ASEF ENTREPRENEURSHIP
YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

5,988 ASEM Youth Voices and their ASEFYLS Representatives
The ASEF Young Leaders Summit is a project initiated by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in response to a call by young citizens of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) member countries and the Heads of State and Government to create a platform for closer interaction and exchange between the ASEM policy makers and young people on pressing societal issues. Taking place on 1-5 November 2015 in Luxembourg in conjunction with the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting (ASEM FMM12), the 1st edition of the ASEF Young Leaders Summit will focus on the topic “Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment.” The Summit will invite over 100 young entrepreneurs, business and start-up representatives, academics, NGO workers and students from all 51 ASEM member countries to share ideas and perspectives, and to jointly work on a Call for Action. 4 youth representatives will present this Call for Action during the Opening Ceremony of the ASEM FMM12.

ASEF launched an Open Call for Applications across Asia and Europe in August 2015 (18 August to 4 September 2015). 5,988 young people between 18 and 30 years old applied to be part of this inaugural Summit, which will allow them

- to discuss the role of entrepreneurship as a job creating force and the responsibilities of different sectors in society to enable a favourable environment towards this purpose;

- to share their expectations and visions of leadership; and

- to directly engage with ASEM Foreign Ministers, business, social enterprise and university leaders.

In an effort to recognise the 5,988 youth voices, ASEF has captured their perceptions and aspirations on entrepreneurship, youth employment and leadership in a survey. This survey was a mandatory part of the ASEFYLS Open Call for Application.

Snapshots of the outcomes can be found in this booklet and will be shared at the ASEFYLS as well as with the ASEM Leaders. Here are some key facts: 85.3% of the respondents were from Asian ASEM countries, while 14.7% came from European ASEM countries. This difference is a reflection of the population size between the two regions. 51.5% of the respondents were female and 48.5% male. The respondents had diverse academic and/or professional backgrounds: 62.85% were students, 19.82% were employees/professionals, 13.22% were entrepreneurs, and 4.11% worked in academia.

What would be your view?
A leader must have the following qualities:

*Respondents could select up to 5 qualities

- Visionary: 52.5%
- Inspiring: 39.3%
- Creative: 35.8%
- Empowering: 34.3%
- Broad-minded: 30.2%
- Ambitious: 28.6%
- Cooperative: 27.6%
- Determined: 26.3%
- Risk-taking: 25.1%
- Courageous: 24.6%
- Honest: 24.6%
- Intelligent: 23.4%
- Decisive: 20.8%
- Influential: 20.2%
- Empathetic: 15.7%
- Self-controlled: 14.2%
- Supportive: 13.2%
- Environmentally conscious: 13.0%
- Transparent: 11.3%
- Experienced: 10.5%
- Fair-minded: 9.2%
- Independent: 7.9%
- Competitive: 7.5%
- Loyal: 7.4%
- Imaginative: 7.2%

These thoughts capture the ideas of leadership by the ASEM youth:

- „Your attitude is more important than your capabilities. Similarly, your decision is more important than your capabilities!“
  - Jack Ma
  - 23.4%

- „Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value."
  - Albert Einstein
  - 21.5%

- „Nothing is impossible, the word itself says ‘I’m possible’!"
  - Audrey Hepburn
  - 20.0%

- „I suppose leadership at one time meant muscles; but today is means getting along with people."
  - Mahatma Gandhi
  - 12.8%

- „A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: we did it ourselves."
  - Lao Tzu
  - 12.2%

- „It is a curious thing, Harry, but perhaps those who are best suited to power are those who have never sought it. Those who, like you, have leadership thrust upon them, and take up the mantle because they must, and find to their own surprise that they wear it well."
  - J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows
  - 10.2%
Young people in Asia and Europe prefer an influential position in the following sector:

- 24.1% International organisation (IO)
- 19.6% Start-up
- 14.8% Academia
- 12.5% Multi-national corporation
- 11.2% Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- 8.8% Public institution/government body
- 7.5% Small and medium enterprise (SME)
- 1.6% Family business

The young leaders want to use their entrepreneurial spirit to ...

- 38.5% Realise a social goal
- 23.7% Build an enterprise
- 22.0% Earn my living
- 21.9% Test and try out new ideas for self-fulfillment
- 21.7% Act as an intrapreneur and enhance structures from within existing organisations

To find a job the youth needs ...

- 31.5% Good networks
- 21.7% Extra-curricular activities/volunteerism
- 18.3% Internships
- 17.3% I took matters in my own hands and created my own job
- 13.4% University programmes and a university career center
- 10.9% A mentor
- 4.7% Government-led initiatives

The youth calls for more training opportunities in the field of:

- 25.9% Public speaking and pitching
- 23.6% Team work/team management
- 18.1% Networking
- 15.7% Negotiation skills
- 11.4% Self-branding
- 5.3% IT-skills
Entrepreneurship matters for youth employment because ...
PARTICIPANTS

Mr Arthur LAU
Australia
Department of Industry and Science, Government of Australia

Mr Ian MANN
Australia
IAAC, Entablature Investments Pty. Ltd.

Mr Manuel ERLACHER
Austria
MCI Management Center Innsbruck

Ms Tasmia HOQUE
Bangladesh
Tanjib Alam & Associates

Mr Adeeb TAWSEEF
Bangladesh
Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship

Ms Stéphanie DHEUR
Belgium
Luxmedica Enterprises Sàrl

“... kickstarting entrepreneurial vitality among youth drives future prosperity and growth.”

“... it inspires independence and to do what you love doing.”

“... it provides a vast array of opportunities for young people.”

“... it creates enthusing opportunities and enhances innovation.”

“... it empowers youth to create what they see best for their future and the world they live in.”

“... entrepreneurs can realise the current society’s aspirations, needs and values.”
Mr Jasper GOYVAERTS
Belgium
Noteble & Webdevine
“... it unlocks your hidden potential.”

Mr Benoît MASSET
Belgium
University of Luxembourg
“... it allows young people to be creative and develop market opportunities.”

Ms Laurence VAN DEN ABBELE
Belgium
Artesim NV
“... what Europe really needs are young driven entrepreneurs.”

Mr Ak Hj Ahmad Fadillah Akhbar PG HJ SELLAHUDDIN
Brunei Darussalam
University of Brunei Darussalam
“... it helps to create a network of employment and provide jobs from youth for youth.”

Ms Shirin AMIN
Bulgaria
Champions Factory Sports Club
“... the communication between Asian and European countries is of utmost importance.”

Ms Iren BUTRAKOVA
Bulgaria
University of Luxembourg
“... because every fresh-start needs adequate and innovative legal support.”
PARTICIPANTS

Ms Petya IVANOVA
Bulgaria
University of National and World Economy

"... it creates opportunities to grow, believe in yourself, learn, and develop skills."

Mr Sovanminea SENG
Cambodia
University of Evora

"... entrepreneurship creates job and improve livelihood and economic independence for young people."

Mr Seangveng THEANG
Cambodia
Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training, Government of Cambodia

"... it is a key to sustainable economic growth because entrepreneurs create new businesses & competition, speed up structural changes, shape innovation in economies and contribute to productivity."

Mr ZHAO Chuang
China
All-China Youth Federation

"... it creates jobs and stimulates creativity and innovation."

Mr ZHOU Ji
China
All-China Youth Federation

"... it allows people to be their own boss."

Mr CHEUNG Lap Kin
China
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

"... the best way to predict your future is by creating it."
PARTICIPANTS

Mr CHE Wen
China
Zhejiang University

"... it creates new job opportunities through innovation."

Mr WANG Xibo
China
All-China Youth Federation

"... it changes industrial structures."

Ms YAN Runwen
China
Zhejiang University

"... entrepreneurship produces innovative minds that create new possibilities."

Ms Marijana TOSIC
Croatia
Forum Alpbach Network

"... entrepreneurial infrastructure creates new businesses, jobs, and leads to innovation and inclusive growth."

Mr Anastasios CONSTANTINOU
Cyprus
Global College / Studentlife.com.cy

"... today's entrepreneurs and innovators will provide future employment."

Mr Josef MÜLLER
Czech Republic
JA Czech

"... it is an essential skill for our future."
Ms Lenka PASTÝříKOVÁ  
Czech Republic  
University of Economics of Prague

"... it provides self-fulfillment for youngsters to do what they really wanna do."

Mr Mads Mateusz Jaszczołt  
FRITZBOEGER  
Denmark  
Chatham House / Danish Foreign Policy Society

"... ownership empowers and encourages young people's active engagement in society."

Mr Zaedo Musa HAJAYA  
Denmark  
Ideonovo.com

"... it inspires people to be visionary and goal oriented."

Ms Cathleen HEIMBERG  
Estonia  
Tallinn University of Technology / AddGoals

"... the best way to get hired is to create the job of your dreams."

Mr Antti-Pekka MANNINEN  
Finland  
University of Turku

"... the current employment structures are based on the pre-information society."

Mr Charles-Henri GAYOT  
France  
Technical University of Denmark

"... it creates jobs perfectly suitable for generation Y's needs."
PARTICIPANTS

Ms Karen RIECKMANN
Germany
GFA Consulting Group

“... of its high potential for job-creation, mobility and social inclusion.”

Mr Lennart Christopher STOY
Germany
European University Association

“... it empowers young people to create their own job opportunities.”

Ms Lia Magdalena WEILER
Germany
GloW / University of Kassel

“... only your success rates your skills and performance.”

Mr Yves-Marie RAULT
France
Université Sorbonne Paris Cité

“... what we need today are creative jobs for creative minds.”

Ms Aliki Alexandra ANAGNOSTI
Greece
Yourtranslator

“... the only way to deal with youth unemployment is to promote job creation and this can be achieved though entrepreneurship.”

Ms Anastasia EXI
Greece
University of Luxembourg

“... youth have early work experience, which affects the society socially and politically.”
PARTICIPANTS

Mr Georgios KRAKAS
Greece
University of Luxembourg

"... it provides fresh solutions by fresh minds to old problems."

Ms Sofia OIKONOMOU
Greece
University of Luxembourg

"... youth needs to know skills and new tendencies in entrepreneurship."

Mr Dezso FARKAS
Hungary
Corvinus University / Partnerkövető céginformációs rendszer

"... it allows people to live the life they are dreaming of."

Ms Sana AHMAD
India
The Arctic University of Norway

"... the need for creating new platforms and mapping alternative routes to economy."

Mr Santhosh KANNADASAN
India
University of Luxembourg

"... youngsters today are selfdriven to start their career with startups."

Mr Chintan Nilesh RAJ
India
Rural Development Department, Government of India

"... it has the potential to create self-dependent individuals and disruptive change."
PARTICIPANTS

Mr Leo Wibisono ARIFIN
Indonesia
Sinar Mas Agribusiness

Mr Fajar Sidik PRASETYA
Indonesia
University of Warsaw

Mr Amr DAWOOD
Ireland
Trinity College Dublin / Change for Change

Mr Marco MATRISCiano
Italy
ABIS – The Academy of Business in Society

Mr Gianmarco SAPONE
Italy
LUISS University / European Court of Justice

Mr Rexhep UKA
Italy
University of Zurich / Universitäts Spital Zürich

“... it addresses youth unemployment and teaches youth to be innovative.”

“... youth has grown in prominence on national and global development agendas.”

“... the future of employment starts by the youth creating opportunities.”

“... entrepreneurship does not only create jobs and value for society, it also empowers young people to create a better future.”

“... it is the basic framework for developing a solid work system.”

“... young people don’t need to wait for an opportunity or idea to hit them. We need to start building our future now.”
PARTICIPANTS

Mr Robin Takashi LEWIS
Japan
Peace Boat

Mr Katsuya FUJI
Japan
University of Tokyo

Ms Aidana BASSENOVA
Kazakhstan
KIMEP University

Ms Marina ZAITSEVA
Kazakhstan
Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht Berlin

Ms So Youn PARK
Korea
Aarhus University / University of Hamburg

Ms Soudachanh CHANTHALAVANH
Lao PDR
University of Kent

“... it provides job opportunities and inspires others to take action.”

“... the earlier you attempt something, the more experience you gain.”

“... we can provide workplaces not by „making money”, but by „making a meaning.”

“... it opens new (sometimes unexpected) paths for future leaders and serves as an arena where young leaders gather for constructive dialogue to bridge ideological, religious, and national divides.”

“... corporates benefit from economically healthier societies.”

“... business can start from bare hands but and with only creative and risk-taking heads.”
PARTICIPANTS

Mr Xayasith PHETTABOUN  
Lao PDR  
EDL-Generation Public Company

Ms Zane DZILUMA  
Latvia  
Ministry of Economy, Government of Latvia

Mr Mindaugas BUSILA  
Lithuania  
Vilnius University

Ms Loreta STOKUTE  
Lithuania  
University of Luxembourg

Mr Kay AGNES  
Luxembourg  
University of Luxembourg

Mr Christophe BRIGHI  
Luxembourg  
Conférence Générale de la Jeunesse du Luxembourg

"... it provides more opportunities for working in many different fields."

"... youth creates new and innovative jobs instead of being employees."

"... young entrepreneurs have a better way of living, wider possibilities in their lives and more choices."

"... young people usually are particularly determined, talented and purposeful."

"... youth know how the system works and how they can deal with upcoming problems."

"... youngsters should get a chance to show their high potential."
Ms Aldona BUDNA  
Luxembourg

Mr Michel HOFFMANN  
Luxembourg
Individuum SA

Mr Christian KREMER  
Luxembourg
Conférence Générale de la Jeunesse du Luxembourg

Mr Salomon Carlos LEIJA  
Luxembourg
University of Luxembourg

Mr Antony MARTINI  
Luxembourg
University of Luxembourg

Mr Gregory MULLER  
Luxembourg

EFFECTS

“... we generate more creativity, develop new practices and invigorating outcomes.”

“... it creates new jobs, and it’s the youngsters that are the most innovative thinkers.”

“... youngsters should get a chance to show their high potential.”

“... it creates opportunities and empowers youth to take independent decisions.”

“... of the learning opportunities.”
Mr Jeremy THIRY
Luxembourg
University of Luxembourg

Mr Jacques WENIGER
Luxembourg
University of Luxembourg

Mr Jeff SANDHU
Malaysia
BFM Media

Mr Neville BEZZINA
Malta
InboundMuse Ltd

Mr Battulga BUYANNEKEH
Mongolia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Mongolia

Mr Dashnyam IKHBAYAR
Mongolia
Mongolian Youth Federation

"... entrepreneurship is a way to contribute to your community."

"... it opens up new opportunities for the youth."

"... it creates a first-world mindset for our next generation."

"... it "future proofs" young people for the skills of tomorrow."

"... it inspires youth to challenge the status quo and lead change."

"... it provides youth with the opportunity to direct their own future and decide how they wish to contribute to their communities."
PARTICIPANTS

Mr Huriwhenua PARATA
New Zealand
Auckland University of Technology
"... it provides more than just work."

Ms Nathalie SANGLIER
Netherlands
Ghent University
"... by becoming self-reliant youngsters can create their own labor perspective."

Mr Zam Suan MUNG
Myanmar
Friedensau Adventist University
"... of the rising of youth unemployment and sluggish economic growth."

Ms Marit BLAAK
Netherlands
University of Groningen
"... it enables youth to multiply their talent. Given the opportunity and some inspiration youth can solve a variety of social problems."

Mr Zolbayar ZORIGOO
Mongolia
ITZone LLC
"... modern entrepreneurship creates the exciting jobs and engages youth into it."

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University of Groningen
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Mr Huriwhenua PARATA
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Auckland University of Technology
"... it provides more than just work."

Ms Jingjing WANG
New Zealand
University of Oxford
"... young people are eager to design, create and build their own futures."
Mr Johann Andreas OSBAKK
Norway
London School of Economics and Political Science

"... it empowers communities, improves lives and drives progress."

Mr Muhammad Omer ANWAAR
Pakistan
University of Luxembourg

"... it goes without saying that youth is more energetic and focused."

Mr Muhammad Usman KHAN
Pakistan
Bringing Education to Youth & Learning Initiatives (BEYLI)

"... it creates multi-layer positive impact on cross-cutting issues."

Mr Zohaib Karim NOORANI
Pakistan
MentMe

"... entrepreneurship utilises youth's creative potential, it generates opportunities and sustains growth."

Prof Salvador Santino REGILME
Philippines
Northern Illinois University

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University of San Carlos

"... entrepreneurship opens new opportunities and helps in achieving sustainable development."

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PARTICIPANTS

Mr Christian TAVEIRA
Portugal
Pfizer
"... it can be the trigger to develop new ways of thinking."

Ms Maria Lidia TANDECK
Poland
European University Viadrina / „Profesja” Employment Agency and Training Center
"... it is creative, innovative and gives space for young and original ideas."

Mr Tiago MARQUES
Portugal
University of Coimbra
"... it opens doors to those who need gaining work experience."

Ms Margarida RODRIGUES
Portugal
European Investment Bank (EIB)
"... traditional employment is decreasing and sometimes failing to meet the world's innovation needs."

Ms Sylwia K. MAZUR
Poland
University of Information Technology and Management of Rzeszow
"... young people decide how to tackle joblessness by staying independent."

Mr Christian TAVEIRA
Portugal
Pfizer
"... it can be the trigger to develop new ways of thinking."

Ms Margarida RODRIGUES
Portugal
European Investment Bank (EIB)
"... traditional employment is decreasing and sometimes failing to meet the world's innovation needs."

Mr Tudor FEDELES
Romania
Luxembourg School of Finance
"... youth don't have many opportunities to express themselves."
Ms Ana-Irina PATRASCANU  
Romania  
University of Luxembourg  

“... innovative ideas solve people’s everyday problems, which means evolution.”

Ms Laura Adina VISAN  
Romania  
European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations, European Commission  

“... entrepreneurship is a key element of investing in young human capital and maintaining a competitive environment because of the added-value brought by youngsters on the market.”

Mr Aybulat KHUSAINOV  
Russian Federation  
Bashkir State University, Center for Promotion of Graduate Employment  

“... unemployment affects young people, and independence is created by opening your own business.”

Ms Daria MOROZOVA  
Russian Federation  
Central European University, Budapest  

“... it paves the way for talent.”

Ms Jayasutha SAMUTHIRAN  
Singapore  
SPRING Singapore  

“... innovative people create jobs and fuel productivity wherever they go.”

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Singapore  
SPRING Singapore  

“... innovative people create jobs and fuel productivity wherever they go.”
"... it is a way to create jobs and foster innovation." 

"... it creates new quality jobs, and boosts creativity and innovation." 

"... it increases the scope." 

"... it is a key factor for the reactivation of the economic system through the creation of new jobs." 

"... successful start-ups play a big role in growing the economy and thus creating jobs and raising the standard of living."
Mr Pao MANEEPAIROJ
Thailand
Sciences Po Paris / Columbia University

“... entrepreneurship maximizes a generation’s potential, allowing sustainable change.”

Ms Suphanit SINGHSACHAKUL
Thailand
LinkedIn

“... it creates jobs in addition to traditional corporate ladders.”

Ms Erika GYLLENSVAAN
Sweden
Coompanion Halland

“... entrepreneurial creativity and innovation is crucial for increased job creation.”

Mr William TURNER
Switzerland
Make a Difference Investment Solutions

“... it creates new opportunities and can redefine staid structures.”

Ms Shachi AMDEKAR
United Kingdom
University of Cambridge

“... we owe the next generation better prospects than we had.”

Ms Ha Uyen LE
Viet Nam
Funtastic Ltd.

“... it is usually helpful for start-ups to hire youths, since they are easier to train and cost less.”
Ms Bui Phuong TRANG

Viet Nam
Lancaster University

“… entrepreneurship promotes job creation to solve the youth unemployment crisis.”