



# RESOLUTION

**Now more than ever:  
together for diversity, peace and respect.**

COUNCIL OF MEMBERS/  
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
MADRID, SPAIN, 27-28 NOVEMBER 2015

In the recent weeks dozens of people were killed in horrifying terrorist attacks around the world. These attacks left us feeling shocked and sad. All of our thoughts and our compassion are with the victims and with those who have lost their loved ones. These attacks are crimes against universal human values and on the very foundations of all free, open and democratic societies. As young Europeans, we believe the best possible answer to these crimes is to stand up for these values now more than ever.

The attacks have led to a widespread culture of fear for a lot of European citizens. Many are afraid of further terrorist attacks and war. With this strong declaration and commitment to the dignity and the freedom of every human being and for living in solidarity, diversity and peace, we want to light a beacon of hope for those who feel afraid.

Unfortunately, the recent attacks are also accompanied by a wave of xenophobia. Together, we strongly condemn all forms of xenophobic crimes, violence, terror, hate-speech and discrimination. Together we stand up for a society based on mutual respect. We can therefore also counter any form of general suspicion against whole religious or ethnic groups and all other forms of group-based discrimination. In particular, we also call that the right of asylum not be denied to those fleeing from terror and war because of the crimes of those from whom they are fleeing.

Instead we need to look further than short-term solutions and work towards countering the root cause of the wave of extremism.

Social and economic exclusion leaves space and opportunities to attract and recruit people for extremist violence<sup>1</sup>. A possible way to prevent future extremism is therefore to make our societies more inclusive, not to neglect urgent socio-economic challenges and to strengthen our efforts for a sustainable development worldwide.

We are committed to continue using our platforms for educating and bringing together young people from different backgrounds and layers of our societies, to empower young people to be responsible members of their societies and to offer them a safe environment for their personal development. Within our youth organisations we experience the value of diversity. Youth work brings together people from various different backgrounds, beliefs and ways of living. We therefore also support initiatives for intercultural and interreligious dialogues. Moreover, international youth work and youth exchanges contribute to peace-building and foster intercultural understanding and the recognition of basic values like the human rights.

Therefore, we call upon the states of Europe on one hand to recognise the crucial role of youth work and youth exchanges in building an inclusive society. On the other hand, we ask them to provide the necessary support for youth organisations and youth workers to offer a space for intercultural dialogue and inclusion.

With this support we can help to build a brighter future for everyone where we can further work on our ideals of democracy and including all of the society. Together we stand up for diversity, peace and respect - now more than ever!

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.youthforum.org/assets/2015/04/0071-15\\_RES\\_INCLUSIVE\\_SOCIETIES\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.youthforum.org/assets/2015/04/0071-15_RES_INCLUSIVE_SOCIETIES_FINAL.pdf)