

**II INTERNATIONAL FORUM
YOUTH ACT!**



**YOUNG PEOPLE FIGHTING
FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE**

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INTRODUCTION

This document is the result of a four-day gathering of young people from Iraq, Libia, Palestine, Western Sahara, Spain, Syria, Jordan, Mexico ... in the Youth Act Forum framework. We had exchanged our daily life realities. We had detected our common problems and analyzed political demands and alternatives to solve them. We had time to dream about our future World.

In this sense, we have written here a summary of all the work done, creating a document useful for Governments and political parties to know a quick approach to our needs and hopes.

COMMON PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

1. We are young people surviving in (armed) conflict territories
2. It is difficult to find decent job opportunities for young people and housing
3. Restrictions to movement or difficulty to obtain a passport is a big issue that limit our rights in many spheres
4. Climate change affects us and nobody seems to do anything
5. Rural exodus is a problem with various effects: on the one hand, the depopulation and abandonment of the natural and rural spaces of our countries. On the other, the accumulation and overpopulation in urban environments with the overload of resources and the affectation in the lives of people and the environment.
6. We have an inefficient public administration that does not respect the agreed democratic frameworks and is not committed to the real needs of the population, much less of the youth
7. Our educational system is not working for all the same
8. We don't have a proper public health system
9. Discrimination (sexism, ableism, racism...)



DEMANDS

1. We claim the **right to have fair wages and working conditions**, appropriate, safe and affordable housing, fair distribution of wealth, opportunities and resources to achieve our need while respecting biophysical and planetary limits.
2. We claim **the right to live and move freely without restrictions of movement** because of our nationality or the lack of it (statelessness), place of birth, ethnicity, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ideology, political activism, functional diversity, socio-economic status or any other conditions.
3. We want a **real climate action** now to stop global heating under 1.5 C. We need to have clean energy production, factory control, lower emissions and phase out fossil fuels. We claim for strong policies, an efficient city planning putting life in the center, and mobility planning promoting sufficient and sustainable lifestyles. The socio-ecological transition should be based on ecofeminist and degrowth principles. We need to end ecological racism and strive for climate justice.
4. We demand the **abolishment of colonialism** and its consequences. We claim the need for decolonization and acknowledgement of former and current colonial practices and power relations. We need to rewrite actual history against colonial narratives and discourses. Externalization of mining, production, borders and control driven by superiority and dominance have to be stopped.
5. We point out the necessity of an international political structure dynamics where any **state has a real opportunity option to vote and participate in international issues.**
6. We want the international community **to recognize human rights violations.** The guarantee of human rights has to be an international priority.
7. We claim the end of patriarchy and create a real **feminist society.** We need equal rights, wages and opportunities, safety and security for women and people of the LGBTQIA+ community. We need to stop sexual harassment, gender-based violence and discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation.
8. We want society to see the world not only from a **Eurocentric and Western vision**, but also from a pluriverse perspective. Local knowledge, narratives, practices, languages, authors and activists have to be valued, heard, shared and kept alive.
9. We claim an improvement of **education as a pillar for change.** We need more inclusive education (especially for women, indigenous communities and people with diverse abilities).
10. We want to claim the **freedom of opinion, speech and press to express ourselves freely.** We want this right to be effective and not merely "formal" (on the laws). We want

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independent and free media with journalists who can work without fear about their lives and jobs. We want free and safe speech in social media platforms. Fake news and manipulation have to be stopped. More objective information, access to **educational resources**, awareness racanvaising and transparent democratic regulations are the answers.

11. We want an inclusive and safe society in which **caring for each other is in the center** and fostering a sense of belonging. We acknowledge that people are interdependent and ecodependent. We want unpaid and paid care work to be acknowledged (also in financial terms).
12. We need to build community in order to address and overcome injustices and empower **bottom-up civil society initiatives** for social transformation.
13. We claim the right to have **independent courts and judges**, and real democratic functioning of institutions.
14. We claim the right to a high-quality **universal health system**. We want access to **public medical insurance**, including dentist and psychological treatments.
15. We need societies **free oppression and racism**.
16. We want **intersectionality** to be taken into account in every aspect, also in the process of planning, designing, organizing and implementing of social transformation activities.

