Societies and New Generations: Young Voices as Ambassadors for Dialogue

53rd COPEAM Annual Conference, Ajaccio, 7-9 April 2016
Youth and social change: NEW RESEARCH

- Gap between young people and traditional media - Youth are portrayed negatively in the media, low levels of trust.

- Critical thinking and soft skills development for young people.

- Need to be empowered with communication skills to build counter-narratives to negative trends - They want to be heard.

- Use of social media by the young generation. Traditional media for older generation - Generational gap.
Youth and social change: NEW RESEARCH

- Youth want to be part of the solution, not the problem: the demographic dividend, not deficit.

- Youth are looking to connect with their peers – they seek exchange experiences with young people in Europe, in particular to develop and build on their social enterprise.

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Youth and Media:

LEADING THE CHANGE
Young Arab Voices: THE PROGRAMME

- Opportunities, tools, and capacity building for the involvement of youth in running and managing effective debates: SOFT SKILLS. CRITICAL THINKING.

- Four years. Over 1000 debates. More than 100,000 participants.

- International exchange opportunities for youth from the region.

- 8 Participating Countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia.

Young Arab Voices: THE YOUTH

“Young Arab Voices is not a programme; it is a mindset.”

“I listen, I understand and then I judge.”

“It helped me develop my personality and boost my self-confidence.”

“Debate makes you able to communicate effectively with other people and get your message across.”
Young Arab Voices: NEW PHASE


- Providing media and advocacy skills.

- Partnerships with media: bringing young voices into the mainstream media domain.

- Capacity building and mentoring.

- Public debates.

- Expansion: From Young Arab Voices to Young Euro-Med Voices
Journalist Award: THE PROGRAMME

- Engaging journalists from the Mediterranean in a permanent dialogue on issues of cross-cultural reporting.

- 10 years. 9 editions. 51 journalists awarded. 150 nominees. Across more than 40 countries.

- Network of media ambassadors engaged with the promotion of intercultural dialogue across the Mediterranean.

- Exchange and mobility programme for media ambassadors. Mobility of ideas. Better cross-cultural understanding in the region.
Youth and Media: LOOKING FORWARD

- Media mentoring: bridging the gap between young leaders and mainstream media.

- Media advocacy for cross-cultural reporting.

- Ensure youth become ambassadors for dialogue, bringing them to the front line of policy dialogue.

- Ensure they have their voices heard in the public domain and lead “alternative narrative” media campaigns.
Thank you.

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