

SWEDEN

Youth delegate programme



Existing since: 1999

Sending youth delegates to: The United Nations General Assembly (GA) and the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD).

Call for applications: Beginning of November

Number of Youth delegates: 2 (one for the General Assembly and one for the Commission on Sustainable Development).

Length of term: 1 year. Youth delegates are selected in February.

Criteria for applying:

- Nominated by a member organization of The Swedish National Youth Council
- Between 18-25 years old
- Fluent in English
- Insight into and understanding of youth perspectives
- Strong active background in youth organizations
- Experience and knowledge about the Swedish National Youth Council (LSU)
- Willing to be a resource person for the member organizations of LSU

Selection Process

The selection process is organized by the National Council of Swedish Youth Organizations (LSU). The selection process is the same for both the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development. In response to a call for applications made through LSU's electronic newsletter, interested member organizations of the National Council of Swedish Youth Organizations nominate one person to represent their organization. The nomination includes submitting a letter of motivation, a CV and an official nomination letter from the member organization. The candidates who qualify for the next round are called to a telephone interview with members from the LSU board. Successful candidates are then selected for a face-to-face interview. The final candidates are selected by the board of the LSU council.

Before the Intergovernmental Meeting

The youth delegates meet with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the LSU and former youth delegates to gather inputs about the work at the United Nations. They undertake research of old resolutions and other relevant background information. The youth delegates also write articles, take part in various conferences and participate in preparatory meetings traditionally organized by the European Youth Forum. The youth delegates also participate in online discussions with the other youth delegates prior to the intergovernmental meeting.

At the General Assembly

The youth delegate's role is to be a resource for the Swedish Mission on youth perspectives and s/he is asked to deliver a statement to the General Assembly's Third Committee. S/he also takes part in the informal consultations on youth resolutions and follows other discussions on topics covered during the General Assembly. The youth delegate is at the General Assembly for two weeks.

At the Commission on Sustainable Development

The youth delegate is part of the official delegation but also represents youth as part of the Major Group sector in the Children and Youth Caucus. The youth delegate attends delegation meetings (and the European coordination meetings), follows consultations, and assists in the work of the Permanent Mission of Sweden. The work (for the Children and Youth Caucus), is more dependent on the priorities of the caucus and can include speechwriting, organizing side-events and writing articles.

When returning home

When returning home the youth delegates follow up with a report to the LSU to brief them on the experiences gained at the intergovernmental meeting.

The youth delegates travel around to visit schools and member organizations of the LSU to share experiences and the outcomes of youth resolutions at the United Nations.

Funding

The Swedish Government and the National Youth Council of Swedish Youth Organizations cover expenses related to the preparatory meeting organized by the European Youth Forum. The Swedish Government also covers expenses related to the intergovernmental meeting, including the cost of travel, food and accommodation.

Contact

To learn more about the selection process and the Swedish youth delegate programme please visit the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations, (LSU) at www.lsu.se