



**Office of the President
of the General Assembly
79th Session**



High-level forum on the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

“Empowering Youth for a Culture of Peace”

Tuesday, 2 September 2025

3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York

CONCEPT NOTE

Overview

Pursuant to the General Assembly resolution 79/321 of 25 July 2025, the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, H.E. Mr. Philemon Yang will convene a High-Level Forum on the implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace on Tuesday, 2 September 2025 at 3 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Background

On 13 September 1999, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 53/243 on the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace. Since then, the General Assembly has annually adopted a resolution under this agenda item to promote a culture of peace and non-violence by underscoring its enduring value that benefits humanity and future generations.

Mandated by United Nations General Assembly resolutions and since 2012, the Presidents of the General Assembly have been convening annual High-Level Forums, to provide a platform for all stakeholders to deliberate on the continuing importance of the Culture of Peace.

In the face of global challenges, the need for a sustainable culture of peace has never been more urgent. General Assembly resolution 79/321 of 25 July 2025 on the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace notes the important and positive contribution of youth in efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism, as well as for the promotion of peace and security,

sustainable development and human rights, and the importance of the full, effective, constructive and inclusive participation of youth in decision-making.

It further commends civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness of a culture of peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes. This year's High-level forum will therefore be organized under the theme “*Empowering Youth for a Culture of Peace*”.

It will provide an opportunity to discuss the role of youth in the urgent need for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity. The implementation of the declaration on future generations, as well as the advancement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Sustainable Development Goal 16 also provide context for discussion.

Format and Participation

The high-level forum will consist of an opening segment and a plenary segment. The meeting will be open to Member States and Observers. Delegations wishing to deliver statements are invited to inscribe on the list of speakers for the plenary segment of the meeting through e-deleGATE. The time limit for statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States. The programme of the meeting will be circulated in due course.

Accessibility arrangements

Delegations are requested to inform the Secretariat of the accessibility requirements of their delegates to facilitate participation in the meeting. Upon request, adjustments can be made to seating arrangements with a view to enabling the participation of people with disabilities. The United Nations webcast services will provide live streaming coverage of the high-level meeting in all six official languages as well as on-demand coverage (recorded video) in English and original language, through the UN Web TV website at: <http://webtv.un.org>.