

**72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly**  
**Side event**  
**UN Youth Delegate Programme: An Opportunity for Youth Engagement in the UN**

**Thursday, 12 October, 13:15-14:30**  
**Conference Room E,**  
**UN Headquarters, New York**

**Context**

While today's generation of youth is the largest that has existed, youth participation in political and decision-making processes at the local, national and international level remains low. In the context of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, young people's participation is more crucial than ever. One way to enhance young people's participation is through the UN Youth Delegate Programme.

Since 1981 the General Assembly has repeatedly called on Member States "to consider including youth representatives in their national delegations to the General Assembly and to other relevant United Nations meetings". This has led to the participation of 'UN Youth Delegates' in numerous intergovernmental processes, including the General Assembly, functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and, more recently, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

Though youth delegate participation has been steadily increasing in recent years, to date only roughly 35 Member States have established youth delegate programmes, many of which are in developed countries. For young people to be truly at the heart of our sustainable development efforts and to ensure that no one is left behind, more focus must be placed on ensuring the active engagement of young people from developing countries, and vulnerable and marginalized situations.

**Objective**

The event aims to discuss the value of the UN Youth Delegate Programme as a means of strengthening youth participation in the work of Member State delegations at both national and UN level. Through the sharing of good practices, the event aims to inform and answer questions for Member States and young people interested in establishing a programme.

**Audience**

- Member State representatives
- Civil society representatives
- Youth

**Outcome**

- Member State representatives, civil society representatives and young people in general are aware of the UN Youth Delegate Programme as youth engagement mechanism at the UN.
- Member State representatives, civil society representatives and young people are informed of the tools available to establish a UN Youth Delegate Programme at the national level.



## Programme

**Moderator:** Ms. Marissa Storozum, UN Youth Delegate Programme Coordinator, UN DESA

### **1:15 pm - Welcome and Overview of the United Nations Youth Delegate Programme**

- *Welcome*  
**Mr. Andreas Glossner**, Political Officer, Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations
- *Overview of the Youth Delegate Programme*  
**Ms. Marissa Storozum**, UN Youth Delegate Programme Coordinator, UN DESA
- *Civil Society and United Nations Associations' efforts and contributions*  
**Mr. Pablo Angulo-Troconis**, Sustainable Development Officer, World Federation of United Nations Associations

### **1:30 pm - Facets of the United Nations Youth Delegate Programme and National Examples**

- *Establishing a Youth Delegate Programme: The example of Italy*  
**Mr. Tommaso Murè**, Youth Delegate from Italy
- *Funding the Youth Delegate Program: The example of Australia*  
**Ms. Paige Burton**, Youth Delegate from Australia
- *The selection process, working with national youth, the responsibilities of Youth Delegates and their return: The example of Germany*  
**Ms. Anaïck Geißel**, Youth Delegate from Germany
- *Preparation work by the Youth Delegate and Guidance by the Permanent Mission: The example of Bulgaria*  
**Ms. Asya Tsvetanova**, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations

### **2:10 pm - Q & A and Closing**