



Name: French Republic

Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council

Agenda: Strengthening youth voices in global governance to advocate for the justice and rights of conflict affected, displaced and marginalized communities

The French Republic, while actively promoting youth participation in governance, recognizes the crucial role of youth in ensuring rights and justice specifically of the conflict affected, displaced and marginalized communities. As a nation believing youth has always been a key player in reforming future society, the French Republic aims to protect youth voices and promote inclusivity. On one hand, youth can be a leading force in the vulnerable zones; on the other hand youth are ones getting affected in those areas intensely physically, mentally, economically and psychologically. On that account, the French Republic expresses its commitment to collaborating with other nations to promote the active participation of youth in the governance and their development of vulnerable regions.

Like most states across the globe, the French Republic too struggle with some issues, mostly originating from the global financial crisis of 2008. Subsequently, it worsened young people's access to employment. To deal with the issue the "*CEJ- Youth Engagement Contract*" worked actively that offers the youth proper training, civic services with funding. To improve access to rights and services, the State has launched "*the Youth Compass*", a new digital platform for 15 to 30 year olds, helping them navigate available opportunities and support more easily. The French Republic acknowledges the barriers of limited resources, impact of inequality and underrepresentation of youth hinders the development in the underserved areas. Thus, the French Republic believes the committee should focus discussions on ensuring socioeconomic equality, structural inclusion of the youth in governance while eradicating tokenistic consultations and capacity building.

The UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), alongside other UN bodies and international organizations, has increasingly prioritized the meaningful participation of youth in global governance. Identifying youth the spotlight population in the 2018-2021 (extended till 2023) *Management Plan* focuses to ensure human rights and make the youth strive. The resolution no 39/3 of the UNHRC made decision to make youth the focus group of the fourth phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education. The very first UN system wise strategy on youth, The *UN Youth 2030* guides the collaborative UN action for and with young people globally.

Thus, in order to draw an effective resolution to the agenda with respect to but not limited to the existing initiatives, the French Federation suggests the following suggestions that should be considered in the committee and beyond,

1. Investing in capacity building, particularly focusing the conflict affected, displaced and marginalized communities by ensuring effective education, training and required resources.
2. Encouraging collaboration among the states and UN bodies to develop inclusion of the youth in decision making and governance and dismantle socioeconomic and institutional barriers of youth participation.
3. Advocating for the digital safety standards and equal access to internet, technology and digital literacy on youth engagement in global conversations.
4. Ensuring the representation of young women, indigenous youth, LGBTQ+ youth and persons with disabilities in governance processes not leaving them behind.

References:

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