

## **UN YOUTH FLASH**

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WELCOME to the UN Youth Flash, a service of the United Nations Programme on Youth, to keep you informed about the work of the UN on youth issues. UN Youth Flash can be read on-line at: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/flash.htm>.

### **In this issue:**

- Feature: Convention on youth rights entered into force on 1 March
- Highlights from UN Headquarters
- Highlights from UN agencies around the world
- Calendar of Youth Events
- On the Internet

### **FEATURE: Convention on youth rights entered into force on 1 March**

On 1 March, the Ibero-American Convention on the Rights of Youth (ICRY) entered into force. The ICRY is the only international treaty in the world that specifically recognizes the rights of young people. It was developed and promoted by the Ibero-American Youth Organization, also known by its Spanish acronym, OIJ.

On 1 February, Costa Rica became the fifth country to ratify the ICRY, after Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Spain, thereby meeting the required procedure and timeframe prescribed by the international law that governs the Convention's entry into force. In practical terms, this means that any young person in Latin America, Spain and Portugal who has his/her rights violated can invoke this legal tool.

The Ibero-American Convention on the Rights of Youth includes 44 articles which establish a series of civil and political rights (such as the right to life, to conscious objection, to justice, freedom of thought and religion, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and association) and of economic, social and cultural rights (including the right to education, to sexual education, to culture and art, to employment, and to shelter). The Convention also includes articles detailing mechanisms for its implementation (participatory processes, ratification, amendments, infringement of the Convention).

For the majority of young people around the world, this represents an important development in realizing their rights. The Convention sets a precedent in areas such as the right to life (elimination of death penalty for young people), the right to object to compulsory military service, the right to justice (the right to be presumed innocent until found guilty), the right to sexual education, the right not to be discriminated against (regardless of race, ethnic origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation), as well as the right to development.

The text was signed by most Ibero-American countries in 2005, in the Spanish city of Badajoz, with the support of Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela.. After the signing the process of ratification began, which has now ended its initial phase with the entry into force of the Convention after the

ratification by five countries. However, the ratification process continues, awaiting other signatory countries to follow suit. Argentina, Chile and Colombia have not yet signed the ICRY.

The Secretary-General of OIJ expressed the hope that the Ibero-American Youth Year, which is being celebrated this year, as well as the upcoming Ibero-American Summit on “Youth and Development”, which will take place in El Salvador this October, will motivate other countries in the region to ratify the Convention.

The United Nations has been supporting the Convention since 2005. The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) continue to work along with OIJ to ensure its ratification and the improvement of public policies for youth in the region, as well as the inclusion of young people in the processes that effect their lives. For details on the Convention, currently available in Spanish only, please visit <http://www.oij.org/cidj.php>.

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM UN HEADQUARTERS**

### **52nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women ends**

The Commission held its 52nd session at United Nations Headquarters from 25 February to 7 March. The Commission took action on resolutions dealing with key women’s empowerment issues, including scaling up resources and access to HIV/AIDS care, protecting women and girls from harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, women and children hostages, and providing urgently needed assistance to Palestinian women. For more information, please visit <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/52sess.htm>.

### **Young people prepare for CSD-16**

The 16th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16) will be held at UN Headquarters from 5-16 May 2008 (<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/review.htm>). The Children and Youth sector submitted a discussion paper outlining their perspectives on the status of implementation of commitments related to agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa. The paper identifies challenges in advancing implementation and will serve as a starting point for major groups’ participation in the activities of CSD-16. During the course of the session, the major groups are expected to participate in multiple interactive and thematic discussions, round tables, and other events. Find out more about the youth effort by visiting <http://www.youen.org> or by contacting the CSD Youth Caucus through: Luckson Katsi, Young Water Action Team, 79 Eves Crescent, Ashdown Park, Mabelreign, Harare, Zimbabwe, Tel: +263-91-2-764976 or email: [luckson\\_katsi@yahoo.com](mailto:luckson_katsi@yahoo.com) or Selene Biffi, Youth Action for Change, Via Curiel 63, 20050 Mezzago (Mi), Italy; Tel/Fax: +39 039 622329; Mob: +39 348 7407314 E-mail: [selene@youthactionforchange.org](mailto:selene@youthactionforchange.org), [selene\\_biffi@yahoo.com](mailto:selene_biffi@yahoo.com).

### **Secretary-General speaks to young people at Model UN Conference**

Addressing participants at a Model UN Conference, held from 18-22 March, the Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that United Nations is “uniquely placed” to lead efforts to tackle climate change, global health, counter-terrorism and disarmament. He urged the participants to act as catalysts for change in support of the work of the United Nations. He said that they

had the potential to devise innovative ways to confront the challenges the world faces. The Secretary-General also voiced hope that one day, there would be a woman Secretary-General, adding that the Model UN Conference had set an example by selecting a woman to be at the helm of the Conference. “Let me add that it gives me great pleasure to utter the words, ‘Madame Secretary-General,’” he told the delegates. For the complete statement of the Secretary-General, please visit <http://www.un.org/apps/sg/sgstats.asp?nid=3052>.

### **United Nations meets Web 2.0 and ICT Entrepreneurs**

The Global Alliance for ICT and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA-GAID) organized an event entitled "United Nations Meets Web 2.0 - New Media, New Entrepreneurs and New ICT Opportunities in Emerging Markets", on 25-26 March at UN Headquarters. This event is second in a series of interactive and action-oriented meetings organized by UNDESA-GAID with ICT leaders, who create new and innovative technologies. The event consisted of a series of policy dialogues and panel sessions showcasing a variety of perspectives on key issues, including the use of technology to drive development and how the new media and content are shaping the landscapes of business and economics in developing countries, as well as presentations on creative financing solutions from a range of well-known investment firms. Also part of the event was an Investors Forum showcasing emerging business and investment opportunities in information and communication technologies in developing nations. For more information on the event, please see <http://www.un-gaid.org>.

### **12 August: International Youth Day**

This year’s theme of this year’s commemoration is “Youth and Climate Change: Time for Action”. The Day provides a great opportunity to rally support and get key actors - Governments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, businesses, and young people - to act on climate change. Email your plans so that we can showcase ideas on how partnering with Governments, organizations and communities can lead to change. For information on previous IYDs: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/iyouthday.htm>

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM UN AGENCIES AROUND THE WORLD**

### **Alliance of Civilizations Youth Solidarity Fund**

To support youth-led initiatives that promote long-term constructive relationships between young people from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds, the Alliance of Civilizations (AoC) has launched a Youth Solidarity Fund. The Fund will provide seed funding to outstanding youth-led projects to promote intercultural and inter-religious exchanges, youth leadership training, and youth voices in the media. The AoC is placing great emphasis on funding projects that have long-term outcomes and that connect youth from previously unconnected communities with a view to overcoming perceived or real cultural and religious divides. The AoC will only fund projects that are entirely managed by youth for the benefit of youth. The age definition used by the AoC is persons between 18 and 30 years old. For more information and the full application form: <http://www.unaoc.org/content/view/93/128/lang,english>.

### **ESCWA – Integrating Youth in the Process of Development**

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) is planning a regional expert group meeting in Qatar to be held around 12 August, this year. The meeting is entitled “Reinforcing social equity: integrating youth in the development process” and will

undertake a situational analysis and baseline study to assess and understand the problems, goals and perceptions of youth in the Arab countries of the region. The meeting will enhance ESCWA's capacity and knowledge-base to make policy recommendations geared at improving the well-being of youth. ESCWA is also taking the lead to design and test new policy-oriented models that are tailored to integrate youth in the context of development, social equity and security. The meeting will focus on a number of issues in the area of social policy, including the implications of the structural transition of population and the emerging youth bulge in the Arab region. For more information, please e-mail [shakoori@un.org](mailto:shakoori@un.org).

### **FAO – World Harmony Run for hunger**

More than one million people will take part in the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)-backed World Harmony Run, the world's longest global relay which began on 27 March. Relay teams will carry a torch over the seven month-long Run, which will span 24,000 kilometres in dozens of countries in Europe and North Africa, as well as the United States and Australia. Young people are expected to assist with the run and to help with providing food and lodging for the participants. Similar events will take place in other regions of the world in parallel to raise awareness of the crucial problem of hunger. For more information on the run, please see <http://www.worldharmonyrun.org/about>.

### **UNDP – National Human Development Report focuses on youth**

The 2008 Human Development Report on Youth in Turkey was launched on 21 March in Ankara. Over 90 youth NGOs and university clubs from all over Turkey came together at the launch and called for the implementation of the report's recommendations through a joint statement, also agreeing to form a youth platform to promote youth-related policies in the country. According to the 2008 report, Turkey must now focus on developing comprehensive policies for youth in order to ensure that the country has a healthy, educated, and skilled society. The report offers guidance on how employment, education and health policies for youth need to be reshaped to ensure that these policies are people-oriented and better prepare the country for the future. For more information or to download the report, please visit <http://www.undp.org.tr>.

### **UNHABITAT – World Urban Youth Forum**

The World Urban Youth Forum (WUYF) will be held from 31 October to 2 November prior to the 4th World Urban Forum. Young people will participate in discussions on how to deal with growing poverty in cities, rapid urbanization, unemployment, disasters and the scourge of climate change. During the WUYF in 2006, youth were recognized for their initiatives, projects, programmes and action in cities. The expectation in the WUYF 2008 is to build on the activities of the previous Youth Forum while still working within the context of the WUF4 theme of "Harmonious Urbanization: The Challenge of Balanced Territorial Development". Young people will also explore how different generational interests in an urban context can be reconciled, particularly how the interest of youth and older generations can contribute towards harmonious urbanization. The World Urban Forum will be held in Nanjing, China, from 3-7 November. For more information, as well as supporting documentation and programme of events, contact the WUYF Coordinator, Ms. Mutinta Munyati at [mutinta.munyati@unhabitat.org](mailto:mutinta.munyati@unhabitat.org) and visit <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?typeid=19&catid=535&cid=5581>.

### **UNESCO and Vanguardia Latina**

The UNESCO Youth Section will participate in the “Espacio Vanguardia Latina 2008” Forum organized from 29 April to 2 May by the organization Espacio at the Inter-American Development Bank’s (IDB) Headquarters in Washington D.C. This yearly Forum is an opportunity for young people to contribute to the current and future well-being of their region. Vanguardia Latina brings together 150 U.S. Hispanic and Latin American university students for an intensive dialogue, joined by leaders from Latin America and the United States. Vanguardia Latina builds on developing networks among the next generation of decision-makers and opinion-leaders of the Americas while deepening their understanding of the region. Throughout two days of meetings, thematic forums, debate sessions and workshops, the participants will discuss issues around this year’s theme “The Americas: a hemisphere in motion”. For more information, please contact: [ucj@unesco.org](mailto:ucj@unesco.org).

### **UNESCO – Olympic Friendship forum for young people**

UNESCO and the Sports Information Agency of the Olympic Committee of Russia have agreed on an initiative to organize the first “‘Olympic Friendship’ Children’s Forum”. This international programme will be headed by UNESCO in cooperation with the international organizations for the Olympic, Paralympic and Delphic games. The forum will be held around the time of the next Olympic Games in China later this August. For more information, please contact: [ucj@unesco.org](mailto:ucj@unesco.org).

### **UNESCAP develops a toolkit to help young drug users**

The UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific developed the “Toolkit for Building Capacity for Community-based Treatment and Continuing Care of Young Drug Users in the Greater Mekong Subregion” at the request of young people. The toolkit uses accessible web-based resources and templates and examples from the area to enhance an understanding of the problems young people face regarding substance use and related risks. The toolkit aims to provide “how to” guides for assessment of individual, group and family counselling interventions that can be applied in community or residential settings. For more information, see <http://www.unescap.org/publications/detail.asp?id=1267>.

### **UNFPA – Updated web section on Adolescents and Youth**

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has updated its website with a wealth of information and resources, including publications, videos, links and relevant international agreements that reflect its vision and action plan for adolescents and youth. The section will cover policy and programme priorities, population and poverty, adolescent girls and youth participation, as well as youth-related feature stories that provide examples of how the work of UNFPA directly affects the lives of adolescents and youth around the world. Visit the website at <http://www.unfpa.org/adolescents/index.htm>.

### **UNIC Cambodia – Youth use ICT to support women on IWD2008**

The United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) from Cambodia reports that hundreds of young people across the country embarked on a text messaging campaign using their mobile phones to celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March, the first time a campaign of this kind has been attempted in Cambodia. Aiming to raise awareness of the role of women in development, youth delegates from the UN Youth Advisory Panel developed this SMS (short message system) text message specifically designed for young people, as part of the UN gender advocacy campaign: Strong Women, Strong Country. Young people in provinces across the country sent text messages to their friends, family members, and classmates requesting that the message be forwarded on to as many men and women as possible. The

text message read "Happy Women's Day! Women are important partners in making the country strong. We support women with love, respect and encouragement. Strong Women, Strong Country. Let's send this SMS to everyone". To find out more about how UN Information Centres around the world support local initiatives, please visit <http://www.unicef.org>.

### **UNICEF – Voices of Youth on the environment**

Join other young people as they participate in discussions and have their voices heard. Questions under discussion include environmental sustainability, solar energy and how young people can be more environmental-friendly. Join the discussions at <http://www.unicef.org/voy>.

### **UNICEF – Junior 8 Summit 2008 to be held in Japan**

Junior 8 Summit 2008 will be held parallel to the G8 summit of world leaders in Tokyo and will take place in Chitose, on the island of Hokkaido from 2 to 9 July 2008. The J8 Summit will be attended by 39 young people, a group of 4 from each G8 country and 7 from developing countries, who will take part in workshops, round table discussions and exercises to help them with the issues on the agenda. Children and young people will present their stories, findings, observations, hopes and recommendations to the G8 leaders. For more information, please see [http://www.unicef.org/voy/takeaction/takeaction\\_4043.html](http://www.unicef.org/voy/takeaction/takeaction_4043.html).

### **WHO/CAH – Welcoming young people's health in England**

The Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development (CAH) of the World Health Organization (WHO) participated in a conference last month to launch a new "Association for Young People's Health" at the Child Health Institute in London, UK. Young people's health is currently high on the political agenda in the country, and some of the key concerns include adolescent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STI), binge drinking and violent, anti-social behaviour by young people, as well as growing rates of obesity. The UK Government has developed quality standards for providing health services in an adolescent-centred way. The "You're Welcome" standards follow the model that WHO/CAH developed for adolescent-friendly services (AFHS) in other countries around the world. The standards have been piloted in four sites in England in order to develop a model that can be replicated across the country's National Health Service. CAH plans to include the English experience with the standards in an upcoming WHO series of case studies on AFHS. For more information, see: <http://www.youngpeopleshealth.org.uk/Conference.htm>.

## **CALENDAR OF YOUTH EVENTS**

### **31 March-6 April: Act! Speak! Build! Week**

Act! Speak! Build! Week is UN Habitat's international, student-initiated week of advocacy. The week is dedicated to empowering young people to educate themselves and their communities and move people to social action. For more information, please see <http://www.habitat.org/youthprograms/actspeakbuild>.

### **2-5 April: XX IAVE World Conference**

The 20th International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE) Conference will be held in Panama. The theme of this year's Conference is "Volunteering for Human Development: More Solidarity, Less Poverty". The associated Youth Conference on Youth Volunteering

for Solidarity & Equity will be held from 31 March-1 April. For more information, please visit <http://www.iave.org>

### **16-18 April: VIII Infopoverty World Conference**

The conference entitled “Low-cost smart technologies to fight poverty and save the planet”, will be held simultaneously at the UN Headquarters in New York, at the Politecnico in Milan, and in other areas connected by videoconference. The Conference aims to advance the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and, in particular, supports programmes for alleviating poverty through information and communication technologies, as well as empowering women and indigenous people to take a more active role. For more information, please see <http://www.infopoverty.net>.

### **17 -20 April: EuroMUN 2008**

The European Model United Nations is organized by students from the United Nations Student Association of the University of Maastricht. For more information, please visit <http://www.euromun.org>. During the meeting, a Special Session on Youth will be held to further increase the participation of youth delegates to the United Nations. For more information, please see [http://www.euromun.org/index.php/euromun/un\\_youth\\_delegates](http://www.euromun.org/index.php/euromun/un_youth_delegates).

### **25-28 April: Global Youth Service Day**

Global Youth Service Day is an annual global celebration of young volunteers from around the world who carry out community improvement projects. To find planning tools to help you develop a great project and promotional materials to publicize your events, please see <http://www.gysd.org>

### **27-30 April: Commonwealth Youth Ministers Meeting**

The 2008 Commonwealth Youth Ministers Meeting (CYMM) will be hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka. The theme for the CYMM will be “Youth and Peace”. The CYMM brings together Youth Ministers to discuss emergent themes in global youth affairs and provides an opportunity for dialogue with young people from Commonwealth countries. For more information, please see <http://www.thecommonwealth.org/news/152865/174311/140108cymm08.htm>.

### **16-18 May: Youth conference on climate change**

The National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations (LSU) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) will be organizing an international conference: Climate change - Youth Perspectives on Security, Peace and Democracy in Conventum, Örebro, Sweden. The goal of the conference is to strengthen the capacity of youth leaders to work for sustainable development by providing them with knowledge and the necessary tools. For more information, please contact Sara Thunmarker + 46 73 513 34 63 [sara.thunmarker@lsu.se](mailto:sara.thunmarker@lsu.se).

### **1-8 June : Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organizations**

The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, in partnership with the European Youth Forum, as part of the follow-up of the Africa-Europe Youth Summit, will be organizing the 5th Africa-Europe Training Course in Coimbra, Portugal. The course aims to strengthen the role of youth organizations in civil society, as well as to promote the global citizenship of young people in Europe and Africa. The participants will be representatives of youth organizations from Europe and Africa. The **deadline for registration is 14 April**. For more

information, please email [nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int](mailto:nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int) or visit [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/default\\_EN.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/default_EN.asp).

### **5 June: World Environment Day**

The World Environment Day slogan for 2008 is “Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy”. Recognizing that climate change is becoming the defining issue of our era, UNEP is asking countries, companies and communities to focus on greenhouse gas emissions and how to reduce them. Find out more: <http://www.unep.org/wed>.

### **10-11 June: UNGA High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS**

The General Assembly high-level meeting will undertake a comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, as well as to promote the continued engagement of leaders in a comprehensive global response to AIDS. The high-level meeting will comprise plenary meetings, five thematic panel discussions and an informal interactive hearing with civil society, including youth organizations. For more information, please see <http://www.un-ngls.org/un aids/en>.

### **17-21 June: Tunza International Children's Conference on the Environment**

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the Young Agenda 21 Foundation of Norway will host the 2008 Tunza International Children's Conference on the Environment in Stavanger, Norway. For more information, please see [http://www.unep.org/tunza/children/events/icc\\_2008](http://www.unep.org/tunza/children/events/icc_2008).

### **15-21 July: European International Model United Nations**

The general theme of this year's conference that will take place in The Hague, is “Striving for Sustainable Globalization”. Over 220 students from all over the world will participate in one of six councils, debate on key topics and tackle global issues. For more information, please see <http://www.teimun.org>.

### **3-8 August: XVII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2008)**

The AIDS 2008 Conference will be held in Mexico City and will be the first International AIDS Conference ever held in Latin America. For more information, please visit <http://www.aids2008.org>. The Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS (GYCA) is one of the main coordinators of the Mexico City YouthForce for AIDS2008. Visit their website to find out more: <http://www.youthaidscoalition.org>.

### **12 August: International Youth Day**

For more information, please see HIGHLIGHTS FROM UN HEADQUARTERS above.

### **10-21 August: 4th World Youth Congress**

Regeneration 2008 - Quebec City, the 4th World Youth Congress, designed to promote and celebrate youth-led development, will bring together 600 young people from over 120 countries to Quebec City in August 2008. Find out more and be part of this worldwide Youth Action Event! For more information, please see <http://www.wyc2008.qc.ca>.

### **19-22 August: 3rd International Young Professionals Summit (IYPS)**

The International Young Professionals Foundation will organize the summit in Manchester, UK. The aim of the Summit is to bring together young professionals for networking,

capacity building and information sharing around core theme of how young professionals can help to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals. For more information, please see <http://www.iyps.org/iyps08/index.htm>.

### **3-5 September: 61st Annual DPI/NGO Conference**

For the past 60 years, the DPI/NGO Conference has been held at the UN Headquarters in New York, welcoming over 2000 participants. The 61st Annual DPI/NGO Conference will be held in Paris, France, and will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Find out more about the Conference from the Information Bulletin at <http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/index.asp>.

### **14-21 September: European-Latin American Forum**

The Forum Eurolatinoamericano de Juventud (FEULAT 2008) will be held in Mollina, Spain. The FEULAT is an event organized by the European Youth Forum (YFJ) and the Latin American Youth Forum (FLAJ), in cooperation with the Youth Council of Spain (CJE), and with the support of the Youth Institute of Spain (INJUVE) and the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ). For more information, please email [info@flaj.org](mailto:info@flaj.org).

### **15-16 September: 2008 Global Youth Enterprise Conference**

Designed as a participatory learning event, this conference to be held in Washington, DC, aims to support youth enterprise and entrepreneurship programmes and policies achieve greater effectiveness around the world. Following the success of the first conference last year, the organizer, Making Cents International, is planning this year's event for 350 participants that include practitioners, funding organizations, members of the private sector, academics and youth leaders from many countries and all sectors who will share promising practices, unique approaches, and groundbreaking ideas that help youth develop the necessary skills and opportunities to start their own businesses or seek quality employment.

**Submit proposals by 18 April.** For more information, please visit:

[www.youthenterpriseconference.org](http://www.youthenterpriseconference.org).

### **24-27 September: YES Azerbaijan 2008**

The 4th global Youth Employment Summit will be hosted by the Republic of Azerbaijan through the Ministry of Youth and Sport in partnership with the Youth Employment Summit (YES) Campaign Inc. For more information, please see

<http://www.yesweb.org/yes2008/index.htm>.

### **3-7 November: World Urban Youth Forum**

The Fourth session of the World Urban Forum will be held in China, Nanjing from 3-7 November 2008. The World Urban Youth Forum (WUYF) will be held prior to the main World Urban Forum to be held from 31 October to 2 November 2008. See UNHABITAT above for details.

### **20 February - 1 March 2009: ISFiT 2009**

ISFiT, the 10th International Student Festival in Trondheim, Norway, will be a festival filled with meetings, debates, concerts, ceremonies and a wide cultural programme. About 450 students from all around the world will get together to discuss issues around the theme of Peacebuilding. Participants from any ISFiT Festival can apply for financial support from the ISFiT Foundation to start a project or organization. The project or organisation must be related to, and benefit ISFiT. The application deadline is **31 March**. To support students in

the struggle for peace, democracy and human rights, send in nominations for The Student Peace Prize! For more information, please visit <http://www.isfit.org>.

## **ON THE INTERNET**

### **Film Your Issue 2008 - Short film competition**

The Film Your Issue - FYI competition is open to everyone aged 14 to 24 globally. The organizers want to know what issues burn in the hearts and minds of young global citizens. Young people are encouraged to submit a 2 minute film that would contribute to the public dialogue on pressing issues and effect policy. Deadline: **14 April**. Find out more about the competition, including important style tips for FYI 2008, plus video guides for planning, shooting and editing your video project, tips & tricks for a smooth production, and practical advice from working filmmaking professionals: <http://www.filmyourissue.com/index.shtml>.

### **Music CD initiative Band Together To Fight Measles**

Launched in 2001, the Measles Initiative organized by the American Red Cross, the United Nations Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US), UNICEF and the World Health Organization provides technical and financial support to Governments and communities on vaccination campaigns worldwide. Each "Band Together to Fight Measles" CD purchase will help vaccinate seven children. For details of the project and the CD, please visit <http://www.measlesinitiative.org/index3.asp>.

### **NoGhetto interactive magazine**

Backed by UNESCO, this interactive French magazine on the Internet gives young people the chance to express themselves, their problems, as well as their dreams and desires. Coordinated by a group of independent journalists and conceived by a group of young people from different backgrounds, NoGhetto offers youth an opportunity to reflect, interact and discover ways to address prejudice and break down myths related to ghettos. Find out more at [www.noghetto.org](http://www.noghetto.org) or email [ucj@unesco.org](mailto:ucj@unesco.org).

### **YOUth Magazine**

YOUth, the International Youth Foundation's new flagship magazine, offers interviews, personal stories, and essays focused on youth development around the world. Published twice a year, the magazine celebrates the power and promise of young people to change the world, while incorporating the varied voices and perspectives from those in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. The stories and reports address HIV/AIDS, social apathy, and lack of educational opportunities. To download a copy of the magazine, please visit [http://www.iyfnet.org/uploads/YOUth\\_Mag\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.iyfnet.org/uploads/YOUth_Mag_FINAL.pdf).

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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