7th ASEF Rectors' Conference and Students' Forum (ARC7)

Higher Education Taking Action towards the Sustainable Development Goals:
Perspectives from Asia and Europe

Participants' Booklet
Students' Forum

Co-organised by

ASIA-EUROPE FOUNDATION
National University of Political Studies and Public Administration
MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI NAȚIONALE

In Partnership with

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PARTICIPANTS

Ms Phoebe MACINTOSH-EVANS  
Representing Australia  
University of New South Wales

Phoebe is a 5th year medical student at the University of New South Wales, Australia. She has a background in involvement within the medical community, and has participated in advocacy relating to student experience such as mental health and wellbeing, bullying and sexual harassment, and guaranteeing jobs for medical graduates and retaining funding. She has worked at a local university faculty level, state government and federal government level, as well as coordinating programs to encourage young people to meet their members of parliament. Her skills lie in policy writing and advocacy. Phoebe is excited to be able to broaden the application of her skills to look beyond the medical world, and work with everyone at ARC7 to do it.

Mr Florian Anton SCHANZNIG  
Representing Austria  
University of Lifesciences Vienna, University of Vienna

Florian grew up in the Austrian countryside, before moving to Vienna to study. There he made many experiences through his studies and other engagement in the students organisation, [sic!] – the Students Innovation Centre. As board member of [sic!] he is experienced in project management and teamleading. Florian’s field of study lies in exploring how nature and all its elements are affected by human activity, as well as how to solve and manage occurring problem through innovative technology, but also shifting habits and transform economic services. His interest lies in urban studies and environments. Florian’s main area of expertise lies in food production systems, resilience and consumption habits.

Mr Isbat Ibn HASNAT  
Representing Bangladesh  
University of Hamburg

Isbat is studying for his Master’s in economics at the University of Hamburg. He is also working on education research in IEA (International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement) as a student research assistant. His research interest is mostly associated with economic impacts of education and his working paper is on long term effects of child victimization for underprivileged children in developing countries. Additionally, Isbat is the co-founder of a non-profit student organization called Smallfoot, which provides educational and technological learning assistance to slum children in Bangladesh and has experience in multiple research consultancy both in Bangladesh and Germany.

Mr Syed RAIHAN-UL-ISLAM  
Representing Bangladesh  
Assistant Director for International Affairs  
Daffodil International University

Syed is currently working as the Assistant Director of International Affairs, Daffodil International University (DIU) Bangladesh. He completed his graduation and Master's degree in English literature from the same university. Since 2013, he has been coordinating International mobility for teachers, students and staff with global partners. He also supervises International cooperation relations & communications on behalf of DIU as well as setting up summer/winter program arrangement for International students. Syed has attended more than 12 international conferences around the world such as EAIE, APAIE, AUAP, AUPF, EURIE, WFYS etc. He has visited 17 countries with the agenda of collaborative projects with various universities and associations.
Mr Maxim VANDEKERCKHOVE
Representing Belgium
Ghent University
Maxim completed his LL.B from Ghent University in 2017, and is currently finishing his Masters in Ghent University. He is the Together Ambassador for the Socialists & Democrats Group in the European Parliament, and Youth Research Fellow at the African Union. Other than politics, he also has a passion for photography.

Ms Rasyidah Binti IBRAHIM
Representing Brunei Darussalam
Tsinghua University
Rasyidah is a graduate student at Tsinghua University where she is pursuing a dual MPA/MSc degree with the University of Geneva in Public Policy for Sustainable Development Goals. She graduated from the University of Exeter with a Combined Honours in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. Her research interests include poverty alleviation, national development strategies and social entrepreneurship. Rasyidah is an Executive Committee member and Program Director of the Student Association of the Belt and Road Initiative at Tsinghua University (SABRI). She is also an advocate for world youth change and has represented Brunei Darussalam in the World Youth Forum 2018 in Egypt. She is currently a Research Assistant at the China Case Center for Public Policy and Management.

Ms Ana DIMITROV
Representing Bulgaria
University in Belgrade
Ana is currently a student in her final year of German Studies at the Faculty of Philology. She is very interested in different cultures and diversity and its impact on the communities and tries to explore cultures not only through her education courses but also in informal learning environments. Ana has volunteered during the International Students Week in Belgrade and spent two summers in intercultural German language summer schools. This year she is very proud to be participating in the International Students Festival in Trondheim. She is passionate about supporting and promoting SDGs and for her, education is one of the most exciting goals. Ana believes in motivating the youth and youth motivating the whole community. Therefore, she is volunteering for a Nigerian NGO, where she will be promoting education as well as emphasizing its general importance through her articles.

Ms Aleksandra STEFANOVA
Representing Bulgaria
Member
Students Council for Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski
Aleksandra is a Master Student in Law at Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski. She is a Member of the Students Council of Sofia University St Kliment Ohridski for 3 years and was project manager of the Students Law Conference in 2017. The Students Council of Sofia University has a lot of initiatives such as “Caps for the Future.”
Mr Dararath UK
Representing Cambodia
SHARE Alumni Association of Cambodia (SAAC)

Dararath graduated with Bachelor degrees in Education in English and International Studies from the Royal University of Phnom Penh. He is active in community service and leads a student association to facilitate student mobility. He has participated in and contributed to a number of policy dialogues on student mobility and Higher Education at ASEAN regional level. Beside his strong interests in education and community, Dararath likes music and aircrafts. Working at airport after his graduation, he reads and writes in his personal blog, especially to engage with universities, student associations and fellow students to run social projects that benefit students and the community, in his free time. He is committed to support higher education institutions to improve education quality and foster community sustainable development.

Ms Shanshan WU
Representing China
Donghua University

Shanshan majored in E-Commerce at Donghua University. She is currently studying for her second degree in Finance at the East China Normal University. She has great enthusiasm in environmental protection, women’s empowerment, climate change and other public welfare undertakings. At present, she serves as executive chairman of Lean In College, and is responsible for managing the affairs of nearly 100 college associations in China. Shanshan is a member of the Chinese Youth Delegation to the 24th UN Climate Change Conference. At the same time, she also works with her team on the topic of “Exploration of Sustainable Waste Classification and Recycling Mechanism in Chinese Colleges and Universities”.

Mr Mirko SAVKOVIC
Representing Croatia
University of Glasgow, Dublin City University and Charles University Prague

Mirko is an Erasmus Mundus Master scholarship student doing a Security, Intelligence & Strategic Studies joint degree at the University of Glasgow, Dublin City University and Charles University Prague. He completed his undergraduate studies at the Çankaya University in Ankara with a scholarship from the Turkish Government. Born in Kraljevo, Serbia, he lives in Croatia. Mirko is a contributor for the Security Distillery and the SEE summary published by the South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance. He is a recipient of the Sir Richard May Balkan Program Scholarship, the third prize at the 2016 Carnegie Council Student/Teacher Essay Contest and the Order of Kantakuzina Katarina Branković. In summer 2019, he will complete his work-placement at the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt. Mirko is active in civil society organizations.

Ms Maria TARAPOULOUZI
Representing Cyprus
University of Cyprus, European University Cyprus, Municipality of Morphou

Maria is a Chemist/Toxicologist and is currently pursuing a PhD in Chemistry at the University of Cyprus. She holds a Master’s degree in Environmental Engineering. At the moment, Maria is working at the Senior School in Nicosia, Cyprus and she is a member of the School’s Green Team. She also teaches Toxicology at the European University of Cyprus. Since 2007, she has been a member of the Youth Council of Morphou and in 2016, was elected as a Municipal Councillor of Morphou, her father’s hometown which is also an occupied town in Cyprus. Maria is a keen researcher who is currently involved in several projects. Her main interests include environmental sustainability, youth and human equal rights and application of knowledge and skills during and after academic studies.
Mr Martin HAMMERBAUER
Representing Czech Republic
University of Economics, Prague

Martin is a Master's degree student at the University of Economics in Prague, where he also does research in Economics and International Trade. For the past five years, he has been a member of the Main Students' Representative body of the Czech Republic, where he also served as an evaluator of university programmes for the Ministry of Education. Martin has experience in sustainable energy projects from management consulting, as well as from an advisory think tank to the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ms Carina Lykke SVINDBORG
Representing Denmark
Aalborg University

Carina is currently the communication manager of United Nations Youth Association in Aalborg, Denmark, where she promotes knowledge of UN's Sustainable Development Goals to local youth through events and workshops. From a young age, she has been active in promoting youth rights and politics all over Denmark as she has previously been a board member of the Network of Local Danish Youth Councils. She holds a Bachelor in English and International Business Communication from Aalborg University, Denmark and HELP University, Malaysia. Currently, she is studying for a Master in Development and International Relations.

Mr Uku LILLEVÄLI
Representing Estonia
Lund University

Uku holds a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Tartu and is currently pursuing a Master’s degree in International Development and Management at Lund University. He has partaken in various international conferences and training courses and volunteers as a youth empowerment trainer for Seiklejate Vennaskond. Uku has experience working in marketing and is the co-founder of Tour de Planet, an organisation that aims to promote local social initiatives around the world. Uku is an ASEFEdu alumnus.

Mr Jürgen Hendrik VOITKA
Representing Estonia
Estonian University of Life Sciences

Jürgen currently studies Environmental Protection at the Estonian University of Life Sciences. As a member of the Student Union of Estonian University of Life Sciences, president of the Environmental Protection Students' Association and international project coordinator of AIESEC in Tartu, he has had the opportunity to experience very different parts of the higher education system.
Anna is a MSocSci student in Economics and MSc student in Computer Science (data science track). Currently, she is specifically interested in questions related to population and natural resources, and due to my double degree master, the methods as well. She has been actively involved in student politics at her student union and has held multiple positions of trust at the representative council, financial committee, and student organizations’ committee, just to name some.

Alice is finishing her Political Science Master at Radboud University in the Netherlands, specializing in conflict studies. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Political Science at the University of Lille II. She also studied Political Science and Diplomacy during an exchange at Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU) in Seoul, South Korea. She recently took a year off during her master to complete an internship at the Korean Center of the Swedish think tank ISDP and at the Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines. Alice also uses her international experience as a student to promote an equal access to higher education for all through volunteering for UNICEF, teaching English in Vietnam or assisting the organization of the European Higher Education Fair 2018 in Manila.

Yannik holds a degree in Business Administration from Germany and is currently pursuing Master’s degrees in International Relations, Global Political Economy, and Economics and Governance at Leiden University and the University of Groningen. His academic research focuses on Energy Security, Geoeconomics and European Economic and Security Governance. With several internships in Government Relations and Energy Policy Research, combined with his long involvement in multiple international Model United Nations conferences, Yannik has gathered substantial professional experience. As a student representative in the Honours College Master Program Committee at the University of Groningen, Yannik was able to advance the ideas and feedback from students into the structure of the Honours College’s Leadership programme.

Nefeli is in the 4th year of her studies in the field of Biotechnology at the Agricultural University of Athens (AUA). She is the president of the organization committee of the Volunteering Team of AUA, where she coordinates plenty of social, environmental and educational activities, inside and outside the University. The target of the team is to inform and motivate students in her country to become active members of the society through volunteering in the University. For this reason, Nefeli represented her team at the NCG forum in October of 2018, in order to present the project of the team in a forum devoted to innovation and creativity in youth.
Klaudia is a dedicated environmental public policy manager with a strong background in youth initiatives and higher education. She holds Master's degrees in European and International Public Administration and in Social Policy from the Corvinus University of Budapest. As a PhD candidate from the Doctoral School for Management and Organisational Science at the Kaposvár University, her primary research is focused on sustainable cities, environmental policy and SDGs. She is also keen to turn information into action participating in Hungarian academic and youth organisations’ work on recent sustainability projects, including being an expert for the young leaders forum ‘Visegrad for Sustainability’ on smart cities. Klaudia believes sharing knowledge in the international academic community is key to success.

Ketan is an International Youth Speaker, motivator and a professional writer in the fields of Politics, International Relations & Law and Indigenous knowledge. He graduated with a degree in Political Science (H) from the University of Delhi and is currently enrolled in a 3 years Law program in the University of Delhi. Ketan has also represented his country on various international platforms of youth like in Russia, Dubai, Nepal and South Africa. His latest research paper published in Eubios Journal of Asian and International Bioethics. He is an active volunteer in various social projects and is committed to build a better future for our next generations.

Brandon is a student of the Islamic University of Indonesia, majoring in International Relations. He has taken part in empowerment projects by his university in 2017 as a facilitator to develop people in rural area and practice the SDGs by promoting a notion of "think globally, act locally". He was also a tutor/assistant lecturer in Human Security, a subject taught by his department in 2018. Currently he is leading a think-thank organisation in his university as the President of the Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia, the Islamic University of Indonesia chapter.

Áine is currently doing a Master's degree in Gender, Violence, and Conflict at the University of Sussex. Her undergraduate degree was in Politics and International Relations with Sociology at the University College Dublin. During her studies, she was the treasurer two years running for the newly founded Politics and International Relations Society. Through her studies and from working with the society, Áine developed a passion for gender studies and related troubles faced by men, women and other genders inclusive of conflict, violence, environment, race, economic, health, LGBTQI+ rights and cultural factors. In the future, she hopes to incorporate SDGs in her work and discuss how the goals have impacted these sectors.
Mr Alberto Carmelo MUREDDEU  
Representing Italy  
Università degli Studi di Cagliari

Alberto is currently studying chemistry and pharmaceutical technologies at the University of Cagliari. Formerly a part of the Academic Senate, he is now part of the expert pool in the field of quality assurance for European Student’s Union. Alberto is also a current member of the student union’s (UDU) foreign affairs group. During the last university elections, he was elected to the departmental, faculty and course council.

Ms Fumika IKEDA  
Representing Japan  
Waseda University

Fumika is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics at Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan. She currently resides in the United Kingdom as part of her her exchange year. Prior to her studies in Japan, she was raised in Ottawa, Canada, where she finished high school. Fumika has extensive participation in international student conferences; currently performing the role as corporate treasurer for G7/G20 Youth Summit 2019. Additionally, she has been selected as a student representative at United Nations Association JCK Youth Forum 2017, the Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting Youth Forum 2018, and the Kingfisher Global Leadership Program 2018. She also enjoys Nihon-buyo and alpine skiing in her spare time.

Ms Banu NUSSIPOVA  
Representing Kazakhstan  
Jiger - Youth Organisation of Persons with Disabilities

Banu has 7 years of work experience in the field of social inclusion of young persons with disabilities. In 2008 She earned a college degree in accounting, economics and auditing from Kazakh Economics College named after T. Ryskulov. In 2017 she earned a Bachelor's degree of education in Physical culture and sport from Kazakh Academy of Sport and Tourism. Since 2012 Banu works as a project coordinator in “JIGER” - Youth Organization of Persons with Disabilities. She implemented 9 social projects, aimed at social inclusion and rehabilitation of youth with different types of disabilities. Banu has experiences in project design and project implementation. Her areas of interest include human rights, inclusive education and sports.

Mr Parkhat YUSSUPJANOV  
Representing Kazakhstan  
Jiger - Youth Organization of Persons with Disabilities

Parkhat has fourteen years of experience in the nonprofit sector. He earned an Executive Master's degree in Development Policies & Practices from the Graduate Institute of Geneva, as well as a Master's degree of Public Affairs from Indiana University. Since 2011, Parkhat has served as President of Jiger, a youth organization of persons with disabilities that he co-founded in Kazakhstan. Under Parkhat's leadership, Zhiger established the first disability support centers for students in the country and successfully lobbied for policy changes at the national level to ensure educational environments support people with disabilities. He has extensive experience consulting for state and local governments, primarily specializing in disability access in education. Parkhat has honed his expertise in social entrepreneurship, strategic planning, project management, human resources, and non-profit financial and operational management.
Mr Jae Kyung PARK
Representing Korea
Seoul National University

Jaekyung is finalising his Bachelor's degree in International Relations at Seoul National University (SNU). In SNU, he has actively participated in diverse activities which include exchange and cooperation with foreign universities and students. He served as the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief of Protocol in 2018 when his university hosted the 12th Asian Future Political Leaders’ Association, proficiently managing the 6-day event. He was also in attendance at the Asian Undergraduate Summit 2018 organised by the National University of Singapore as a delegate representing SNU. As a seasoned private diplomat, he is doing volunteer work at the language education centre inside SNU campus at present, teaching Korean language to foreign diplomats who are staying in Seoul. His current interests are international politics and Korean domestic politics.

Mr Vixaty PHOMPANYA
Representing Lao PDR
University of Szeged

Vixaty is a PhD student in Law and Political Sciences at the University of Szeged, and also holds a Master’s degree in International Relations (IR) from the University of Pécs. He currently serves as President of the Lao Student Association and as Secretary of Lao People’s Revolutionary Youth Union in Hungary. Before pursuing his PhD, Vixaty worked in the International Relations Sections at BCEL Bank. During his Bachelor’s degree in IR, he received an exchange scholarship to study at Nanyang Technological University of Singapore in 2013. One year later, he did an internship at the Lao Government Office. Since 2010, Vixaty has participated in many regional and international youth events such as Sunburst Youth Camp 2010; the Ship for Southeast Asian Youth Programme 2012; the 1st IDEA Asian Youth Forum 2013; the 1st Baku World Forum for Young Scientists 2014. Aside from this, he has also been involved in different volunteer programmes and social activities in Laos.

Mr Dāvis FREIDENFELDS
Representing Latvia
Riga Technical University

Dāvis is currently enrolled in a Master’s degree in Total Quality Management at Riga Technical University. Previously, he received a Bachelor's degree in Environmental science. Dāvis is an experienced students representative. He has been Faculties Students Councils Chairman, Head of Academic Affairs at Riga Technical Universities Students Parliament and also president of the Student Union of Latvia. He has also participated in a variety of events regarding sustainable development goals and reduction of environmental impact.

Ms Laura ALCIAUSKAITE
Representing Lithuania
Vytautas Magnus University

Laura is doing her PhD in Psychology at Vytautas Magnus university in Kaunas (Lithuania). She has working experience both as a lecturer and as a psychologist. Laura is a keen researcher who is currently involved in several projects. For the last several years, she has been a human rights activist, especially in promoting equal rights and opportunities for people with disabilities. Currently, she is a volunteer at two regional NGOs, where she delivers workshops as a trainer for youth with fewer opportunities in fields of empowerment, leadership and social inclusion.
Ms Rūta KAVALIAUSKAITĖ
Representing Lithuania
Kaunas University

Rūta has been working as a professional psychologist for 8 years. Currently she is working at the Kaunas University of Technology. Her fields of interests are stress management, creativity and art therapy.

Ms Christine MULLER
Representing Luxembourg
Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne University

Christine is a Luxembourgish graduate student at the Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne University, currently doing a Master's degree in International Law. She obtained her first Master's degree at the Catholic University of Portugal in the field of Culture Studies, specializing in the Management of arts and culture. In 2017, she accomplished a Bachelor’s degree in Law at the Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, where she studied political science and international law as majors. She has spent one semester studying common law and international law at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Christine’s interest in diplomacy and arts have allowed her to make internships at the Luxembourgish Embassy in Rome, in an International criminal law firm in Paris and at the National Museum of Natural History in Luxembourg.

Mr Kuhan Pillai ANBALAKAN
Representing Malaysia
National University of Malaysia

Kuhan is attending the National University of Malaysia where he is enrolled in the Law degree programme. Apart from reading Law, Kuhan has been very active with the Kalsom Movement, the longest student lead organisation in Malaysia addressing education inequality. Previously, he has also been working enormously with the Asian Law Students’ Association in Malaysia to expand the network of law undergraduates and promote the rule of law. He is now both the President for ALSA Malaysia and Vice President for The Kalsom Movement while continuously representing the country in various competition and conferences in the field he works the most at.

Ms Nur Syahirah KHANUM
Representing Malaysia
Undergraduate Student
International Islamic University Malaysia

Khanum is in the final year of her Bachelor's degree for International Communication focusing on applied linguistics. For her dissertation, she is conducting register analysis on environmental NGOs communicating their function and its relationship to the Sustainable Development Goals. As a Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Fellow, she had organised two regional projects addressing the issue of gender discrimination and sustainable fashion. Currently, she is volunteering for Malaysian Youth Delegation, a non-governmental organisation educating Malaysians on climate change policy and negotiations. She is committed in exploring the role of language to produce actionable policies and impact measurement tool yielding holistic data to support sustainable development of the community and environment.
Mr Eman BORG
Representing Malta
University of Malta
Eman a youth advocate, is dedicated to supporting the youth community. Currently reading an undergrad is Social policy at the University of Malta, he founded the first LGBTQ+ organisation on the island of Gozo. He sits as Commonwealth & SDG officer within the National Youth Council of Malta. In 2017, Eman was awarded the prestigious Queen's Young Leaders award from H.M Queen Elizabeth II. Undertaking a leadership course from the University of Cambridge as part of the Leading Change programme. He recently joined the Commonwealth Youth Gender Equality Network to continue his work not only on a local & national level but within an international sphere.

Ms Binderiya OYUNBAATAR
Representing Mongolia
National University of Mongolia
Binderiya is an active member of International Association of Political Science Students. In the last five years, she has engaged and cooperated with student academic associations, volunteer organizations, and academic events organizers. In 2017, she founded an online platform that shares both national and international academic opportunities' information for students and shared over 950 opportunities to thousands of daily viewers. Since, she has worked for an official UNISDR event in Mongolia and several other events as a coordinator and a focal point. Binderiya has an extensive experience in coordination and communication roles.

Mr Ye Pyae THU
Representing Myanmar
Taxila Institute of Youth Leadership & Development
Ye Pyae is a social entrepreneur and educator from Myanmar (Burma) and was educated in the United States, China, and the Netherlands. His educational background includes a B.S. in Business Administration (Summa Cum Laude & University Honor), a Diploma in Social Entrepreneurship and a Diploma in Civic Engagement from Northern Illinois University in the U.S.; a Master of International Business’20 from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China; and an MSc in Strategic Management (with an emphasis in Consultancy)’20 from Tilburg University in the Netherlands. Ye Pyae is the Founder & Senior Lecturer of Taxila Institute of Youth Leadership & Development; Founder & Executive Director of Youth Social Force Foundation; and the Founder of Hexagon Social Enterprise Co.,Ltd. He is also the Director of Administration, Finance & Partnerships for the award-winning “Educational Leadership & Classroom Management - ELCM” Project, which is funded by the U.S. Department of State and supported by the Myanmar Ministry of Education. Since the age of 16, he has been passionately teaching over 14,000 college students and 1,700 faculty members from about 60+ public universities in Myanmar.

Mr Gijs Vincent VAN DEN BERG
Representing the Netherlands
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)
Gijs is studying Safety in the Food Chain at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna, Austria. He completed his Bachelor studies in Human Nutrition and Master studies in Plant Biotechnology at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. He conducted part of his studies as an exchange student at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences and ETH Zurich. Gijs served in 2016 as a volunteer at the local office of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the Kyrgyz Republic and in 2018 as an intern at the Agricultural Department of the Dutch Embassy in Warsaw, Poland. During his studies in the Netherlands, he volunteered at ESN as a buddy for incoming international students and served on the board of the International Student Organization Wageningen.
Mr James O'Keefe
RANSTEAD
Representing New Zealand
New Zealand Union of Students' Associations

James is currently the President of the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations. NZUSA's mission is to create a barrier-free tertiary education system in New Zealand by lobbying Government, working with partners in the tertiary education sector, and providing support to member associations. He has recently been working on campaigns such as the restoration of the PostGrad Student Allowance, better mental health support for students, student voting in local body elections, and research to uncover an alternative to Voluntary Student Membership. Outside of this work James has a strong interest in the environment, and have been working passionately on this topic through studies and work experience. He will soon start his Masters in Environmental Change and Management at Oxford University, and hopes to be able to work on the Sustainable Development Goals in the future.

Ms Rebekka Rindal
Rindal Opsal
Representing Norway
MF Norwegian School of Theology, Religion and Society

Rebekka is a Master’s student in the Religion, Society and Global Issues program at MF Norwegian School of Theology, Religion and Society. She has devoted much of her time as a student to student politics, both locally as Vice President and President and nationally as a Central Board Member in the The National Union of Students in Norway. Rebekka has also worked part time in the student administration for several years, as well as the admission office of MF during last summer, therefore she also has some experience from the institutional perspective. Quite a bit of her work has been related to international students. As she is currently on exchange in Timisoara, Romania through Erasmus and her Master’s program has an international orientation, she hopes that she can bring some relevant experience and perspectives to the ARC7 Students' Forum.

Ms Hina Nasir
representing Pakistan
Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Lahore

Hina is a recent medical graduate and the President of the International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations-Pakistan (IFMSA-Pakistan). She is an internationally certified IFMSA Medical Education Trainer and a member of the Student Task Force for AMEE Conference 2019. Her aspiration to make medical education and health in Pakistan, top of the line motivates her to work harder. She has over five years’ experience of leading various NGOs with a focus on SDGs, WHO global action plans and Human rights. Hina has represented Pakistan as the Head of the delegation of Pakistani medical students at the IFMSA MM18 at Egypt. Her policy on Trade and Health was adopted at the IFMSA March Meeting 2019 in Slovenia.

Mr Miguel Aguiling Pangalangan
Representing the Philippines
Erasmus University Rotterdam

Miguel has extensive experience in field work and development research. During his undergraduate program he was distinguished both in academic and leadership endeavors. His undergraduate research was awarded best thesis by the University of the Philippines. Miguel served as an elected official, representing 60,000 students in the highest governing body of the university. Currently, he is taking his Masters program at Erasmus University Rotterdam.
Ms Agata KRZASTEK
Representing Poland
Jagiellonian University

Agata is a Polish Youth Delegate to the UN. She studies law at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. Always involved in social activities for the community, she created the first City Youth Council in her hometown of Zakopane. Since then she has been passionate about youth participation and their involvement in decision-making processes. During her university studies, she advocates for students rights through the Students Council. She is also a member of the European Law Student Association (ELSA), where she actively engages in academic activities with a special focus on moot courts competitions. Agata believes that creating a dialogue is the key to building a sustainable world. She is also currently the Country Lead in V4SDG.

Mr Luís Carlos André MORAIS
Representing Portugal
Erasmus Student Network Portugal

Luís Morais is the current President of the Erasmus Student Network Portugal (ESN Portugal). Through this position, he has been representing the interests and needs of the international students in Portugal, improving their social integration, promoting mobility opportunities to young people and advocating for a better Erasmus+ programme. He has an academic background in Telematics and Computer Engineering from the University of Aveiro. During this time, he had the opportunity to study abroad for one year in Poland at the Łódź University of Technology and explore Europe with two Interrail experiences. His main interests are international and national politics, education and economic policies, reading and sports.

Ms Alina ROINITA
Representing Romania
University of Bucharest

Alina is a PhD student interested in working in the international educational system. She is studying Linguistics, and is especially interested in intercultural communication and understanding. Her interests are related to educational inclusion, the powerful means through which quality education can be accomplished, how to bring together more different educational systems, and the way ex-students can adapt and are able to shape their life under difficult circumstances. She thinks every person is defined by something and she defines herself as learning how to apply the good results in the professional life.

Ms Alina BULATOVA
Representing the Russian Federation
Saint-Petersburg University

Alina is a postgraduate student of the International Relations and World Politics program of Saint-Petersburg State University. Her PhD research is about the preservation of world heritage sites in armed conflict zones. She was actively engaged in volunteer programs, conducting the UN Models and organization of scientific forums on the topic of international security. One of the most useful events for the development of her interests was the training program Conflict Analysis & Interventions Design in Humanitarian, Development and Social Projects by UESF and ACUNS, Vienna, Austria. She had the experience in diplomatic work while doing the Internship at the State Protocol Division of the St. Petersburg Committee for External Relations. Alina is the Information Center for International Security representative since February 2017.
Edward was elected twice as the President of the Nanyang Technological University Students’ Union (NTUSU). As President, he launched an initiative entitled The First Step, supported by Singapore’s Education Minister Mr Ong Ye Kung and CEOs, which helped students get a better head start at their careers beyond academic performance. He has also been an invited speaker at the African Students and Youth Summit and was also invited to 3 of Singapore’s television programmes to represent youth voices. Edward was Chairman of NTU Students’ Fund, a million-dollar fund that supports financially challenged students through their education and he currently serves on the University Board of Discipline as a member. He is currently a recipient of the prestigious Nanyang Scholarship and is reading a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering with a Second Major in Business Analytics.

Elena studies a combination of artificial intelligence and software engineering. She is the President of the University Students’ Council at her university and a delegate from the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava in the Student Council for Higher Education, the highest representative body of the university students in Slovakia. She is a president of Union of the Student Organisations at her university, and together with other members, has worked on several initiatives for improving conditions for students and for better society in general. Her academic overview was further strengthened by spending a semester on a university abroad and by working for another university in Slovakia for two years. Besides being active in the academic sphere, Elena has also taken part in many international activities such as a summer internship at CERN and volunteering during the 27th Winter Universiade for International university sports federation.

Živa is currently attending the University of Ljubljana (UL) where she is enrolled in the Master’s programme Special and Rehabilitation Pedagogy at the Faculty of Education. She previously led the Student Council of the Faculty of Education for three years, worked as the vice-president for the UL Student council and represented student interests as a member of the UL Senate. She is currently an active member of the Student council and a student representative in the Senate of Faculty of Education. Živa also works as a tutor for younger students and for students with special needs. Her professional focus is on students with special needs, teacher empowerment and creating easy-to-read information for adults with intellectual disabilities. She is currently leading a four year long project of transforming the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia to an easy-to-read form.
Mr Alejandro Anouar
ARTIACH SOUNSSI
Representing Spain
Beijing Normal University

Alejandro is a Spanish and French national from Madrid. A fellow at Young Sustainable Impact (YSI), he is also the co-founder of the data dialogue company MassMetrics, as well as an active advocate of youth engagement in leadership and the UN SDGs. He graduated in Economics and Politics at the University of Exeter in the United Kingdom and is currently pursuing his graduate studies in China at Beijing Normal University. Most of his professional experience in development was acquired in Morocco, where he contributed to microfinance and urbanization projects directed to vulnerable people in underdeveloped areas. At ARC7, Alejandro looks forward to talk proactively about 21st century education alongside other brilliant individuals from around the world.

Ms Kawthar KAROUT
Representing Sweden
Royal Institute of Technology

Kawthar has a background in energy and environmental engineering. She is based in Stockholm, Sweden but has also lived and studied in Lebanon and the Netherlands. She was the Swedish United Nations Association’s ambassador of the SDGs 2016 and mentor for the ambassadors both under 2017-2018. She was a junior fellow at Institute of Canadian citizenship in 2017 and is currently European Policy Centre's fellow for FutureLabEurope. Kawthar is also the head organizer of Crossed Paths of Europe which is an international project focused on widen the definition of European identity. She has a passion for inclusion, diversity and cultural interactions.

Ms Rosemary DELA CRUZ
Representing Switzerland
Mahidol University International College

Rose majored in Intercultural Studies and Languages at Mahidol University's International College, becoming the first student to ever graduate with a 4.0 GPA. An active participant in university affairs, she helped co-founded the AIESEC Mahidol local committee and AIESEC MUIC Student Club, successfully campaigned for university changes, and conducted research which resulting in findings used by the Student Affairs Office in their training of student club leaders. As an intern in the Japan Internship Program hosted by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, she furthered cultural and business ties and the exchange of knowledge between Japan and Thailand. She also works part-time as an English teacher and has served as an online UN Volunteer. She enjoys intercultural exchanges and working and learning in cross-cultural settings, and was an Outstanding Delegate at the 2018 ASEAN Student Forum and the scholarship recipient of summer school programs in Spain and Taiwan.

Mr Teerayut Dowruang
Representing Thailand
Srinakharinwirot University

Teerayut is currently completing a bachelor's degree, majoring in English Education at Srinakharinwirot University in Bangkok. He is also the co-founder of the Kruise project, which aims to support pre-service teachers by equipping them to have mental and academic readiness to tackle educational issues. In addition, he also co-founded and served as the secretary of a "Dress the Dream," a social enterprise against domestic violence. He has also been engaged in both private and public sectors in Thailand and Southeast Asia for years to provide community service to his community through programs and projects relating to second language pedagogy, STEM education, environmental science studies, social entrepreneurship, inclusive learning, and civic engagement. Recently, Teerayut is a pre-service English teacher conducting his action research on interactive learning.
Ms Farrah BARBER
Representing the United Kingdom
University of Saint Andrews

Farrah is originally from Stoke-on-Trent, England, and is completing an MA(Hons) at the University of Saint Andrews, Scotland. She is currently on an Erasmus+ semester abroad at Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen. Her Minor focus is on Russian and Economics. She is a Fellow of the prestigious Future Global Leaders Fellowship – a renowned award for First-Generation university students across the globe. She has completed internships at the Milken Institute's Asia Centre, Singapore; the Institute of Economic Affairs, London; PwC; Peregrine Communications. She has also recently been invited to meet the Ambassador of the USA to Germany at the US Embassy in Berlin, alongside her colleagues at IFAIR, a youth organisation designed to facilitate global international relations. She is a St Andrews Entrant Scholar and a Rectors Scholar. Alongside such, she has done work experience at both PwC and Bain & Company, where she is a True North Scholar.

Ms Dhruti CHAKRAVARTHI
Representing the United Kingdom
Student
University of Edinburgh

Dhruti is currently pursuing her undergraduate programme in Sustainable Development with a foundation in Social Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh. She has a myriad range of experience in working with Sustainable Development at various interdisciplinary levels across the world. Having worked as a researcher in Rwanda, worked with the School of Diplomacy in Kosovo, audited the Social Responsibility or ‘Service’ sector of Kings College London and having been delegated as a Climate Reality Leader by Former US VP Al Gore, she has a panoramic perspective to Sustainable Development. An extremely involved student on campus, Dhruti is an Editor at UK’s oldest student newspaper, ‘The Student’, has represented the Debates Union as the Vice-President and as an adjudicator at the World Championships in Mexico and is currently the Undergraduate School Representative at the university.

Ms Ngoc Phuong Hong NGUYEN
Representing Viet Nam
Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam

Ngoc is an undergraduate student majoring in International Relations at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As the student leader of the Faculty of International Politics and Diplomacy as well as President of Student Research Club, she has organised many academic seminars and research activities at her university. She won the ASEAN-Korea Academic Essay Contest in 2018 and was Vietnam's representative for the Youth Academic Workshop in Seoul. Furthermore, she is one of the pioneers in developing competitive debate network across Vietnam. She acts as Chief Adjudicator Panel for many local tournaments, with the aim to promote the values of debate, critical thinking and problem analysis to Vietnamese youths. She is also on the Organising Committee of the Asian British Parliamentary and the upcoming United Asian Debating Championship tournaments, two of the biggest debate competitions in Asia.
Patricia has a Master's degree in Psychology and wrote her dissertation on the impact of institutional recognition on volunteers engagement. She is a long time volunteer of the Erasmus Student Network. Additionally, Patricia is a member of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe - a team of 30 youth representatives that advise the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on decisions relating to youth. In 2018, she was a trainee at the European Parliament.

Jungyoon is the President of The OCEANS Network (Organisation for the Cooperation, Exchange And Networking Among Students and Alumni), a global organisation of students and alumni who have participated in the international credit mobility between Erasmus+ Programme and Partner Country Universities. She has been an active volunteer since 2011 providing training for outgoing students upon their exchange, organising workshops for members, advocating for international credit mobility programmes around the world. Jungyoon works as a communication consultant on projects both in private and public sector. Her latest works include managing strategic communications programs and campaigns around major sports, entertainment, and live events. She graduated from Korea University with a double degree in sociology and business administration, and also did her studies in Barcelona Spain, and Santiago Chile.

Georgiana is a Board Member and Co-Chair of the Erasmus+ Student and Alumni Alliance, where she is representing the Erasmus Mundus Student and Alumni Association. She has recently received a PhD in Educational Leadership and Higher Education from Boston College. Her research interests span a wide array of topics in international and comparative higher education, including employability, stratification, equity, and quality. Her work experience includes appointments with the American Council on Education, the Boston College Center for International Higher Education, the World Bank, and Harvard University. Georgiana holds an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's degree in Research and Innovation in Higher Education, a Master of Arts degree in Education and Globalization from University of Oulu, Finland, and a Bachelor of Political Science degree from Babes-Bolyai University, Romania.

Jayren is a community-driven, Social Technopreneur. As Head of Economic Enhancement, ASEAN Youth Organisation, he co-leads a 270K community of Southeast Asian youths to solve problems in the region. As Country Host (Singapore) for Global Entrepreneurship Week, he is connected with 169 other countries' hosts with a total of 10 million community members. Together, they empower individuals to be more entrepreneurial and leverages on technologies to develop Innovative products that solves global problems and improve humanity.
The United Nations General Assembly identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that encompass many aspects of contemporary society. The goals serve as globally-recognised standards that call upon stakeholders across all sectors, including education, to implement them by 2030. Achieving the SDGs, however, is a complex interplay that requires both strategic thinking as well as creative and innovative methods. Solving a Rubik’s cube - one of the most famous educational toys ever - resembles this multifaceted process: it takes not only analytical skills and imagination but also hands-on action in solving the puzzle to get all the colours, sides and patterns right within the given time. Like the pieces in a Rubik’s cube, the SDGs are interconnected and any decision to move towards a certain direction has an impact on the overall pattern and outcome. The 7th ASEF Rector’s Conference and Students’ Forum (ARC7) is the platform for students, rectors, policy-makers and education ministers to showcase the interdisciplinary role of higher education in this serious game of developing and sustaining our societies. While the optimal solution may not be the easiest nor the quickest, we know we are moving the pieces in the right order by taking turns in drafting policy recommendations and making commitments towards the SDGs at ARC7.