

CSOCD62 - FEBRUARY 12th - ORAL STATEMENT
9: LIFE PROJECT 4 TOUTH (LP4Y)

Almost 30 years after the Copenhagen Declaration, hundreds of millions of Youth are still left behind. Nearly 1 in 4 is not in education, employment, or training. Less than 6 years to 2030, urgent changes are needed. This is where marginalized Youth voices will make that difference.

Today, we present grassroots practical recommendations to advance SDGs and Youth Strategy 2030. These concrete solutions were drafted by Youth excluded from economic, political, cultural, civic, and social spheres, those who, despite increasing Youth participation, are still absent from discussions, being at the same time the most concerned by decisions taken:

- Member States must collaborate with employers, to define the right skills curriculum and equip excluded Youth with appropriate soft skills and digital literacy, fostering adaptability to the evolving professional landscape;
- Member States must grant excluded Youth access to paid professional training, ensuring vital sustenance and ability to pursue education;
- Member States must provide excluded Youth with insights into decent working standards and professional codes, expectations, and decent opportunities;
- Member States must foster job application skills of excluded Youth, to enable an understanding of processes and success factors. Employers must collaborate with excluded Youth to review and enhance recruitment paths, ensuring inclusivity;
- Member States must actively involve excluded Youth in discussions and decision-making processes, granting them institutional skills mentoring, dedicating funds, and ensuring consequent speaking opportunities at local, national, and international levels;
- Member States must raise excluded Youth awareness about human rights, peace, and sustainable development challenges, revealing their full potential to take action and influence community practices.

Excluded Youth are our experts. Consulting them is the only way to identify overlooked barriers and reveal tangible solutions that bridge gaps between expected and actual outcomes of policies. They must be empowered, listened to, and placed at the heart of discussions. They are also our first asset when it comes to processing implementation.

Excellencies, we challenge you to include marginalized Youth in policy discussions and official delegations as we approach the Summit of the Future, to build the critical foundations for a sustainable world for current and future generations.