



**CENTRO JUVENIL DE DERECHOS HUMANOS**

**BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA- Report of the NGO Youth Center Foundation for Human Rights on the topics to be discussed during the FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHT, DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW: “Widening the Democratic Space: the role of youth in public decision - making”**

**CENTRO JUVENIL DE DERECHOS HUMANOS**

Youth Center Foundation for Human Rights  
Telephone: +58 426 5139448  
Email: [cjddhh@gmail.com](mailto:cjddhh@gmail.com)  
Twitter: [@cjddhh](https://twitter.com/cjddhh)  
Facebook: Centro Juvenil de Derechos Humanos

**July, 2016**

# FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHT, DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW

## **View of the Youth Center Foundation on “Widening the Democratic Space: the role of youth in public decision - making”**

The Youth Center Foundation for Human Rights is an NGO established on November 29<sup>th</sup> 2012 to contribute on the promotion of fundamental rights of the Venezuelan youth population, exposing Culture of Peace as a necessary union tool for effective social justice. The Center has assumed the responsibility to carry information, and broadcast lessons on these areas through out all the latitudes of the country.

*Guided by* the purpose and vision of the center, to orient, organize and accompany investigations of socio-legal nature in communities to achieve happiness and guarantee the human rights of our youth,

*Bearing in mind* that the Youth Center for Human Rights mission is to promote, disseminate and protect Fundamental Rights, always seeking the welfare of the National Youth community through the promotion and protection of their Fundamental Rights, Culture of Peace and Social Justice,

*Recognizing* the value of the decisions adopted by member states of the United Nations in 1995 on Resolution A/RES/50/81 to, among others, develop and/or strengthen opportunities for young people to learn their rights and responsibilities, promoting their social, political, developmental and environmental participation, removing obstacles that affect their full contribution to society and respecting, inter alia, freedom of association,

*Considering* the decisions established on Resolution 28/14 of the twenty-eight session of the Human Rights Council of the United Nations, referent to Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, in which was decided to create a Forum on Human Rights,

1. Expresses the expectation to improve the debate on participation and representation as fundamental concepts to be contemplated on the democratic space for public decision making;

2. *Recognizes* the concept of “representation” as acting in the interest of those represented, in a responsible manner towards them and identifies the representative relation with participation and democracy;
3. *Identifies* four types of participations: social, community, political and citizen, but also recognizes the new participatory scope of social networking;
4. *Distinguishes* citizen participation from politic participation, in which the first seeks interaction with the state in the public space to influence and define public policy and in the best case, the recognition of new rights. In contrast, differences that political participation by the citizens is made through formal institutions and instruments recognized in the political system;
5. *Acknowledges* that democracy is a form of self-government that is conducted with adherence to the general will of citizens and only the direct participation of citizens democratically legitimate produces results;
6. *Recognizes* the importance of social media as a participation platform in the new role of youth in its role of public decision making;
7. *Proposes* as a topic for the agenda of the Forum on Human Right, Democracy and Rule of Law. “Widening the democratic Space: The role of youth in public decision - making” the consideration of the interaction of youth population in social media as an important platform that impacts the democratic space.