



## Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

Contribution to the Summit of the Future

### Operationalizing the Right to Development for meaningful youth participation

Youth participation is a human right, and the exclusion of youth might amount to a violation of their rights.

To harness the critical voices and hopeful vision of young people we need to adopt **innovative and systematic ways** for their **meaningful participation in policy- and decision-making processes at all levels**, using a right-to-development approach as follows:

- International cooperation arrangements that include young women and men as partners and leaders;
- Strengthened or new mechanisms, including digital platforms, at the national, regional and global levels that:
  - enable the meaningful and non-discriminatory participation of young women and men, and
  - guarantee a greater diversity and representativeness, including young women and girls, youth in more vulnerable situations e.g. those from rural areas, Indigenous Peoples, those living in stressful economic and social conditions, from a diversity of cultures, countries and regions;
- Adequate medium- and long-term financial support, intergenerational solidarity and committed support for empowering youth the strengthening of their capacity for meaningful participation;
- Transparent processes that ensure safe participation, with appropriate feedback mechanisms.

*“States should encourage popular participation in all spheres as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights.”*

Article 8.2, Declaration on the Right to Development

**MORE INFORMATION [HERE](#)**

