49th
INTERNATIONAL PEACE INSTITUTE
VIENNA SEMINAR

PARTNERING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE FOR PREVENTION
SUSTAINING PEACE AND ADDRESSING VIOLENCE, CRIME AND CORRUPTION

VIENNA, AUSTRIA
12 JUNE 2019

PROGRAM

#IPIVS19
INTRODUCTION

PARTNERING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE FOR PREVENTION
SUSTAINING PEACE AND ADDRESSING VIOLENCE, CRIME AND CORRUPTION

The 2019 Vienna Seminar will focus on the role of young people as agents of peace and social change at the global, regional, national and local level.

An estimated 1.8 billion people globally are between 10 and 24 years old.\(^1\) Nearly one in four – an estimated 408 million youth – are affected by violence or armed conflict.\(^2\) Children and adolescents make up the majority of the population in 48 of the world’s least developed countries.\(^3\)

Young people are engaged in creative ways to sustain peace and prevent violence, both in societies wracked by conflict and crime, and those that experience peace and prosperity. They are important partners in working to strengthen resilience, promoting sustainable development and preventing the spread of violence, crime and corruption. The recognition of the positive contributions of youth in prevention is a critical step towards their meaningful participation in issues of peace and security.

Yet, this generation of youth—the largest the world has ever known—often feel excluded from multilateral institutions and national government. This exclusion is deeply rooted in reciprocal mistrust. Amid growing global concerns of violent conflict, terrorism, and crime, young people are often viewed as “a problem to be solved,” resulting in policies that reinforce political, social and economic marginalization and exclusion.

To help realize young people's positive contribution to peace and security, the Seminar will build on the key messages and recommendations of the July 2018 Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security. It underscores the need to address negative stereotypes and policy myths, to recognize the significant peacebuilding work undertaken by young people, and the necessity of moving from exclusion to meaningful inclusion in order to realize the potential peace dividend represented by young people. These principles build on the United Nations youth, peace and security agenda established by Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015). Furthermore, the Youth2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy (2018) puts specific emphasis on the engagement, participation and advocacy of youth as a driver for a more peaceful, just and sustainable world.

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\(^3\) UNFPA, 2014
Recognizing that “[y]oung people’s work on peace and security is the ‘connective tissue’ that bridges the silos of development, human rights, humanitarian affairs, and peace and security,” the 2019 Vienna Seminar will explore how United Nations entities, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and other Vienna-based institutions can best support, include, and invest in young women and men as partners for sustaining peace and prevention.

The 40th anniversary of the United Nations’ Vienna International Centre (VIC) offers an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of the Vienna Based Organizations (VBOs), as well as examine their role moving forward; in particular, UNODC’s fight against organized crime, corruption and terrorism and its significant role in promoting good governance and working towards the achievement of SDG 16. The UN in Vienna and in New York are playing a specific role in working to address the challenges young people face and in working to support young people’s efforts to prevent violence and promote long-term peace and sustainable development. As the UN in Vienna moves into its next decade of programming, there is a need to better understand the work of the VBOs in engaging young people and preventing the spread of conflict, crime and terrorism. In doing so, the seminar provides a means to consider how to better bridge the work of New York and Vienna.

To involve and empower young people in multilateral decision-making and policy discussions, the Seminar will aim to identify effective tools and mechanisms to involve young men and women throughout the different sessions, to ensure that both policies and programs are people-centered, needs-based and inclusive. Each panel session will also include a youth representative working on peacebuilding at the local, national, or international level.

The meeting will have an outcome document that will summarize the key points and proposals.
WEDNESDAY, 12 JUNE 2019

Alois Mock-Hall  
Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Minoritenplatz 8, 1010 Vienna

08:30-09:00  REGISTRATION

09:00-09:30  WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Welcoming remarks:

Karin Proidl  
Director of International Organizations,  
Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Adam Lupel  
Vice President, International Peace Institute

Keynote Address:

Samuel Goda  
Special Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office on Youth and Security
09:30-11:00 SESSION ONE

The UN in Vienna: 40 years of Promoting Peace and Security

This public, high-level discussion will reflect on the role of the United Nations and the OSCE in engaging and supporting young people in peace, including achievements, challenges and next steps. What efforts are being undertaken by the UN and other organizations to implement the youth, peace and security agenda? How can the work undertaken by the Vienna prevention communities be better linked?

Chairperson:

Karin Proidl
Director of International Organizations,
Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Speakers:

Monika Froehler
Chief Executive Officer, Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

Jean-Luc Lemahieu
Director, Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Martin Nesirky
Director, United Nations Information Service

Phillipe Tremblay
Head of the External Co-Operation Section, Office of the Secretary General, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

11:00-11:30 COFFEE BREAK
11:30-13:00  SESSION TWO

Cooperating on Youth, Peace and Security

This session will bring together youth representatives, and experts working on the youth agenda to examine how Vienna and New York can work together to connect policy and programming around this work. What role are young people playing to promote security and inclusive peace in their societies? What roles do they have to mitigate violent extremism, prevent crime, opposing corruption? What strategies exist to promote political, economic and social inclusion of young people and overcome mistrust? How can national and international policies be better aligned to support and invest in young people as leaders and peacemakers?

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Chairperson:

Adam Lupel
Vice President, International Peace Institute

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Speakers:

Gordana Berjan
Executive Director, European Youth Centre, Council of Europe

Anna-Katharina Deininger
Focal Point on Youth and Security, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Sarah Smith
‘Building Peace’ Programme Officer, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation

Margaret Williams
16+ Forum Coordinator and Senior Policy Officer, World Federation of United Nations Associations

13:00-14:00  LUNCH BUFFET
SESSION THREE

An interactive discussion with young people working to build and sustain peace.

This session will feature a panel of predominately young people working to build and sustain peace in different regions and country contexts. This will be an interactive discussion where ideas and best practices as well as challenges young people and youth-led organizations face are shared. This session aims to generate practical ways in which to support young people in preventing violence, crime and corruption and fostering security.

Facilitator:

Lesley Connolly
Senior Policy Analyst, International Peace Institute

Speakers:

Nour Barakeh
Collaborator, SDG 5 Thrive!

Ayten Birhanie
Executive Director, Peace and Development Center, Addis Ababa

Suad Mohamed
Pharmacist; Interpreter, Austrian Red Cross and Diakonie Refugee Service, Vienna

Juma Mwangi
Community Youth Leader, Nairobi
15:30-16:00  CONCLUDING REMARKS

Andreas Riecken  
Director-General for EU and Multilateral Affairs, 
Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Adam Lupel  
Vice President, International Peace Institute