

Side Event: UN Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

Roundtable Discussion: The Role of Youth in Enforcing and Supporting Parliamentary Promotion of Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

Location:

November 22, 2018, 1pm-3pm

Palais de Nations, Room XXVII

Hosted by



IFMSA
International Federation of
Medical Students' Associations

The importance of parliaments as key actors for the promotion of human rights, democracy and the rule of law lies not only in the role of the parliament but also in who the parliament consists of.

Each nation has a backbone; and it is well known that a body cannot function without a well-shaped spine. Youth are the backbone of society and nations, acting as significant proxies and enacting a huge role in decision making. There has been an increase in youth engagement not only in civil societies but also in parliamentary elections. This could serve as an entry point for youth to create impact outside civil society and support parliaments' role in enforcing human rights and democracy in several issues pertaining to the rule of law. The global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration will soon be adopted in Marrakesh; its impact is only as strong as its enforcement and follow up. The need to rely on parliaments to oversee the process of its implementation along with the process of evaluation should include the voices of youth coming from within the parliament, not just outside of it.

The goal of this side event will be to:

- Establish a roundtable discussion with participants to discuss the following:
 - o Challenges facing youth to engage in parliamentary elections
 - o Setting out recommendations and best practices for countries to increase youth participation in both parliamentary processes and civil society to increase the impact of youth in human rights, democracy and the rule of law
 - o Empowering the role of youth within a parliament to exercise best practices

The outcome of this session would be shared with youth globally, starting with the 1.3 million medical students in the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations to begin enabling youth to exercise their impact.

Duration of the session is 60 minutes.

Speakers:

- Hiba Ghandour, Liaison Officer for Human Rights & Peace Issues at the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations
- The speaker list is open to all attendees of the side event.