



HUMANITARIAN
AFFAIRS ASIA

TOGETHER WE *Serve*



THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE CENTRE
BANGKOK, THAILAND

JANUARY 11 TO 13, 2023

PE CE



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A world together!

THE 3rd GLOBAL
PEACE SUMMIT

YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE FOREFRONT OF GLOBAL PEACEBUILDING



The pursuit of peace must be universal in order for it to be truly lasting, this includes young people, despite often facing a lack of inclusion within formal peacebuilding efforts and responses.

Understandably, young people often feel they lack resources and experience in the development of peace efforts. The exposure to instability, war, conflict, human rights violations and terror can create immense anxiety, a feeling of overwhelming defeat and ultimately self-doubt that one's individual contribution will never be enough to challenge systemic structures of inequality and injustice. When even the most experienced practitioners in the field face continuous setbacks in their striving towards peace, it can feel as though no one will ever be able to eliminate conflict, let alone a young person.

The new global challenges brought by the twenty-first century also means the goal of global peace is threatened in evolving ways, with the antagonists to peace being more silent, invisible and structural in character. Yet, new challenges offer the potential for revolutionary solutions. Young people possess enormous, but often unrecognised, leadership potential and will play an important role in the future of peacebuilding.

In spite of the necessity of foregrounding the views, perspectives and goals of young people in global peacebuilding, as an educator, helping your students to gain knowledge and confidence can feel like a huge responsibility. Therefore, you may be looking for the right resources and platforms to more effectively lead and mentor your students to be the future leaders of tomorrow. At Humanitarian Affairs Asia our programmes are designed to address the disparity between the reality of lacking resources, funds and networks necessary to make the global social change young people desire, and their ultimate ambitions for building a better world for themselves and the wider global community.

OUR COMMITMENT

The discussions and dialogues of conflict encompass a diversity of perspectives. Whether students have experienced conflict first hand or not – we all still desire taking the path towards sustainable and lasting peace. Humanitarian Affairs Asia seeks to draw together these increasingly important perspectives from global leaders, organisations and inspiring change makers with lived experience as well as facilitators to provide practical knowledge through our initiatives and events. Our mission is to equip the global youth with the perspectives, skills and tools necessary to fully realise their capacity as leaders and champions of a world where future generations inherit peace as the norm.

"I always tell young people, be courageous, share your experiences, do not be embarrassed by the hardships you have gone through. I am proud to be a former refugee for the wisdom and resilience it has brought to me as a person. I cherish it every moment of every day. I want young people to be proud of their experiences and not scared of sharing those experiences to educate other young people. That is the reason why I am close to the work that HA does because they believe that everyone can contribute to positive social change by speaking and sharing their experiences."



RAHILA HAIDARY

Speaker and Advocate for Equality and Social Justice



"A remarkable civil society organization that has a fine record of engaging young people in volunteer humanitarian work, thereby providing creative avenues for young people to develop good citizenship and leadership skills while benefiting disadvantaged communities."

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

BENEFITS

- The Peace Summit allows students to explore these global opportunities to approach studies from a more holistic, international perspective. During the summit, delegates will gain specific and subject-specific knowledge that will empower them when returning to their degree programme or workplace.
- The Peace Summit helps increase students' future employability. During the summit, delegates will also gain practical and transferable skills such as leadership.
- The Peace Summit offers an incredible opportunity for students to participate in a global forum where they will be representing their country, as well as their own views and perspectives.
- The Peace Summit allows for students to create working relationships with delegates, who will be the global leaders for tomorrow.
- The Peace Summit more broadly prepares students to approach their futures with a greater awareness of their place in the global response to building enduring peace.

THE JOURNEY

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

- Be between the ages of 17-32 years old
- Be able to demonstrate outstanding leadership experience and potential
- Be passionate about peace, social change and current affairs
- Be willing to participate with an open mind when networking with persons from different backgrounds, interests and ambitions
- Be motivated to serve as a Humanitarian Affairs Peace Ambassador for one-year

WHAT WILL THE EVENT ENTAIL?

The 3rd Global Peace Summit 2023 Speakers

- Imrana Alhaji Buba Founder Of "Youth Coalition Against Terrorism" Nigeria
- Rahila Haidary Hazara Genocide Survivor Australia
- Derek Schwartz Veteran Marine United States
- Sulaiman Khatib Co-Founder And Director "Combatants For Peace Palestine
- Zak Ebrahim Author Of The Book "The Terrorist's Son" United States

WHAT HAVE PAST DELEGATES ACHIEVED?

Past delegates have gone onto careers in the following fields

- Diplomacy, Governance and Policy, Advocacy and pressure-group work, NGO work, Social Research, Charity work, Social enterprises



SPEAKERS HIGHLIGHTS

Most of us recall childhood memories of playing with friends in the playground, but not Ayik Chut Deng. As a young boy, Ayik fought as a child soldier in Ethiopia and Sudan. He witnessed unspeakable violence and was regularly tortured by the older boys.

At the age of nineteen, Ayik escaped to Australia where he ended up as a refugee. However, adjusting to a new life in Australia was far more difficult than he anticipated. Ayik was suffering from chronic and misdiagnosed mental health issues leading to years of erratic behavior. He even got into trouble with the law before coming to the realization that his behavior was putting his life, as well as the lives of his loved ones, at risk.

Today, Ayik is a father, actor and volunteers at his local youth center. Overcoming his childhood of indescribable horror became a lifelong process of learning and healing. Ayik Chut Deng will reveal the lessons learnt from his **painful childhood as a child soldier**.



AYIK CHUT DENG

FORMER CHILD SOLDIER
SOUTH SUDAN



IMRANA ALHAJI BUBA

FOUNDER OF "YOUTH COALITION
AGAINST TERRORISM"
NIGERIA

The name "Boko Haram" means "Western education is forbidden". It is a terrorist organization based in north-eastern Nigeria.

At a tender age, Imrana Alhaji Buba saw horrifying acts of terrorism inflicted by the terrorist group. His family was directly affected by the bombings and his father was murdered in cold blood.

Far from becoming intimidated by the violence, Imrana founded the Youth Coalition Against Terrorism (now Youth Initiative Against Terrorism), a volunteer-based youth-led organization working to unite youth against violent extremism in north-eastern Nigeria. He started with nothing. He had zero budget. But he was passionate and wanted to do something to stop the acts of terror. Now, his organization has 46 chapters throughout North-eastern Nigeria.

Imrana's message for young leaders considering to become agents of change: **"Start now. You don't need to wait. Peace is a language we all speak."**

Afghanistan, Iraq and Haiti. These are the countries where Derek Schwartz was deployed to as a United States Marine. There, he experienced the insurmountable horror of war first-hand while serving his country.

After returning from his deployment, Derek suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and his coping mechanism was alcohol. He was haunted by the brutal scenes he had witnessed and the lives that were taken by him and others. Fortunately, Derek met a medical practitioner that encouraged him to seek professional treatment – that person is now his wife, Linsey.

In order to avoid future wars and conflict, Derek believes that the current and the next generation of world leaders need to be instructed on the importance of peace building. It is critical to fully grasp the effects of war, not only on the individual but also on nations, in order to fully comprehend the importance of peace among nations. Derek will share his **experience in the war zones and vision in peace building.**



DEREK SCHWARTZ

VETERAN MARINE
UNITED STATES



RAHILA HAIDARY

HAZARA GENOCIDE SURVIVOR
AUSTRALIA

“Schools are for boys only”. At the age of six, not willing to be denied her education, Rahila tried to find a way to go to school, just like the boys in her town. Bravely, she dressed up like a boy in an attempt to go unnoticed. Her life, and that of her family, were threatened by the Taliban rulers when she was found out.

Rahila Haidary has a deep and personal connection to the importance of peace building and education. Growing up in the Uruzgan province of Afghanistan, then under Taliban rule, Rahila and her family survived the Hazara Genocide, wars and conflicts.

In 2011, Rahila travelled to Australia as an asylum seeker. Now, she is dedicating her life to advocate for peace. A UNICEF Australia Young Ambassador, Rahila Haidary, will inspire and empower you with her story of **harrowing escape from Afghanistan and becoming a catalyst for female economic empowerment.**

Growing up as a young person in Palestine, Sulaiman Khatib did not view peace as an option. He was raised in a war zone.

At the age of fourteen, Sulaiman joined the “Fatah” movement and began his violent struggle for freedom. He went as far as attempting to steal guns from Israeli soldiers, landing him a 15 year sentence in a juvenile prison, recounted horrendous cruelty and torture in the cells. An opportunity to work in the prison library presented a paradigm shift for Sulaiman. Through his journey of self-directed learning and discovery, Sulaiman realised that there are multiple narratives to conflict. He had mistaken his enemy, instead they both shared a common enemy- one of hatred and of fear.

Sulaiman would go on to become Co-Founder and Director of Combatants for Peace, an organization composed of Palestinians and Israelis who have participated in the circle of violence towards each other but have instead chosen to reject it and to work together. Sulaiman Khatib’s journey teaches you that there is an alternative to violence. **Together we can bring peace, but the change must first start within us.**



SULAIMAN KHATIB

CO-FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR
“COMBATANTS FOR PEACE
PALESTINE



ZAK EBRAHIM

AUTHOR OF THE BOOK “THE
TERRORIST’S SON”
UNITED STATES

In 1990, when Zak Ebrahim was only seven years old, his father became the first known Islamic jihadist to take a life on American soil. El-Sayyid Nosair has shot and killed the leader of the Jewish Defence League.

While in prison, Nosair helped plan the bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993. In one of his infamous video messages, Osama bin Laden urged the world to “Remember El-Sayyid Nosair.”

For Zak, a childhood of terrorism was all he knew. After his father’s incarceration, his family moved more than twenty times, hunted and persecuted for the crimes of his father.

Growing up, Zak could never adopt the views of his father. As he grew older, he was able to gain a deeper grasp of his horrific actions. This led to a firm conviction in the desire to promote peace. Zak would later go on to write the book “The Terrorist’s Son” detailing his **incredible journey in finding his own path, a path away from hate.**

MY STORY



BEFORE ATTENDING THE PEACE SUMMIT

Dyana Satya Moitinho Freitas knew she wanted to make a difference *"I wanted to help transform the lives of refugees around the world,"* but she didn't know how she would make that difference. She decided to attend the 2020 Peace Summit – a decision she would later describe as a *"life-changing"* experience.

DURING THE PEACE SUMMIT

"I can genuinely say that I have just participated in one of the most humbling experiences of my life. It is a few experiences that make you see the world in a new way, whilst simultaneously structuring bridges of support and resources. Thus, enabling the realisation of the ideal world's existent in our imaginaries."

The speakers and the organisers at the Peace Summit at the UN Bangkok have shown us what the path to peace should and can look like. No matter your race, religion, gender, sexuality - every human has the right to dignity, to freedom. I cannot share with you all what four days of immersion in peace talks, workshops, interactions, and more, we're like. I can only tell you what has been the most inspiring and life-changing of all, which is, all of the beautiful humans that I met from 55 countries."

AFTER THE PEACE SUMMIT

After attending the 2020 Peace Summit for Emerging Leaders Dyana Satya Moitinho Freitas was inspired in the pursuit to provide stable employment to refugees, volunteering as Project Director of a research and design team at Enactus, at the University of Sydney.

"Our team of volunteers have come up with the RANA project, which stands for Refugees Are Never Alone, where we will provide stable employment to refugees to create handmade artisan products such as cotton t-shirts featuring refugees' arts, designs and messages. May we all inspire and make the world the best possible place we can be, in our journey as Peace Ambassadors."

DYANA SATYA MOITINHO FREITAS
2020 Peace Summit Delegate

THE PACKAGE

Venue: The Peace Summit will be held at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC) in Bangkok, Thailand. The UNCC serves as one of the headquarters for the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The early bird registration fee of USD 1,150.00 + 7% VAT (tax) includes:

- 4-night Accommodation on a sharing basis
- 2-way local Transportation from Hotel to UN Conference Center
- Meals include 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 5 Coffee Breaks
- An Enriching Interactive Experience
- Access to all Plenary Sessions
- Knowledge-based Workshop Discussions
- An Electronic Certificate of Participation
- Lots of Networking Opportunities

PLEASE NOTE: The early bird registration fee ends September 17, 2022



FUNDING

It is not expected that delegates will finance the cost of attending the summit independently. As an educator leader, we ask you to support your students to attend the summit through guiding them through the process of applying for grants and scholarships that your university may offer. As well as university sources, funding may be available through government programmes. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Global Programme Associates who will be happy to support you with further information regarding this.





BEYOND THE PEACE SUMMIT

THE IMPACT

The Peace Summit gives young people the tools and knowledge to succeed in fighting for a more peaceful future as a Humanitarian Affairs Peace Ambassador. This role is a unique opportunity offered to delegates following their attendance at the summit. The role is voluntary and is a one-year self-directed initiative that allows delegates to serve in the promotion of peace efforts in their own community. Delegates will have the opportunity to gain valuable insight from heart-wrenching stories told by speakers, experts and activists, participate in workshops and challenges and network with like-minded peers. They will leave feeling empowered to take action and to instigate change, leading the way forward for other young people as an instrument for peace.



APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP 1: Request a copy of the Delegate Application form from our team.

Please note applications through our website will incur an application fee of USD 12.00

STEP 2: Collate all the completed forms from nominated students

STEP 3: Send the forms directly to our team for processing

By nominating your students to attend the 3rd Global Peace Summit 2023 you are making a huge contribution to a global effort to enact positive change for our world.

The United Nations Conference Center has limited seating capacity so please register early to reserve a place for your students at the summit.

If you want to learn more about the amazing opportunities the Peace Summit will afford your students please submit an Expression of Interest today! Our Global Program Associate will be there to assist you with the entire nomination and application process.



CONTACT



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LEARN MORE



www.humanitarianaffairs.org



[Peace Summit 2020 Event Video](#)



[Peace Summit 2018 Event Report](#)



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Acknowledgement: The cover page was created with inspiration from Italian artist Armando Milani's collection "Transforming War into Peace" designed for the United Nations. The timeless design represents a purpose of keeping peace in a rapidly changing and evolving society.

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