



14. Action on youth July 10, 2021

Summary

The United Nations Security Council affirmed unanimously (December 9, 2015) that “young people play an important and positive role in the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security.” G20 leaders have recognized the role that young people play, with the 2020 G20 Presidency Agenda highlighting that “the G20 should be forward – looking and adopt a long-term approach to pave the way for the future generations.”

The brief highlights youth-centered recommendations as an integral part of the key themes and topics of the 2021 G20 Summit, reflecting inputs of young interfaith leaders from around the globe, presented by A Common Word Among the Youth (ACWAY), a global youth movement that brings together young people from many backgrounds, to increase understanding of different cultures and faiths and promote peace and coexistence, by delivering local community activities. Launched in December 2015, ACWAY fellows have engaged in over 200 interfaith and intercultural activities, ranging from educational seminars to peace walks, national conferences and media campaigns and including five international forums in Morocco, Australia, Sudan, and Azerbaijan and one online international forum for the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week. ACWAY is the Global Youth partner to the G20 Interfaith Forum and Chairs the Youth Working Group of the G20IF.

The brief outlines the challenges facing young people around the world, and practical policy-centered recommendations to address them. The consultation process began with a global call for submissions, in which young interfaith leaders were asked to submit the most pressing challenges in their communities, along with potential solutions. At a second consultation during the ACWAY Youth Forum in February 2021, a youth-specific focus group of 75 young people, collected multiple perspectives on further recommendations.

Areas of policy focus include the following: (1) access to education, (2) stable employment, (3) mental health, (4) youth in conflict zones, (5) climate change, and (6) access to the decision-making processes. ACWAY recommends that the Interfaith Development Goals be adopted by all G20 member states as a tool to monitor and measure interfaith impact in the sector.

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