



Virtual commemorating of the 5th anniversary of UNSCR 2250

THEME: Youth, Peace and Security Agenda in the MENA Region:
Opportunities & Challenges

12 December 2020 | 16:30-18:30 Amman Time (GMT+2)

Via Zoom Online Platform

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction:

Since the Arab Spring in 2011, which began in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Syria etc, the region has been in an insecurity situation. A high percentage of 68 percent of youth in the MENA region, excluded from major decision-making positions, found their way to the streets, marking thereby the historical moment in the present history of MENA and creating international recognition of the right and duty of unrecognized youth. Starting with the Amman Declaration on YPS in August 2015, up till the adoption of the draft resolution presented by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in December 2015, when it chaired the UN Security Council at the time, a journey of the youth in MENA is to yet to be told

Since January 2016 until today, a huge number of projects have been implemented, and many initiatives have been launched in the MENA region. However, the region still witnesses a growing mistrust of youth towards formal political institutions, governments and the multilateral system; and the exclusion of youth from political, civic, and economic life is maintained

This [MENA Coalition on YPS](#) (MCYPS) aims to bridge the gap between young peacebuilders, Youth lead organizations, CSOs with the regional and international stakeholders, and develop a regional inclusive framework on YPS with clear indicators to be able to measure the progress of the YPS agenda.



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Background and Context:

The 5th anniversary of the adoption of UNSCR 2250 and YPS Agenda, should inspire deeper conversations on what co-leadership of peace and security mean between the generations.

Over the past five years, the UNSC resolutions on YPS have delivered a clear message and an important recognition of the role young people play in peace processes, where they were able to make use and utilize the International and regional cooperation towards achieving the 4th pillar (**Partnership**) of the YPS agenda, making it clear it is difficult to achieve the YPS agenda through local efforts only. NO one should be left behind, one should be left alone.

International, and regional stakeholders, are asked to reinforce their mutual collaboration and coordination efforts to ensure more inclusive mechanisms towards just, peaceful and inclusive societies, For that, Youth, and youth-led organizations work need to be recognized and be highlighted by having their advocacy and effective networking through structured dialogue with government bodies regional and international stakeholders to deliver their demands related to youth meaningful engagement in peace processes. The year 2020 has been the year of global health crises where young people are the most vulnerable group, where most educational institutions closed, and one of six young people lost their jobs due to the pandemic, according to a report published by the World Bank in May 2020. On the 5th anniversary of the adoption of UNSCR 2250 our determination to walk the talk is maintained in our collaborative work to launch the MENA Coalition on YPS (MCYPS) and present its roles; to discuss how to deal with the main challenges and opportunities in the MENA region and how to advance the meaningful and effective participation of youth in the MENA region in decision making and implementation of peace and security interventions at local, national and regional levels.

Objectives:

- The overall objective of this webinar is to provide a platform for dialogue to exchange views among Arab Youth around relevant thematic and regional narratives and articulate a youth informed perspective on how the International and regional stakeholders can strengthen local youth led action on the YPS agenda:
- Mapping the progress of YPS agenda and amplifying the peace efforts in the MENA:
- Highlighting on the importance of developing National Action Plans (NAPs) for YPS agenda in the MENA region.



Audience:

- Young people interested in the topic of all the peace and security processes from the MENA region;
- National, regional and International CSOs interested on YPS agenda in the MENA region.
- UN agencies (international, regional and national) interested in priorities on YPS agenda;
- International and regional institutions working on or interested in YPS agenda.

Participation and Methodology:

Participation is by **RSVP** to info@mena4yps.org. OR by **registration** in this [LINK](#).

All necessary information to join the virtual conversation will be shared at least two days before the meeting is convened.

The webinar will bring together international and regional stockholders from relevant UN agencies, civil society representatives and local peacebuilders.

The organizing team will provide **simultaneous interpretation in Arabic and English**.