

Vatican Youth Symposium

Casina Pio IV | October 13-15, 2017

Youth as Stewards of Our Planet for a More Fraternal and Supportive Society



Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo

Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences

*Our era is one of great tension and anxiety. With multilateralism on the wane, narrower visions of nationalism, exclusivism, and even xenophobia are on the rise. International law is increasingly derided and disrespected, with the rise of political bullying and a “might is right” attitude. As Pope Francis says, we are already living through another world war, albeit one fought piecemeal, which—in tandem with encroaching environmental stress—is leading to mass displacement of peoples and the greatest humanitarian crisis since the Second World War. On the economic front, a technocratic paradigm in tandem with an individualistic ethos has given rise to a global economy driven by greed and lust for profit, leading to massive social exclusion and environmental degradation. In a world of unprecedented levels of wealth, the persistence of shocking poverty, inequality, hunger, lack of access to education, modern slavery and degrading work conditions, human trafficking, and deaths caused by preventable and treatable disease reflects what Pope Francis calls the “globalization of indifference.” Even rich countries are not immune to social maladies, as their citizens experience rising levels of insecurity, restlessness, and dissatisfaction. Most citizens of the United States, Europe, North Africa and parts of Latin America believe their countries are not on “the right track”. What is clear is that the current crisis is a crisis of values. It is not so much a lack of financial or technical capacity as “moral capacity.” As Pope Francis wrote in *Laudato Si'*, “our immense technological development has not been accompanied by a development in human responsibility, values and conscience.” The rise of relativism, practical nihilism, boundless consumerism, and the general eclipse in values is directly related to the tension, anxiety, and malaise of our modern age.*

It is therefore timely to reconsider the values at the foundation of our individual, social, political and economic life—especially for the younger generation. The ceaseless pursuit of ever-greater profits does not lead to happiness and fulfilment. A one-dimensional focus on material wealth leads only to spiritual poverty. Economic progress can improve quality of life in many ways, but only if it goes hand-in-hand with values that are coherent with human nature, which is made up of body and soul, seeking both material and spiritual possessions, market and non-market goods.

*Thus, we arrive at the eternal question that Aristotle used as an opening for his *Ethics* and his *Politics*, that is, how to achieve the happiness that “all human beings naturally desire”¹ in today’s world, marked as it is by rapid urbanisation, increasing mass communication, prevailing individualism, global capitalism, and environmental decay.*

From this perspective, the main moral issue is not only what I should do—that is, deontology in the Kantian sense—but rather how I should lead my life to achieve happiness before God, myself, other people, and the



environment. This differs from modern notions that link happiness to such extrinsic goods as wealth, power, or fame, or the idea that happiness is individualistic in nature. Aristotle, in contrast, showed that social values such as justice, equity, and solidarity are essential to human flourishing. At the beginning of his Nicomachean Ethics, he is clear that the goal of happiness is not perfection in solitude but in the context of the city, the polis. And modern research confirms the validity of these ancient insights.

As a consequence, social and economic questions must always be oriented toward the common good, which is a higher good than the good of the individual. This also applies to nations, which cannot adequately flourish unless they take into consideration the welfare of other nations in our globalized world—especially as regards matters that relate to the good of all nations (for example, water, energy, the climate...). Social values and policies that aim for the common good make up the structure of ethics.

Our key challenge, therefore, is to reorganize the social and economic life within and between nations to better inculcate the values of contemplation, prayer, community, equity, solidarity, fraternity, trust, and environmental sustainability—in other words, the values that create real rather than deceptive happiness.

This is the challenge that our fourth Youth Symposium intends to address. In particular, it will focus on the key word that expresses better than any other the need to overcome our current malaise and dysfunction: fraternity. This word, associated with the French Revolution, was subsequently abandoned and eliminated from the political-economic lexicon. Yet this value antedates the French Revolution. It was the evangelical testimony of St. Francis, together with his school of thought, that kept this value alive over the course of the centuries—and in doing so, complemented and exalted the foundational principle of solidarity.

Young people all over the world today must reconsider this crucial value. They must see it as their birthright and their legacy. As Pope Francis noted in his recent message to young people: “With your plans and with your courage, with your dreams and ideals, walls of stagnation fall and roads open up that lead us to a better, fairer, less cruel and more humane world.” This Symposium will take up this challenge, asking how youth, by building on values like fraternity, can envision and create a form of progress that—in the words of Pope Francis—is “healthier, more human, more social, more integral.”

¹ διὸ καλῶς ἀπεφήναντο τὰγαθόν, οὐδὲ πάντ’ ἐφίεται
(Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics, I, 1, 1094 a 1)

Siamak Sam Loni

Global Coordinator, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network
Youth Initiative (SDSN Youth)



A “As the inheritors of this planet, young people must spearhead the sustainable development movement. Through their passion, creativity, energy and idealism, young people can bring about generational change, to challenge the status quo and secure a better future.

Young people can help build a new paradigm, one founded on sharing knowledge, cooperating across borders and prioritizing issues such as extreme poverty, environmental degradation and inequality in an increasingly complex global governance system.

Decision-making and policy design is incomplete without the inclusion of youth. Young people have a right to have their voices heard but more importantly young people should be recognized as a source of new ideas, innovation, and rapid change.

Youth have the capacity to solve complex problems and lead the transformation – a unique quality described as “fluid intelligence”. Research suggests that young people are more likely to be accepting of change, believe in climate change, advocate for social causes, and volunteer. Individuals at a young age are not as exposed to the thinking that defined the social, political and economic norms of the previous generation, and are hence more readily able to adapt.

A young Einstein once said, “we cannot solve our problems with the same thinking used to create them”. Our present and future innovations are guided by the knowledge gathered by our predecessors. This knowledge, combined with the creative power and passions of youth, can be harnessed to tackle imminent issues we face as a global community, both today and in the future. What if young people’s creative potential, matched with the expertise and knowledge of older generations was key to the sustainable development of human society? It is a potential worth capitalizing on.

Motivated by Pope Francis’ encyclical, Laudato Si, which calls for all people to unite in action to secure the future of our planet, this two day symposium brings together over 50 young leaders, from 20 different countries to foster solidarity and fraternity to address some of the world’s most pressing issues. The young leaders will share experiences and inspiring stories from their respective organisations and communities that are achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Pontifical Academy of Sciences



Founded in Rome on 17 August 1603, the Pontifical Academy of Sciences' mission is to honour pure science, ensure its freedom and encourage research. It is the only supranational academy of sciences in the world. Its headquarters are in the Casina Pio IV, within the Vatican Gardens.

The aims and objectives of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences include: promoting the progress of the mathematical, physical and natural sciences, as well as its epistemological studies; recognizing excellence in science; stimulating an interdisciplinary approach to scientific knowledge; encouraging international interaction; furthering participation in the benefits of science and technology by the greatest number of people and peoples; promoting education and the public's understanding of science; ensuring that science works to advance of the human and moral dimension of man; achieving a role for science which involves the promotion of justice, development, solidarity, peace and fostering the interaction between faith and reason, encouraging the dialogue between science and spiritual, cultural, philosophical and religious values; providing authoritative advice on scientific and technological matters; cooperating with members of other Academies in a friendly spirit to promote such objectives.

www.pas.va / www.pass.va

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)



In 2012, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) to mobilize global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development, including the design and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at local, national and global scales. In 2015, the SDSN launched its official youth division (SDSN Youth) to empower youth globally to create sustainable development solutions. SDSN Youth aims to amplify the youth's unparalleled energy and capacities for generating a wide support in the implementations of the SDGs. The organization mobilizes the necessary resources and capacity building to empower youth's action.

www.sdsnyouth.org / www.unsdsn.org



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

These 17 Goals build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities. The goals are interconnected – often the key to success on one will involve tackling issues more commonly associated with another.

The SDGs work in the spirit of partnership and pragmatism to make the right choices now to improve life, in a sustainable way, for future generations. They provide clear guidelines and targets for all countries to adopt in accordance with their own priorities and the environmental challenges of the world at large. The SDGs are an inclusive agenda. They tackle the root causes of poverty and unite us together to make a positive change for both people and planet.



People

“We are determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.”



Planet

“We are determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.”



Prosperity

“We are determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.”



Peace

“We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.”



Partnerships

“We are determined to mobilize the means required to implement this Agenda through a revitalised Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focussed in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people.”

Programme

October 13, 2017

19:00 – 21:00 pm

Global Village and Reception Dinner

Day 1 – October 14, 2017

9:00 am	<p>SESSION I – Welcome</p> <p><i>The opening session of the Vatican Youth Symposium will look at the role of young people in fostering solidarity and fraternity in order to address the world's most pressing issues.</i></p> <p>Dr Betsee Parker, Baroness of Locheil <i>Special Consultant to the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Board Member SDG Center for Africa, President Huntland Foundation, President MacOwen Charitable Trust</i></p> <p>Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo <i>Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (PAS)</i></p> <p>Professor Jeffrey Sachs <i>Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) & Special Advisor to UN Secretary General, António Guterres, on the SDGs</i></p> <p>Dr Anthony Annett <i>Climate Change and Sustainable Development Advisor, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)</i></p> <p>Speakers will discuss how youth can be stewards of our planet for a more fraternal and supportive society.</p>
10.30 am	<p>Break and group photo</p>
11:00 am	<p>SESSION II– People & Society</p> <p><i>Speakers will be asked to share experiences from their respective organisations and communities on how they have served to ensure that no one is left behind. This means working to provide a healthy living environment, free of poverty and hunger, and with access to education, health and sanitation, to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential.</i></p> <p><i>All speakers in this session will speak to this topic and answer critical questions on creating lasting change. After each presentation, attendees will ask questions of the speakers, encouraging open discussion and participation.</i></p> <p>Lead speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zenia Kolah, SheSays [10 minutes] • Joannes Paulus Yimbessalu, Hope For Children [10 minutes] • Peggy Tse, Health Impact Fund (HIF) [10 minutes] • Gabriel Marquim, Casa Vincular [10 minutes] • Mariana Ruenes, SINTRATA [10 minutes] • Lori Chen, Emergency Medical Services Volunteer [10 minutes] • Anja Rabezanahary, International Fund for Agricultural Development & UNLEASH [10 minutes] • Alejandra Acosta, HeForShe [10 minutes] • Obinna Nnewuihe, Commonwealth Youth Health Network (CYHN) [10 minutes] <p>Aims of session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share experiences, success stories and best practices to inspire and empower participants. • Commit to tangible actions and concrete outcomes to create real and lasting change. • Broaden knowledge and deepen understanding of the challenges and opportunities.
12:30 pm	<p>General Discussion on Session II</p>
1:00 pm	<p>Lunch at the Casina Pio IV</p>

2:30 pm	<p>SESSION III – Fulcrum of Fraternity: from Partition to Partnership Darshita Gillies, CEO, Blu Dot Advisory [15 minutes + 5 minutes Q&A]</p>
2:50 am	<p>SESSION IV– Planet & Environment <i>Speakers will be asked to share experiences from their respective organisations and communities on how they have acted together with likeminded young people to protect the environment. This means working to safeguard our delicate and vulnerable ecosystems, preventing further impacts of climate change, and ensuring responsible consumption and production. Speakers will be asked to reflect on their techniques of climate mitigation and their work on promoting renewables and improving energy efficiency.</i> <i>All speakers in this session will speak to this topic and answer critical questions on creating lasting change. After each presentation, attendees will ask questions of the speakers, encouraging open discussion and participation.</i></p> <p>Lead speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthony Bucci, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [10 minutes] • Teayeon Kim, UN Environmental Program (UNEP) [10 minutes] • Margaret Koli, UN University & UN Human Settlements Program (UN Habitat) [10 minutes] • Federico Brocchieri, Italian Climate Network (ICN) [10 minutes] • Clayton Ferrara, Ideas for Us [10 minutes] • Martin Meier, World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) [10 minutes] <p>Aims of session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share experiences, success stories and best practices to inspire and empower participants. • Commit to tangible actions and concrete outcomes to create real and lasting change. • Broaden knowledge and deepen understanding of the challenges and opportunities.
3:50 pm	General Discussion on Session IV
4:20 pm	Break
4:50 pm	<p>SESSION V– Prosperity & Work <i>In this session, speakers will present tangible and practical solutions to promote the theme of prosperity and the eradication of modern slavery and human trafficking. Speakers will be asked to highlight how they have worked in solidarity with other young people to promote economic, social and technological progress in harmony with nature to further promote equal opportunity, sustainable prosperity and communal progress, this includes ensuring equal access to energy. This session will address the theme of the future of work, and the role of young people in the transition to a shared economy.</i> <i>Focusing on the marriage of social, economic and technological process and the much needed return to communal and social values. Speakers will be asked to share success stories on how they have endeavoured to promote inclusive and sustainable growth within their local communities. All speakers in this session will speak to this topic and answer critical questions on creating lasting change. After each presentation, attendees will ask questions of the speakers, encouraging open discussion and participation.</i></p> <p>Lead speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gabriela May Lagunes, BBOX [10 minutes] • Maria Cristina Bagaforo, Bahay Pangarap Diocesan Shelter [10 minutes] • Kevin Vuong, Agency for Public + Social Innovation & Her Majesty The Queen’s Young Leaders Program [10 minutes] • Darshatha Gamage, Rotaract [10 minutes] • Theresa Heindl, Weltwärts [10 minutes] • Eman Borg, Her Majesty The Queen’s Young Leaders Program [10 minutes] <p>Aims of session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share experiences, success stories and best practices to inspire and empower participants. • Commit to tangible actions and concrete outcomes to create real and lasting change. • Broaden knowledge and deepen understanding of the challenges and opportunities.
5:50 pm	General Discussion on Session V
6:30 pm	Dinner at the Casina Pio IV

Day 2 – October 15, 2017

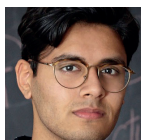
9:00 am	<p>SESSION I – Harnessing the Power of Youth</p> <p><i>The opening session of the Vatican Youth Symposium on day two will feature keynote presentations from global youth leaders:</i></p> <p>Sam Nemat Vaghar [20 minutes] Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Millennium Campus Network (MCN)</p> <p>Dr Alaa Murabit [20 minutes] UN High-Level Commissioner on Health Employment & Economic Growth</p> <p>Siamak Sam Loni, [20 minutes] Global Coordinator of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Youth Initiative (SDSN Youth)</p> <p><i>Speakers will share their personal stories and talk about their journey to global leadership. They will discuss how they have worked in their respective communities and organisations to foster a more peaceful, prosperous and environmentally sustainable society.</i></p>
10:00 am	General Discussion on Session I
10:30 am	Break
11:00 am	<p>SESSION II– Peace & Justice</p> <p><i>Speakers will be asked to share experiences from their respective organisations and communities on how they have worked to promote and foster peaceful, inclusive and secure societies with strong and just institutions.</i></p> <p><i>All speakers in this session will speak to this topic and answer critical questions on creating lasting change. After each presentation, attendees will ask questions of the speakers, encouraging open discussion and participation.</i></p> <p>Lead speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verena Gruber, Defence Studies Department, King’s College London [10 minutes] • Christopher Hale, The Pope Francis Project [10 minutes] • Mariyam Naufa, Women Democracy [10 minutes] • Anca Gliga, United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY) [10 minutes] • Malú Tarrau Broche, La Colmenita [10 minutes] • Ariane Bukschat, WoMen Against Rape [10 minutes] <p>Aims of session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share experiences, success stories and best practices to inspire and empower participants. • Commit to tangible actions and concrete outcomes to create real and lasting change. • Broaden knowledge and deepen understanding of the challenges and opportunities.
12:00 pm	General Discussion on Session II
12:30 pm	Lunch at the Casina Pio IV
2:00 pm	<p>SESSION III– Partnerships and Solidarity</p> <p><i>Speakers in this session will discuss the role of partnerships in ensuring young people are able to develop a more fraternal and supportive society. This session will analyse the benefits of collaboration, especially in an interdisciplinary and multicultural nature.</i></p> <p><i>Speakers will share experiences on how successful partnerships have led to greater promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals. Speakers will present their perspectives on partnerships, highlighting what is required to build a strong and successful partnership.</i></p> <p><i>All speakers in this session will speak to this topic and answer critical questions on creating lasting change. After each presentation, attendees will ask questions of the speakers, encouraging open discussion and participation.</i></p>

	<p>Lead speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edoardo Morgante, World Federation of the United Nations Associations (WFUNA) [10 minutes] • Dominika Aleksandra Marcisz, Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) [10 minutes] • Peter Loewi, UN Major Group on Children and Youth (UN-MGCY) [10 minutes] • Evangelia Symeonidou, Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA Europe) [10 minutes] • Patrick Gage, Scalabrini International Migration Network [10 minutes] <p>Aims of session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share experiences, success stories and best practices to inspire and empower participants. • Commit to tangible actions and concrete outcomes to create real and lasting change. • Broaden knowledge and deepen understanding of the challenges and opportunities.
2:50 pm	General Discussion on Session III
3:20 pm	Break
3:50 pm	<p>SESSION IV– Updates From Vatican Youth Symposium 2016</p> <p><i>Speakers in this session will share their experiences from Vatican Youth Symposium 2016 and talk about their respective projects, giving all participants an update on their progress since 2016.</i></p> <p>Lead speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Berhe, One Day Seyoum [10 minutes] • Molly Burhans, GoodLand Project [10 minutes] • Sienna Nordquist, Red Light Emory [10 minutes] • Adam Sheik, Aegis [10 minutes] • Malav Sanghavi, LifeCradle [10 minutes] • Winnie Mutevu, HAART [10 minutes]
4:50 pm	General Discussion on Session IV
5:20 pm	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <p><i>Speakers will come together to summarize the main takeaways of each session, and discuss the synergies between each of the thematic areas. Participants will each then be asked to share a short statement on their experiences from the two day event and briefly explain how they will adopt the lessons from this symposium into their respective workstreams.</i></p>
7:00 pm	Mass at the Casina Pio IV
8:00 pm	Final Dinner at the Casina Pio IV

Commentators

- Khalid Ahmad
- Piero Picatto
- Subhankar Sarkar
- Yilmaz Yavuz

Biographies



Adam Sheikh
Ageis
Canada

Adam is a third year student studying Peace Conflict and Justice at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto. He also is the Founder of aegis, a non-profit dedicated to protecting Gulf construction workers from the dangers of heat strain. Adam has conducted significant research surrounding the supply of electricity to the Gaza Strip; however, currently his focus is on UNHCR cash transfers in Jordan for Syrian refugees as a research assistant with the Reach Lab. Adam's past work experience has largely been concentrated in the banking sector having spent time at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank developing business unit strategies and TD wealth in private investment.



Alaa Murabit
UN High-Level Commission for Health Employment and Economic Growth
Canada

A medical doctor, Alaa Murabit is one of 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goal Global Advocates, a United Nations High-Level Commissioner for Health Employment and Economic Growth, a TED speaker, founder of VLW, co-founder of Omnis Institute and a MIT Media Lab Director's Fellow. She was recently named a 2017 Forbes 30 Under 30, an Aspen Institute Spotlight Health Scholar for her work in global health policy and a Harvard University Law 2017 "Woman Inspiring Change". Her TED Talk was named "TED Talk of the Day" and one of four "moving TED Talks to watch right now" by The New York Times. Nicknamed the "Libyan Doogie Howser" by Jon Stewart, Alaa was driven by her desire to create inclusive processes and institutions and founded VLW at the age of 21. With a strong focus on challenging societal and cultural norms and utilizing traditional and historical role models Alaa champions women's participation in peace processes and conflict mediation. Her programs, such as the groundbreaking "Noor Campaign" have been replicated internationally. She currently serves as a trustee for The Malala Fund, International Alert, Malaria No More, Keeping Children Safe and is an advisor to ConnectHer. Named The New York Times "International Trust Women Hero 2014", Alaa is an Ashoka Fellow, Alaa is the youngest Marisa Bellisario International Humanitarian Award recipient, a Newsweek "25 under 25 to watch", a BBC News "100 Top Woman", the 2015 SAFE Global Hero and a Virgin Unite Changemaker



Alejandra Acosta
HeForShe
Spain

Social worker. Founder of the BTS project, with the purpose of raising awareness against human trafficking and prostitution in high schools and universities, making impact in more than 1200 lives. 3 years of experience working in communication and prevention of Human Trafficking. Designing communication campaigns to create a law against human trafficking in Spain with the Coalition Against Sexual Slavery. People and Culture developer at Uniplaces. Founder of the UN movement He For She in Madrid. Social worker. Founder of the BTS project, with the purpose of raising awareness against human trafficking and prostitution in high schools and universities, making impact in more than 1200 lives. 3 years of experience working in communication and prevention of Human Trafficking. Designing communication campaigns to create a law against human trafficking in Spain with the Coalition Against Sexual Slavery. People and Culture developer at Uniplaces. Founder of the UN movement He For She in Madrid.



Anca Gliga
Peace Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania (PATRIR)
Romania

Anca is a youth advocate from Romania, with a background in peace education, advocacy and, more recently, the refugee response in Europe. As a member of the Youth Advocacy Team of the United Network of Young Peacebuilders, she has worked for the first Global Forum on Youth, Peace and Security that took place in Jordan in 2015, and towards the recently adopted United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security. Ms. Gliga has worked in the refugee crisis in Greece, on the island of Lesbos and at the Greek-Macedonian border, focusing on most vulnerable cases, particularly women and children. Previously, she has worked as European Coordinator for Peace Revolution, an international peace education project and as Project Coordinator for the Peace Action, Training and Research Institute of Romania – PATRIR, on a nation-wide educational campaign on the Millennium Development Goals. Anca is a United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) Fellow.



Anja Rabezanahary
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Madagascar

Anja is a development worker for more than seven years now. She provides technical assistance at the International Fund for Agricultural Development to improve design and implementation of rural development operations. Her areas of expertise include gender, social inclusion, participatory approaches, local governance, knowledge management, learning-sharing and project management. Her goal is to use her professional experience to raise young male and female leaders that are able to drive changes in their communities. She recently participated in the UNLEASH innovation lab, Denmark, and worked together with 1000 young talents to finding disruptive solutions for the global agenda 2030.



Anthony Bucci
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
United States of America

Anthony Bucci is a Presidential Management Fellow at the Environmental Protection Agency focusing on environmental justice efforts within the Superfund hazardous waste program. Anthony works to promote knowledge of and partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals through his work with the SDG Academy, SDG USA, and the United Nations Association of the USA. Anthony has worked at the United Nations Foundation on SDG outreach, the Paris Climate Summit, public health, and human security issues. He served as a spokesman at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and an economic researcher at the Institute for Policy Studies. He has also worked for then-Speaker of the House John Boehner. He leads the Stewardship Committee of the Parish Council of St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, D.C. and is on the board of two youth organizations. Anthony holds an MA in International Relations from the University of Chicago and a BA from The George Washington University in Public Policy, Environmental Studies, and Sustainability. Anthony is a Franciscan Catholic and is the recipient of The Francis Award by Holy Name Province and the St. Timothy Award by the Archdiocese of Trenton. Anthony is from the shores of New Jersey and works in Washington, D.C.



Ariane Bukschat
WoMen Against Rape
Germany

After graduating high school Ariane spent a year volunteering in Botswana, Africa. In Botswana she was part of an NGO called “WoMen Against Rape“. She worked in the community to prevent Gender-Based Violence. Additionally, Ariane worked with children and women who have been sexually abused. The experience changed her life forever. She learned that there is nothing more important in this world than being around people who

are caring and loving. Now she is starting her studies to become a teacher and she has already vowed to teach my future students about global responsibility and that happiness is not connected to material goods



Christopher Hale
The Pope Francis Project
United States of America

Christopher Hale is the executive director of Pope Francis Project and the co-founder of Millennial. At 28, he is the youngest executive director of a national Catholic nonprofit in the United States. Christopher has dedicated his career to the gritty intersection of faith and politics and the reconciliation among people of all political and religious stripes in the pursuit of the common good. In the same month, he has been derided as a “radical right winger” and a “lapdog for liberals” by two different national commentators, a strong sign that he’s willing to go beyond stale partisan labels to promote the social mission of the Catholic Church in public life. A columnist for TIME on faith and politics and a Fox News contributor, he and his work have appeared on CNN, MSNBC and FOX News, and in The New York Times, The Washington Post and USA Today among other publications. In his media work, he has spoken and interviewed the top Catholic politicians in the United States, including Joseph Biden, John Boehner, Paul Ryan, and Nancy Pelosi.



Clayton Ferrara
IDEAS for US
United States of America

Clayton Louis Ferrara is a poet, naturalist, and the Executive Director of the United Nations Accredited NGO, IDEAS For Us. He is a classically trained biologist and world traveler who has conducted research on five continents on evolution, conservation, and ecology. His work as leader of IDEAS focuses on advancing sustainability through the creation of solutions that benefit people, the planet, and generate profit to transform communities and lift families out of poverty. He is a distinguished alum award winner of Rollins College, the first American to be named a Darwin Scholar by the Field Studies Council of London, a member of many UN Committees and working groups, and a handpicked member of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer’s GreenWorks task force. He was born in Chile and currently lives in Winter Park, Florida.



Darshatha Gamage
Rotaract
Sri Lanka

Darshatha Gamage is an undergraduate of the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka reading for his bachelors’ in Management and Information Technology. He also has successfully completed a B.Sc in International Relations from the University of London International Programme. Darshatha has actively volunteered in various capacities in many youth led initiatives in Sri Lanka. He has served in promoting the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda among Sri Lanka youth notably during his tenure as the Editor for Rotaract Sri Lanka and Maldives. In addition he also has working experience with key private sector entities in sustainability and empowerment initiatives.



Darshita Gillies
Blue Dot Advisory
India

Darshita’s life journey is an embodiment of the transition ‘from the bottom 1%, to the top 1%, for 100% of the planet’. She is a millennial, Indian woman, born in Mumbai, into the lowest social caste of a poor non-English speaking conservative Hindu family.

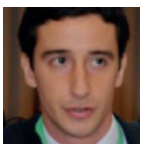
Professionally, Darshita is a chartered accountant, ex-banker, coach & consultant, non-exec director, charity trustee, global system integrator, and entrepreneur. After working with board directors of India’s largest foreign bank, Standard Chartered, her perspectives widened and she re-trained as a leadership coach & facilitator, working with entrepreneurs, leaders & organizations globally including through intensive developmental Immersion journeys/ Purpose Quests.

She is currently CEO of Blu Dot Advisory - a global-system integration service provider to enable world leaders, institutions & systems to address complex business and societal challenges by investing resources in a more sustainable, conscious, and strategic way.



Dominika Aleksandra Marcisz
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)
Poland

My name is Dominika Aleksandra Marcisz, I was born in Poland and I've been living in Rome, Italy since 2005. I'm studying Intercultural and Linguistic Mediation at "La Sapienza" University of Rome. I'm a volunteer at YMCA Italy and I'm supporting the organisation in Erasmus + european programmes (Youthpass certificate). Recently, I participated in two learning mobility projects: "Be the change you want to see in the world", that took place in Strasbourg, France; "Common Standards of Y-Camps - Management and Training", that took place in Turku, Finland. I'm very interested in SDGs which are, at global level, relevant issues of this particular historical moment.



Edoardo Morgante
World Federation of the United Nations Associations (WFUNA)
Italy

Edoardo is an Italian and European citizen, currently living in Liverpool where he works as Executive Assistant to the CEO of a medium-size health care provider company and social enterprise that operates in the North West of England. He has a M.A. in International Relations from LUISS University and a Specialisation Course in Diplomatic Studies from SIOI. In 2014 he served as Liaison Officer for the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, assisting all the Head Delegates of France, including former President François Holland and former Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius. He was Secretary-General of ROMUN2015, which gathered over 500 youth delegates from 60 countries and adopted a Youth Road Map for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. In November 2015 he was elected Representative for Europe at the Youth Advisory Council of WFUNA. He is fluent in Italian, English, and French, and can understand German, Spanish, and some Russian. His interests vary from history to architecture, from finance to behavioural psychology.



Eman Borg
Queen's Young Leaders
Malta

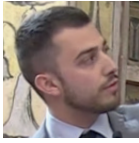
Eman Borg is dedicated to supporting youths and giving young people a stronger voice both on a regional and National level. As Gozo Regional officer within the Maltese National youth council, he focuses primarily on SDG 10, most specifically 10.2-10.3, in creating an equal safe space, equal opportunities and equal representation to all, irrespective of their social background or social class. Borg is also planning on creating a human rights forum platform for all niches of the civil society to empower each other in reaching their full potential amidst their difference. In the meantime, he works for the regional representation of youths within a National level and already helped Gozitan youths draft 60 proposals of what they would like to see happen on their Island. He was awarded the Queen's Young Leader award for 2017.



Evangelia Symeonidou
Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA Europe)
Greece

Evangelia Symeonidou, 26 years old from Thessaloniki, Greece is a former art student who decided the life of an artist is mundane and trivial. Therefore, she switched to graphic design, holding on to her YMCA volunteering spirit. Her volunteer work with the YMCA started at the age of 17 and since September 2016, Evangelia is an Activity Manager at the Youth Leadership Training Programme at the YMCA Thessaloniki,

which annually consists of approximately 60 volunteer instructors and 600 youth participants at the age of 13-16. She is on the organizing committee at Tedx University of Macedonia.



Federico Brocchieri
Italian Climate Network (ICN)
Italy

Federico Brocchieri (25) holds a Bachelor degree in Land and Environmental Engineering and is a Master candidate in Environment and Development Economics. He was an official delegate to UNFCCC conferences from COP17 to COP22 and he is currently Vice-President of Italian Climate Network. He has delivered interventions on climate change to conferences, schools and/or universities in Italy, France, Hungary, Denmark, Poland, Morocco, South Africa, Qatar, Kuwait and Peru. In 2015, he was officially appointed Climate Change Advisor to the Mayor of Rome and was mentioned by “The Guardian” among the young climate campaigners to watch before the UN’s Paris summit.



Gabriel Marquim
Casa Vincular
Brazil

Gabriel Marquim is the founder and president of the Vincular Project, organization that gathers thousands of young people in social works throughout Brazil. Currently, he runs the Vincular House, where meals and medical care is offered daily to the homeless people of Recife, one of the most socially unequal cities of Brazil. Furthermore, Gabriel is a journalist, a college professor, and the founder of Comunidade dos Viventes, a Catholic movement that assembles hundreds of people in Brazil.



Gabriela May Lagunes
Mexico

Gabriela was born in Coatzacoalcos, Mexico, on 8 March 1992. She moved to the UK to attend University College London in 2013, successfully completing a MSci in Physics in 2017, specialising in Quantum Biology. Since she began university, she has also collaborated with international organizations in a variety of engineering projects focused on the application of technology for human development and the fulfilment of the UN 2030 agenda, including the implementation of rainwater technologies for water security in rural Mexico as well as the application of data science to facilitate access to solar electricity for communities in Rwanda and Kenya. She looks forward to a career in which science is used for the improvement of human lives in a sustainable way.”



Joannes Paulus Yimbessalu
Cameroon

Joannes is currently a Masters student in Leadership and Community Engagement at York University and also serves as Research Assistant at Ryerson University for a WHO/World Vision Niger funded program on the “Use of smartphones by WV trained CHWs in Niger, and how it affects their diagnosis and treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrheal diseases and also their motivation and retention in terms of performance”. He holds Graduate Certificate in International Development from the University of British Columbia Canada and serves on the Youth Advisory Group for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO and as a speaker with the Champions bureau program of the Aga Khan Foundation Canada. As a Global Youth Ambassador for a World at School and a One Young World Ambassador, Joannes has spent most of his youthful life advocating for access to quality education and working with children living with disabilities and communities orphaned by HIV/AIDS. His work on gender equality was featured as one of UN Women’s first IMPACT stories of the HeForShe Campaign, a UN Women initiative that engages young men and boys to advocate for gender equality. Joannes’ work has been recognized globally including the 2017 UNLEASH Innovation Lab for Education and ICT, the 2016 Emma Watson’s Tribe award, the 2016 Canadian Bureau

for International Education Photo award, the 2015 Queens' Young Leaders Award and the 2014 Youth Courage Award by Gordon Brown which recognizes and honors youth who have personally demonstrated courage and leadership and acted as agents of change for universal education. He was named a Young Leader by Women Deliver and is a recipient of the African Youth Excellence Award for Public Service. Joannes is bilingual and in his free time he enjoys photography and writing.



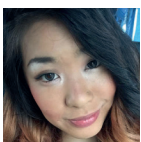
Kevin Vuong
The Agency for Public + Social Innovation
Canada

Kevin Vuong is a social entrepreneur, city-builder and military officer building more sustainable and prosperous communities with social innovation. For his service and impact, Kevin has been named Canada's Top 30 Under 30, Her Majesty The Queen's Young Leader for Canada, and Fellow of The Royal Society of Arts and The Aspen Institute. Currently, Kevin leads the Agency for Public + Social Innovation, teaches at the Translational Research Program at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine – Institute of Medical Sciences, and serves as a Local Pathways Fellow for the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network. Co/Principal Innovator for ventures with the Institute for Global Health Equity & Innovation and the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, Kevin also has a second career in the Royal Canadian Navy's Naval Reserves as an Intelligence Officer at Her Majesty's Canadian Ship YORK. Active with his alma mater and community, Kevin serves on Western University's Council of Presidents, and the board of directors for multiple community organizations, agencies, and a foundation. Most recently, he co-chaired the UN-Habitat Inclusive Cities Summit to define the New Urban Agenda for Toronto and Canadian cities.



Khalid Ahmad
ONE Campaign
United Kingdom

Khalid Ahmad is a 2nd year undergraduate Psychology and Criminology student at City, University of London. He works as a carer for individuals with disabilities and learning difficulties; as well as a mentor, tutor and counsellor for young disadvantaged asylum seekers and refugees for his local council. He also holds multiple positions in several human rights and faith related campaign organisations. Khalid is a Youth Ambassador for the ONE Campaign and President of the ONE Society at his University. He is also a Team Member for Restless Beings, a human rights organisation working on the Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar. Additionally, he is establishing an interfaith organisation aiming to mobilise young people, faith communities and NGOs in a coherent and unified approach to tackle the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Multi-faith 'Pods' of young people will work on delivering actions in the local area, strengthening interfaith and inter-NGO relations in the process. Khalid has delivered speeches on the 'Pods', fraternity and togetherness at multiple global events, including: last year's Vatican Youth Symposium and the Global Sustainability Network 2nd Year Anniversary event in Dubai earlier this year.



Lori Chen
Emergency Medical Services Volunteer
Taiwan

Lori Chen was born in Taiwan. Her family immigrated to the United States when she was eight. Due to her outgoing nature, assimilating quickly into a different culture and language was no obstacle for her. Helping those who are in need has always been just a "lifestyle". She grew up knowing life is very short, so seize every opportunity to do good. Lori lives outside the box, whether it be pioneering an university internship with Ethiopia or turning "vacations" into mission trips at different orphanages worldwide. She strives to make the world a better place, one positive action at a time.

2014 Top Ten Outstanding Young Persons Award (Taiwan, R.O.C.), 2013 Young Women In Public Affairs Award (Taiwan, R.O.C.)



Malav Sanghavi
LifeCradle
India

Malav Sanghavi is a design engineer and a serial entrepreneur. His primary interest lies in developing new products in Medical field. His innovations are focused towards grassroots areas lacking basic facilities and caters to the needs of those people, by developing cost effective design solutions. He was listed as Forbes 30Under30 2017 list of Europe as well as India, and have received different awards and accolades globally. He has also won recognition on a platform called Pitch@Palace, a competition held by HRH, The Duke of York, in London. His initiative LifeCradle was one of the 2 winners of 2016 Vatican Youth Symposium. His goals are to channelize his entrepreneurial spirit into developing a system of sustainable and affordable healthcare at the grassroots, thus giving back to the society. He is an entrepreneur running 2 start-ups – LifeCradle and Creoto; and believes that if we have capabilities to bring a change in the society for good, then it becomes our responsibility.



Malú Tarrau Broche
La Colmenita
Cuba

Actriz de formación con experiencia desde pequeña en teatro y cine. Desde los 3 años y hasta la actualidad, pertenece a la Compañía Infantil de Teatro “La Colmenita” de Cuba, proyecto de integración social (Embajadores de Buena Voluntad de UNICEF desde 2011). En dicha compañía, se desempeñó no solo como actriz sino también como asistente de dirección, producción y profesora de niños. Asimismo, ha coordinado Festivales Nacionales e Internacionales y realizado Conferencias y Presentaciones en países como Japón, España, Bélgica, Francia, Alemania, Venezuela, Dinamarca, Estados Unidos, Grecia, entre otros. Como parte de la idea de expandir la experiencia cubana a otras latitudes, ha estado al frente de la creación de la ONG La Colmenita Argentina (2011-2017) y La Colmenita Colombia (2012/2014), como Directora Artística. Paralelamente ha desarrollado su carrera como actriz. Se graduó de la Escuela Nacional de Arte de La Habana, Cuba (2011). Igualmente, protagonizó el largometraje “Viva Cuba” (2005), el más laureado en la historia de la filmografía cubana. Ha participado también en las películas “José Martí, el ojo del canario” y “Cuba Libre”, entre otras.



Margaret Koli
United Nations University – EHS and UN Habitat Youth Advisor Board (Africa)
Kenya

Margaret Koli is an associate within the EduSphere section at UNU-EHS for the Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (including Climate Change) (PAUWES) project. She joined UNU after leading partnerships at Human Needs Project, an organization dedicated to providing innovative energy, water and sanitation solutions to people living in informal urban settlements. She has also worked for Doctors Without Borders (MSF-Spain), UN World Humanitarian Summit, the African Union and UN Environment.

Her academic research on livelihoods and environmental governance in extractive industries led her to work on a research commissioned by International Alert on Governance and Livelihoods in Uganda’s Oil-Rich Albertine Graben. She further delved into this research track at the University of Oslo where she had the opportunity to examine governance structures and environmental accountability in extractive industries.

Margaret has been spokesperson in high-level international conferences for the initiatives with which she collaborates. She has won awards such as the Aspen Institute Ideas, Luo Hong Foundation and Bayer Young Environmental Envoy. She is currently a member of the UN Habitat Youth Advisory Board and Médecins Sans Frontières – East Africa Association.

Publication

Margaret Koli (2011) Late Nobel Peace Laureate Wangari Maathai’s work with rural youth. Working paper. UNDP- Kenya Climate Change, Environment and Conflicts in Africa.



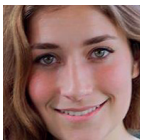
Maria Cristina Bagaforo
Bahay Pangarap Diocesan shelter for the abused, sexually exploited and trafficked children
Philippines

26 years old, a Diocesan Pastoral worker, youth minister and very actively involved in counter trafficking advocacy and groundwork in the Diocese of Malolos, Province of Bulacan.

In 2011, she joined the Catholic Women’s League – Junior, a Church-based Catholic lay women’s organization and became Diocesan President in 2013. In her two-year term as a young Catholic female leader, she encouraged young girls from her Diocese to undergo spiritual formation programs in response to their mission of pursuing the advocacy of Christian Womanhood. Being true to the organization’s mandate, Charity, Work and Loyalty, she led the group to an apostolate that reaches out to the poor, the sick, and most especially, distressed women and girls.

As she transitioned to Catholic Women’s League (Senior Chapter) in 2015, she attended the first ever Anti - Trafficking-in-Persons Training Course for Youth Ministers that was initiated by Talitha Kum and the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines – Episcopal Commission on Youth (CBCP-ECY). She also remained actively involved in the Diocesan shelter called “Bahay Pangarap” (Dream House) which caters to victims of trafficking, sexual abuse and exploitation, battery and abuse, women experiencing crisis situation and in need of professional help.

She obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in Mass Communication Major in Broadcast, with 18 Units of Professional Education, at Centro Escolar University. She is a licensed professional English teacher and is currently taking up Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics at Centro Escolar University Graduate School.



Mariana Ruenes
SINTRATA
Mexico

Mariana Ruenes is a social entrepreneur focused in gender equality and human development.

She founded the ngo SINTRATA in 2012. A youth organization that works on Human Trafficking prevention and social reintegration of survivors of sexual exploitation. The preventive program mainly takes place in schools and communities at-risk, as well as in the touristic sector. Through skill-development, the large volunteering body of the organization exercises a more active citizenship.

She received in 2014 the Ibero-Bremond Award for social commitment, in favour of the education of children in vulnerable situations.

She collaborated in 2016 with Delivering Change Foundation in Maharashtra, India in the elaboration of programs that promote socio-economic development in rural communities through women’s self-empowerment.

Graduated from Communications and Cinema in the Iberoamerican University in Mexico City, and concluded her Master’s degree in 2017 in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action, with a specialization in diplomacy and research in Sciences Po Paris, in France.

In the last years, she has been studying and experimenting on capacity building projects. She currently presides SINTRATA, and is advisor of the Human Trafficking Commission Unidos, and of the high-security shelter for underage survivors of sexual exploitation Fundación Camino a Casa.



Martin Meier
World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)
Liechtenstein

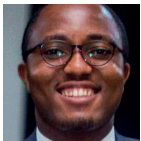
MSc Student International Political Economy, London School of Economics, MA in International Relations and Economics, University of St Andrews, Youth Advisor to the World Scout Committee 2017 – 2020 External Representative 2014 - 2017.



Molly Burhans
Goodlands
United States of America

Molly is the Founder and CEO of GoodLands. GoodLands provides the information, insights, and implementation tools for the Catholic Church to leverage its landholdings to address pressing issues, from

environmental destruction to mass human migration. She is determined to help bring Catholic conservation to the scale of Catholic health care within 100 years. Molly was the Chief Cartographer on a project that developed the first comprehensive global maps of the Catholic Church in modern history. She oversees the curation of what is likely the largest geodatabase of Catholic lands and is leading the development of data infrastructure that will allow Catholic organizations to leverage this information with a team of global data infrastructure and policy experts. Her cartography and graphics have been featured in internationally recognized lay and scientific media outlets, covering topics from environmental protection to artificial intelligence. Molly is a regularly invited speaker at top institutions and conferences, such as Yale University, Catholic Relief Services, and ICT4D. She published her first scientific figure at 14 years old. She received a B.A. in Philosophy with honors from the Jesuit school, Canisius College. While in school, she co-founded her first company, Gro-Op, a worker-owned cooperative vertical farm, seasonally worked in a molecular oncology lab, and was a student leader in Campus Ministry. She holds an M.S. in Ecological Design from the Conway School where she was a Sustainable Communities' Initiative Fellow. She has led ecological planning, ecological design and regenerative agricultural projects from the parcel to the global scale.



Obinna Nnewuihe
Commonwealth Youth Health Network (CYHN)
Nigeria

Obinna Nnewuihe is a physician at the intersection of medicine, economics and improving the Public's health. He is passionate about delivering social impact in health and education through research, evidence-based medical therapy and public policy. He currently serves on the Steering Committee of the Commonwealth Youth Health Network where he holds the position of Coordinator for Research and Programs. Selected as one of 100 Global Leaders of Tomorrow in Medicine and Biotech by the Global Biotech Revolution in 2017, he is also deeply interested in the use of IT to deliver positive health outcomes, especially in developing countries.



Patrick Gage
Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN)
United States of America

Patrick Gage is the Director of Development and Fundraising at the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN). As one of the modern abolitionist movement's youngest leaders, he has spoken about human trafficking at the White House, United Nations, U.S. Capitol, and Vatican; co-chairs the NEXUS Working Group on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery; and serves on Nomi Network's Board of Directors. His work focuses on the intersection between migration, slavery, and business. Patrick holds a B.S.F.S. in International History with Honors from Georgetown University.



Peggy Tse
Health Impact Fund
Hong Kong

Peggy Tse is an investment specialist at IFC of the World Bank Group, where she structures and executes private equity and debt investments with a focus on agribusiness, manufacturing and services sectors of East Asia and the Pacific. She also serves as the Director of Health Impact Fund (HIF). HIF introduces evidence-based drug pricing system and aims to improve access to medicine for all. Prior to HIF, she co-founded Lensational, a social enterprise that empowers women emotionally and economically through photography.



Peter Abraham Fukuda Loewi
UN Major Group on Children and Youth
United States of America

Peter Abraham Fukuda Loewi has an M.Arch from Kanagawa University in Yokohama, Japan, where he studied the economic, environmental, and social impacts of post-disaster architecture. He is a member of the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth, where he trains younger members on sustainable

development policy design, implementation, and follow up and review, and co-chair of the drafting committee for UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign. He misses architecture, and hopes to switch back to teaching a more equitable, holistic approach to architecture, planning, and development.



Piero Picatto
Vínculos en Red
Argentina

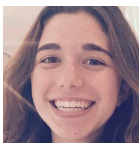
21 años. Estudia Gestión de las administraciones pública y organismos no gubernamentales. Integra la ONG Vínculos en Red de Argentina y el Observatorio Latinoamericano Antitrata. Formó parte del proyecto PNUD de las Naciones Unidas articulado con el Comité Ejecutivo contra la Trata de Personas de Argentina, para trabajar Pprevención de la Trata en jóvenes. Actualmente Trabaja en la Defensoría del pueblo de nación Argentina. Coordina talleres de Masculina des, donde trabaja la construcción de la Masculinidad para la no compra de sexo (con varones). Coordina talleres de Género y de Derechos de las Mujeres desde una mirada cristiana. Coordina acciones de sensibilización de alumnos y docentes de nivel medio de educación. Trabaja en el acompañamiento de Sobrevivientes. Coordina acciones territoriales de Prevención y Sensibilización con jóvenes en extrema vulnerabilidad.



Sam Vaghar
Millennium Campus Network (MCN)
United States of America

Sam Vaghar is the Executive Director and Co-founder of Millennium Campus Network (MCN), convening and training the next generation of social impact leaders on university campuses. In this capacity, Sam represents MCN on the global stage, advocating for youth leadership with world leaders and leading institutions. Under Sam's leadership, the MCN trains over 1,000 campus leaders annually through its global conference, Millennium Fellowship, and global campaigns.

After meeting with President Barack Obama in the White House in 2011, Sam traveled to four nations on speaking tours to share MCN for the U.S. Department of State. He was selected for the 2012 list of the "Top 99 most influential foreign policy leaders under the age of 33" by The Diplomatic Courier and Young Professionals in Foreign Policy. Through his talks on youth leadership and social impact, Sam has directly engaged over 25,000 people at over 100 institutions worldwide including talks at Harvard University, MIT, the White House, and United Nations. In addition to leadership with MCN, Sam serves as an Advisor to the Executive Director of UN Women as one of the twelve members worldwide of her Advisory Group. Sam is a graduate of Brandeis University.



Sienna Nordquist
Red Light Emory
United States of America

Sienna Nordquist is a second-year undergraduate Robert W. Woodruff Scholar at Emory University in Atlanta, where she is studying International Studies and Economics. Sienna has multiple leadership positions at Emory University, including her role as Co-Director of Advocacy for Red Light Emory and SDSN-Youth's Campus Coordinator. In the past, she has been a strong and principled advocate for women's empowerment, including her roles as a 2015 Global Community Champion for UN Women's Empower Women Programme and a 2017 Mentor to other Champions for Change. Sienna has also remained involved in the United States' nationally competitive debate programs, acting as a Lincoln-Douglas Debate instructor for the past two summers at the Victory Briefs Institute.



Subhankar Sarkar
Kolkata, India

Subhankar is a person of zeal and enthusiasm in touching the lives of young people through his teaching career in Bishop Morrow School, Krishnagar. Subhankar is a leader and a guide for the youth. He has been

active in the youth ministry from 2005 onwards and a Member of the National Youth Council. He has won many Awards and one of the outstanding awards he won was the National Youth Award 2012. He had been Regional youth president in leading the young people forefront with a difference. He also won the Regional Youth Award 2012. He is an active Member of the Prison Ministry of India, bringing hope to the lives of the Prisoners. He is a good organizer and he has organized several programs like blood donation camps, guiding the young people on career guidance, organizing Bible Quizzes and several Youth Conventions.



Teayeon Kim
United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment)
Republic of Korea

Teayeon Kim is a youth UN Volunteer in the Addis Ababa Liaison Office of the Africa Office. Her nationality is Korean and has her academic background in environmental science and ecological engineering, specialized in environmental GIS and remote sensing. Since her deployment to Addis Ababa Office in March 2017, she has been involved in a number of youth activities. She helped two youth groups in Ethiopia to organize World Environment Day events, which are Addis Ababa University and Youth Network on Sustainable Development (YNSD). On the other hand, as a part of the Youth Task Force represented by UN agencies in Ethiopia, she has supported Ethiopian UN Country Team to establish the Youth Advisory Board. It is to encourage Ethiopian youth to raise their voice in important decision-making processes, as in Ethiopia and as well as in UN organizations. The Youth Task Force raised Youth Fund with contribution from a number of organizations, and it will continue its effort to enhance the capacity of youth. For instance, the Task Force with a help from Youth Advisory Board, invited 200 Ethiopian Youth to have an interactive youth forum today, August 29 and will work closely with the Ministry of Youth and Sport for youth capacity building programmes.

As part of a communication work in the office, she publishes a bi-monthly newsletter called Addis Ababa Highlights and also contributes to African Office Newsletter. Therefore, the event will be introduced to the diverse channel after the symposium.

She expects to share her expertise in environment and as well as the experience of Ethiopian case with other youth from all around the world, and learn from other participants to develop better youth activities.



Theresa Heindl
Weltwärts
Germany

Theresa Heindl graduated from high school last year and decided to volunteer in a kindergarten in Cambodia for one year with the German 'weltwärts'-programme. Now that she has finished participating in the programme, she's going to study physics and hopes to use her experiences towards a better world. Theresa Heindl lives in Bamberg, Germany.



Vanessa Berhe
One Day Seyoum
Eritrea/Sweden

Vanessa is a human rights activist based in Sweden who campaigns for the release of Eritrean political prisoners.

She is the founder of the One Day Seyoum advocacy group. Her uncle, Seyoum Tsehaye, was a journalist who was imprisoned alongside 9 journalists and 11 politicians in 2001. Since 2013, Vanessa has been campaigning for their release.

She is also the founder of the Free Eritrea Campaign which aims to raise awareness of political prisoners, end the institutionalised slavery of Eritrea's forced conscription, and tackle the migration that sees thousands of Eritreans drowning in the Mediterranean every year.



Verena Gruber
Defence Studies Department, King's College London
Austria

Verena Gruber is a PhD student at the Defence Studies Department of King's College in London and project manager, responsible for the Economic and the Financial Market Symposium, at the European Forum Alpbach in Vienna. Her academic work focuses on military-integration and state-building projects, at the moment in the case study of the Kurdish Region of Iraq.



Winnie Mutevu
HAART
Kenya

Winnie is an experienced development worker with over six years' experience in the field of human trafficking. Her main skills include Monitoring and Evaluation, Facilitation, Presentations, Research as well as Public Relations. In the field, Winnie has implemented 14,640 hours of workshops with children and different vulnerable community groups in Kenya. Additionally, Winnie has reached many people through first responder workshops totalling up to 2400 hours. She has trained the European Union (EU) delegation in Kenya on the topic of human trafficking and some embassies staff members. Another aspect of Winnie's work includes contributing to several media and news outlets in Kenya, Poland and other areas in both radio and print; having six articles published. Winnie has attended and presented at conferences on human trafficking and is currently HAART's project Officer and the youth Coordinator.



Yavuz Yilmaz
European University Viadrina
Germany

Yavuz Yilmaz is a young entrepreneur and a German law student. He has played a major role as a student representative at the council and the senate commission of the European University Viadrina. By an internship at the European Parliament in Brussels, he has experienced the EU institutions and working principles in depth. In 2015, he was nominated as a delegate by the young socialists (SPD) in Brandenburg. Moreover, he is partner of a construction firm and two smart startup companies in Berlin. One of his personal pledges is to contribute to the implementation of the SDG 11, and to work particularly on the integration of the young refugees and the immigrants. He gives a particular importance to develop himself on the topics human rights, peace education, policy and the digital market.



Zeenia Kolah
SheSays
India

Zeenia Kolah is the Gender Advocacy Director at SheSays where she works on campaigns and educational programs to promote gender equality and prevent sexual harassment in India. She has also worked as a facilitator and counsellor at Seeds of Peace International Camp in the United States, leading a dialogue program on international social issues and acting as a youth mentor for teenagers from the Middle East and South Asia. The arts have always been a source of empowerment for Zeenia, especially as a young woman. She is a dancer and performer based in Mumbai, and as part of her social activism she leads dance workshops for school children in rural India.

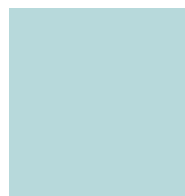
Team

The Pontifical Academy of Sciences

Alba Gimmillaro
Aldo Cicinelli
Alessandra Petrillo
Federica Petrini
Francesco Mancini
Gabriella C. Marino
Leonardo Rumori
Lorenzo Rumori
Simonetta Ulisse

SDSN Youth

Alice Cavalieri
Anastasia Kostomarova
John Farrugia
Siamak Sam Loni (Chair)



Social Media

In 2016, the Vatican Youth Symposium had over 8 million impressions on Twitter alone. Join the discussion online and raise awareness on some of the issues discussed at the Symposium.

Official Hashtag


#VYS17


Twitter Handles


@nonservos
@CasinaPioIV
@SDSNYouth
@medioslentos



MEDIA ENQUIRIES

 All journalists and media organizations wishing to apply for accreditation may request TEMPORARY accreditation through the online form of the Media Operations Section of the Holy See Press Office website: <http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/accrediti/pubblico/accredito.html> Journalists and media organizations regularly accredited at the Holy See Press Office may send their request through the usual channels. All requests must be sent no less than 48 hours before the event.

 I giornalisti e gli operatori media che intendono partecipare devono inviare richiesta di accreditamento TEMPORANEO attraverso il modulo disponibile online nella sezione accrediti del sito della Sala Stampa della Santa Sede: press.vatican.va/accreditamenti. Coloro che già dispongono di accredito ordinario valido devono inviare una richiesta di partecipazione secondo le consuete modalità. Tutte le richieste dovranno pervenire entro 48 ore dall'evento.

 Todos los periodistas y gráficos que deseen participar deben enviar una solicitud de acreditación TEMPORAL a través del módulo que está disponible online en la sección de acreditaciones de la página web de la Oficina de Prensa de la Santa Sede: press.vatican.va/accreditamenti. Los que ya dispongan de acreditación normal válida, deben enviar una solicitud de participación según la modalidad habitual. Todas las peticiones deberán hacerse al menos 48 horas antes del evento.

LOGISTICS

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A VALID I.D.

As you know, security is strict therefore we will be distributing name badges at dinner on 13 October. You will be requested to wear yours at all times when walking inside the Vatican City, especially when you are not accompanied by a member of staff.

The entry gate is called: Sant'Uffizio, also known as Petriano (see the map above). The gate is located on the left hand side of St Peter's Square in Piazza del Sant'Uffizio. At the Gate, and if requested, you should show your badge to the Vatican Gendarmes and the Swiss Guards.

In case of EMERGENCY you may contact Gabriella (+39 335 8301 763) or Federica (+39 334 257 6296), Alba (+39 328 8249 553) via iMessage, Facetime, Whatsapp or normal phone call.

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