

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 27 June 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that, in my capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of July 2019, I will convene a briefing on 17 July 2019 on the theme “Implementation of the youth, peace and security agenda” under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”.

In order to provide guidance for the briefing, a concept note has been prepared (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gustavo **Meza-Cuadra**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 27 June 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Concept note for the Security Council briefing on the theme “Implementation of the youth, peace and security agenda”, to be held on 17 July 2019

I. Introduction

1. Today’s generation of young people is the largest the world has ever known, and, in many cases, young people represent the majority of the population in countries affected by armed conflict. At the same time, young people often actively contribute to peace and security in their communities and societies, including to the negotiation and implementation of peace agreements.
2. The aim of the briefing is to focus on the implementation of Security Council resolutions [2250 \(2015\)](#) and [2419 \(2018\)](#), in which the Council recognized the important and positive contribution that youth could make to the efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and affirmed the important role that youth could play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and as a key aspect of the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts.
3. Resolutions [2250 \(2015\)](#) and [2419 \(2018\)](#) are premised on the fact that, thus far, Governments and the multilateral system have faced challenges in reaching out to, working with and fully including young people effectively in peace and security contexts.
4. The meeting will be an opportunity to exchange ideas on the way forward for Member States to implement the youth, peace and security agenda, taking into account both resolutions.

II. Background

5. On 9 December 2015, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2250 \(2015\)](#) on youth, peace and security. In the resolution, which was the first one fully dedicated to recognizing the important and positive role that young women and men play in the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security, the Council asked Member States and the United Nations to create space for the strong and positive contribution that youth could bring to those crucial processes.
6. In the resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to carry out a progress study on the positive contribution of youth to peace processes and conflict resolution in order to recommend effective responses at the local, national, regional and international levels. As a result, a progress study on youth and peace and security (see [A/72/761–S/2018/86](#)) was developed by an independent lead author, Graeme Simpson, guided by a group of 21 experts and supported by a secretariat jointly established by the United Nations Population Fund and the Peacebuilding Support Office. The study involved numerous partners from United Nations entities and civil society. The content of the study was presented and discussed in an open debate convened on 23 April 2018 by Peru as President of the Security Council.
7. The outcome of the open debate was resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#), adopted on 6 June 2018, in which the Council recognized the role that youth could play in conflict

prevention and resolution and called upon all relevant actors to take into account the meaningful participation and views of young people, recognizing that their marginalization was detrimental to building sustainable peace.

8. In the resolution, the Council also requested the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to consider including in his reporting to the Council information on the progress made towards the participation of youth in peace processes and, more importantly, to submit, no later than May 2020, a report to the Council on the implementation of resolutions [2250 \(2015\)](#) and [2419 \(2018\)](#).

9. Over the past years, many initiatives have been undertaken by Member States, United Nations entities, civil society and, very importantly, young people themselves, to support the implementation of the resolutions. The initiatives range from peace missions actively engaging young people in building social cohesion and stability in Colombia, Iraq, Kosovo or Somalia to high-level political initiatives, such as the first International Symposium on Youth Participation in Peace Processes, held in March 2019, co-hosted by the Governments of Colombia, Finland and Qatar and co-organized by the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and the non-governmental organization Search for Common Ground, in partnership with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the United Nations, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Network of Young Peacebuilders. The initiatives also include efforts by the United Nations system at large, such as the development of a joint action plan on youth, peace and security for the United Nations system in support of the implementation of the United Nations Youth Strategy, as well as efforts led by young people to galvanize national coalitions for youth, peace and security and train young peacebuilders on the ground. In raising the visibility of the peacebuilding work done by young people, the question of their security and protection is, however, becoming increasingly pressing and requires dedicated attention.

III. Objective and guiding questions

10. The meeting will be focused on the implementation of resolutions [2250 \(2015\)](#) and [2419 \(2018\)](#), with a view to building momentum a few months before the Secretary-General presents his report to the Council, in 2020. The main focus of discussions will be on promising and good practices for the implementation of the youth, peace and security agenda. During the briefing, Member States are encouraged to address the following questions:

- What role have resolutions [2250 \(2015\)](#) and [2419 \(2018\)](#) played in how Governments address the question of the meaningful inclusion and participation of young people in peace and security issues, from peace processes to inclusive political processes, with a view to sustaining peace at all levels?
- What concrete steps have been taken by Member States since the adoption of resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#)? What promising practices and lessons learned exist regarding conducive frameworks and initiatives that translate the resolution into concrete action?
- How have Member States addressed the significant role that young people can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and as a key aspect of the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts?
- What are some of the tools, approaches and methods that young people have used to engage constructively in and influence peace negotiations, and in what

ways do they highlight why youth inclusion matters for achieving sustainable peace agreements?

- What factors still prevent or inhibit the meaningful involvement of young women and men in contributing to security and peacebuilding?
- What protection measures are needed to ensure that young peacebuilders and peacebuilding organizations, movements and networks led by young people can carry out their work and be protected from pressure and intimidation?
- What are the key opportunities for youth-inclusive and youth-centred partnerships for peace?

IV. Briefers

11. The following speakers will brief the Council:

- Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake
 - Programme Coordinator at HAKI Africa, Wevyn Muganda
 - Executive Director of Afghans for Progressive Thinking, Sofia Ramyar
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