



Youth

Power

Speak Act Change



July 2017 - December 2017

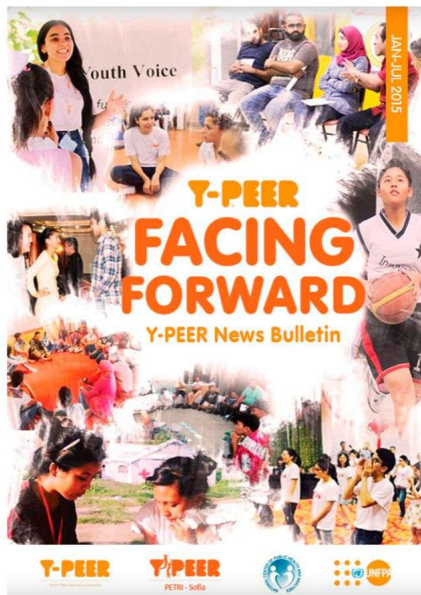
Y-PEER

**Youth Power
Speak Act Change**

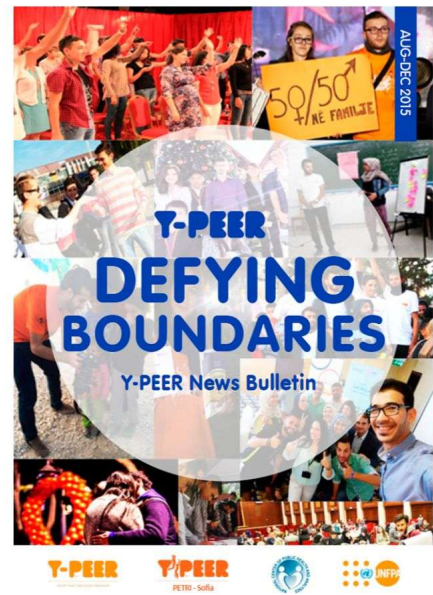
Y-PEER News Bulletin



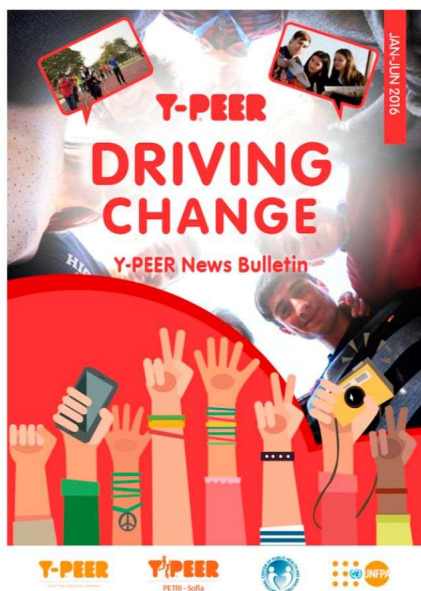
Our Previous Issues :



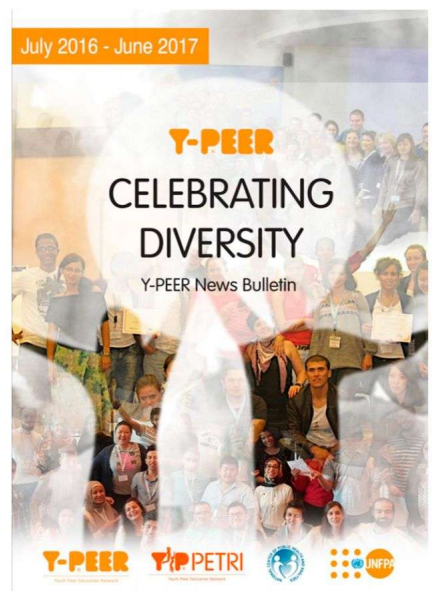
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Jan-Jul Issue 2015



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Prepared by
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Y-PEER

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Libya

September 11-15/2017

During 15 – 11 September 2017, Y PEER Libya implemented Training of trainers (TOT) about Gender based violence, sexual and reproductive health and Rights, HIV and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). 19 young people (5 females, 14 males) participated in the training from 10 municipalities from Libya, from the South, East and West. The training was held in Carthage Thalasso Resort -Tunis with the support of the United Nations Population Fund - Libya (UNFPA). After the training, the new trainers conducted 8 basic training each in his municipality in Libya in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations where more than 160 peer educators were trained In addition to implementing different innovative activities related to the same themes reaching more than 4000 young people with awareness and information

December 15th 2017

Y PEER Libya organized a closing ceremony for the -10day of activism campaign under the theme “Youth engagement” as well as the -16day awareness on Gender based violence campaign. The ceremony was held in Tripoli Libya in (Bashir Al – Saadawi Forum), with the presence of a large number of Actors in public affairs in Libya, including the Administrator of Culture Authority, representative of the National Center for Disease Control and the participation of many peer educators and trainers in the network as well as a large number of young people working in the field of awareness and youth empowerment a number of pictures and videos from various activities conducted during the two campaigns were presented in the ceremony.



The diversity of these activities became clear to the audience. More than 65 activities were held in more than 12 Municipality, among these activities:

- 1- Using graffiti art in Libyan street to highlight the issues related to violence.
- 2- awareness workshops and TV/ Radio.
- 3- Interactive theater shows for young people.
- 4- Various outreach sessions for youth.



The aim of these activities was to raise awareness about issues of violence; especially Gender based violence, HIV awareness, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), Youth engagement and participation.

During the ceremony, speeches were made by partners and supporters, including the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Libya and the founders of the Y PPER in Libya (the network was established in Libya in 2010) and representatives of the National Center for Disease Control. In addition the network's Focal Point and partners were honored, and ceremony ended with a group picture.



Y PEER Libya, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Libya, has participated in the training of trainers for the first time in Libya (Training of trainers on civic engagement for social change) Which included the process for youth active participation for achieving rights-based social change, the discussed items were

1. Fundamental concepts of social change, civic engagement and human rights.
2. The social relationships dynamic which based on distribution of power as well as the role of representatives and institutions in guarantee of rights
- 3 - Enable participants to understand the tools of analysis, action and evaluation.

12 young people 4 girls 8 boys from 9 different municipalities participated in the training, and included the cities of East, West and South. This training took place in Hammamet, Tunisia, and lasted for 6 continuous days.

Participants in this training have acquired the basic skills to training which will convey to their peers by conducting the same training in mid2018- as planned.





Y-PEER NEPAL

Nepal News bulletin Jul-Dec 2017

Since the formation of Y-PEER in Nepal on December 2010, it has been working to build the capacity of young peer educators and mobilize them in their community, to educate larger group of young people on issues concerning Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH). At present , 180 Peer Educators (PE) and Certified Trainers have been trained during four National Trainings of Trainers (TOT) in Peer Education and one Training on Project Proposal Development and Result Based Management in 35 districts. These PEs represent their own respective organization in the training and they gain skills in using various tools, techniques and methodologies of peer education which they incorporate in their existing work, especially through orientation classes in schools, colleges, youth clubs and youth information centers.

1 Peer 1 School

Y-PEER Nepal implemented the project “1 peer 1 school” in Bajhang, Baitadi, Rukum, Sindhuli, Udaypur and Sunsari districts from February 2017 to September 2017. Jointly implemented by Restless Development and UNFPA, the objective of the 1 Peer 1 School project was to enhance the knowledge of and deliver basic and accurate information on SRHR, CSE and SDGs, among adolescents in school, using the peer to peer approach. Likewise, this project aimed to motivate the peer educators by certifying them as trainers for the project.

Training sessions focused on capacitating the 12 peer educators from 6 different districts on the manual prepared for 1 Peer 1 School. Y-PEER Nepal conducted the three-day refresher training with support from UNFPA and Restless Development from February 28 to March 2017 ,1 in Nagarkot, Bhaktapur.

Y-PEER NEPAL

Campaign for engaging and promoting meaningful youth participation against early marriage and child marriage

Y-PEER Nepal's Kathmandu and Sunsari team conducted two different series of campaigns for engaging and promoting meaningful youth participation against early marriage and child marriage. Y-PEER Central team conducted an online campaign, as well as a talk session with youth representatives from different colleges.

#Menstruation matters campaign

On 28th May – the Menstrual Hygiene Day, Y-PEER Nepal's peer educators discussed with on menstruation and the importance of menstruation hygiene. An online campaign was conducted as well.



World Population Day

Y-PEER Sunsari team with support from UNFPA and in coordination with the District Coordination Committee organized an interaction program on "Family Planning: Empowering People, Developing Nations" to address World Population Day 2017.

Y-PEER NEPAL



International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women

On 25th Nov 2017, the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women, Y-PEER Nepal organized an orientation session in collaboration with AYON Nepal in the context of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign and the Election Campaign promoting voting rights.

Volunteers Day

On 2nd December 2017, Y-PEER Nepal celebrated the International Volunteer Day by performing a flash mob in the framework of the program organized by UNV Nepal. Its theme was Gender Based Violence and Promoting Women's Participation in the province level election.

Information campaign on SRHS and GBV

Y-PEER Sindhuli Team held an Orientation Session on SRHR and Gender Based Violence to youths from Sindhuli. It also served as a promotion of the Y-Peer network among young people.

Her Words!

I cannot understand when people talk about eradication of gender based violence excluding people from gender and sexual minorities. We transgender people face violence of all forms day to day. Some of us are thrown out of house, beaten by police, harassed in workplaces, bullied in schools. Our lives are miserable and this is just because of our "gender".

We need a world where we not just talk about heterosexual cisgender people but also the violence people face outside this binary. As a trans, I believe that you can't force someone to respect you, neither do I seek for a forceful respect; but a thing I can make sure is to refuse to be disrespected.

End Gender Based Violence towards LGBTI people.

- Rukshana Kapali
Youth Activists



Y-PEER NEPAL

Y-PEER Nepal conducted an online campaign against Gender Based Violence for 16 days, with the thoughts of 16 people from 16 different backgrounds.



Orientations, workshops, conferences

Y-PEER Nepal organized an orientation on GBV with the support of the National Women Commission, Care Nepal and The World Bank to youths of Kadambari Memorial College. They were encouraged to further disseminate their knowledge amongst society and create awareness of the NWC-Helpline on violence against women.

A -2day workshop on SRHR and SDGs with the support of Y-PEER Asia Pacific and UNFPA in collaboration with 2030 Youth Force in Nepal also took place.

Y-PEER Sunsari team, with the support of Y-PEER Asia Pacific and UNFPA organized a street theater on menstrual health in the rural communities and distributed sanitary napkins.

Y-Peer representatives participated in the Asia Pacific Training of Trainers on SRHR for Youth Advocates (16 – 12 December, Bangkok, Thailand), as well as in the Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive Health Rights (30-27 November, Hanoi, Vietnam).

Egypt

Y-PEER Egypt in the previous 6 months has done a lot of activities we can see various activities .

Started with a national united camp

on peace building gathering 197 young person Egyptian & Syrian , trainers & peer educators all together for 6 days ,This camp had a variety of activities like : workshops , theater , team building activities , ceremony , social activities and more .

With online outreach 110000 & engagement 90000 .



First campaign women empowerment

was about reducing gender based violence which include many topics like sexual harassment , domestic violence , etc also peace building and child marriage.

The final statistics of the campaign :

- 21 training in different 21 governorates .
- 684 peer education sessions on the previous topics.
- 53 role plays & theater activities. -10 field campaigns.
- Total outreach 15056 / online reach through the online campaign 70000 .

Second campaign was about FGM

19- training of peer educators / 17 theater based techniques training of peer educators with total number 704 peer educators .

- 77 Role plays
- 605 peer education sessions
- 9 field campaigns
- Total outreach 18807 young person / online reach through the online campaign 80000 .

Third campaign 10 days of activism

activism this campaign was about youth engagement in health issues specially adolescence health , SRH and HIV/AIDS .

The final statistics :

- 7 Training sessions of peer educators with outcome 120 peer educators .
- Marathon - 60 peer education sessions
- 10 field campaigns - Role plays sessions - Seminar
- National camp in Luxor & Aswan organized by UNFPA CO & MoY and Y-PEER provided trainers to conduct the training sessions .
- National Camp in Hurghada by our new innovation center of Y-PEER Egypt .
- National training of trainers.
- Total outreach 4809 young person / online reach 33906 .

Participation with MoH in youth friendly health services project

Where our peer educators can conduct peer education sessions and different activities in many governorates .

Participation With UNFPA CO & MoY in Pop bus

IYD activities starts in Egypt with Population awareness buses which moved from the south of Egypt Aswan Governorate to the north of Egypt Alexandria 1500 km distance from 3rd till 12th of August with the participation of Y-PEER Egypt , UNFPA CO , Ministry of Youth , governors , ministers , NGOs youth & public figures .

This bus conducted different activities to raise the awareness of youth & population problems with different techniques like theater performances or field visits , etc .

Capacity building to our partners

- ToT , Advanced ToT and PDM with MoY .
- Many other training sessions in different topics to many NGOs .

Online campaigns

through the most of the year and international days .
also participated with our partner Egyptian red crescent in a campaign in international humanitarian day (not a target) .





Turkey

World AIDS Day- 10 Days of Activism

10 Days of Activism Campaign of 2016 was carried out by 1st December Young Initiative which is led by Youth Approaches to Health Association (Y-PEER Turkey) with different partners and UNFPA Turkey. Take Care of Yourself Box Game is played, condom and material distribution, movie screenings, panels, workshops and 2-1 days trainings on sexual and reproductive health took place in 9 different cities of Turkey between 1st - 10th December. There were different activities including 22 peer training sessions and 515 hours of voluntary service. 2003 condoms were distributed. 309 young people were reached throughout the country.

Reproductive Health Peer Education Project

14th Peer Education for Trainers of Reproductive Health Peer Project was organized in 22-15 December in Istanbul and 24 young people have become peer trainers. Reproductive Health Peer Education Project aims to increase awareness of young people on sexual and reproductive health and rights and creating healthy behavior habits in youth and led by the partnership of Youth Approaches to Health Association, Community Volunteers Foundation and UNFPA Turkey. The project continues for 12 years and is the oldest project of Y-PEER Turkey. It creates basis and experience for Y-PEER Turkey to create new projects that have different target groups.



Support to Young Refugees Project

Support to Young Refugees Project is an empowerment project led by the partnership of Community Volunteers Foundation, Youth Approaches to Health Association (Y-PEER Turkey) and UNFPA Turkey. Project aims to empower and integrate 30-18 years old Syrian young refugees in Turkey. Project activities are taking place in youth centers in Hatay, Ankara and Diyarbakir.



2 Training of Peer Educators on Sexual and Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings took place on 16-11 September in Ankara. Menstruation calendars and informative handbooks are produced and distributed to centers in September. At total, 1997 young people were reached through peer training and 578 young people were reached through Take Care of Yourself Box Game (informative, educational board game).

New Youth Center is opened in Izmir within Support to Young Refugees Project on 13th December 2017. The center carries the name of Bulut Öncü who was one of the founders of Youth Approaches to Health Association and a fascinating youth, SRHR and human rights advocate, passed away in February 2017.

Youth Friendly Health Service Provision



Youth Friendly Health Service Provision aims to empower health service providers working in UNFPA centers in terms of youth friendly approaches and public assistance programs by organizing workshops. Besides these workshops, the project aims to empower Syrian youth to raise awareness on sexual and reproductive health and make them to empower their peers.

93 health service providers were reached by 4 Youth Friendly Health Services training. Youth Friendly Health Services Approach Guide has been prepared in both Turkish and Arabic and 1000 manuals were published. Training of Peer Educators on Sexual and Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings was conducted on 22-17 November in Izmir and 23 young people have become peer trainers. 76 young Syrian women and men were reached through dissemination activities.

Young LGBTI Sexual Health Project

Young LGBTI Sexual Health Project which funded by MATRA Human Rights Fund, is led by Youth Approaches to Health Association (Y-PEER Turkey) with technical support of UNFPA Country Office. Project aims to increase awareness of young LGBTI people on sexual and reproductive health and ensure their access to health and information services without discrimination and stigma.

55 representatives of public health, municipality, academy, professional organizations and non-governmental organizations participated in Local Advisory Meetings which were held in Mersin, Eskisehir, Istanbul. Young LGBTI people's access to sexual health services, its quality and the possible partnerships were discussed in the meetings.

238 young people were reached through peer trainings which were conducted in 6 cities.



The 15th International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development



The 15th International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development took place in Berlin in November, with delegates delivering a message of resilience in challenging political times, and the protection of the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people, people living with disabilities and people living in fragile settings.

The two-day conference allowed for an exchange between stakeholders from governments, civil society organizations and multilateral institutions. Cansu Taşdemir who is the chair of Youth Approaches to Health Association, attend the conference from Y-PEER Turkey and presented the activities of Y-PEER Turkey and main projects of Youth Approaches to Health Association (Y-PEER Turkey). Y-PEER Turkey won The Award: Reaching Young Refugees.

Istanbul Marathon 2017, Take Care of Youth Race Campaign

Adım Adım Platform organizes charity races to create resources for various NGOs. On 12 November 2017, Youth Approaches to Health Association participated Istanbul Marathon with Adım Adım Platform as well with 32 runners. Runners were supported by 517 donors and collected almost 6000 \$. This amount will ensure 105 more young people to access sexual and reproductive health education.





الله أكبر

Y-PEER IRAQ

Overview of Y-PEER Iraq Activities July 2017 - December 2017

Peer Education Training Workshops:

Between July and December 2017, Y-PEER Iraq Network held 15 peer-education training workshops (3 to 5 days each) to introduce new and motivated members into the network and expand across several governorates in Iraq. Workshops were held in Baghdad, Anbar, Babylon, Diyala, Wasit, Salah al-din, Mosul, Maysan, Najaf, Erbil, Suleimanyah, and Duhok spanning the northern, southern and mid-region of the country. Over 250 new members were recruited and several new focal points were assigned to newly established teams. 8 of these workshops were held in less than 2 months and were immediately followed by activities carried out by newly recruited members with supervision from the network's coordination which ranged from education sessions to awareness campaigns in the participants' hometowns.



Y-PEER IRAQ

Educational Sessions:

77 educational sessions were held by peer educators in the different governorates and provinces of Iraq: Wasit (6), Erbil (7), Salah al-Din (7), Duhok (9), Mosul (6), Diyala (6), Anbar (5), Maysan (2), Diwanya (3), Suleimanya (5), Baghdad (3), Muthana (3), Babylon (1), and Najaf (1). These were held in universities, high schools, youth centers and in outdoor amusement parks. A big number of these sessions targeted vulnerable groups and displaced youth and many were held in IDP and refugee camps. 16 of those sessions were held as part of a project by

the International Organization for Migration in Iraq where participants were a combination of displaced youth and host community in the framework of strengthening social cohesion in Baghdad. The topics included youth participation, gender equality, reproductive health and rights, discrimination, addiction, healthy lifestyle, and many other topics that the network's members find important to discuss with the youth and spread awareness about.

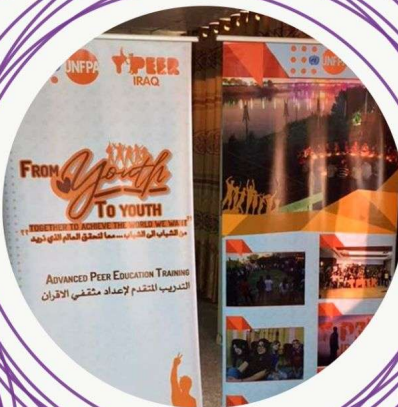
August and the Iraq We Want Campaign

In August 2017, in celebration of the International Youth Day and the newly-appointed UN Youth Envoy's first mission and visit after assuming her role, Y-Peer Iraq held a number of activities. These included bringing in 10 active members from across the country, including the national coordinators, to meet the Envoy in Baghdad in a thorough discussion she requested with active Iraqi youth. The challenges that young activists meet were communicated with the Special Envoy and the overall status quo of young people in Iraq was elaborately discussed.



Y-PEER IRAQ

number of recommendations were made as well. Y-Peer also participated in a youth conference and event in the National Iraqi Theatre attended by UN delegates, namely including the Envoy herself, the representative of UNAMI, and the head of UNFPA. The network also held celebratory sessions in IDP camps for adolescent and young displaced women and girls as part of the UNFPA program in camps in celebration of the International Youth Day. Young Y-Peerians also held a peer education session in which the envoy herself participated and gave overwhelmingly positive feedback. A -3day peer education training workshop was held in Maysan to coincide with the activities and another two in Baghdad and one in Babylon. Lastly, a mixed-gender football match was held to send a message on female participation in sports parallel to males – a taboo in Iraq’s conservative community. These activities were labelled The Iraq We Want Campaign and all were designed to serve to advertise an image of the “kind of Iraq” we, as peaceful and active young citizens, want to live in.



Y-PEER IRAQ

10 Days of Activism:

Having topped the activity chart internationally in the 10 Days of Activism, Y-Peer Iraq had big shoes to fill this year and a strong commitment to excel in spreading the Y-Peer message among young men and women all over the country every day of those 10 days. Peer educators around Iraq held 30 peer education sessions – bringing up the total number of sessions conducted in the second half of 2017 to over 100 – in the governorates of Wasit (8), Duhok (2),

Babylon (1), Mosul (5), Diwania (3), Diyala (2), Baghdad (5), Suleimanya (2), and Karbala (1). In addition, the team took its activity to social media sharing inspirational stories on Y-Peer members and videos on internet addiction and smoking to spread the values of the network to almost 30,000 people who follow its Facebook page. In addition, the team in Suleimanya held a field event where they donated 250 books under the motto “Today’s readers, tomorrow’s leaders”.



Y-PEER IRAQ

10 Days of Activism:

In Maysan and Babylon, the teams held booths where they interacted with passers-by in busy places in their respective governorates spreading some of Y-Peer's messages and campaigning for the network. Lastly, a -3day exchange camp with a packed schedule of peer education interactive sessions and activities was held in Duhok with young participants from the Kurdistan region of Iraq.



Other Activities:

Y-Peer Iraq frequently takes part in carnivals and festivals and carries on field awareness campaigns in public areas. In the second half of 2017, the network participated in a peace carnival in Anbar, "I Love Maysan" carnival in Maysan, the 16 Days of Activism campaign to counter gender-based violence and empower women and girls, and in coordinating the concert held by world famous Iraqi musician Nassir Shama, titled "Together for Peace".



Y-PEER IRAQ

Other Activities:

”. In Duhok, the network also held a capacity building workshop for youth NGOs in Duhok organized by the UNFPA, Y-Peer’s long-time partner in Iraq. In Suleimanya, a two-day workshop was held in July on “Non-Violence Techniques” in partnership with Iraqi Social Forum and Fai Organization.





Y-PEER Albania

World Population Day - 11 July 2017

On 11 th July Y-PEER Albania, in collaboration with “Act For Society”, organized a one-day training with Roma Community representatives in Pogradec City. It concerned family planning and contraceptive methods.

Sexual Reproductive health Workshop at Sami Frasheri High School and Qemal Stafa High School:



On 26 September and 9 October Y-PEER Albania, with the support of UNFPA Albania and the coordination of the Observatory for the Children’s Rights, on the occasion of the World Contraception Day, conducted a workshop on the topic “Youth and Contraception”. It was animated by 3 ToT-trained Y-PEER

members. Representatives from the Public Health Institution were also invited, in order to have a comprehensive discussion.

The workshop was focused on SRH, and more specifically, on contraception, physiology and anatomy of the reproductive system, sexual and reproductive rights. The students wrote their questions or concerns on small pieces of paper and handed them anonymously. At the end of the workshop, the trainers answered and gave additional information.

Y-PEER Albania

Info sessions and discussion about healthy lifestyle of the adolescent:

On 8th and 15th October Y-PEER Albania conducted 4 meetings with young people in Kamza City. The main target group were highschool students, unschooled people and young people from different marginalized communities in the area. Health issues and common adolescent nocive behavoir were discussed, and in particular mental health, nutrition, physical activity, SRHR, as well as HIV/AIDS.



Workshop Model on Peer to Peer Education

As a part of the 10 Days of Activism Campaign, Y-PEER Albania, in collaboration with members of the Youth Voice Network and with the coordination of the Observatory for the Children's Rights and the support of UNFPA Albania, conducted two workshop models on peer-to-peer education based on the Y-PEER standardized curricula. Workshops took place in Tirana and in the city of Cerrik.

These served to promote the Y-PEER network among young people and encourage them to advocate for SRHR issues. The workshops were successful and contributed indirectly to the 10 Days of Activism event, as participants developed and conducted awareness campaigns on HIV /AIDS afterwards One of the young people who learned about it said " I am a little surprised because I never thought that in our city, which is so conservative, there would be activities on this topic".



Y-PEER Albania

Visit to the Albanian Parliament

30 Y-PEER volunteers visited the Albanian Parliament on 14 December. The main goal of this activity was to promote the participation of young people in decision-making and policy-making. The participants attended the parliamentary session, in order to understand how the parliament functions. Parliament staff members provided information on the system of participating of the citizens in decision-making. Most of the participants in this activity were young people from Northern Albania, where a significant lack of youth services and activities is endured.



Thus, this activity sought to encourage young people to be more active and to increase their human capital.

One-day campaign for raising awareness about HIV/AIDS in Tirana City

As part of the 10 DoA Campaign, Y-PEER Albania organized a one-day campaign for raising awareness on HIV/AIDS issues, such as stigma and discrimination, on 14th December. This campaign was organized by our peer educators from the Roma and Egyptian communities. Other informative sessions took place in Elbasan, Kamez, Shkoder, Puke, Shkoze, all in collaboration with different partners like Act for Society, Youth Council of the High School, Youth Club "Petro Nini". About 20 peer educators were involved in these info sessions.



Y-PEER Albania

Y-PEER celebration “PEERfect Reunion 2017”

For the second year in a row, Y-PEER Albania organized a big celebration for New Year’s Eve, in order to thank all the collaborators, supporters and all the members engaged in 2017. There were games, music, a space for socializing and networking.

7 day Training “Human Rights and Peer Education Academy”



For the second year in a row, Y-PEER Albania, in collaboration with Albania Human Rights Group, gathered together 25 young people from all over Albania in Voskopoja. The participants were 24-17 years old, coming from different communities and minorities in Albania, such as the Roma and Egyptian community, the Bulgarian and Greek minorities. The main topic was the concept of the human rights, especially sexual and reproductive rights. Pr. Theodor Orlins, an international lector on Human Rights, served as a trainer. Some information on the parliament system in Albania and the ways to monitor its work and address youth issues was also provided.

As a part of the agenda two important meeting took place. One with Mrs. Elona Gjebra who is a new member of our parliament and is one of the biggest supporters of Y-PEER, as well as a long discussion on youth issues with deputies from the Korca Region.

Y-PEER Albania



International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, on 25th November, Y-PEER Albania, in collaboration with the Center "Act for Society", conducted a social experiment in Tirana. A female mannequin was placed with different messages against violence attached. The objective was to raise awareness the fact that violence can affect every woman, despite their outfit and appearance.

YMCA Tirana/Albania, in collaboration with Y-PEER organised the activity on the occasion of the International Adolescence Girl Day. The aim of this activity was to raise awareness among young people on the importance of reducing adolescence pregnancies, ending child marriage. It was centered on involving the youth in the initiatives related to health protection.





Syria

Three Days of Peace Activism Campaign

Y-PEER Syria participated in the Joint Regional Campaign on Promoting the Culture of Peace through Advocating for Gender Equality and Reducing Gender Based Violence.

Specific Objectives:

1. Mobilize and raise awareness of young people on gender equality.
2. Promote the culture of peace as a mean to reduce GBV.
3. Build the capacity of young people through their participation in out-reach and media activities.
4. Strengthen Y-PEER partnership with other national, regional and international organizations that advocate for peace, gender equality and reducing GBV.

Implementation:

1st day (July 11): • Social Media Campaign on GBV, Gender Equality, and young people role topics: Y-PEER SYRIA launched the campaign on the social media website Facebook, the campaign contained a series of awareness messages aimed to promote the peace culture throughout advocating gender equality and decreasing gender-based violence.

Campaign's Hashtags:

#YPEER4Peace #Youth4Peace #UNSC2250 #EndGBV #YPEER_SY #UNFPA

2nd day (July 12):

Location: Reda Saeed hall – Damascus University
Round table group discussion about GBV and Gender Equality (11:00 a.m. - 16:00 p.m.): Invitations were sent to a number of organizations, community initiative, associations and voluntary teams to participate in a round table group discussion about the youth role in advocating gender equality and decreasing gender-based violence in order to promote peace culture.



The day started by welcoming the participants and introducing Y-PEER SYRIA and the "Three Days of Peace Activism Campaign". The group discussion consisted of two groups on two round tables, each one had a representative of each participant party. The first group held the (Gender Equality) topic the second one held the (GBV). The discussion consisted of a series of points and questions

- ☒ Introduction of the participating parties
- ☒ View concepts and basic definitions
- ☒ How the participating parties are working and implementing those two topics
- ☒ What are the challenges they are facing during their work?
- ☒ How the young people effectively participate in reaching these goals?
- ☒ What are the coordination mechanisms for working together?
- ☒ A presentation on what was shared before to the other table and the invitees.
- ☒ Recommendations for future coordination mechanisms.

In the end, the goals of this activity:

- Raising the youth awareness about gender equality and gender-based violence.
- Promoting their participation in social activities.
- Introducing them to each other and their community work.
- Building a network between them. Were successfully achieved.

☒ Graffiti Paintings Exhibition (16:00 p.m. - 17:00 p.m.)

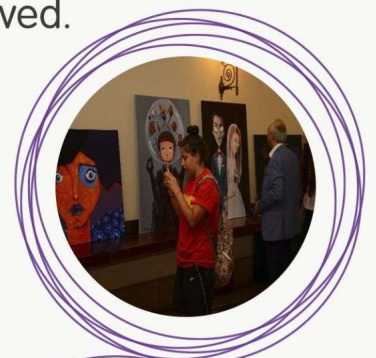
The exhibition contained graffiti paintings painted by young people and related to the campaign topics.

The artists introduced their works to the public visitors, and explained the messages that they are trying to deliver through the paintings, the event was covered by multiple T.V channels and reported by the Syrian Arab News Agency. The art gallery was attended by around 125 young visitors. The day was settled with four different interactive theater sketches implemented by young Y-PEERians, the sketches' topics was about youth issues and the campaign's topics: • Young people problems interfering the market and gender prejudice. • Early marriage. • Gender-based violence. • Youth problems and society pressures.

At the end of each sketch, the Y-PEERian facilitator started an open discussion with the audience to set a number of implementable solutions

3rd day (July 13):

☒ Forum (11:00 a.m. - 16:00 p.m.): Each of the participated Society teams, associations, initiatives, and organizations gathered in the forum to share information about their work, vices they provide, and how to join to their teams to the other parties. In the end, they agreed on working to build a network between them.





☒ Graffiti Paintings Exhibition (16:00 p.m. - 17:00 p.m.)
The art gallery reopened, and was attended by around 140 young visitors.

☒ Musical Concert (17:00 p.m. – 19:00 p.m.):
At the end of the campaign, Shalabia band entertained the audience with a musical performance and the event was concluded by thanking all of the participants, artists and the organizing team.

Peer Education (Damascus)

25 Syrian young persons from several national NGOs, associations, and initiatives had the chance to participate in the 4 Days of Peer Education in Humanitarian Settings Trainings in Damascus, the training included sessions on: • Peer education. • Sustainable Development Goals. • Sexually Transmitted Diseases. • Gender Vs. Sex. • Drugs. • Most vulnerable people. • Stigma and discrimination. • Introduction to peace building. • Leadership. • Interactive theatre technique.

The training methods used in sessions were: Group work, role play, brain storming, games, open discussions and case studies.



Theater-Based Peer Education (Qamishli & Ra'as El Ein)

25 trainees from the north Syrian cities "Hasakeh" & "Qamishli" volunteers in two associations (El Bir from "Ra'as El Ein", El Bir & Social Services "Hasakeh") were trained for six days in Damascus on using interactive theater techniques to discuss young social problems and issues like "early Marriage, Domestic violence, harassment, drugs and other topics". By the end of the training, the trainees conducted interactive theater sketches, made in event and invited the community.



Theater-Baser Peer Education

25 Syrian young persons from several national NGOs, associations, and initiatives were trained for six days in Damascus on using interactive theater techniques to discuss young social problems and issues like "early Marriage, Domestic violence, harassment, drugs and other topics".

By the end of the training, the trainees conducted interactive theater sketches, made in event and invited the community. Here you may find a video of the presented shows.



Monitoring & Evaluation Mission (Qamishli & Ra'as El Ein)

Objectives:

- ☒ Monitoring the associations' work.
- ☒ Ensuring that the indicators requested from each association are being achieved.
- ☒ Re-working on the interactive theater techniques of the volunteers to refresh their skills.



Theater-Based Peer Education (Aleppo)

25 Syrian young persons from the Syrian Family Planning Association – Aleppo branch were trained for six days in Damascus on using interactive theater techniques to discuss young social problems and issues like “early Marriage, Domestic violence, harassment, drugs and other topics”.

Interactive Theater Festival

12 teams presented their performances addressing topics related to reproductive health, gender-based violence, including discrimination and early marriage, drugs, and HIV/AIDS in front of 300 young girls and boys from 6 different Syrian governates Damascus, Rural Damascus, Sweida, Tartous, Hama (Mesyaf), and Aleppo.



Y-PEER Syria network celebrated the launch of the first Interactive Theater Festival in in Al Qabbani theater in Damascus on 14-13 December. The aim of the festival was to pave the way to a healthy environment where young people can develop their art skills to enable them to express themselves and address their communities' issues through interactive-based theatre

Peer Education Training of Trainers – PEToT

25 new Peer Educators from Damascus, Rural Damascus, Homs, Tartous, Hama (Misyaf) received an intensive training of trainers in Yafour, Rural Damascus on 30-25 December. The training helped empower the young participants and develop their skills by focusing on teamwork, communication skills, and other interpersonal development skills.





Y-PEER Belarus

Y-PEER Belarus aims to make young people aware of the possibilities they have, enable them to conduct Y-PEER Belarus-related trainings and help them in writing their own modules and conducting trainings. Its activities emphasize the importance of the capacity of making responsible choices and of staying healthy and happy. Y-PEER facilitates the communication between young people and the government, as well as with other NGOs in order to make their work more efficient



Y-PEER Belarus conducted various events in 2017. In June and July, the International Organization for Migration managed trainings concerning gender, contraception and HIV prevention issues in a summer camp. The National Forum of Youth Organizations, which was held in August, also served as a training session on gender and gender-based violence.

Y-PEER Belarus

On the 9th September an "Innovation day" was co-hosted with UNFPA. A creativity platform for developing ideas on sexual and reproductive health and youth rights was provided.



The sexual and reproductive health and rights of people with disabilities was brought into focus on a lecture and discussion held in September.

At the end of the year, various trainings were organized, and in particular a National training for trainers in advocacy and media concerning SRHR, as well as basic national trainings for trainers, three trainings on HIV transmission and prevention in the National Model Agency, and trainings on youth participation in HIV prevention and Y-PEER opportunities in the State Palace of Youth and a State Music College.



Y-PEER Lebanon

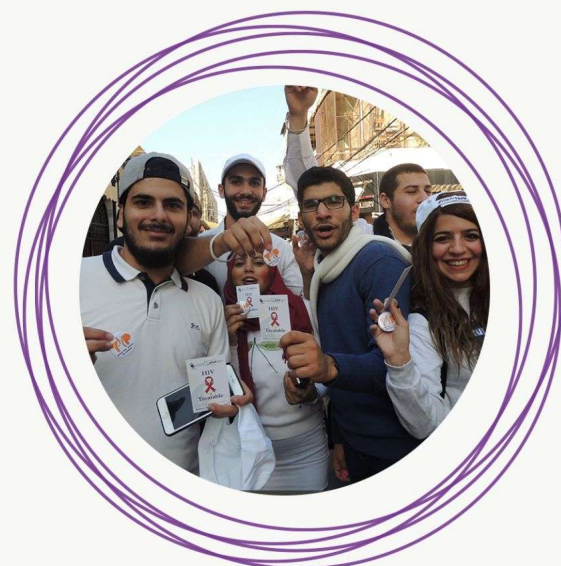
After a long absence, Y-PEER Lebanon is back on the scene with great momentum, enthusiasm and dedication.

The Network commenced its activities in November by conducting a peer-education session on early marriage at a local educational institution. Y-PEER is actively recruiting new members and succeeded in recruiting enough members in 3 regions in Lebanon to be effective on a national scale: in Beirut (the capital), Saida (southern Lebanon), and Bekaa.

WORLD AIDS DAY

An awareness campaign on HIV was conducted in Saida and Baalbeck for 2 days in collaboration with the Salama association, and the Saida and the Baalbeck municipalities.

Our members reached out to the community to spread messages concerning HIV prevention and treatments. Their mottos were: "HIV is treatable" and "Avoid the scare, be aware."



Y-PEER Lebanon

International Volunteer Day

Y-PEER Lebanon members celebrated International Volunteer Day in Saida in collaboration with the Abnaa Saida association through promoting the Y-PEER network and the importance of volunteering for young people, as well as its impact on the health and well-being of communities worldwide.



Peer Education sessions

The Y-PEER members conducted consecutive peer education sessions in Bekaa at the Salama clinic and shed light on important Sexual and Reproductive Health subjects such as Violence, Sexual Assault, Gender and Sexuality, etc..

Y-PEER Lebanon network in a refugee camp

The Y-PEER members chose to establish their presence where it is most needed. More particularly, they conducted a highly interactive and successful peer-education session on early marriage to a group of adolescents aged between 13 to 16 in the Alwan centre at Ein El Helwe, a camp for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.





kazakhstan

The second half of 2017 had been fruitful for Y-PEER Kazakhstan. We did various advanced peer education training on youth issues and actively participated in different seminars, conferences and workshops related to young people during July and December 2017.

In honor of World Population Day, Youth Peer Education Network Y-PEER Kazakhstan with the support of the United Nations Information office in Kazakhstan and the United Nations Population Fund held a screening of the film "Love, Rosie" at the UN House in Almaty. Students from different universities and cities were acquainted with the activities of the Department of Public Information of the UN in Kazakhstan, the UN Refugee Agency, UN Women and Y-PEER in Kazakhstan.

Furthermore, in honor of this day, Volunteers of Y-PEER Kazakhstan in Shymkent city held an Action called "Plan Your Family, Plan Your Future" in Abay Park in Shymkent. The aim of the event was to draw public attention to the problems of population in the field of family planning through interactive games/competitions, including "drawings on asphalt" and Dance for life.



Moreover, on the theme "Family Planning" volunteers of Y-PEER Kazakhstan in Aktau city together with the Public Fund for Support and Development of Children, Youth and Family Programs "Urpak-Next" conducted an incendiary flash-mob and exciting interactive games in Aktau city.

Y-PEER Kazakhstan actively participated in Youth Day Forum which was organized by UN Office in Kazakhstan with the support of the UN Volunteers Program in the framework of the International "Future Energy Forum 2017" at EXPO 2017 Astana. The theme of the Youth Day Forum 2017 was devoted to the participation of young people in the transfer of knowledge and innovative approaches to sustainable development, energy-efficient lifestyles and reducing CO2 emissions to ensure peace and stability around the world.



The event took place in the format of a forum-coffee, which created an interactive platform for an open dialogue between active youth and various interested organizations (international development partners, government bodies, educational institutions, civil society, etc.). Participants got acquainted with the activities of youth peer education network and activities of UNFPA in Kazakhstan.

On August 2017, Y-PEER Kazakhstan together with the NGO "Doctar" organized Annual Summer School of Leadership in Shymkent city. Five unforgettable days were full of productive and fun! Participants from the different regions of South Kazakhstan Region had hot discussions on HLS, the prevention of HIV/AIDS, discrimination and violence against women, find the ways to prevent it, and etc.

Y-PEER Kazakhstan in Semey city, held an Action-campaign to mark the Day of Suicide Combat. The aim of the action was to instill in young people love for themselves, to feel love, to reduce the number of self-employed factors.

Y-PEER Kazakhstan members took an active part in international seminar on "The role of soft power and public diplomacy in the youth dialogue" and informed participants about international youth peer education network, SRHR, HIV/AIDS, Family planning, peer education and youth networking, actions & programs, which was held in Shymkent city. In this seminar participated about 20 representatives from different countries, as well as active young people from Kazakhstan. The main objective of this seminar was to create an informal environment for the benefit of the younger diplomats, the protection of international solidarity





In October 2017, a seminar was held on "Education of the girls - education of the Nation" at Kazakh National University named after Al-Farabi in Almaty. Within the framework of this event, the speakers stressed the importance of sexual education and upbringing of the youth. Also, speakers talked about the issues of Kazakhstan's suicide statistics among women, the importance of support services, women's rights and tolerance.

The girl-participants of the seminar were also trained by the members of Y-PEER Kazakhstan and are informed about sexual and reproductive health and rights, family planning, peer education and learned the basic information about the youth peer education network and were able to participate in the interactive game



In October 2017, the project named "Find your way" was held in Almaty within the framework of the project "I-SEED: Innovations - social entrepreneurship and education" of the British Council with the support of "Chevron" Company. The schoolchildren were given the opportunity to learn all about the popular professions from the employees of the best companies of Kazakhstan, youth organizations, education and grants. Our volunteers spoke with courtesy about the activities of Y-PEER Kazakhstan, and also conducted training about Team Building & peer education.

In November 2017, campaign-training was organized on the topic of "Young People & Life's spring" for pupils of the 8th grade of the "Pushkin" Gymnasium-School in Shymkent. Participants were amazed and impressed by the stories of the guys about their acquaintances who at one time could not say "NO" to nicotine, alcohol and even drugs; about those who entered into early sexual relations "out of interest" and how their fates were formed. Likewise, Y-PEER members in Aktau city have organized three different trainings on leadership, SRHR and HIV/AIDS prevention. Participants have been informed about sexual and reproductive health and encouraged to improve their leadership skills and learn more about youth and young people issues. Also, in the honor of World AIDS Day, Y-PEER Kazakhstan volunteers in Aktau city held an action-training on HIV/AIDS prevention. The purpose of the training was to explicitly reveal how HIV/AIDS can be infected and further information about its prevention.

In the framework of 10 Days of Activism, Y-PEER Kazakhstan did different advanced peer education trainings on SHRH, youth health, community participation and youth issues such as training on SHRH at Women's Pedagogical University in Almaty, playing basketball by Aktau team, screening a social video on the topic of "No stigma. No discrimination. No AIDS" by Shymkent volunteers, celebrating of International volunteer Day by Y-PEER Volunteers in Aktau city and etc.

According to Development Program of Y-PEER Kazakhstan and 10 Days of Activism, from 6 to 8 December 2017 lunched ToT (training for trainers) in Aktobe, Kazakhstan funded by UNFPA Kazakhstan. The best volunteers of the city took an active part; in the process of which they were educated about such topics as SRHR, STI, leadership, team-working, and gender equality. Games, energy buffer, brainstorming and, of course, the information itself was an integral part of the skills that will help them in further life and life! On the second day, the children received reliable information about gender equality, SRHR and STI.

Y-PEER Kazakhstan has presented by Yasir Rashid, FPC, in regional consultation "SDGs for Young People, Young People for SDGs: tracking progress in achieving youth-related SDGs and ICPD goals in Europe and Central Asia". Our FPC presented actively his Kazakhstani youth peers to discuss about youth problems and challenges in this region. In Sofia Meeting, Experts and Youth leaders from across Europe and Central Asia have gathered in Sofia for a three-day meeting on developing a regional monitoring system to track progress on youth-related goals and targets included in Agenda 2030 and the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.





Bosnia and Herzegovina



Every year Y-Peer Bosnia and Herzegovina organizes a meeting with volunteers where they opportunity to present activities done in the previous period, but also create plan of action for future. On this meeting they are electing a new Focal point in charge. Jasmin Nikšić was elected for the new Focal point in Charge for the period 2018-2017.

Advocacy Campaign “My health does not have a deadline”

In collaboration with “Partnership in Health”, CCI and ICVA advocacy campaign “My health does not have a deadline” is established with the aim to advocate for human rights in case of health insurance.

It is a known that in most parts of our country people do not have right for free health insurance if they are not registered on the list of Department for unemployed persons.

During this campaign our volunteers were visiting numerous cities and made street events where people could sign a petition and directly ask for their rights. “My health does not have a deadline” campaign was held in more than 50 cities.



Education for Youth councils

OSCE Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina organised education for Youth councils where Y-Peer Bosnia and Herzegovina representative also attended. Together with other Youth participants our representatives had opportunity to learn more about Youth strategies, Youth council work. The main topic of this 2 day long training was „How to fight radicalisation and extremism?“



Online Quiz on RH and STD

One of our volunteers created online Quiz on Reproductive health and Sexually transmitted diseases which was shared online with young people. Quiz has basic question on how to protect your-self , how to prevent sexually transmitted dis-eases, what is the most important to know when it comes to reproductive healt.

Young people had opportunity also to learn a lot by answering and filling this Quiz.



Humanitarian Half Marathon

One of our volunteers participated at the Humanitarian Half Marathon in Sarajevo.

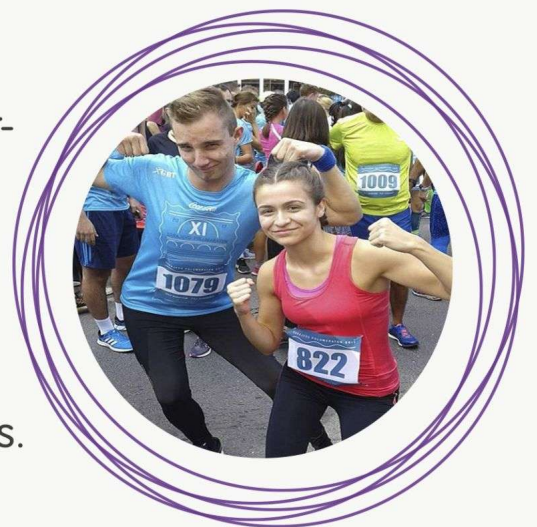
Half Marathon was organised in Sarajevo where a lot of people especially young people took their participation.

Half Marathon was organised to spread humanity, healthy living and awareness, but also to collect money for sick peers. Money was collected by paying kilometers that participants passed. Each kliometer of our volunteer was 2,00 BAM.

First Aid Competiton

First Aid competition was organised by the Red Cross Ilidža, local branch of Sarajevo where 12 schools teams participated. They had to do different scenarios such as earthquake, car acident, fire, explosion, accident in schools. This was a great opportunity to promote health and importance of first aid skills.

Our volunteers also took a part on one of the fun stations where all teams had educational lessons. We had a chance to give them basic knowledge through the workshop on Reproductive health.





Y-PEER Macedonia

**New series of workshops for young people:
sustainable development goals and gender transformation
programs**

In July, the second and third part of new series of workshops on “Strengthening youth peer programming including gender transformative programming” were organized by the youth network Y-PEER Macedonia in Skopje.

Representatives of 11 youth organizations discussed ways to harmonize and align their activities, particularly in order to strengthen their capacities for planning and implementing peer education, the new UN 2030 development agenda, sustainable development goals (SDGs) and gender equality.

The representatives had the opportunity to discuss youth participation in decision making processes at all levels.

Young people were introduced to the worldwide and national processes related to the goals for sustainable development. They got to know what the young people are doing on a global level in the direction of creating a better world in which no one is left behind. Representatives of the Y-PEER Macedonia team presented youth participation in different processes related to SDGs and 2030 Agenda implementation in Macedonia. As a conclusion to the first workshop, it has emerged that more needs to be done in the direction of articulating youth voices and youth needs related to the new development agenda.

Y-PEER Macedonia

Regarding gender equality, the third workshop presented the approach of gender transform programming to its participants who acquired knowledge and theoretical information, and discussed upcoming activities of the MenEngage campaign in Macedonia. The discussion reflected with a conclusion underlining the necessity to work more towards the inclusion of everyone, with emphasis in involving men in gender equality advocacy.



Youth Workshop "Increasing youth participation in decision-making processes and cooperation with institutions"

In September, Y-PEER Macedonia organized a workshop entitled "Increasing the youth participation in the processes of decision-making and cooperation with institutions". The event which was held in Skopje was attended by 17 young people - representatives from organizations working with youth in Macedonia: ARNO, Forum 16, YES Macedonia, CID, "HERA", "The youth can", AEZH, Red Cross - M. Brod, KRIK, AIESEC. This event, gave young people the opportunity to get informed about the ongoing processes within the United Nations Development Agenda and the Youth participation agenda. Ms. Sanja Zografska Krsteska - representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, served as a guest speaker at the workshop. Ms. Zoografska Krsteska presented the process by pointing out that "... the goals are formulated to address all problems in societies on a global scale. Through them all, one thread horizontally, the need to respect human rights and the rule of law."



Y-PEER Macedonia

During the presentation, emphasis was placed on the partnerships and the role of young people in development processes.

"Goal 17 is designed for global partnerships. Young people are the main target group along with women who go through all CSRs and here is your opportunity to get involved, first at the local level in your communities, then nationally. Young people are factors that influence change and help in the implementation of goals. "- noted Ms. Zoografska Krsteska.

Through the Q&A session young participants got informed on the processes at a higher level, and got acquainted with the main steps taken by countries around the world for the process related to UN 2030 Agenda.

Conference "Youth, Peace and Security"

In October Y-PEER Macedonia organized the first conference on "Youth, Peace and Security". The conference was attended by 20 young people from different cities in Macedonia who had the opportunity to learn about the concepts of peace, the new development agenda of the United Nations and the goals for sustainable development (SDGs).

The conference aimed to improve the capacities of young people, to gain knowledge about the approaches to building peace through initiatives of youth organizations, involving marginalized adolescents and young people. The participants had the opportunity to acquire skills and knowledge on how to implement peace-building initiatives through their active involvement in various processes that contribute to security and stability in social integration processes.

The conference was opened by the Minister of Defense Ms. Radmila Shekerinska with a warm address:

"The state can be resistant to security risks only if the rule of law is respected, and if it has state institutions that function fairly, free media and justice! There is no stability if there is no democracy. Macedonia is in a position to show that by strengthening democracy and the rule of law, security is strengthened, that ethnic and religious diversity does not mean risk. Let's transform the crisis into an opportunity to become an example! Be more active, get involved in the decision making process, use public pressure to defend your rights, engage young people who feel isolated, be active! It is very important to get engaged, to be loud, to know what want. "

Y-PEER Macedonia

Youth were welcomed by Ms. Jovanka Brajovic Grigorijevic, a representative of the UNFPA Country Office: "Young people today face many problems and challenges, but if they have the right opportunities, they can be the real drivers of change towards achieving a more inclusive society, in which everyone lives in prosperity."

The Focal Point in Charge of Y-PEER Macedonia, Mr. Kristijan Angeleski, also addressed the participants:

"Today and tomorrow we are here with the youth to work on this very important topic. Young people in 2015 received the 2250 Resolution on youth, peace and security that highlights the role of governments in protecting young people in times of conflict and within post-conflict societies, promoting their role in building and preserving peace, including youth participation at all levels of decision-making. This resolution calls the UN member states to offer mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, in partnership with young people. The next steps of Y-PEER Macedonia are related to the further advocacy and engagement of young people and their participation in the national processes and the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals in a national context. Co-operation with institutions is crucial in these approaches. "



Y-PEER Macedonia

Youth workshop: „THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE ON THE ISSUES OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH“

Y-PEER Macedonia, supported by UNFPA CO in Skopje, organized a two-day workshop in Skopje, entitled "The gender perspective on the issues of sexual and reproductive health ". 17 young people from different youth-focused associations (KRIK , Youth Can, Red Cross, Gender Perspective, HERA, ARNO, Volunteer Center - Skopje and Humanity) participated.

Through this workshop, young people had the opportunity to expand their knowledge and capacities in the field of "Gender" and the integration of the gender component in global and national processes.

Guest speakers included the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Macedonia, Ms. Louisa Vinton, Irena Cvetkovic from the Sexual and Health Rights of Marginalized Communities Coalition, Ljupka Trajanovska (National Network to End Violence against Women and Domestic Violence "Voice against Violence"), and Irina Janevska (Association for Social Innovations "ARNO").

The youth had the opportunity to discuss the gender component, expand their knowledge on the subject and get informed about the ongoing processes within the United Nations Development Agenda related to gender equality, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the inclusion opportunities of young people.

The United Nations Resident Coordinator in Macedonia, Ms. Louisa Vinton, gave a brief overview of the global processes and localization of the 2030 Agenda in Macedonia, pointing out that "...the goals are universal, which means that they apply to all people in the world and are connected in one common system. The challenge that we are facing is really demanding and our task is to make every effort to fulfill them."

"For the United Nations, young people are not just a target group. They are also our partners. Young people are aware of new information technologies. They have the skills and knowledge to create together optimal solutions that could help us in the implementation."- said Ms. Vinton.

During the workshop, and particularly during the questions and answers session, young people had the opportunity to discuss the global processes related to SDGs, the implementation on a global and local level, as well as the integration of the gender component within the national framework related to implementation of the 2030 agenda in Macedonia.

Y-PEER Macedonia



Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)

In September, Y-PEER Macedonia initiated the process for development of situational analyses on establishing a comprehensive sexuality education in Macedonia.

In December, an open consultative meeting was organized. Representatives from youth organizations, institutions and ministries had the opportunity to attend the presentation and to get to know more about the situation regarding the establishment of the CSE in the region. The presentation was followed by a discussion where the representatives of the youth organizations and institutions shared their expertise and experience in the field of CSE topics, as well as the opportunities and challenges they had faced. The analysis was finalized and published by the end of December.



Y-PEER Macedonia

MenEngage Campaign

In Macedonia the Organization for Social Innovations "ARNO", in partnership with Y-PEER Macedonia, and supported by the Regional Office of UNFPA for Eastern Europe and Central Asia implemented the campaign "Engaging Men and Boys for Gender Equality" .

The campaign was focused on communicating with the community and the media, organizing trainings and events promoting development of men's skills in child-care and household care.

In October 2017, "The First Men's Fair" was organized. The Men's Fair comprised three different workshops: "Men Iron", "Men Cook" and "Creative games for kids".

The video produced within the campaign can be found at the following link :

<https://youtu.be/NfdrChhKTFM>



"In the period between March and December 2017, Y-PEER Macedonia team was hosted by Organization for Social Innovations "ARNO". All activities were organized within the implementing partnership agreement with UNFPA Country Office."



Morocco

Y-PEER, the Youth Peer Education Network, is a youth-to-youth initiative pioneered by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Y-PEER is a network of more than 500 organizations and gathers more than 1000 volunteers around the world. In Morocco, Y-PEER works on promoting civic engagement and raising awareness about sexual and reproductive health issues, by building youth capacities. We are pleased to present you the activities, Y-PEER Morocco, conducted from July to December 2017. For more information, do not hesitate to email us on: ypeermorocco@gmail.com or Adaouizohir@gmail.com



As a part of the activities of the Y-PEER network Morocco, the members of the Network participated in the workshop organized by UNFPA at Agadir. The objective of the workshop was to reach near the motivation and commitment of its members to activate within the schools. As well, and with a view to institutionalize the collaboration between the network and the Ministry of National Education. The meeting aims two major objectives: the development of a book of specifications of the interventions of the members of the network in the schools: the roles, expectations, the tools and the means of work and the planning of future actions for the implantation of the kit with the collaboration of the network: including the 10 Days of Activism - DoA. We also plan our actions in collaboration with the senior managers of the Department of National Education.



Within the activities arranged monthly by Y-PEER Morocco, the latter has implemented four sessions of Peer Education and Life Skills at El Mohamadia School, Beni Mellal during the month of October, 2017. These processed activities that are still going on and will also take place very soon in different regions of Morocco are the outcome of two trainings from which around 30 teachers and 5 members of Y-PEER have benefited. This huge national event came to existence because of the intentional collaboration of UNFPA Morocco and the Ministry of National Education in view to enhance students' life skills as well as enabling them to transfer such capacities to their vulnerable peers.

These sessions in which 35 students have been participating addressed different issues related to youth and more importantly to teenagers. These serious issues include HIV/AIDS, smoking, drugs using and other psychological destructive drivers including depression, emptiness and peer pressure. That is why, the trainers tried their best to make them firstly aware of these immense issues and also well equipped with life skills to protect themselves and affect their peers positively.

Consequently, the training was largely turned around the importance of peer education and the roles of peer educators to raise awareness among other students, particularly that of sexual and reproductive health as well as the dangerous aftermaths of smoking and drugs using. On the other hand, trainers and participants have magnificently stressed on the fact that all these issues that destruct young people's lives are due to the socio-cultural taboos that society has encumbered its generations with.



Thus, at the end and exactly after students of El Mohamadia school in Beni Mellal were introduced to the real definitions of sexual and reproductive health, it was clear to them that people have wrong definitions of sexual health, that is why it has been considered taboo or "hshouma". This reality that was made clear has given fruitful results in the session and made several recommendations clear as the fact that youth and adolescents should be introduced to the real definition of SRH to break the silence that society has constructed between parents and their children.

Y-PEER Morocco with the support of UNFPA Morocco and Ministry of National Education office has celebrated the 10DoA from November 01th to 10th December in 03 different cities around the kingdom of Morocco (South of Morocco). This campaign was marked by several activities and events, including: Organization of 03 Basic Training of Peers Educators.



December 2017 ,06. Y-Peer Morocco organized a Training session about the Peer Education and Sexual and Reproductive Health for young students in the School Sous Al Alima in the south of Morocco, aids was the main topic of these sessions since the region scored high prevalence of SIDS, And this referring to experts is due to lake of sexual education in Moroccan school, and taboo in society.

As part of the activities of the network Y-PEER Morocco and coordination with the Ministry of Education and UNFPA, basic training in peer education techniques, sexual and reproductive health and violence based on gender, was organized for the benefit of students in schools. We dug in the 10 Days of Activism on the high schools of the Sous Massa Regional Academy.



As a part of the activities of Y-PEER Morocco, 3 focal points of the Y-PEER Morocco network benefited from an interactive theater training organized by Rabéta Mohammedia des Oulémas in collaboration with UNFPA under the theme "the fight against violence against women".

Azerbaijan

Since the beginning of this year, we managed to conduct movie days to support raising awareness on gender, SRHR topics, such as HIV/AIDS and STIs in general.

In December, Y-PEER Azerbaijan has co-hosted the last film screening for 2017, in cooperation with Azerbaijan Caspian Platform and the United Nations Population Fund Azerbaijan. The movie "Philadelphia" was projected in connection with the International AIDS Day.

After the film, discussion among participants on HIV/AIDS was held. The facilitators and participants talked about methods and stereotypic behaviors against people living with AIDS.

At the end of discussion informational brochures from UNFPA country office were distributed among participants of the movie screening. Around 20 participants took part in the discussion and movie screening.





Y-PEER DJIBOUTI

Information and training sessions on GBV, reproductive health and rights and human rights for cadets at the Military School of Arta

Djibouti is a crossroad of migration and refugees passing through the country to seek their fortune in the Gulf countries or escape conflicts in their homeland.

Djibouti is known to contribute more and more to peacekeeping forces in several other countries. UNFPA Djibouti, in collaboration with the network of young peer educators Y-Peer Djibouti, has initiated education sessions for officer cadets at the Arta Military School to train them in the prevention of gender-based violence.

Attended by 50 cadets, these sessions also allowed discussions on the impact of risk behaviours that young people are experiencing and on sexual and reproductive health, particularly HIV/Aids prevention.

The Young cadets expressed the wish to intensify the partnership with UNFPA and Y-Peer Djibouti in order to extend it to all the military camps present in the country.



Y-PEER DJIBOUTI

Meeting of the Regional Director of UNFPA and the members of the network of young peer educators Y-Peer Djibouti

During a working visit in Djibouti, the Regional Director met the young people of the Y-Peer network in Djibouti. They discussed the mandate of UNFPA, young people's needs and their expectations. Many young people expressed the desire to strengthen their efforts to their peers' behaviour.

The Regional Director committed to support them in their actions in favour of young people in Djibouti. He reaffirmed that young people are the future of a whole country and a whole nation and that UNFPA would put everything in place to accompany them as best as possible in their access to information, services adapted for young people, and access to training opportunities.





Y-PEER Georgia

Georgia Bulletin July December 2017

Peer Educators of the Georgian Youth Development and Education Association GYDEA organized informational sessions at Youth Summer Camp in Manavi (Kakheti) in July. These sessions aimed to inform young people of the importance and urgent issues such as HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender issues.

GYDEA, with the partnership of the UNFPA Georgia and with the local association "Atinati" celebrated 12th August - the International Youth Day by conducting a -5day TOT training on Peer education.

As initiator of the peer education network in Georgia, GYDEA strives for raising awareness of the young generation on sensitive social topics, such as gender equality, gender based violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV/AIDS, etc. The training participants were selected based on the open call by the GYDEA. Attendees acquired relevant knowledge and skills to become the future trainers and educate their peers on the above mentioned issues.



Y-PEER Georgia

Another -3day TOT training on Peer education in Zugdidi took place in September.

On 20th September GYDEA launched the 8th and last informational session at Anaklia Youth Summer Camp.

Anuki and Ana - GYDEA trainers shared their thoughts about the youth "Camp of Future"

"It's been an impressive, challenging and fruitful experience for us as trainers. From each session, we learn something new and we are happy that we can support raising awareness about gender equality, gender stereotypes, gender discrimination and HIV/AIDS with our knowledge and experience sharing among young people. The youth camp participants were active, motivated, eager to learn and willing to share with their peers the information we provided for them ".

It should be mentioned that the methods and activities used during our trainings and info sessions ensure participants' active engagement, and even though time is too limited to cover every burning issue in the field, info sessions are a good opportunity to encourage young people to start thinking about and discussing the above-mentioned topics.



Y-PEER Georgia

On 26th December, a round-table discussion was held at the Georgian Technical University on the topic of Youth Policy and Young People's access to the Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Georgia. The representatives of the various youth organizations joined to the discussion along with students.

The round-table discussion was conducted in the frameworks of the "Europe Unite for Comprehensive Sexuality Education Rights" project implemented by the youth-led organizations CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality and YouAct, with support from Share-Net International. The project aims to encourage policy change in five European countries: Cyprus, Georgia, Poland, Romania and the Netherlands.

In Georgia, the project has been implemented in partnership with the Georgian Youth Development and Education Association – GYDEA, Association HERA – XXI and the Center for Youth Development – XXI. The round-table discussion was supported by the student self-government of the Georgian Technical University.





Afghanistan

Y-Peer Afghanistan has successfully completed its fifth 5th badge training about peer to peer education on 9-7 November in AFGA Office Training Hall, the purpose of the training was to increase the public awareness among the youth who were participated in the training and give them the hint about Y-Peer and its aim in Afghanistan, all the youth both male and female show more interest for providing the public awareness regarding peer to peer education in their own societies.

Before starting the training Mr. Allah-mohammad ahmadzai and Dr. Lahoor Lakanwal Y-Peer Afghanistan focal point (FC) presented their welcoming speech in order to start the training, the chief guest at the training was Dr. Noor Murad from UNFPA and Dr. Walid from AFGA, at first Dr. Murad presented his speech regarding Y-Peer network at Afghanistan and he appreciated the achievements of Y-Peer Afghanistan in 2017 and said that UNFPA will support Y-Peer Afghanistan any time in order to improve well and provide public awareness on the basis of health and implement the programs about Y-Peer in Afghanistan, following Dr. Murad speech Dr. Walid from AFGA presented his speech about Y-Peer as well, and appreciate a lot the Y-Peer network and show his support in this regard.



The training was quite effective because good and new training methods were utilized in order to have a great training and can increase the awareness on peer to peer education; the outlines which were implemented during the training were as follow:

- Role Play
- Games
- Videos
- Information on Y-PEER
- Practical Work
- Ice Breaker
- Group Works
- Presentation
- Lectures

This training was conducted in Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA) training hall for 3 days 25 youth both male and female were participated in this training.

The topics that had been covered at this training were mainly focusing on health issues on how to prevent HIV, AIDS, SRHR, and Drugs.

The training was for three days, which was so effective and delightful both for trainers and the trainees, questionnaires were distributed in order to know about the training usefulness and know about their conception about peer to peer education, the questionnaires which were distributed were pre-test and post-test questionnaires and at the end certificates were distributed to all the trainees who were participated in the training.

On 16-14 November, 2017, Y-PEER Afghanistan has successfully conducted the Sixth badge training which was assigned by UNFPA for the year 2017. This training was held for 3 days from 16-14 Nov, 2017 at Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA) main office.



On this training 25 individuals participated including both male and female between ages of 15-24 whom were the students of Schools and universities and professionals were part of the training. They were benefited on the basic and advance concepts of peer-to-peer education in the field of adolescent sexual and reproductive health (SRHR) and HIV prevention worldwide they mentioned training helped them to have an insight about their respected field of study/work and would definitely assist them in their career and future endeavors they undertake. It is to say that, the training was a wonderful opportunity where the participants could learn lessons that made lasting impact on them and above all, giving a practical face to theories was another important thing that the training focused on. In this regard, participants of the training expressed their appreciations from Y-Peer Afghanistan and UNFPA for supporting such worthwhile programs that makes gigantic difference for participants. At the end of this training the participants were given certificates of participation.



Y-PEER Tajikistan

International Youth Day 2017

The celebration of the International Youth Day (August 12) went under the theme “Youth are the followers of the Leader of Nation”. The Y-PEER youth-led network (NGO “Hamsol ba Hamsol”) in collaboration with the Committee on Youth and Sport under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, UNFPA Tajikistan, as well as other national NGOs and business representatives conducted a fair entitled “Volunteering as a career ladder”, as well as a Cultural Event dedicated to highlighting the importance of the theme “Youth Building Peace” in the context of Tajikistan.



“Empowering of the vulnerable youth through strengthening of the neighborhood committees”

This Project aims to empower the youth of the Varzob District through strengthening the legal and material status of the NCs. The project objectives are focused on improving the effectiveness of village structures and enabling the NCs to address the communities’ needs, including youth and women. The Project initiates efforts to support the development of the democratic leadership, of increased participation and accountability, as well as the acquisition of resources and their transparent management, project planning and development.

Y-PEER Tajikistan

Forum of the Youth Organization of Tajikistan

Y-PEER Tajikistan became member of the council of the Coalition of Youth Organizations of Tajikistan.

Supporting the reform of the civil registration system in the Republic of Tajikistan

Within the framework of the project "Supporting the reform of the civil registration system in the Republic of Tajikistan", implemented jointly with the NGO "ANTI" since August, ToT on the theatre-based performances plus theatre-methodology of conveying messages has been conducted for the activists of the Rudaki district. The ToT has been conducted based on the "peer-to-peer" approach and defined standards. The key goal of the theatre-based performances to increase the level of awareness of the population on the problems of civil registration, the importance of timely registration of acts of civil status and obtaining a birth certificate of the newborn children. The project was executed by Y-PEER Tajikistan. Local implementation partners were the local executive body of the state power and the Youth and Sports sectors of the Rudaki district.



«Empowering Youth through strengthening debate clubs»

Training for trainers on debating skills (critical thinking skills, analytical skills, thinking skills) were conducted in 5 universities in the capital.

Y-PEER Tajikistan

TMBA Courses

25 young people were certified after passing course on “Basics of Business and Entrepreneurship”.

ToT

ToT for peer educators: Within the framework of the following activity, 25 peer educators were trained and certified on the “peer-to-peer” principle. The indicated training for trainers facilitates the development of the network at national level and contributes to the promotion of the advocacy campaigns on healthy lifestyle among adolescents and teenagers. The created platform enabled sharpening and strengthening the skills of conducting trainings, focus groups, workshops, seminars and info sessions on reproductive health among young people.

An Annual meeting for developing the annual plan of action of 2018 and defining the priority areas for the network to focus on in 2018 was conducted.





Armenia

In July 2017, Y-PEER Armenia had the opportunity to collaborate with UNDP and UNFPA Armenia. The projects we managed were mainly on SDGs and for the seek of their awareness and implementation. On the 20th of July, we started the sessions in the capital Yerevan. Around 50 participants gathered to discuss the SDGs and to get to know each other by creating networking. The important thing that we needed to tackle was keeping the touch with them plus including more youth organizations in the field. Following the sessions in Yerevan, we had sessions in other different regions of Armenia: Stepnavan, Gyumri to end the program. After every session, we had ideas of implementation that we collected for the sustainability of the project. During all of these sessions, we shared a lot of promotional materials that were important and exciting for the participants.

The next interesting and important activity was the international youth day: this year was really impressive in a way that we did in Gyumri region of Armenia. Around 1000 people gathered to allocate and to celebrate the day with us. Several song competitions have been organized and one of the members of Y-PEER Armenia network has won and has taken some money as a prize for her delighted song.

Following the timeline, we had many members' meetings that were vital for the development of the network (action plan, board of the network). We had several activities during the 10 days of activism: movie screenings, social events where we reached hundreds of people and they learned some general concepts regarding SGGs, SRHR and youth participation. The term was full of interesting activities and motivation from the partners and members. We send you hugs and much love from the Armenian Y-PEER.

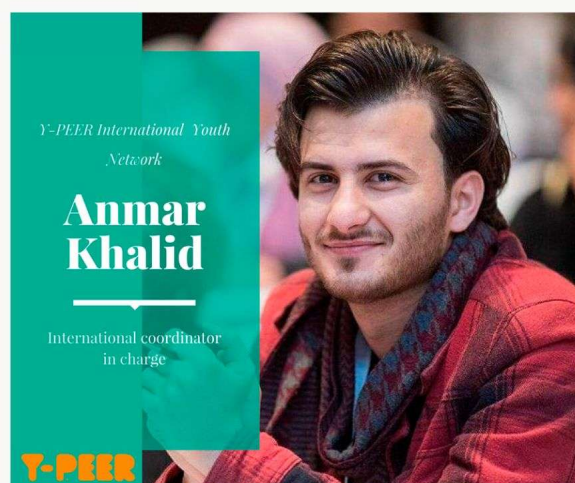


Y-PEER International Coordinators Election

The Y-PEER Network has 7 International Coordinators (ICs) from different countries and regions who manage different fields of the work of the network. ICs have a -2year mandate and different responsibilities. Y-PEER International Network elected new ICs for the term 2019-2017! The election was conducted in the context of the Global Advisory Board Meeting. In 2017, because of the importance of technology in international youth work and funding restrictions, for the first time in Y-PEER history, the election took place online. There were 7 excellent candidates for 5 IC positions. 39 eligible country networks' Focal Points in-Charge (FPC) voted and elected **Daglar Cilingir** from Turkey, **Sousana Humsi** from Syria, **Anmar Khalid** from Iraq, **Sargis Ghazaryan** from Armenia and **Islam Hisham Essam** from Egypt. Thus, the new IC team now includes the newly elected ICs, as well as **Alaa Khachi** from Syria and Sharafdzhon Boborakhimov from Tajikistan who are ICs from the previous IC team.

Congratulations to the new IC team and to the international network for the successful online election with wishes of a productive, efficient, motivated, youthful new term!

Anmar Khalid



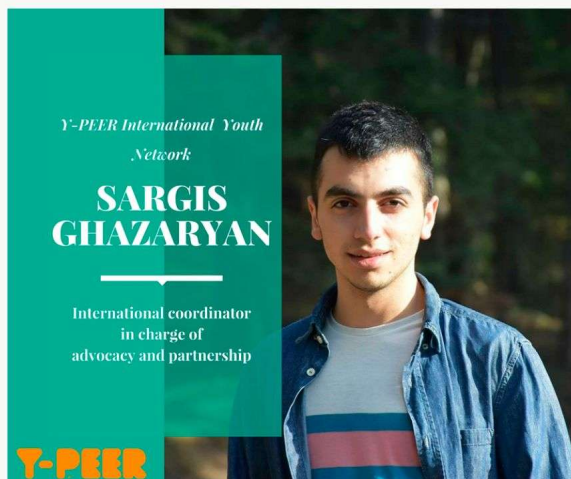
International Coordinator in Charge of Y-PEER. Youth Advocate and Social Worker. Co-Founder of Y-PEER IRAQ, a national network that focuses on empowerment of the young people to take informed decisions regarding their health and life. Social Training Consultant at the Station Where Tech & Art entrepreneurs meet in the first co-working space in Iraq, Baghdad.

He worked as a youth coordinator of the outreach program in Humanitarian setting at UNFPA . Anmar is an advanced trainer in Life Skills, Civic Engagement, Human Rights and Youth Participation. He succeeded in training thousands of young people. Anmar believes in the role played by youth in shaping the community and that "nothing for us, as young people, without us".

anmar@y-peer.org

Y-PEER International Coordinators Election

Sargis Ghazaryan

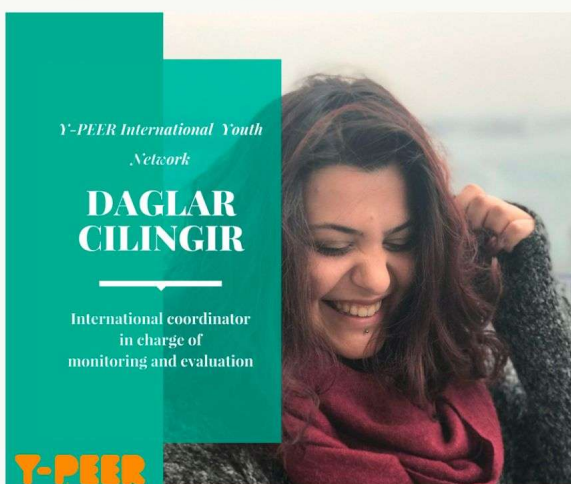


Sargis is the current international coordinator of Y-PEER youth network in charge of advocacy and partnership. He is also an international fellow in PETRI/Sofia. He is the founder of Y-PEER Armenia national network and currently is working with EU within specific programs on national level. He is studying in Sofia University in the major of political science.

Sargis is advocating on human rights, SRHR, LGBTIQ+ rights, peace-building and youth participation.

sargisghazaryan@y-peer.org

Daglar Cilingir



Daglar is the International Coordinator in-Charge of Monitoring and Evaluation. She is a Political Science and International Relations student and a youth activist from Turkey. She has been Focal Point in-Charge of Y-PEER Turkey for 2 years and did a fellowship in the PETRI Sofia Center in 2017. She advocates on SRHR, Youth Participation, Women's Rights,

LGBTI+ Rights, Human Rights for more than 4 years nationally and regionally.

daglarcilingir@y-peer.org

Y-PEER International Coordinators Election

Islam Elhossiny



Islam Elhossiny is an Egyptian physician, trainer and counselor. He joined the civil society community through Y-PEER Egypt Network 2013. He held different positions in some non-governmental organizations as IFMSA-Egypt and the Egyptian Medical Students' association. Currently, He is the international Coordinator of Y-PEER Network in charge of Capacity Building.

Islam is an advanced Y-PEER trainer since 2014 giving many trainings with special focus on Sexual and reproductive health, peacebuilding, human rights, advocacy and gender equality. He is one of the SRHR key advocates in the Arab States.

ielhossiny@y-peer.org

Souzana Humsi



Souzana is the international coordinator in charge of organizational development. She is a civil engineering graduate from Syria. She joined Y-PEER Syria in 2009. She became a focal point taking a lead role in reactivating the Syrian Network, and delivered many training on GBV, SRHR and interactive theater to raise awareness and advocate for a better inclusive community.

In 2016, Souzana took part of UNFPA Young Innovator Fellowship Program both in New York and Tunisia and she is currently a Youth program associate in the United Nations Population Fund – UNFPA Libya based in Tunisia, where she contributes to planning and implementing different youth projects in addition to supporting Y-PEER Libya.

humsi@y-peer.org

Y-PEER International Coordinators Election

Alaa Alkhachi



Alaa is the Y-PEER International Coordinator in-Charge of Communication. He is a young Syrian passionate about youth development with 8 years of experience in this field. He joined Y-PEER Syria in 2009 and became the Focal Point in-Charge after reactivating the national network in Syria.

Alaa is a regional interactive theater trainer and conducted many trainings during the past 8 years inside and outside Syria.

Alaa is also part of the UNFPA Syria Youth Program.

Besides from his youth advocacy activities, Alaa is a singer with multiple covers of famous songs, as well as a motivational speaker.

Alaa believes that his mission is helping society and mankind

alaa.alkhachi@y-peer.org

PETRI-Sofia's activities in July-December 2017

The **International Institute for Youth Development PETRI-Sofia** is a knowledge hub and regional resource center at the National Center of Public Health and Analyses (NCPHA), Bulgaria, which supports youth empowerment in areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender equality and peacebuilding in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia and beyond.

Established in 2007, as a joint initiative of **UNFPA, NCPHA and the Y-PEER International Network**, PETRI-Sofia has 10 years of experience working on peer education standardization, youth leadership, comprehensive sexuality education, training and information sharing in the field of HIV prevention and SRHR of young people.

PETRI-Sofia **envisions** a world where every adolescent and young person is an empowered change-maker contributing to sustainable development.

Our **mission** is to inspire and support adolescents and young people to become leaders that work on SRHR, gender equality and peacebuilding, through international cooperation and innovative approaches.

Since its creation, PETRI-Sofia has:

- * organized trainings on sexual and reproductive health and rights, project development and management, advocacy, youth leadership, fundraising, etc .;
- * maintained an international Fellowship program;
- * participated in regional and global advocacy activities;
- * developed new educational programs, methods, manuals and guidelines;
- * worked in the field of research and innovation;
- * supported exchanges of experience and resources in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia and beyond, in the field of youth policy development and implementation.

During the second half of 2017, the International Institute for Youth Development PETRI-Sofia continued working in the field of youth empowerment, advocacy for sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality and peacebuilding through a variety of activities:

PETRI-Sofia's activities in July-December 2017

- The PETRI-Sofia team started working on the development of an online manual **“Role of young people in peace building, conflict resolution and violent extremism prevention”** which will be finalized in 2018 and will contain 3 parts: an online course on the topic; a TOT module which will include both theoretical information on the topic and practical activities to be used when working with young people; a series of videos about young people in conflict zones or young people who have experience in peacebuilding and conflict prevention and resolution. **If you want to contribute to the third part of the manual, please contact us at petri.bulgaria@gmail.com and send us your video!**

- An **online advocacy platform** was developed: **“Speak Act Change”** (<http://www.speakactchange.org/>) provides a space for youth advocates to exchange information and experiences from their work in the field of SRHR, gender equality and other youth-related topics in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and beyond. **You can find more information about it on page**

- PETRI-Sofia and UNFPA EECARO organized the **international meeting “SDGs for Young People, Young People for SDGs”** on 6-4 December 2017. Young people and representatives of youth-led organizations, policy makers, statisticians, regional partners and UN agencies' representatives from across Europe and Central Asia gathered in Sofia for the three-day meeting on developing a regional monitoring system to track the progress on youth-related goals and targets included in Agenda 2030 and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. The main objectives of the meeting were to review the needs and challenges that young people in the region are facing, to identify the gaps in the SDG and ICPD indicators, related to these challenges and needs and the priorities in advancing youth agenda in the framework of ICPD and 2030 Agenda.

- Following the example of the successful cooperation between NCPHA (PETRI-Sofia) and the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria** which started in 2015, PETRI is implementing its third project funded by the Bulgarian Development Aid - **“Youth Leadership for the Development and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”**. Through this project, the Institute continued its international fellowship program and will organize the **Annual School on Project Development and Management and Fundraising and Resource Mobilization**, as well as the **General Advisory Board meeting of the Y-PEER Network** in 2018.

PETRI-Sofia's activities in July-December 2017

- PETRI-Sofia supported several international campaigns; among them are the **3 Days of Peace Activism Campaign** of Y-PEER, initiated by the ICYD Amman in July 2017, and the **Y-PEER 10 Days of Activism Campaign 2017** on 10 - 1 December (you can read more about it on page ...).
- As PETRI-Sofia is a partner in the **ECA Youth Alliance**, one PETRI representative was invited to participate in the Study Session "**Youth against Online Discrimination**" which will take place in the European Youth Center-Strasbourg, France, in March 2018. It will be organized by YSAFE, in partnership with IGLYO and the Digital Leadership Institute, with the support of the Council of Europe. Yuliya Andzhekarska, youth coordinator of PETRI, will take part in the Study Session.
- **The international fellowship program** of PETRI-Sofia continued and in the second half of 2017 we had several fellows as a part of our team, actively involved in all the activities: Daglar Chilingir from Turkey and Eimear Sparks from Ireland (whom you can see in the previous issue of the Y-PEER News Bulletin), Saadat Abdulazada from Azerbaijan, Ana Mosiashvili from Georgia, Anmar Khalid from Iraq and Sargis Ghazaryan from Armenia. Ana, Anmar and Sargis continue their fellowships now in 2018. Anmar and Sargis also became two of the newly elected international coordinators of the Y-PEER Network .
- PETRI-Sofia also offers a fellowship opportunity to **Bulgarian students** or foreigners studying in Bulgaria. In 2017, Nikolay Nedelchev, Bulgarian, a Psychology student in Wales University, and Giorgi Beridze from Georgia joined the team for this purpose.

• Through the International Foundation for Y-PEER Development, PETRI-Sofia obtained an **European Voluntary Service** accreditation and has the possibility to send and receive volunteers in the frame of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.



PETRI-Sofia's activities in July-December 2017

Meet the PETRI team!

Anina Chileva

Executive of PETRI- Sofia, Chief Expert at NCPHA

Anina Chileva is a master trainer, consultant and researcher in the field of young people's health and comprehensive health and sexuality education. She is chief expert and health promotion programs' manager at NCPHA and Executive of PETRI- Sofia. She has done extensive work in the field of research in different areas, including alcohol and drug use, and is author of scientific publications and editor and co-author of the school sexual and reproductive health educational package "Alphabet for you and for me" for students of 5 to 8 grade. She has led series of trainings of trainers, teachers, peer educators, medical specialists etc. in the field of in-school and out-of-school sexual education in the frame of different international projects. She is Chair of the Bulgarian AIDS Coalition, Member of CCM Bulgaria, Bulgarian Psychological Society and few other professional and non-governmental organizations.



anina.chileva@gmail.com

Sophia Kandilarova-Georgieva

Member of the PETRI- Sofia Team, Chief Expert at NCPHA

Sofia Kandilarova-Georgieva is a Master in Clinical and Counseling Psychology, Chief Expert in the Child and Youth Health Department of NCPHA. Trainer and member of the national training team for training of trainers in peer education approach. She has worked in the field of prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and has done extensive research in different areas, including alcohol and drug use. Sophia has been a coordinator of several projects with international funding. She has been a part of the PETRI- Sofia team since its establishment in 2007.



sophia.kandilarova@gmail.com

PETRI-Sofia's activities in July-December 2017

Meet the PETRI team!

Ralitza Bardarova

Administrator of PETRI-Sofia, Chief Expert at NCPHA

Ralitza Bardarova is a Master in Clinical and Counseling Psychology and Chief Expert in the Child and Youth Health Department of NCPHA. Trainer in theater-based techniques and member of the national training team in peer education approach. She has worked in the field of psychoactive addictions and



acquired a qualification in counseling people with addictions. She has also worked in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention and control. During this period, she participated in the training teams of the National Peer Education Trainings as a leader of groups studying theater-based techniques and creating interactive theatre performances in the field of sexual and reproductive health of young people.

Since the establishment of PETRI- Sofia in 2007, Ralitza has been a part of its team. Since the beginning of 2015, she is the Administrator of PETRI – Sofia.

bardarovaralitza@gmail.com

Yuliya Andzhekarska

Youth Coordinator of PETRI- Sofia

Yuliya Andzhekarska has been a Youth Coordinator of PETRI- Sofia since 2015. She is an International Relations graduate and has almost 10 years of experience as a volunteer and later as a professional in non-governmental organizations engaged in education and youth work. Yuliya has



experience in organizing international youth exchanges and trainings under the Erasmus+ program of the European Commission, as well as in participating in such projects in more than 20 countries. She was an EVS volunteer in Mexico and worked in the non-governmental sector there in 2014. She was coordinator and trainer in various international youth trainings on topics such as conflict prevention and resolution, active citizenship, youth unemployment, project development and management, etc.

juliajurieva@yahoo.com

Speak Act Change

The International Institute for Youth Development PETRI-Sofia, based in the National Center of Public Health and Analysis, Bulgaria, in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund, created the "Speak Act Change" advocacy platform, in order to provide a space for sharing ideas, opinions, information and experience among youth advocates, active in the field of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and beyond.

"Speak Act Change" connects youth advocates by simultaneously acting as a form of social media, a resource centre and a space for blogging and accessing up to date news in the fields of SRHR and youth rights.



How can you contribute to the platform?

Youth advocates in the fields of SRHR, gender equality, peacebuilding and meaningful youth participation are welcome to contribute for "Speak Act Change". Register on the platform and upload an article or personal stories in the section "Our Voices", let your voice make the change for better. If you are a young person, not only in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and you want your voice to be heard, join the platform.

How you can find the platform?

<http://www.speakactchange.org>

FB: Speak Act Change

E-mail: speakact4change@gmail.com

Fellows presentation



My name is **Saadat Abdullazada**, I am a 25 years old, human rights activist from Azerbaijan, a Social Work graduate from Baku State University and Y-PEER Azerbaijan FPC.

In the period July – October 2017 I did my fellowship at PETRI-Sofia as an Online Community Coordinator for the Speak Act

Change platform. Being a PETRI fellow was an essential step in my activism and career, in terms of allowing me to expand my knowledge, skills and experience in working with young people, adults, decision makers and different stakeholders on national, regional and international level. As a PETRI fellow, I was able to use my advocacy and communication skills, to conduct desk researchers and to contribute to the development of the Y-PEER Network. This experience was unique for me also because I got the opportunity to live and work in another country, in an international atmosphere, and it was a crucial step forward for my personal and professional development.



I am **Ana Mosiashvili**, 25 years old youth advocate from Georgia. I am a graduate of International law faculty at Tbilisi State University. I have more than 5 years of experience working in the field of gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, youth activism, human rights and advocacy.

I joined PETRI – Sofia team in 2016 for three months. During working at PETRI I gained valuable experience that helped me to widen my working areas and enrich knowledge in various fields. After completed fellowship period for the first time, I joined European Youth Network on Sexual and Reproductive Rights – YouAct.

In October of 2017 I started fellowship program at PETRI – Sofia for the second time. Every opportunity which allows me to work with PETRI and Y-PEER network truly contributes to my personal and professional development. The fellowship program is indeed a great example of youth-adult partnership, youth engagement and supporting young people to become change-makers.

Fellows presentation



"Hello, my name is **Nikolay**, born in Sofia, Bulgaria. Currently in my final year studying Psychology in Swansea University, Wales. I started my fellowship with PETRI Sofia in late May and stayed there until September 2017. During my stay there I got the chance to get inspired by great mentors and

exchange experience with likeminded young people.. I had many opportunities to develop personal skills while contributing to long term goals of the organisation. It was a great balance between independent working and cooperation with people from different NGOs and various cultural backgrounds. I look forward to keeping in contact with the community and being involved in any further occasions. It was an honour be part of this flourishing community."



My name is **Giorgi Beridze**, I'm from Georgia and I am a graduate of Tbilisi Medical State University's faculty of medicine. I joined the PETRI team in Sofia in 2017, during the months of July-September.

The two months spent in Sofia were very valuable and ones I will cherish forever. I gained firsthand experience in youth SRHR issues, communication, leadership, management and so on, all while being part of a great team of local and foreign leaders. I have no doubt that the connections and skills gained at PETRI will come in handy in all my future endeavors.

Y-PEER INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT IN AMMAN, JORDAN

The Y-PEER International Center for Youth Development (Y-PEER ICYD) is located in Amman, Jordan and hosted by the National Centre for Culture and Arts (NCCA). Its primary function is to act as a pillar in promoting youth development and leadership by providing technical assistance, quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation of Y-PEER capacity building initiatives for Arab States region and beyond

Y-PEER is an independent global network of youth volunteers aged 15 to 30 years old and its programs within the network are specifically targeting the needs of the most marginalized and at risk young people, with a special focus on young people affected by humanitarian crisis, young refugees, migrants and young key populations. The topics championed by the Y-PEER network are under the pillars of Health and Education especially Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), Humanitarianism, Leadership, Civic Engagement and Peace and Security. Y-PEER ICYD is a regional hub for the Y-PEER network and simultaneously fosters partnerships to promote growth, inclusion and synergy amongst other youth actors in Arab States and beyond. Additionally, Y-PEER ICYD helms cross-regional coordination and communications for collaborations with other regions.

Y-PEER ICYD had many interesting activities last 6 months .

Regional campaign on peace building , Gender equality and Gender based violence which reached out more than 1,000,000 and it was with participation of many national networks in the region which had a lot of variety in the activities .

They also held theater based training on FGM attended by 23 young activists , Got membership of AWAN network (Arab World Network Advocacy) for SRHR and attended their meeting in Tunisia ,

Representing Y-PEER in many occasions participating with NCCA in the preparation of AUB research project



Meet the current Y-PEER Fellow at ICYD - Amman



Nabil Hendy is a medical student who found his passion in community, social work and helping people to get skills and know more about their health issues & rights . He has started volunteering for a long time ago joined different NGOs local , national and international so could do something for his country , region and the world .

Conducted more than 4000 training session hours to young people in different NGOs about SRH ,Gender based violence , soft skills , etc with our interactive techniques .

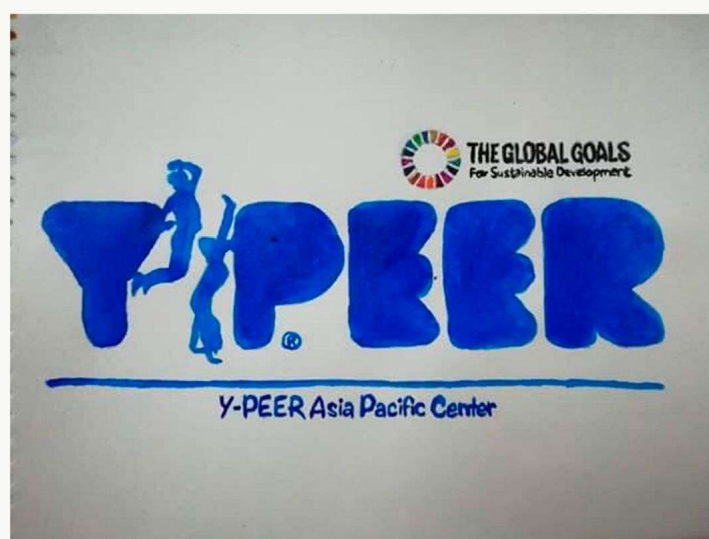
Currently he is an international Y-PEER fellow at ICYD , member in gender innovation agora of UNWomen and young leader at women deliver working hard to help figuring out innovative solutions to our health , gender , peace and security issues as part of SDGs which we all collaborate to achieve by 2030 .

ypeericyd@pac.org.jo

Y-PEER Asia Pacific Center

The Y-PEER Asia Pacific Center is a new regional office established in Bangkok, Thailand. Established in 2016, The center is supported by RCNF (Robert Carr Funds for Civil Society Network), UNFPA Asia Pacific Regional Office (UNFPA APRO) and hosted by Youth Lead (the regional Asia Pacific Network of Young Key Affected Population) who is partner organisation of Y-PEER (www.youth-lead.org).

Y-PEER Asia Pacific Center will also be working together with Y-PEER International, UNFPA APRO, UNFPA Headquarters and Country offices and other partners, in order to support the peer educators of Y-PEER and other networks in the region. This year, the center is supporting Y-PEER national networks with some small-scale funds, so that they work more closely on issues related to sexual and reproductive health and rights, and will also help the establishment of new national networks. The center has the plan to reactivate the existing national network in Laos, as well as to support the establishment of new national networks in Vietnam, Maldives, Cook Islands, Tonga, Solomon Island. Mr. Sangeet Kayastha, former International Coordinator of Y-PEER is the Focal Person & Coordinator of the new center.



Hand painted logo of YPEER AP CENTER. "Art by Ankisha Shrestha"

Y-PEER Asia Pacific Center

Meet the Team:

Sangeet Kayastha Y-PEER Asia Pacific Center

Sangeet Kayastha, Coordinator of Y-PEER Asia Pacific Center is SRHR Youth expert having the expertise of working in the Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights for more than 10 years. He has experience of working in different level starting from the grassroots level in his early career as peer educators and also evolving his work at National, Regional and International Level.

Working on various platforms and getting directly engaged with various Youth organisation and Networks, he had contributed to the capacity building of young people as well as contributed in different national, regional and global advocacy platforms.

His work also includes contributing on national and international policies related to young people and strengthening of SRHR youth activism in Asia Pacific Region and beyond.



Sangeet.ypeer@gmail.com

Roshan Budhathoki Y-PEER Fellow

Roshan Budhathoki is peer educators and Social activist who is working in the sector of SRHR & Human Rights since more than 7years.He had been working actively with different youth networks such as Global Unite Youth Network, UNYAP & YFY.



roshan.ypeer@gmail.com

ASIA PACIFIC TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS FOR YOUTH ADVOCATES

16 - 12 December, 2017

Bangkok, Thailand

The training of trainers took place in Bangkok, Thailand with the support of UNFPA Cos, Y-Peer national networks, Youth-LEAD and other partners of IATT. Out of 800 applicants, 26 young people from different countries participated. The theme of the training was SRHS, sexuality and gender, HIV. It aimed to strengthen the skills of the youth advocates in promoting human rights concerning sex and sexuality amongst their peers and to provide space for them to learn, share their experience and network.

The first session concerned sex and gender seen through images and personal stories. The second session focused on sexual and reproductive health and gender. Discussions on human rights and the need to focus on marginalized groups were held. A participant drew attention to the fact that in some countries in the region, women don't have the right to make a decision concerning their own body, even if it means jeopardizing their own health. Others pointed out that in some regions, although abortions are legal since 2002, the stigma associated to it is still too strong due to cultural and religious reasons. The same goes for the free access to contraceptives. Early marriage still persists as a problem, with girls urged to marry by the age of 13 to 15 and already have several children at 18 years old.



The third session concerned sexuality – its definition, its cultural and legal aspects. It was pointed out that some countries, like Afghanistan and the Philippines, ban homosexuality. Many unwanted pregnancies occur due to poor SRH knowledge. At the same time, the law in Afghanistan bans abortion unless three different doctors study the case and conclude with unanimity that the pregnancy is dangerous for the woman's health. However there are many discrepancies in the Asia Pacific region, for example, abortion is very common in China – around 000 000 11 abortions take place every year. The opposite problem – a ban on having more children that the law allows exists there

ASIA PACIFIC TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS FOR YOUTH ADVOCATES

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The fourth session discussed the different sex-related human rights, and in particular the right of life, of equality, health care and health protection, as well as the right of freedom of thought and the right of not being tortured, especially through exploitation, child prostitution, human trafficking, sexual abuse, bullying, rape.

Participants also received information on HIV/AIDS transmission and protection.

Post-training activities

One of the main objectives of the training was to enable the young participants to share their knowledge within their organization, institute and community and to disseminate SHRH information among their peers.

Finally, participants committed to staying in touch with the trainers for at least 12 months after the training and get involved in various online and on-field activities in the newly established network.

Prepared by :



Anmar Khalid - IRAQ
Editor in Chief
anmar.ypeer@gmail.com



Anuki Mosiashvili - Georgia
Editor
ani.mosiashvili@yahoo.com



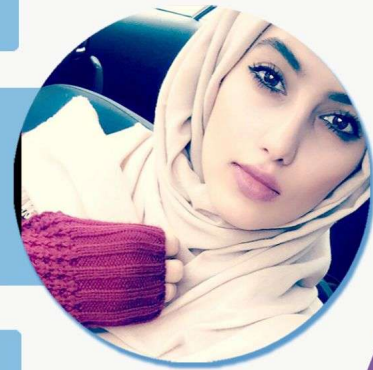
Julia Jurieva- Bulgaria
Editor
juliajurieva@yahoo.com



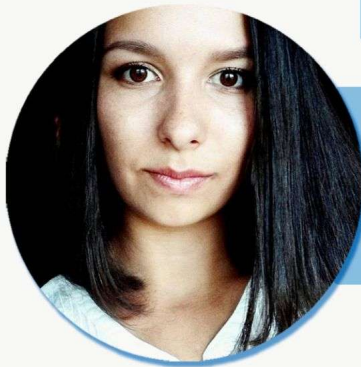
Mahmoud Gad – Egypt
Graphic Designer
mahmoud.gad9010@gmail.com



Alaa Sami – Iraq
Graphic Designer
alaasami415@yahoo.com



Dina Hammad- Jordan
Graphic Designer (Cover page)
dinahammad28@gmail.com



Diana Gergova- Bulgaria
Editor
gergova.diana@yahoo.com



CONTACT US

International Institute for Youth Development PETRI - Sofia
Sofia National Center of Public Health and Analyses 15, Acad Ivan
Geshov Blvd , Floor 2 , Office 62 , 1431 , Sofia , Bulgaria



+359 - 2 - 954 - 6666



petri.bulgaria@gmail.com



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