



YOUTH PEACE INITIATIVE
THE HAGUE • THE NETHERLANDS

Information Booklet

New participants



What is Youth Peace Initiative?

Youth Peace Initiative (YPI) was founded to give youth in conflict areas a chance to participate in peace processes. While people across the world are divided, younger generations are often not included in the efforts to shape their shared future. Therefore in 2014 Youth Peace Initiative was set up to bring together youth from conflict areas to discover their role in the peace process.

YPI started with the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, and over the course of the past years this has remained the main pillar of the organisation. In these past years YPI has organised several conferences in the Netherlands and facilitated the training of participants.

Youth often makes up a large part of the population in conflict areas. However, when it comes to peace negotiations it is not the youth that are part of this conversation. Despite youth being excluded from peace negotiations, it is the youth that will implement possible agreements. Therefore, the time has now come for our generation of youth to take action and become the leaders and agents of the change that we need.

Our mission

Youth Peace Initiative is a youth-led, impartial, international organisation that aims to facilitate youth in creating a space for youth to share their voice in the peace process to foster sustainable peace. We believe that our role is to create this environment and use a wide variety of methods to build, train, and facilitate our delegations of young peacemakers. We recognise the importance of creating a sustainable peace movement by also preparing youth to train new generations to continue fostering peace and understanding.

From this belief our goal is to create a space for a new sustainable group of future young leaders that have the capacity to inspire and motivate others. Within this group we hope to develop an openness to one another and respect for each other while sharing your story and developing your own opinion.

'Our Common Future III' sets out a bold but realistic future and highlights a shared vision of both the Israeli and Palestinian delegation. The YPI delegation of the 2018 conference - consisting of five Israelis, five Palestinians and six other international delegates - agreed to use the document 'Our Common Future III' as a base for further efforts.



The Middle Eastern Peace Process Initiative

One of YPI's main programmes focuses on bringing Israeli and Palestinian youth together. In 2014, 2016, and 2018 conferences were held in the Netherlands to bring together these youth. Together they have developed themselves and built the foundation to further work together on topics related to peace in the region. Through meetings, dialogue sessions, workshops and debates the participants are able to express their visions and develop their ideas. The first step within this programme is the Young Leadership Experience. During one year you will get a great experience and work on your personal development with specific regard to leadership and peace.

Young Leadership Experience

The Young Leadership Experience is a great way to develop yourself on a personal and professional level. Throughout the year you will have the opportunity to be part of a team of young leaders and participate in trainings, dialogue sessions, and conferences.

The year will start off by getting to know each other and yourself. Who will you be working with in the coming year and what are your strengths and areas for development? You will learn to receive feedback, listen to each other, and be open to opinions and ideas you might not experience in the same way or agree with.

The next phase will be focused on meeting Israelis and Palestinians, maybe for the first time, during a week-long conference in the Netherlands. This conference will take place during the first week of March 2019 and will be built around the lessons you've learned in phase 1. The goal is to get to know each other and start to understand each other's experiences and perspectives and most importantly find the common ground to build the programme further.

Following the conference period, the programme builds upon activities that will take place with the entire group. This part of the programme will be developed together with YPI and your team. These can include dialogue sessions on specific topics, organizing events, specific training sessions that you believe will help with your development in the year. At this point, the ball is in your court. It will be your responsibility to lead and organise yourselves. YPI will be the facilitating team and will aim to guide you where necessary.



Who are we looking for?

We are looking for young ambitious Israelis and Palestinians who are/have:

- Between the ages of 18-29,
- Able to commit themselves to the programme for at least 1 year (January 2019 - December 2019) and living in the region,
- A good command of the English language,
- Socially engaged, you have the ambition to make a difference in your society and to take on a leadership role in your community,
- Reflective and curious,
- Interested in developing their leadership skills and learning about different perspectives and narratives.

What's in it for you?

The Young Leadership Experience will give you the opportunity to develop yourself and get to know a group of young Palestinians and Israelis. Throughout the year you will have trainings and workshops, a week-long conference in the Netherlands, dialogue sessions and leadership experience.

After one year of developing yourself, meeting new people, and learning about and understanding different perspectives and narratives, you can expect to have learned the following:

- Be open to new messages and ask open questions,
- Take multiple perspectives into account and analyse them objectively,
- Think critically and form a coherent opinion or argument,
- Understand who you are, how you respond to different settings and how to use this to your advantage,
- Work together closely with people from different backgrounds,
- What you can do to have a positive influence in your community, and learn about your own background and narrative and understand the differences in narratives on the other side.

Practical information

In order to set up a successful programme where you'll have the tools and conditions to develop yourself, we expect that you are committed for at least one full year. This year will take place from January 2019 until December 2019. You'll read about the possibilities after the 1st year later in this document.

In short:

- One-year commitment to the programme and living in the region (at least)
- You should be available for trainings/meetings approximately 10 hours per month. This includes preparing yourself for sessions, organising meetings, and the meetings and activities themselves.



- We expect you to be present for 80% of the meetings and activities in the region.
- Be fully available for the conference in the Netherlands from March 1 - March 9 2019.
- Your travel costs to meetings and the costs of the conference in the Netherlands will be covered throughout the programme year.

What will your year look like?

In the table below you will find a short preliminary version of the agenda of the year. This programme will be adapted and constituted together with the group.

Date	Topic	Location
January - February 2019	Meetings that will touch upon topics such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Getting to know yourself and your team - Team building in the separate groups - Expectation management - Preparation for the conference in the Netherlands 	In the region
1st - 9th of March 2019 (tentative)	Middle East Peace Process (MEPP) Conference 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Getting to know each group - Trust Building - Develop your listening, communication, and dialogue skills - Setting an agenda for the rest of the year 	The Netherlands
April - September 2019	Follow up of the conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings with the whole group, discuss topics decided upon during the conference - Implementing the action plans set up by the group during the conference 	In the region
October - December 2019	Reflection and development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking back at the past year - Determining your plans for next year 	In the region



Develop within YPI

After one year of developing your leadership capabilities you can choose to take on the next step within the framework of broader Israeli/Palestinian Programme. YPI works with three core groups who each have their own roles and responsibilities. The distribution of these roles is up to you.

For instance, you could become more active in dialogue sessions or in designing the programme, or maybe you want to be more involved in organising activities in the region. Together we'll look where your ambitions and strengths lie to see where you can play an important role.

Application process

Have we caught your interest, and do you want to know more? Please send us a message at info@youthpeaceinitiative.net.

The application process works as follows:

1. Application

- Send your application (motivation letter and CV) to info@youthpeaceinitiative.net by **Wednesday 31 October 2018 23:59 CEST**
- Motivation letter (max 500 words) including at least:
 - Why are you applying?
 - What specific quality can you bring to the team?
 - What will the programme bring for your future?
- CV (2 pages max)

2. Interview

- After the deadline you will receive a reply of our assessment.
- If you are invited for an interview, this will take place in November.

3. Selection

- After all the interviews have been held in November, our final decision will be communicated to you in the first week of December.

4. Start Programme

- If you are selected after your interview, the programme kick-off takes place in December.
- In January 2019 you will start officially with the programme. All the necessary information and dates will be communicated during the kick-off!





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