



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

## Empowerment Series for Young MPs

### Tenth briefing: *The role of young MPs in contributing to conflict prevention and peacebuilding*

5 June 2024

#### Concept note

#### Context and rationale

United Nations Security Council [resolution 2250 \(2015\)](#) on Youth, Peace, and Security unanimously adopted in December 2015 recognized the essential role young people play in promoting and maintaining peace and security. The resolution urged Member States to increase inclusive representation of youth in decision-making at all levels, and in institutions and mechanisms to prevent and resolve conflict and counter violent extremism.

In a number of its resolutions and declarations in the past decade, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) recognized the vital role of parliamentarians in maintaining international peace and security. The IPU 2018 resolution [Sustaining peace as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development](#) stresses that parliaments can “significantly contribute to sustaining peace”, and highlights both “the constructive and preventive nature of parliamentary diplomacy...including its capacity to reduce tensions and mitigate and resolve conflicts by peaceful means”. The [Geneva Declaration](#) on *Parliamentary diplomacy: Building bridges for peace and understanding* endorsed by the 148th IPU Assembly in March 2024, committed to fostering more substantial involvement of women and youth in politics and leadership roles, including in the military and security sectors. In the Declaration, IPU Member Parliaments committed to the effective implementation of the women, peace and security, and youth, peace and security agendas of the UN Security Council by ensuring that peace processes, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and conflict prevention integrate a gender perspective and guarantee the equal and meaningful participation of women and youth.

Youth participation in parliament can serve as a potentially powerful tool for implementing UNSCR 2250. The IPU study [Youth Participation in Parliaments and Peace and Security](#) of 2018, concluded that greater youth participation in parliament may advance peace and stability in the long run. It called for increasing the use of young MPs as mediators and promoters of dialogue in divided societies. Moreover, young MPs can advocate for greater inclusion of youth organizations in peace processes and use parliamentary diplomacy platforms to foster international cooperation for peace.

Young MPs are also well-positioned to champion policies that address the root causes of conflict, including socioeconomic disparities, marginalization, and lack of access to education and employment opportunities for youth.

The IPU is organizing the tenth online briefing of its Empowerment Series for young parliamentarians to assess the roles and opportunities that young MPs have in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and to discuss practical action they can take, including in policymaking, parliamentary diplomacy, mediation and dialogue efforts, and/or support to youth inclusion.

#### Objectives:

The aims of the online briefing are to:

- Explore opportunities and challenges that young MPs experience in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
- Discuss practical action young MPs can take, including in policymaking, parliamentary diplomacy, mediation and dialogue efforts, and support for youth inclusion.
- Facilitate an exchange of experiences and good practices in enhancing the role of young MPs in conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

**Methodology:** Experts will brief young parliamentarians on the subject matter. The briefing will be followed by a discussion among young MPs to share practices from their respective countries. Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French, Arabic and Spanish.

**Date, virtual venue and time:** The online briefing will take place on Zoom, on 5 June 2024, from 13:00 to 15:00 CEST (Geneva time).

#### Registration link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIsdeysrTotGNQBd7F44Vexiua6OuOfUHG#/registration>