

## Ensuring inclusive and meaningful youth engagement

### YPS Consultations for Big Impact

#### Project Summary

##### i) Context

Globally, over 600 million young people are estimated to be living in fragile and conflict-affected areas. These young people often face systemic challenges, including exposure to violence, forced recruitment into armed groups, displacement, and loss of educational and employment opportunities. These adversities not only disrupt their development but also perpetuate cycles of poverty and instability.

The [Youth, Peace, and Security \(YPS\) agenda](#) was cemented into the multilateral system through the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 in 2015. Followed by resolutions 2419 and 2535, this has crystallised the imperative of enhancing youth agency and leadership in maintaining and promoting peace and security. This has consequently been a key point of intervention in the implementation of the YPS agenda since at least 2015. However, despite these policy frameworks, and while young people's inclusion is widely discussed, it is often framed in limited terms—focusing on their presence rather than their agency and leadership in defining the core policy and political issues which impact their lives. Their voices continue to be unheard, and their innovative potential remains untapped.

This project will offer an alternative perspective on the potential of young people as key drivers of national and global peacebuilding agendas and as rights holders shaping policy and governance frameworks rather than being confined to advisory or consultative roles.

The year 2025 marks the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 2250. While some progress has been made, significant gaps remain in young people's meaningful political, social, and economic participation in the diverse policy spheres that affect their lives and the well-being of their communities. This anniversary should inspire renewed commitment from governments, international organisations, and civil society to enhance the meaningful participation of young people in peace and security efforts.

This project builds on the expansive global youth consultations undertaken to produce the first YPS Progress Study: [The Missing Peace](#), which was mandated by UNSCR 2250 and conducted between 2016 and 2018. This study was described at the first UNSC open debate on youth as one of the most participatory and inclusive studies of its kind ever undertaken by the UN. It provided a foundation for advancing the YPS agenda and demonstrated the power of youth-led research and consultation.

Building on this approach, this project integrates a structured approach to policy influence, peer-to-peer exchange, and country-specific consultations, which will be spearheaded and supported by [Interpeace](#). At its core, this project is designed to amplify youth voices and facilitate youth agency and leadership through structured consultations led by youth organisations themselves.

The current call for proposals is open for organisations based in the following thirteen (13) countries;

Colombia	Guatemala	India	Jordan
Kenya	Mali	Nepal	Nigeria
Philippines	Sierra Leone	Syria	Tunisia
Turkmenistan			

The aim is to identify and select between one (1) and three (3) contracted YPS organisations in five (5) to seven (7) countries of the thirteen (13) aforementioned countries. There, YPS consultations will be organised through collaboration and in partnership with other YPS organisations at the national level. As mentioned above, these consultations will be supported by Interpeace.

The youth-led consultations will serve as the vehicle for ensuring inclusive participation and meaningful engagement in:

- The review of the implementation of the YPS agenda via the Progress Study 2.0;
- The insertion of a youth-centred perspective in the PBAR consultations;
- Advancing the YPS-specific dimensions of the Pact for the Future and the Declaration on Future Generations;
- Supporting and informing the evolution of Germany's footprint and contribution to YPS implementation, both within Germany and through its development and foreign policy priorities.

By ensuring that these consultations take place across multiple countries and bringing youth representatives together for cross-country learning, this initiative aims to strengthen collective advocacy, enhance policy influence, and institutionalise youth participation in key global peace and security processes. The goal is not to silo youth engagement into a single policy process but rather to institutionalise it as a cross-cutting priority in global peace and security policymaking.

**Budget:** A total of 10,000 EUR is available to support the consultation process per selected country. Thereby, if more than one (1) organisation is selected per country, the available support will be divided among contracted organisations.

## ii) About Cordaid/CSPPS

Cordaid is one of the largest INGOs in the Netherlands and brought CSPPS into its coordinating role over a decade ago as part of its commitment to work on addressing manifestations of fragility, conflict and violence. CSPPS is hosted and coordinated through a dedicated Secretariat based at Cordaid in the Hague, the Netherlands. As CSPPS is not a legal entity on its own, the contract for this project will be signed with the host organisation of the Platform, Stichting Cordaid, in the Netherlands. Cordaid/CSPPS has a proven track record in implementing and managing small grant facilities.

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS, or 'the Platform') is a global network of civil society organisations supporting peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts in fragile & conflict-affected settings. CSPPS aims to amplify and strengthen the voice and agency of local civil society in fragile settings. CSPPS engages in and influences peacebuilding, statebuilding, and conflict prevention policy development in the context of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding



(IDPS), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Agenda for Peace, and other relevant policy domains. Sustainable Development Goal 16, for peaceful, just, and inclusive societies, is at the core of the work of CSPPS. The Platform unites a wide and ever-growing membership of 800+ civil society organisations and is currently present across 48 countries, from both the Global South (38 countries) as well as the Global North (10 countries). Through its membership, CSPPS seeks to support and amplify local civil society voices in peacebuilding, statebuilding, and conflict prevention domains. The Platform supports its membership via peer-to-peer learning and innovative approaches to address the wicked and complex challenges of peacebuilding across the world's most fragile settings.