas AKYNOV	Kazakhstan	Research and Development Manager	Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia
48	Ms Saltanat ZAMBAYEVA	Kazakhstan	Graduate Student	Nazarbayev University
49	Ms Chaeeun Ella KOOG	Korea	Academic Director Graduate Student	WeGlobal Al Fudan University

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50	Ms Nokmany (Nora) PHONGPHAIVANH	Lao PDR	Founding Partner and Director of Partnerships and R&D	The Element and Partners Consulting Co., Ltd
51	Mr Thitthiphone Terry OLINH	Lao PDR	Research Assistant	Lao-Oxford-Mahosot Hospital-Wellcome-Trust Research Unit
			Co-Founder	Precious Plastic Vientiane
52	Ms Samanta BAUMANE	Latvia	Graduate Student	Lusófona University
53	Ms Zivile EINIKYTE	Lithuania	Creator, Podcaster & Events Host/Moderator	Perception Paradox
54	Mr Matas MARTINAITIS	Lithuania	Data Analyst	Ernst & Young (EY)
55	Mr Tom Jerome SCHEER	Luxembourg	Student	University of Amsterdam
56	Mr Julian Wee Lip KOK	Malaysia	Sustainability and Climate Change Consultant	PwC
57	Ms Elaine YEAP	Malaysia	Senior Project Officer	Infineon Technologies AG
58	Ms Amy CALLEJA	Malta	Director for Internal Affairs	National Youth Council of Malta
			Junior Software Developer	Merqury Cybersecurity
59	Ms Namuun BATTSENGEL	Mongolia	Executive Director	Faro Foundation Mongolia NGO
60	Mr Zorigt MUNKHTUYA	Mongolia	Communications Advisor Volunteer	Oyu Tolgoi LLC
			Communications and Fundraising Consultant	Mongolian Women's Fund
61	Ms Yun KHINE	Myanmar	Undergraduate Student	Norwegian University of Life Sciences
62	Mr Si Thu WAI	Myanmar	Founder	TET Myanmar
			Project Leader, Sustainability Pension	De Nederlandsche Bank
63	Ms Vera MAN	Netherlands	Fund Supervision Vice-President	European Trade Union Confederation
64	Mr Yuri VAN	Netherlands	Graduate Student	University of Zurich
	STEENWIJK		Board Member	Europa Institut
65	Mr Matthew GOLDSWORTHY	New Zealand	Founder & Chair	Youth Arts New Zealand

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			Student	University of Auckland
66	Ms Alyssa OLSEN	New Zealand	Northland Engagement Coordinator	The Youth Climate Collective
67	Ms Astrid DYRLI	Norway	Senior People Partner	BeZero Carbon
68	Ms Umaima AHMED	Pakistan	Conservation Officer, Biodiversity Practice Area	World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF - Pakistan
69	Mr Muhammad Zubair MADNI	Pakistan	Co-Founder & Executive Director	Cholistan Center of Excellence (CCE)
70	Mr Gerald John (GJ) GUILLERMO	Philippines	Founder	Keep the Change: Youth Policy Lab
71	Mr Marian FILA	Poland	Graduate Student	College of Europe, Natolin
72	Ms Dominika LYKOWSKA	Poland	Al Policy & Research Contributor	Ethical Al Alliance
	Mr Eduardo CACHETAS	Portugal	Student	Universidade do Minho
73			Director for International Affairs and Programmes	The Portuguese Medical Students' International Committee
			Graduate	University of Aveiro
74	Mr Gonçalo TAVARES	Portugal	Representative	European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU)
75	Ms Tamara CIOBANU	Romania	Executive Committee Member	European Students' Union
76	Mr Cristian PAŞKA	Romania	Project Management Officer	Endava Romania
	Mr Sebastian		Student	Singapore Institute of Technology
77	FERNANDEZ	Singapore	President	SIT Applied Al Club and Google Developer Student Club
78	Mr Yi Jun MOCK	Singapore	Co-Founder & President	Advisory Singapore
79	Mr Róbert BEDNÁR	Slovakia	Presidential Advisor for Global Engagement and Strategic Initiatives	Student Section of International Institute of Political Science
80	Mr Matej PEVC	Slovenia	Graduate Student	University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
			Volunteer	Youth Center Zagorje

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81	Mr Javier LARA RUIZ	Spain	Graduate Student	College of Europe, Natolin
82	Ms Lucia MORENO- ARRONES LORIENTE	Spain	Senior Consultant	NTT Data
	Ms Emma WEDNER	Sweden	Student	Lund University
83			Member	Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth
0.4	Mr Alex EYMANN	Switzerland	Student	University of St.Gallen
84			Member	Municipal Council, Switzerland
85	Mr Jirun FUEANGNAK	Thailand	Founder	Green Talent Generation
86	Ms Rossita MACLEAN	United Kingdom	PhD Student	Queen's University Belfast
			Founder	Women in STEM Society, Queen's University Belfast
87	Ms Isabelle WARD	United Kingdom	Project Manager	City Climate Action
88	Ms Hai-Yen DONG	Viet Nam	Graduate Teaching Assistant	Fulbright University Vietnam
89	Mr Trí NGUYỄN	Viet Nam	Vice President for Organisational Development & Growth	Student Think Tank for Europe-Asia Relations (STEAR)

Ms Kelsey GRAY

Australia

Senior Project Officer

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, and Water, Australia



Kelsey is currently a Senior Policy Officer in the Australian Government, representing Australia in multilateral climate negotiations at the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties. Previously, she was an adviser at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet where she focused on Australia's international climate policy. Kelsey started her career in law after graduating with a Bachelor of Science/Law (Honours). Throughout her undergraduate degree she worked internationally with a range of organisations including the United Nations Asia-Pacific Headquarters, the Superior Tribunal of Justice in Brazil, and the National University of Singapore. She has recently returned from the University of Oxford where she completed a Masters of Environmental Change and Management, graduating with Distinction. Kelsey is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Ms Izabella MANCEWICZ

Australia

Student, Monash University

Co-Founder and President, Nexus



Izabella is a medical student at Monash University and a Medical AI researcher exploring the impact, governance, and clinical integration of artificial intelligence in healthcare. Her work focuses on how medical AI models reflect the reasoning and behaviours expected of clinicians and how large language models are being adopted in practice across specialties. As Co-founder and President of Nexus, she is building a hub to equip students, clinicians, and innovators with the knowledge and tools to shape the future of healthcare through AI and MedTech. Passionate about making the field more accessible and creating opportunities to learn, connect and innovate; she strives towards a future where medical AI improves patient care.

Ms Sarah MAYRHOFER

Austria

Student, Johannes Kepler Universität

Co-Founder, Quantent



Sarah is the Co-Founder of Quantent. In her role, she co-developed an Al-driven SEO/SEA optimisation tool based on a scientifically validated algorithm. She leads legal strategy, partner relations, and organizational development-bridging academic research and real-world impact. Her Master's thesis focuses on creating a trustworthy Al legal search tool that delivers accurate, verifiable information without hallucinations. It aims to support access to justice through transparent, inclusive, and multilingual design. She also leads the EU-funded sustainability project Die Klimaheldin and co-authored Greta und das Plastikmonster. As a Young Al Leader (ITU), she runs Al literacy events for children and foster public dialogue on ethical tech aligned with the SDGs.

Ms Mayabee ARANNYA

Bangladesh

Project Coordinator -PASCH & Educational Services (BKD)

> Goethe-Institut Bangladesh



Mayabee is a Project Coordinator for PASCH & Educational Services (BKD) at Goethe-Institut Bangladesh, where she manages partnerships with educational institutions and creates international exchange opportunities for students. She is a feminist activist, leading Kotha, a youth organisation fighting the root causes of gender-based violence in Bangladesh. She is the Founder of Shompreeti, a trauma-informed peer support and care network for survivors of violence in Bangladesh. She and her team facilitate the country's first fully youth-led comprehensive sexuality education programme, Kotha At School. She is the co-author of Bangladesh's first youth-centred Peer Education Training Manual, winner of the Share-Net International Small Grants. She was selected as a LeadNext Fellow: Ambassador for a Global Future by The Asia Foundation, and named a Visionary Leader by Vital Voices and the Estée Lauder Emerging Leaders Fund. Mayabee is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Mr Syed Nazmus ZAWAD

Bangladesh

Graduate Student, Wuhan University

Co-Founder, Bondi Pathshala



Syed is an educator, social entrepreneur, and youth advocate from Bangladesh with a strong track record in sustainable social innovation and global engagement. During the pandemic, he co-founded "Bondi Pathshala", an EdTech platform that served millions of students nationwide and used its profits to aid over 10,000 flood-affected families. Internationally, he has represented Bangladesh at UNLEASH (Global Innovation Lab), participated in the Harvard Aspire Leadership Program, and worked with MIT Solve as a Social Media Content Manager. This year, he has been awarded the CSC fully funded scholarship to study Masters(E-Commerce Management) in Wuhan University.

Mr Théo DESWAEF

Belgium

Vice-President in Charge of Competitions

> European Law Student Association Belgium



Théo is a 22-year-old law student currently beginning his first year of a Master's in Law at KU Leuven, with courses taught in both Dutch and English. He is actively involved in several non-governmental organisations, most notably the European Law Students' Association (ELSA). As the National Vice-President for Moot Court Competitions at ELSA Belgium, he is responsible for organising and coordinating academic competitions across the country. Théo is also engaged with Genepi Belgique, an NGO focused on prison education and human rights advocacy. In addition to his NGO involvement, he has sought out practical legal experience through various forums and internships. In 2025, through the ELSA STEP programme, he completed a legal internship at Dots Legal Office in Tbilisi, Georgia, where he gained practical insight into international legal practice.

Mr Maxim VANDEKERCKHOVE

Belgium

Attaché

Belspo (Belgian Science Policy Office)



Maxim started his career as Professional Development Officer for the Master students Interdisciplinary EU Studies at the College of Europe in Natolin, Poland. After that, he shortly worked at the Flemish Government on international biodiversity matters before joining the Belgian Ministry of Social Security and subsequently the Belgian Ministry of Science (Belspo) where he is an Attaché, Risk Officer and follows up on the STI strategy. Next to that, Maxim is the coordinator of the expert group on Technology, Science and Innovation Diplomacy at the Brussels Diplomatic Academy, which is part of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Maxim is an ASEFEdu Alumnus and gained experience within ASEF as participant of ARC7 and ASEFYLS4, as well as a speaker at ASEFYLS5. Recently he was the country informant for the Asia-Europe Science & Technology Diplomacy Report.

Mr Arif Syazwan BIN BUJANG

Brunei Darussalam

Sr. Coordinator, Partnerships & Growth (Brunei)

UN Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei



Arif, Senior Coordinator for the UN Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei, champions corporate sustainability in Brunei by integrating the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles and SDGs into corporate strategies. He uniquely combines private sector innovation with public policy, having led corporate R&D in renewable energy, environmental solutions, and Halal Logistics in Brunei, and served as a legislative researcher for the Brunei Legislative Council on national issues and climate change. He also contributed to Brunei's first National Climate Change Policy as a youth reviewer. His expertise is bolstered by a dual MBA and MSc in Sustainability Management from Universitas Gadiah Mada. Indonesia and the University of Agder, Norway, funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ASEAN University Network.

Mr Adi PETROV

Bulgaria

Project Coordinator, Bilitis Foundation

Law Student, Sofia University
"St. Kliment Ohridski"



Adi is currently pursuing an LLM in Law at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", where he is an award-winning member of the university's negotiation, mediation, and moot court teams at both national and international levels. He has developed a cross-sector profile through traineeships at Deloitte Legal, EY, and Kinstellar, with exposure to corporate law, taxation, privacy, and regulatory frameworks. Adi has been actively involved in civil society, contributing to legal advocacy, community organising, and strategic outreach. He currently serves as a Project Coordinator and Legal Assistant at Bilitis Foundation - Bulgaria's longest-standing LGBTQI+ organisation - and is engaged in youth-led initiatives promoting human rights and systemic change.

Mr Dararith PISETH

Cambodia

Undergraduate Student

American University of Phnom



Dararith is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in IT Management at the American University of Phnom Penh under the Techo Digital Talent Scholarship from Cambodia's Ministry of Post and Telecommunications. Ranked in the top 0.1% of Cambodia's 2023 national exam, he has earned numerous national recognition in mathematics and physics. Passionate about digital innovation and youth empowerment, he served as a committee member of the Cambodia International Mathematics Olympiad Champion (CIMOC) and is an alumnus of the Junior Leadership Academy. Dararith contributes to several initiatives like 'TranslateKH' and sanitation research in indigenous communities.

Ms Rachna THIM Cambodia Graduate Student

University of Kiel



is a communication specialist and Rachna independent writer from Cambodia with an interest in sustainability and social equity. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Media and Communication Management and currently pursuing a Master of Science in Sustainability, Society, and Environment from the University of Kiel in Germany. She has gained extensive experience in strategic communication, content creation, and project management across journalism, nonprofit, and private sectors. She has successfully collaborated with flagship organisations like UNESCO and USAID, working to address gender-based violence, STEM education, and mental health advocacy. As an independent journalist, she has authored over 40 articles on critical issues such as crime, culture, and sustainability. focusing on underrepresented communities in Southeast Asia. Rachna is an ASEFEdu Alumna

Ms Yurong WANG

China

Director and Internet writer

China Internet Writers Village



Yurong is one of the outstanding representatives of young Chinese Internet writers, a member of the China Writers Association, whose works have received over 1 billion clicks online, consistently occupying the top position on the novel ranking list, and have been included in the collections of the Confucius Institute at the University of Rome, the British Library and so on. She played an important role in the development of Chinese literature.

Mr Luka LINDIC

Croatia

Graduate Researcher, The University of Melbourne

President, Mechanical Engineering research Student Association, University of Melbourne



Luka is the President of the Mechanical Engineering Research Student Association at the University of Melbourne and a co-founder of Energy Shift, a start-up enabling public investment in renewable energy projects. A final-year PhD candidate in mechanical engineering, he specialises in fluid mechanics and energy systems, with a strong focus on sustainability technological innovation. Luka has multidisciplinary research in collaboration institutions such as KTH Royal Institute of Technology and the University of Twente. His internship at TU Berlin further developed his expertise in experimental fluid mechanics. As MERSA President, he has organised large-scale industry networking events and academic workshops, fostering stronger links between academia and industry.

Ms Anastasia ANDREOU

Cyprus

Communication Community

Manager

Erasmus Student Network (ESN)



Anastasia is a youth advocate and communications professional from Cyprus, with over five years of experience volunteering with the Erasmus Student Network (ESN). She currently serves as Communication Community Manager, leading a team of volunteers from 45 countries who work in the field of communications. Her most recent experience was working as a Content Creator Intern at Eurodesk Brussels Link. Growing up on a divided island and living with a mobility disability has shaped her commitment to inclusivity, accessibility, and positive change. Anastasia is particularly interested in how emerging technologies can drive social impact, sustainability, and equity, and she is dedicated to creating spaces where young people can lead the transformation toward a better future.

NAVIGATOR

Mr Antonis STYLIANOU

Cyprus

Senior Specialist

European Commission



Antonis is a lawyer with several years of experience at the European Commission and Frontex, where he coordinates strategic communications, campaigns, and high-level events for EU border security, engaging with EU Member States and other stakeholders. While at the European Commission's Spokesperson's Service, he crafted campaigns, speeches and content for Presidents Jean-Claude Juncker and Ursula von der Leyen. Antonis studied LLB Law, PGC International Business, MBA, and International Relations and Diplomacy. Since 2014, he has been a trainer and facilitator for youth projects, mainly under Erasmus+. Participating in several Election Observation Missions, he experienced the fight for democracy and crisis communication on the ground, often during intense conditions. Antonis is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Ms Natálie TERCOVA

Czech Republic

Researcher, Masaryk University

European representative on ICANN's At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Chair of IGF Czechia



Natálie is a researcher at Masaryk University, the European representative on ICANN's At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), and Chair of IGF Czechia. Her research focuses on adolescents' digital skills and how these influence their exposure to online opportunities and risks. She has been recognised as a NextGen@ICANN78, ICANN79 Fellow, RIPE88 and RIPE90 Fellow, and a 2024 Early Career Fellow at the Internet Society. As a Generation Connect Alumna at the ITU, she represented the European region as a Youth Envoy (2022-2023), advancing meaningful youth participation in digital governance.

Mr Nikolaj KORNERUP

Denmark

Political Officer (JPD)

Delegation of the European Union to the Kingdom of Cambodia



Nikolaj is a Political Officer (JPD) at the European Union Delegation to Cambodia. He holds a Master of Arts in European Interdisciplinary Studies from the College of Europe in Natolin and a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from Aarhus University. He specialises in EU and international law, geopolitics, diplomacy, and EU-Asia relations. Over the past decade, Nikolai has studied and worked across Europe and Asia, making him highly adaptable, globally minded, and deeply appreciative of diverse cultures. As a former national board member and International Secretary of European Youth Denmark, he has facilitated and organised several international projects, study trips, partnerships, and events, fostering intercultural cooperation and dialogue among young leaders across borders. Nikolaj is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Ms Julie RUBY

Denmark

Vice President

International Federation of Liberal Youth



Julie is Vice President of the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY), where she represents young liberal voices globally and facilitates cross-border youth engagement. Nationally, she is a member of the Executive Committee in Radikal Ungdom (Danish Social-Liberal Youth), responsible for international cooperation. With a strong background in campaign strategy and grassroots mobilization, Julie has worked for Radikale Venstre (the Danish Social-Liberal Party) and held key roles supporting democratic participation. She holds a BA in Political Science and is currently pursuing her master's degree at the University of Southern Denmark.

Ms Lisett HANSEN

Estonia

Undergraduate Student, University of Tartu

Estonia's Youth Delegate to the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities



Lisett is a political science student at the University of Tartu and currently serves as Estonia's Youth Delegate to the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. She is also a member of the Estonian Ministry of the Interior's Youth Council, where she advises on national youth policy and promotes meaningful youth participation in decision-making. Through her involvement in the Academy of Liberalism and the Political Science Student Organization, Lisett actively engages in civic education, event organization, and community building. Her work is driven by a strong belief in youth-led change, innovation, and inclusive governance.

Ms Sarella ARKKILA

Finland

PhD Researcher

Finnish Museum of Natural History



Sarella is a PhD researcher at the Finnish Museum of Natural History under the University of Helsinki. She studies the effect of climate change and agriculture on biodiversity. She gained her bachelor's degree on Animal Behaviour from the University of Aberdeen in 2020 and her master's degree on Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Helsinki in 2022. Her passion for youth policy engagement has led her to join several youth organisations, including NUOLI, European Youth in Action and Nordic Youth Biodiversity Network. Therefore, she has been part of organising several functions and workshops, including the Finnish Youth Environmental Summit, as well as different negotiations, such as those held in COP16. Sarella also carries out research in collaboration with the Finnish Youth Research Society and is also completing another master's in Environmental Law.

Ms Otsana SMITH

France

Graduate Student, Science Po Paris

Researcher, Vanguard and V-Brydge Think Tanks



Otsana holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics, specialising in Europe-Asia relations, graduating Cum Laude in the top 10% at Sciences Po Paris. As an ambassador, she represented youth at the 2023 World Peace Forum, engaging in dialogues on peace and security with the Ukrainian Ambassador to France. She also served as Vice-President of Partnerships at FED'LH, managing collaborations with companies and public institutions. She completed a one-year exchange at Monash University Malaysia where she also learned Mandarin. Soon, she will start a Master's in European Affairs with a focus on Security and Defence. Otsana is also a researcher at Vanguard and V-Brydge think tanks, exploring digital diplomacy and Al's role in global security.

Ms Elizabeth HEHL

Germany

Graduate Student, Sciences Po Paris

Vice-President, Alumni Association of the Académie Notre Europe



Elizabeth is a Master's student in European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris with a strong focus on EU-China relations. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and is also completing a Bachelor in French Law. As Vice-President of the Alumni Association of the Académie Notre Europe, a leadership programme by the Institut Jacques Delors, she has helped organise side-events at the Paris Peace Forum, the UN Ocean Summit, and the European Youth Event. Elizabeth broadened her perspective on China during an exchange at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Committed to building bridges between Europe and Asia, she will move to Shanghai this year to work at the French Consulate.

Mr Jonas NITSCHKE

Germany

Programme Manager for Democracy and Governance

Multinational
Development Policy
Dialogue of the Konrad
Adenauer Foundation



Jonas is currently working as a Programme Manager for Democracy and Governance at the Multinational Development Policy Dialogue of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Brussels where he works on youth engagement in political decision-making, the challenges for democratic actors, as well as on the fight against dangerous trends such as misinformation, disinformation and fake news in the Indo-Pacific, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, he is a board member at the grassroots think tank Polis180. He was an EU delegate for the Y20 Summit in India 2023 and volunteers as a youth ambassador for the campaign organisation ONE. Furthermore, he acts as Deputy Director of the Programmes Team at Young Professionals in Foreign Policy (YPFP) and participates in the European Academy of Diplomacy as a scholarship holder by the Casimir Pulaski Foundation. Jonas is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

NAVIGATOR

Mr Christos NTONIS

Greece

Digital Marketing Assistant, **Keystone Education Group**

Greece's Youth Delegate to the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities



Chris is a digital marketing professional working across the governmental and private sectors, currently Bachelor's degree in Marketing Management in Sweden. Alongside his career in the higher education marketing industry, he advocates for youth participation in democratic processes through his mandate as Greece's Youth Delegate to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. Chris regularly represents young people in policy dialogues and international conferences within European institutions, including the European Institute for Gender Equality. His passion for youth participation stems from his early engagement with public speaking and debating, in which he has received several awards at both local and international competitions.

Ms Maryli POULIS Greece **Program Officer** Columbia University-



Maryli is the Program Officer at Columbia University Global's Athens Center, where she leads strategic initiatives in education, research, and innovation. With over a decade of experience in the education sector across nonprofit, public, and international settings, she brings deep expertise in programme management, educational training, and workshop curation. She leverages her background in big data systems to support fundraising, grant management, institutional partnerships. A contributor to the European Digital Education Hub, Maryli helps shape EU digital education policy with a focus on innovation, ethics, and safety. Her work centres on the intersection of education, technology, and sustainable global development. Maryli is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Ms Petra GOMBÁR Hungary President AEGEE-Europe

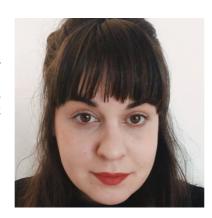


Petra holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and is currently completing her Master's degree in Development Policy and Program Management at Ludovika University of Public Service in Budapest. She currently serves as the President of AEGEE-Europe, one of the largest interdisciplinary youth organisations in Europe. In this role, she amplifies the voices of young Europeans through policy and advocacy work, thematic projects, youth exchanges, and a wide range of non-formal education initiatives. Petra is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Ms Virág KEMECSEI

Hungary

Communications Consultant



Virag has a diverse background in communications, project management and research. She graduated from a Master of Science programme in Conflict Resolution & Governance at the University of Amsterdam, and received a Master of Arts degree in International Relations at Waseda University in Tokyo. Professionally, she has worked at UN agencies and NGOs, aiming to enhance intercultural dialogues and to ensure human rights for all. Virag is also participated in the ASEFYLS4, where she advocated for Economic Diplomacy as an engine of growth and prosperity in Asia and Europe. Currently, she is an Internal Communications Contractor at an international organisation. Virag is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Ms Shraddha KRISHNA

India

Graduate Student, Hokkaido University

Member, IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management



Shraddha is a PhD researcher in Environmental Sciences at Hokkaido University, Japan, supported by the MEXT scholarship. She is developing climate adaptation tools for Indigenous communities in the Indian Himalayas by integrating traditional knowledge with climate and biophysical data. She has led research on national-level projects in India and supported policy research as an intern during parliamentary sessions. Shraddha graduated top of her class in both her Bachelor's in Zoology and Master's in Environmental Sciences, and was awarded the INSPIRE fellowship by the Government of India. She is a member of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management and works across science, governance, and grassroots communication for climate resilience.

Mr Manan SOAM

India

Asia-Pacific Representative

Global Student Forum



Manan represents the Asia-Pacific region on the Global Student Forum, contributing to global education policy through UNESCO and Y20 frameworks. As a software engineer at Kyndryl, he brings technical insight to Al integration discussions while staying grounded in grassroots reality. Through Studomatrix, he works to unlock potential in Tier-3 and Tier-4 cities, believing geography shouldn't determine opportunity. Whether advocating in international forums or sitting cross-legged with children in his community, Manan operates on one principle: technology should serve humanity. His approach remains simple-listen more, speak thoughtfully, and remember that behind every policy discussion are real students with real dreams.

Ms Vanissa AULIA

Indonesia

Program Manager, AYO Academy

ASEAN Youth Organization (AYO)



Vanissa is a program manager at ASEAN Youth Organization (AYO) Academy and youth development practitioner with a strong track record in project management, stakeholder engagement, and regional collaboration across ASEAN. She currently leads Launchpad Academy, an incubator program under AYO Academy that supports young people-particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds-in developing skills to prepare for the job market. Vanissa has also managed multiple regional initiatives, including the ASEAN Youth Exchange, Japan-ASEAN Youth Summit, and ASEAN Youth Economic Forum, working closely with governments, international organizations, and NGOs. Her professional background includes consultancy roles with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) focusing on sustainable landscapes. Vanissa holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Hasanuddin University.

Mr Shabil Syach (Jau) PACHLEFI

Indonesia

AYO Academy Director

ASEAN Youth Organization



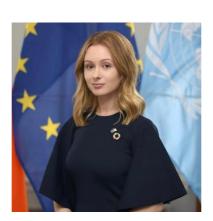
Shabil Syach, also known as Jau, holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree in International Relations with a minor in Asian Studies. He has enriched his studies through programmes at the ASEAN Studies Centre at Gadjah Mada University and the Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations, where he received an international delegate award from Harvard University, which developed his skills in global engagement and youth development, which he now applies in his role as a management professional at the ASEAN Youth Organisation. He leads initiatives aimed at enhancing social mobility for ASEAN youth through strategic investments in entrepreneurship and development, as well as by creating platforms for youth collaboration with organisations to address pressing issues outlined in the ASEAN Youth Work Plan and Sustainable Development Goals. Jau is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Ms Lauren JONES BRENNAN

Ireland

Graduate Student, The London School of Economics and Political Science

Ireland's United Nations Youth Delegate, 2024-2025



Lauren is Ireland's United Nations Youth Delegate for 2024-2025 and a George Moore Scholar undertaking an MSc in Public Policy and Administration at the London School of Economics and Political Science. A law graduate from Trinity College Dublin, she was named Ireland's Young Humanitarian of the Year 2025 by the Irish Red Cross and honoured with Trinity's Sustainability Leadership Award. Lauren has represented Ireland at the UN General Assembly, COP, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Council of Europe, and other international forums. A finalist in the gradIreland Changemaker of the Year Awards, she has co-drafted UN resolutions, helped secure funding for underrepresented youth at multilateral forums, and led national youth consultations on peace, justice, and gender equality.

Mr Adam LAMBE

Ireland

Student, University of Amsterdam

Representative, National Youth Council of Ireland



Adam is a Political Science student at the University of Amsterdam with extensive experience in youth representation and human rights education at both national and European levels. He is a representative of the National Youth Council of Ireland, where he advocates on national youth policy and promoting participation. Internationally, Adam represented young people through the European Youth Forum, including as a member of its Expert Group on Youth Rights. He has also worked closely with the Council of Europe's youth sector, contributing to training courses and political education initiatives focused on human rights, democracy, and civic participation. As a non-formal education trainer, Adam has developed and delivered educational programmes on topics such as advocacy, youth rights and democratic backsliding.

Mr Costantino LANDI

Italy

Project Manager

SenzaConfini NGO - University of Florence



Costantino is a final-year medical student at the University of Florence with a strong interest in psychiatry and mental health. Alongside his medical studies, he has acquired extensive experience in the field of European project management, particularly within the Erasmus+ and CERV programmes. He has coordinated and contributed to multiple international projects focused on youth empowerment, digital skills, sustainability, and social inclusion. His dual academic and professional background enables him to bridge clinical insight with strategic project development. He has taken part in transnational forums, youth exchanges, and policy consultations, and is committed to fostering initiatives that integrate health, education, and civic participation across Europe.

Ms Sara TAGLIABRACCI

Italy

Global Mobility Coordinator

Erasmus Student Network

(ESN)



Sara is an international cooperation specialist with expertise in Erasmus+ and global education policy. She just concluded a traineeship at the European Commission and currently is coordinating strategic projects at the Erasmus Student Network. She has led global advocacy, authored policy papers on internationalisation and mobility, and managed cross-regional stakeholder relations. Fluent in English, Spanish, French, and Italian, Sara holds master's degrees in International Relations and EU Project Management and has represented youth voices in over 50 international conferences.

Ms Kanon KANABAYASHI

Japan

Undergraduate Student

Tohoku University



Kanon is a student at the Faculty of Education at Tohoku University with a goal to continue with her master's there and contribute significantly to the international community, with a particular aspiration to work with UNESCO. During her first year, she went on a short-term study abroad program in the United States, and has since then been actively involved as a supporter for the university's international collaborative classes. She did an on-campus internship during her second year to support international students. In addition to her university-related activities, she is deeply involved in her local community through volunteering at a children's cafeteria (kodomo shokudo).

Mr Kosuke KAWAUCHI

Japan

Undergraduate Student

Kansai University



Kosuke is a fourth-year student at Kansai University, majoring in informatics. Last year, he spent six months studying abroad in Sweden, and learned about engineering and international economics. In addition to informatics, he is also interested in education around the world. Currently, he is working as an international volunteer for a developing country in Asia. He also teaches elementary school students English online to improve educational opportunities in that country.

Ms Oura NISHIDA CAPIGLIA

Japan

Undergraduate Student

Kansai University



Oura is an undergraduate student at Kansai University in Japan, specialising in informatics with a focus on Al and ICT. Having grown up between Japan and Italy, she brings a cross-cultural perspective to her work. She won third place at the 2023 Asian Games and represented Japan in the Nacra 17 sailing class at the Paris 2024 Olympics. She aims to use digital technologies to support inclusive, data-informed solutions for society.

Mr Kaito OCHIAI

Japan

Undergraduate Student

Chiba University



Kaito is an undergraduate student majoring in Horticulture, with a strong academic interest in how environmental control affects plant growth. He undertook an internship at the Forest Restoration Research Unit (FORRU) in Thailand, where he contributed to environmental education initiatives aimed at both Thai and international students. Through workshops and field activities, he helped promote awareness of forest restoration and the importance of ecosystem recovery. His interdisciplinary focus bridges science and environmental sustainability, and he aspires to apply scientific knowledge to practical conservation efforts in both local and global contexts.

Ms Mayu OGURO

Japan

Undergraduate Student

Chiba University



Mayu is a third-year law student at Chiba University. specialising in legal studies that foster critical analytical and logical reasoning skills. She is currently deeply committed to impactful initiatives focusing on disaster recovery and regional revitalisation. This includes a significant local internship dedicated to the Noto earthquake recovery efforts. Her practical acumen navigating in complex, uncertain environments was honed during her working holiday in Canada, where she successfully contributed to business improvements in a multicultural setting by identifying core issues and engaging diverse stakeholders. She is passionately committed to leveraging her analytical and strategic mindset to address real-world complexities and contribute to sustainable social development.

Mr Rio OKAMOTO

Japan

Undergraduate Student

Tohoku University



Rio is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Economics at the University of Tohoku. He experienced an internship with a local councilor in Miyagi Prefecture. During this experience, he learned about a start-up company that utilises machine learning and other technologies to optimise aquaculture. This made him realise the importance of balancing economic efficiency with environmental concerns. He was also engaged in an NPO that provides practical internship experiences to early-grades university students, so he had a lot of chances to talk to the city councilors and leaders of other NPOs.

Mr Jin TADA

Japan

Student

National Graduate Institute for

Policy Studies



Jin is a research fellow at the National Institute for Environmental Studies in Japan and a young professional with the UNESCO i-WSSM Young Professionals for Water and Gender Network in the Asia-Pacific region (WAGLE YP). He is actively engaged in advocacy, research, and social implementation across various fields such as water resource infrastructure, disaster risk reduction, and climate adaptation, targeting the Asia-Pacific region. Additionally, he is involved in capacity-building initiatives for youth and indigenous communities, as well as contributing to reviews for the UNEP's regularly published Global Environmental Outlook, thereby advancing efforts to achieve ambitious goals through youth-led initiatives.

Japan Undergraduate Student

Mr Sora TAKAHASHI

Tohoku University



Sora is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science at Tohoku University. He serves as the regional coordinator for Northern Japan in a university student self-reflection program offered by a private company, where he has played a key role in creating an environment that accelerates participants' personal challenges. His contributions include mentoring and providing comprehensive support to students. Independently, he is also developing a life consultation initiative aimed at supporting young people in distress. Through sharing his own journey of taking on new challenges, he aims to inspire others to take their first step forward.

Japan Undergraduate Student Kansai University

Ms Yuki TAKEMOTO



Yuki is a student at the Faculty of Policy Studies, Department of Asian Studies, in Japan, where she studies law, politics, and economics from an international perspective. During her year-long leave of absence, she studied International Relations in Malaysia, where she gained firsthand experience of the challenges of living abroad and deepened her understanding of different cultures and values. She has a strong interest in global affairs and am passionate about building bridges between countries. In a time when it is still rare for Japanese youth to take leadership roles on the global stage, she is eager to develop her leadership skills and connect with likeminded peers from Asia and Europe through ASEFYLS6.

Mr Itsuki TSACHIDA

Japan

Bachelor's Student

Tohoku University



Itsuki is currently completing his bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering at Tohoku University, Japan. He has extensive academic interests, ranging from engineering studies to entrepreneurship education. Itsuki is the founder and the CEO of cotonobar Co., Ltd., which aims to enhance international cooperation among STEM field enterprises as well as student organisations. Alongside his profession, he is an advisor of the Tohoku University STEM Student Network, an organisation with over 390 members from more than 50 countries, and the founder/campus director of Hult Prize Tohoku University. Additionally, Itsuki works as an administrative assistant for the Global Learning Center at Tohoku University, where he leads a Japanese education team for international students and an event organising team for the campus. Itsuki is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Mr Koji YATOMI

Japan

Undergraduate Student

Chiba University



Koji Yatomi is a fourth-year undergraduate student at Chiba University, majoring in Chemistry with a focus on catalysis research. His academic work explores the development of environmentally conscious catalytic materials aimed at improving industrial processes. Alongside his scientific studies, he actively engages in cross-cultural projects and is preparing for postgraduate studies abroad to further explore the intersection between science, technology, and business. English is his second language, and he continues to refine his communication skills to contribute effectively in diverse, global teams.

Mr Tomas AKYNOV

Kazakhstan

Research and Development Manager

Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia



Tomas is a development manager and social innovator with over a decade of experience advancing socioeconomic and environmental initiatives across Kazakhstan. At the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia, he leads programme design and fundraising, partnering with businesses to deliver impactful projects in education, climate action, and rural development. He previously worked in business analytics for leading telecom and e-commerce companies in India and Southeast Asia. Tomas is on the OSCE roster as a National Consultant for justice system reform and is the founder of ages&ages, a sustainable fashion brand. He also co-founded Connect-Ed, a digital inclusion initiative launched during the pandemic. He holds a Master's in Public Administration from Nazarbayev University. Tomas is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Ms Saltanat ZAMBAYEVA

Kazakhstan

Graduate Student, Nazarbayev University

Academic Director, WeGlobal Al



Saltanat is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Educational Leadership at Nazarbayev University, where her research focuses on how Kazakhstani schools can integrate artificial intelligence while upholding academic integrity and fostering students' critical thinking. In parallel with her studies, Saltanat serves as the Academic Director at WeGlobal AI. She leads the design and implementation of AI-powered programs for career guidance and psychological diagnostics for students in Grades 5 to 11. She also oversees curriculum development and professional training for school psychologists and career counselors, ensuring that student well-being and future career readiness are central to school improvement efforts.

Ms Chaeeun (Ella) KOOG

Korea

Graduate Student

Fudan University



Chaeeun (Ella) is a graduate student in Political Science at Fudan University in China, where she focuses on policy implementation, public policy and social development in East Asia. She holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations earned in China, and her academic focus is intensive population issues in Northeast Asia and broader social issues including labour rights and human rights. She is currently writing her Master's thesis on the fragmented implementation of the One-Child Policy in China. She also worked as an intern at Dream Makers for North Korea where she supported educational programs for North Korean defectors and contributed to public awareness projects on human rights issues.

Ms Nokmany (Nora) PHONGPHAIVANH

Lao PDR

Founding Partner and Director of Partnerships and R&D

The Element and Partners Consulting Co., Ltd



Nokmany is a Founding Partner and Director at The Element & Partners Consulting, Laos's first professional dialogue facilitation firm. Under her leadership, The Element & Partners was selected to design and deliver the AFMAM EAS 2025. Her firm also received a prestigious UNDP research award for a evidence-based project that provides recommendations to integrate 21st-century skills into Laos's education system, highlighting a commitment to addressing real-world challenges. Nokmany also founded the Community Club in Laos, that have already impacted over 10,000 youth, in addition to engaging a further 7,000+ through YSEALI across the ASEAN region and beyond. She holds a Master of Development Studies (First Class Honors) from the University of Melbourne.

Mr Thittaphone (Terry) OLINH

Lao PDR

Research Assistant, Lao-Oxford-Mahosot Hospital-Wellcome-Trust Research Unit

Co-Founder, Precious Plastic Vientiane



Thitthiphone (Terry) is a research assistant at Lao-Oxford-Mahosot Hospital-Wellcome-Trust Research Unit who focuses on substandard and falsified medicine solution in the world. Thitthiphone holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy with majors Pharmaceutical Care at the University of Health Science, Laos. In 2020, He's also a co-founder of Precious Plastic Vientiane in Laos what focusing on reuse single-use plastic to make new products values such as keychains, chairs, tables, etc. In 2024, he also co-found the Natural Dye Laboratory and planting in Cambodia that enhance women's weavers livelihood in Siem Reap district. He is a YSEALI AFP Spring 2025 alumni.

Ms Samanta BAUMANE

Latvia

Graduate Student

Lusófona University



Samanta is currently enrolled in the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master in Health and Wellbeing across the Lifespan. She recently completed a traineeship at the European Commission's Executive Agency for Education and Culture, focusing on the Erasmus+ and Youth sector. She has extensive experience as a project manager in NGOs, promoting mobility and access to higher education through Erasmus+. She served as Education Officer for Erasmus Student Network Latvia, leading policy and advocacy efforts in the field of international education. In addition to her academic and professional background, she has participated in international leadership programs and has worked as a mentor, trainer, and facilitator in non-formal education settings, empowering young people across Europe.

Ms Zivile EINIKYTE

Lithuania

Creator, Podcaster & Events Host/Moderator

Perception Paradox



Zivile is a seasoned event host, moderator, and communications strategist with over a decade of experience in the European tech and startup ecosystem. She is the creator of the Perception Paradox podcast and media platform, where she leads thoughtful conversations at the intersection of entrepreneurship, health, and philosophy. Zivile has worked across innovation, partnerships, and programme development, supporting international conferences, corporate events, and high-growth ventures. Known for her engaging presence on stage and her ability to guide meaningful dialogue, she brings both structure and spontaneity to every event she leads. Zivile is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Mr Matas MARTINAITIS

Lithuania

Data Analyst

Ernst & Young (EY)



Matas is a first-year Data Analyst in EY, specialising in machine learning and artificial intelligence for medical applications and research. He recently graduated second in his class with a M.Sc. in Computer Science from University College Dublin and holds a B.Sc. in Human Health & Disease from Trinity College Dublin. Passionate about equity and education, Matas served as Inclusive Leader and Working Group Member under the Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions, representing Ireland in the "Inclusive Schools" and "Seeds for Integration" programmes respectively. Beyond professional and academic pursuits, Matas takes active leadership roles in local communities, serving as Chairperson of cultural societies; Captain and Head Coach of sports clubs; and is an official Gaisce President's Award Leader.

Mr Tom Jerome SCHEER

Luxembourg

Student University of Amsterdam

Education and Research Commission, Law Faculty Student Council and Secretary-General of Amsterdam Model United Nations



Tom is a Political Science major at the PPLE College of the University of Amsterdam, where he serves on the Law Faculty Student Council and its Education and Research Commission. He is Secretary-General of Amsterdam Model United Nations and a senior staff member at the International Model United Nations Association, contributing to the academic and organisational leadership of large-scale youth conferences. As Vice-Chair of the Dutch United Nations Student Association, he leads strategy and outreach across events and communications. He also writes for the European Student Think Tank, focusing on foreign policy, geopolitical influence, and the psychology of leadership.

Mr Julian Wee Lip KOK

Malaysia

Sustainability and Climate Change Consultant

Dw/



Julian is a sustainability consultant supporting organisations across industries in developing sustainability strategies, navigating energy transition, advancing decarbonisation efforts, managing climate risks, enhancing governance and sustainability reporting. Beyond his professional work, Julian has been recognised as a Future 50 leader under World Economic Forum's Global Foresight Network, where he shapes global policy and advances discourse on intergenerational foresight. His work centres on longterm governance and safeguarding interests of both present and future generations. He has also been selected as a fellow of beVisioneers: The Mercedes-Benz Fellowship, where he brings planet-positive ideas to life and strengthens grassroots environmental effort. In addition, he has been involved in Global Shapers Community, YOUNGO, UNESCAP, and Noosphere Vision.

Ms Elaine Yi Ling YEAP

Malaysia

Senior Project Officer

Infineon Technologies



Elaine currently works as Senior Project Officer at Infineon Technologies AG. Her prior career experience includes working at Sanofi, Bower Group Asia, MRCB, and Frost & Sullivan. Elaine is also an ASEFYLS5 Alumna and served as Country Informant for Malaysia for the Asia-Europe Science & Technology Diplomacy Report and a Rapporteur for Malaysia for the Asia-Europe Science & Technology Diplomacy Initiative Country Focused Workshop Series. She was selected as Vital Voices (VV) Visionaries Fellow in 2024, and Yenching Global Symposium Fellow in 2025. Elaine holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from USM, and a Master in Management from Technical University of Munich, and pursuing her second Master in Politics and Technology from Munich School of Politics and Public Policy. Elaine is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Ms Amy CALLEJA

Malta

Director for Internal Affairs, National Youth Council of Malta

> Junior Software Developer, Mergury Cybersecurity



Amy holds a B.Sc. in Computer Engineering from the University of Malta and will begin an M.Sc. in Computer Science Engineering at the Technical University of Denmark this Autumn. She currently works as a Junior Software Developer at Merqury Cybersecurity, where she contributes to the research and development of Quantum Cybersecurity solutions. Amy demonstrated significant leadership through her roles as President of IAESTE Malta and Director for Internal Affairs for the National Youth Council of Malta. A distinguished alumna of the European Leadership Academy, she was the recipient of the 'Future Tech Star Award'. Her experience also includes a technology consulting internship at EY Malta and delivering Python workshops to secondary school students.

Ms Namuun BATTSENGEL

Mongolia

Executive Director

Faro Foundation Mongolia NGO



Namuun is the Executive Director of Faro Foundation Mongolia, a nonprofit organisation championing inclusive digital transformation. Fueled by a passion for education sparked during her freshman year as an ESL teacher, she shifted her focus toward public education and advancing digital inclusion. A certified DW Akademie media development trainer, Namuun specialises in curriculum development, capacity building, and strategic communication for advocacy. Under her leadership, Faro Foundation has empowered over 60,000 citizens with the skills to navigate the digital world safely and responsibly. She is committed to leveraging digital technologies for positive social impact and works closely with international donors, government bodies, and tech companies to deliver measurable, community-driven change. Namuun is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

Mr Zorigt MUNKHTUYA

Mongolia

Communications Advisor, Oyu Tolgoi LLC

Volunteer Communications and Fundraising Consultant, Mongolian Women's Fund



Zorigt is a communications professional from Mongolia with over a decade of experience in strategic and employee communications, crisis response, and stakeholder engagement at one of the country's largest mining operations. He also serves as a volunteer communications and fundraising consultant at the Mongolian Women's Fund, supporting rural women-led initiatives focused on climate resilience, eco-friendly production, and digital innovation. His expertise includes media analysis using open-source data, internal communications strategy, and public diplomacy. Zorigt holds a master's degree in International Relations, where his thesis explored how public media and digital networks are reshaping modern diplomacy.

Ms Yun KHINE

Myanmar

Undergraduate Student

Norwegian University of Life Sciences



Yun is a passionate advocate for inclusive resilience. development, community environmental justice, with over seven years of experience supporting initiatives that strengthen legal identity, citizenship rights, and civic engagement in Myanmar. Her work encompasses research, social inclusion, and community empowerment, with a focus on addressing the needs of minorities and marginalised communities. She is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in International Environment and Development Studies at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences in Norway and has completed International Development Studies at the MAIDS-GRID, at the Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. Beyond this, she has extensive research experience which includes published research in partnership with the Swedish Research Council and civil society networks.

Mr Si Thu WAI

Myanmar

Founder

TET Myanmar



Si Thu is an educator and SDG advocate passionate about empowering teachers, students, and youth through quality education. As founder of TET Myanmar, he has led teacher training programmes that have impacted thousands of educators across Myanmar. He has a background in aerospace engineering and a Master of Education in progress at the University of Melbourne, and has contributed to global education efforts through the SDG4 Youth & Student Network, and previously served on the YSEALI NEXT Executive Steering Committee and participated in the 44th Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP). He currently leads EduSEA: Empowering Educators in Southeast Asia and Empowering Myanmar Through Online and On-Site Educational Development, collaborating with educators and youth across the region. Si Thu is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Ms Vera MAN

Netherlands

Project Leader, Sustainability Pension Fund Supervision De Nederlandsche Bank

Vice-President, European Trade Union Confederation



Vera holds two Master's degrees in Economics and in Global Economic Governance and Public Affairs, including international study in Italy, Germany and France and a summer school in Hong Kong. She works at the Dutch Central Bank (DNB) as a project leader on ESG in pension fund supervision. With nearly seven years in the trade union movement, she currently also serves as Vice-President of the European Trade Union Confederation. Vera gained hands-on experience through internships in Kenya on microfinance, project in Ghana and South Africa and in the private sector on biodiversity and CSR. Vera's work connects economic policy, sustainability, and social dialogue at both national and European levels.

Mr Yuri VAN STEENWIJK

Netherlands

Graduate Student, University of Zurich

Board Member, Europa Institut, University of Zurich



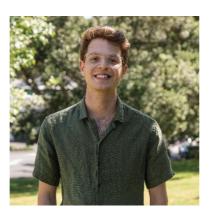
Yuri is a recent law graduate and an incoming junior lawyer in Zurich. He studied law at the Universities of Zurich, Lausanne, and Amsterdam. He was actively involved in the European Law Students' Association (ELSA) during his studies, ultimately serving as President of the International Board for the term 2022/23, working full-time for the association in Brussels. He remains a member of the advisory board to the International Board of ELSA and is also a board member at the Europa Institut at the University of Zurich, a centre for European affairs. He has experience working as a trainee at several international law firms throughout Europe and also served on the advisory board for the IBA International Guidelines for Wellbeing in Legal Education.

Mr Matthew GOLDSWORTHY

New Zealand

Founder & Chair

Youth Arts New Zealand



Matthew is a social impact leader from Aotearoa New Zealand, now based in London, UK. He is the Founder and Chair of Youth Arts New Zealand, where his work centres on clear, values-driven storytelling and building more equitable systems for both communities and individuals. Matthew has supported NZ, the UK, and global organisations as a founder, trustee, volunteer, consultant, project manager, and advisor - with a focus on creative nonprofits, social enterprises, community organisations, and public sector agencies. He has held governance roles with the Social Enterprise World Forum, Volunteering New Zealand, and Play It Strange; is the co-founder of Goodness Digital, a social enterprise digital agency; and part of the team shaping and growing the nonprofit startup accelerator, MassChallenge UK. Matthew is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Ms Alyssa OLSEN

New Zealand

Student, University of Auckland

Northland Engagement Coordinator, the Youth Climate Collective



Alyssa is pursuing a conjoint Bachelor's programme in Engineering with a specialisation in Engineering Science and Science majoring in Environmental Science. She has worked across both local and central government in New Zealand, including roles as a Climate Action Intern at the Northland Regional Council and a Data Analytics Intern at the Ministry for the Environment. Alyssa currently serves as the Northland Engagement Coordinator for the Youth Climate Collective. She has been involved in international climate dialogues and policy engagement, including an analysis of New Zealand's NDC under the Paris Agreement and participation in the Global Youth Climate Summit in Brazil.

Ms Astrid DYRLI

Norway

Senior People Partner BeZero Carbon



Astrid is a People Operations & Equality specialist with five years' experience in high-growth, mission-led tech start-ups across the climate and Al sectors. Her work spans organisational strategy, inclusive policy design, and leadership development, with a focus on embedding equity and sustainability into systems at scale. She has led Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion representation, improved frameworks that transparency and fairness across organisations. In parallel, she volunteers on projects addressing migration and gender-based violence, contributing to community support and survivor-led advocacy. With a background in political history and an interest in systems change, Astrid was selected by UN Women UK to attend the 69th Commission on the Status of Women in March 2025.

Ms Umaima AHMED

Pakistan

Conservation Officer, Biodiversity Practice Area

World Wide Fund for Nature, WWF - Pakistan



Umaima is a graduate of Georgetown University in Qatar's School of Foreign Service, where she majored in International Economics. She has explored how small business sustainability practices intersect with climate action initiatives in the Middle East and is currently delving into sustainable urban development to build resilience against disasters. With an interdisciplinary background spanning social sciences and data analytics, she aims to support organisations advancing evidence-based adaptation frameworks that inform equitable, impact-driven policymaking. She is passionate about contributing to efforts that strengthen the resilience of human communities in the face of climate change and welcome opportunities to collaborate with purpose-driven teams tackling these urgent challenges.

Mr Muhammad Zubair MADNI

Pakistan

Co-Founder & Executive Director

Cholistan Center of Excellence (CCE)



Muhammad Zubair is a digital and educational development practitioner who recently completed a Master's degree in Digital Education from the University of Manchester, UK, as a Chevening Scholar. He currently leads a youth-driven nonprofit organisation focused on advancing digital inclusion and educational equity for nomadic communities in Pakistan's Cholistan Desert. Through initiatives such as Digital Rohi, he has enabled access to digital tools and learning opportunities for over 10,000 individuals using sustainable, community-led models. He has presented his work at several global forums and has received multiple international awards for his contributions to social impact and digital inclusion.

Mr Gerald John (GJ) GUILLERMO

Philippines

Founder

Keep the Change: Youth Policy Lab



Gerald John (GJ) is a development lawyer, researcher, and public policy advocate. He works as a Policy Associate at ImagineLaw, a public interest law group advancing health and social justice. He is the Founder of Keep the Change: Youth Policy Lab, a youth-led initiative empowering young Filipinos to participate meaningfully in policymaking and governance. GJ earned his Juris Doctor from the University of the Philippines in 2024 and was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 2025. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in Development Management from Ateneo de Manila University. GJ has joined global conferences on human rights, climate action, and regional cooperation, including JENESYS, AFMAM, SEASAT, and YSEALI and was an inaugural Oxfam Young Leader Fellow.

Mr Marian FILA

Poland

Graduate Student

College of Europe, Natolin



Marian FILA is representing the College of Europe, Natolin at the conference, where he recently received a master's degree in European Interdisciplinary Studies. He has an MA in China Studies from the Yenching Academy of Peking University and a BA in International Development from King's College London. He pursued research programs and exchanges at National University of Singapore, Hong Kong University, Yonsei University, Keio University, and National Taiwan University. His professional experiences include working as a Project Manager at Huawei, Research Assistance to Professors Robyn Klingler-Vidra and Tyler Goodspeed, and internships at Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PKN Orlen and AVCJ. He is a published author with publications in World Development and The Diplomat. Marian is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Ms Dominika LYKOWSKA

Poland

Al Policy & Research Contributor

Ethical Al Alliance



Dominika is a graduate in Politics & Artificial Intelligence from the University of Groningen, with a strong focus on the intersection of emerging technologies, ethics, and democratic governance. She has conducted policy research on the EU AI Act and Digital Services Act during internships at The London Story and ECAS, and currently volunteers at the Ethical Al Alliance, where she co-develops policy proposals and coordinates a Global South Roundtable on Al Governance. She has also co-designed a university course on algorithmic bias and postcolonial theory and has moderated panels featuring policymakers from the European Commission. She is dedicated to building bridges between civic voices, public institutions, and technology policy to shape a more just and participatory digital future.

Mr Eduardo CACHETAS

Portugal

Student, Universidade do Minho

Director for International Affairs and Programmes, the Portuguese Medical Students' International Committee



Eduardo is currently pursuing his Integrated Master's Degree in Medicine at the University of Minho. With a strong passion for health policy, youth engagement, international affairs and climate action, he has held various student representation positions, including as Local Coordinator for the European Medical Students Association, and is currently the Director for International Affairs and Programmes at the Medical Portuguese Students' International Committee. Eduardo is also a Regional Leader for the Planetary Health Report Card, a global initiative that evaluates Planetary Health efforts in health-related faculties worldwide, and a certified trainer within the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations and the National Federation of Youth Associations.

Mr Gonçalo TAVARES

Portugal

Graduate, University of Aveiro

Representative, European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU)



Gonçalo is a youth leader and digital leadership advocate at the Erasmus Student Network (ESN), where he is the Administrator of the General Assembly Chairing Team. With a background in Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering from the University of Aveiro, in Portugal, and gained mobility and later internship experience at Tallinn University of Technology, in Estonia, where he later was involved in the creation of Portugal-Eesti MTÜ. He has led various initiatives supporting digital transformation, youth participation and international cooperation. Previously, he worked as IT Manager of ESN Portugal and now works to build sustainable digital infrastructure that empowers youth organisations. He focuses on inclusive IT capacity building, inclusive governance, and access to services.

Ms Tamara CIOBANU

Romania

Executive Committee Member

European Students' Union (ESU)



Tamara is a passionate advocate for student rights and educational reform. During her Law studies, she joined the national student union, serving as Vice President for Educational Policies and later for International Affairs within the National Alliance of Student Organizations in Romania. In recent years, she advanced to international advocacy, focusing on the European Universities Initiative, quality assurance and access to education. She is an Executive Committee member of the European Students Union, a Board member of the Global Campaign for Education and a Steering Committee member of the Global Students Forum. Tamara recently completed her Master's in Development and Environmental Sustainable Management at Babes-Bolyai University and will soon begin a PhD in sustainability in higher education.

Mr Christian PAŞKA

Romania

Project Management
Officer

Endava Romania



Cristian is a Project Management Officer at Endava Romania, a global technology company delivering digital transformation and agile software development services. In this role, he supports strategic decisionmaking through reporting and data analysis across multiple business units. Cristian previously served as President of ESN Romania, where he led national strategies and represented the Erasmus Student Network at international platforms. He implemented inclusion-focused initiatives funded by EU and corporate grants. He holds two Master's degrees in Organisational and Programme Management from Babeş-Bolyai University and studied through an Erasmus+ scholarship. Furthermore, Cristian creates learning tools and facilitates training sessions as a certified trainer and active youth leader. Christian is an ASEFEdu Alumnus.

Mr Sebastian FERNANDEZ

Singapore

Student, Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT)

President of SIT Applied AI Club and Google Developer Student Club



Mr Sebastian is an Applied Artificial Intelligence undergraduate at Singapore Institute of Technology. His work spans across the field of Al, focusing on Agentic Workflows in Large Language Models. He worked under the NVIDIA SIT Joint AI Center as a NLP Research Engineer. He co-led Project MESOS with Singapore Civil Defence Force and Dell, an awardwinning solution using Al to reduce emergency response times. During his internship as an Al Engineer at Synapxe, Sebastian developed Retrieval Augmented Generation systems for healthcare applications. As the President of SIT Applied AI Club and Google Developer Student Club, he has mentored over 500 students through hackathons and workshops. He also teaches Python and Al literacy to underserved youth via Youth Singapore and National Youth Tech Championship.

Singapore Co-Founder & President

Advisory Singapore

Mr Yi Jun MOCK



Yi Jun is Co-Founder and President of Advisory Singapore, a fully youth-led charity dedicated to empowering young people from all walks of life to make informed career and further education choices. For his work, Yi Jun received the Queen's Young Leaders Award, the Diana Award, was named a #Generation17 Young Leader by UNDP and Samsung, and was named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 in the Social Impact category. He holds a Master of Global Affairs from Tsinghua University, where he studied as a BP Fellow and Schwarzman Scholar, and a Bachelor of Politics and International Relations from the London School of Economics.

Mr Róbert BEDNÁR

Slovakia

Presidential Advisor for Global Engagement and Strategic Initiatives

Student Section of International Institute of Political Science



Róbert is pursuing a Master´s Degree in International Relations at Masaryk University in Brno with a strong focus on security policy, hybrid threats, and disinformation. Outside of academia, Róbert has served as President of the Student Section at the Faculty of Social Sciences, where he facilitated dialogue between youth and high-level policymakers. Currently, his role in the organisation is Presidential Advisor for Global Engagement and Strategic Initiatives. Róbert has participated in several international programs dedicated to strategy, regional cooperation, and leadership development like EFA.

Mr Matej PEVC

Slovenia

Graduate Student University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

Volunteer, Youth Center Zagorje



Matej is a dedicated graduate student specialising in energy engineering at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. He holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the same faculty. Matej was also a member of the University of Ljubljana's Design Build Fly team, gaining valuable hands-on experience. Beyond academics, he is actively involved in his community. He volunteers at the Youth Center Zagorje, where he helps organize and support youth programs, and works as a support person at an Occupational Activity Center for People with Disabilities, assisting individuals in daily activities and inclusion. Matej has also participated in numerous Erasmus+ exchanges, expanding his international perspective and intercultural skills.

Mr Javier LARA RUIZ

Spain

Graduate Student

College of Europe, Natolin



Javier is a graduate in European Interdisciplinary Studies (College of Europe - Natolin), currently completing a two years Master's in Peace, Security and Defence (IUGM, Spain). He has worked as research assistant to the Director of IUGM, contributing to official publications for the Spanish Ministry of Defence. His focus lies in security/defence and the political impact of digital technologies. At LISA News and GEOPOL21, he analysed how digital expansion and state control affect societies especially in Asia. He has also designed and led civic and cultural diplomacy projects. Awarded the Santander Youth Top Talent Prize, he have promoted civic engagement through youth work, local leadership, and multiples UN simulation games awards.

Ms Lucía MORENO-ARRONES LORIENTE

Spain

Senior Consultant

NTT Data



Lucía holds a joint Bachelor's degree in International Relations and Political Science (Spain) and graduated from the MBA programme at Shizenkan University (Japan). Currently a Senior Consultant for International Organizations at NTT Data, she previously worked at the Spain-Japan Foundation, contributing to public diplomacy through the organisation of the Spain-Japan Forum in Takamatsu (2025) and the Spain-China Forum in Beijing (2025). With prior experience in the fintech industry and as an editor at the European Student Think Tank, Lucía brings expertise in project management and international relations. Her work is driven by a deep interest in how societies can ethically adapt to rapid change in today's evolving global landscape. Lucía is an ASEFEdu Alumna.

NAVIGATOR

Ms Emma WEDNER

Sweden

Student, Lund University

Member, Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth



Emma is a 23 year old from Sweden who has spent the past 4 years in the Netherlands. She holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations focusing on environmental and energy policy. She has worked as a full-time programme manager for an organisation encouraging young professionals to pursue careers in peace and justice related fields. Emma has been active in multiple national and European youth organisations and is currently a member of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth. In the Advisory Council she works on questions related to youth participation and civic space. She is returning to Sweden for the autumn term to start a masters degree in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation at Lund university.

Mr Alex EYMANN

Switzerland

Student, University of St.Gallen

Member, Municipal Council, Switzerland



Alex is currently completing his final semester in Business Administration at the University of St.Gallen in Switzerland, with a particular focus on finance courses-an emphasis that reflects his earlier professional experience as a trained bank clerk. Before entering university, he completed a vocational apprenticeship in banking and subsequently obtained his Matura. Alongside his academic journey, he was elected to the municipal council of his hometown, a village located in the Swiss Alps, becoming the youngest officeholder ever elected to this position. In this role, he assumes responsibility for the municipality's finances, overseeing an annual budget of approximately 19 million Swiss francs.

Mr Jirun FUEANGNAK

Thailand

Founder

Green Talent Generation



Jirun is an environmental advocate working in the border area of Mae Sai, Chiang Rai, Thailand. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Urban Innovation and Sustainability, focusing on raising awareness and building knowledge about water and air pollution issues. He founded the Green Talent Generation project, which aims to develop environmental skills (Green Skills) among youth in Mae Sai's border communities and across Thailand. The project focuses on finding sustainable solutions that balance community development, respect for human rights, and the promotion of peace and security in a culturally diverse and conflict-sensitive border region. His work involves close collaboration with local communities, NGOs, and human rights organizations to address environmental challenges with cultural sensitivity.

Ms Rossita MACLEAN

United Kingdom

PhD Student, Queen's University Belfast

> Founder, Women in STEM Society, Queen's University Belfast



Rossita is a PhD student in electrical engineering at Queen's University Belfast, where her work explores how data can build a fairer, cleaner, more resilient energy future. Recognising that energy is both personal and transformative, she's especially interested in how data-driven and people-centric solutions can shape critical national infrastructure. Driven by a belief that engineering must serve people, not just systems, she founded a local network for Women in STEM that has grown to 500 members, organised the first Women in STEM conference in Northern Ireland and earned recognition at two national awards. With experience spanning industrial internships, academic research and community building, Rossita is committed to creating impact through inclusive, socially informed engineering.

Ms Isabelle WARD

United Kingdom
Project Manager
City Climate Action



Isabelle is an international urban planner and geographer focused on peer-to-peer learning and collaborative city planning to address the impacts of the climate crisis. She enjoys bringing together diverse stakeholders to co-create inclusive and sustainable urban futures, and has worked on urban research and projects in Japan and the UK. Isabelle holds a Bachelor's degree in Geography (International) from the University of Leeds, including a year at the National University of Singapore, and a Master's degree in International City Planning from University College London. Isabelle is an ASEF Alumna, having participated in the Model ASEM Spinn-off in Singapore in 2015 and ASEFYLS4.



Viet Nam

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Fulbright University Vietnam

Co-Founder, MY Spa



Thi Hai Yen is a Vietnamese mental health researcher. disability advocate, and social entrepreneur. As a visually impaired woman, she brings a personal and culturally grounded lens to her work. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Vietnam Studies from Fulbright University Vietnam, graduating with distinction. Hai Yen is currently leading two research projects on disability and mental health. She also interns at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and co-authors papers on mental health among LGBT youth in Vietnam. Beyond academia, she cofounded MY Spa, a social enterprise employing visually impaired therapists, and The VIP Companion (VIC), a mentoring initiative for blind youth. She was selected as Vietnam's representative in the ASEAN-Pacific Youth Mental Health Fellowship 2025-a regional initiative led by Orygen-and as a YSEALI Fellow by the U.S. Department of State for emerging leaders in Southeast Asia.

Mr Trí NGUYỄN

Viet Nam

Vice President for Organisational Development & Growth

Student Think Tank for Europe-Asia Relations (STEAR)



Tri is the Vice President at the Student Think Tank for Europe-Asia Relations (STEAR), in charge of Organisational Development with a focus on improving the performance of the entire STEAR team and driving growth by expanding STEAR's presence and impact through chapters across Eurasian cities. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, with experience in marketing and management consulting. At present, he is also pursuing the path of a purposedriven entrepreneur, working on the early stages of building a social enterprise focused on promoting sustainable consumption.

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