

## **INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SOCIALISTS YOUTH**

### **Control Commission - IUSY**

#### **Dear Comrades**

I am María Julieta Vitale, born 26 years ago in San Martín, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. I have recently graduated as a lawyer and I am an activist of the student organization Franja Morada. Being a member of such an organization has made me a young woman strongly committed with the surrounding reality. Created half a century ago, Franja Morada has led the Argentine student movement with the ideals of equality and social democracy, upholding the core principles of the Argentine University Reform of 1918.

Franja Morada has always defended free public education, university co-government, unrestricted access, academic excellence, freedom of thought and has been - above all - one fundamental key in the process of recovering democracy and full respect for human rights in our country against the violence of military dictatorship in the late 70s.

Taking part of this organization has meant for me a different way of analyzing and interacting with the inequalities we face every day. It has promoted in me the critical thinking that allows me to question the social organization others have laid down for us.

I studied Law at the University of Buenos Aires, where I took the first steps in Franja Morada. Within the period of 2014-2016 I was elected as a member of the FUA Board, as I was assuming more responsibilities in the construction of Franja Morada in the University of San Martín.

To me and to the whole organization, IUSY meeting places are fundamental, both for training and for the strengthening of Socialism throughout the world. This candidacy represents for us a great challenge and a bigger responsibility.

I understand that social democracy is a flag for those of us who love equality, who believe Freedom goes beyond any national border, and who live united in a global solidarity.

Facing a world harassed by the insensitivity of the Right, we must assume the responsibility of re-encountering with the young of the world.

Our organization considers essential to propose a road map that improves cooperation among the member organizations of the IUSY in order to empower the young. An agenda that considers the many problems Youth of the world are facing, from a socialist and social democrat point of view. For that purpose it is necessary:

1. To enhance networking among our parliamentary young of the world to undertake coordinated actions related to the youth. Taking into account the importance of prioritizing education policies as an equalizing force.

Revising, analyzing and re-thinking youth-related legislation:

2. To promote among our organizations the fight and respect for the acknowledgement and expansion of individual freedoms, the freedom of thought and organization, and the full control over our own bodies in order to prevent the penalties that many countries apply in the case of abortion and personal consumption of cannabis, among others.
3. To consider girls and women as a social collective at risk in the face of social, political and cultural manifestations of machismo and patriarchy: Female circumcision, sexual crime victims during wars, young girls and teenagers forced to marry, femicides, dating abuse or violence, inequality in the access to labour market and public service.

Strengthening the fight for equality, parity and political participation of women in the member organizations of the IUSY:

4. To work in the respect to diversity, demanding acknowledgment for love in diversity, the right to form a family, gay marriage and adoption.
5. To work on sexual education and access to public health services, from a gender perspective, prioritizing life project and family planning in the face of teenage pregnancy and STDs.
6. To work in the humanization of state punitive agencies, in order to palliate institutional violence reflected in police abuse, repression of social manifestation, poverty criminalization, and the right's strategy of deepening stereotypes of young and foreigners as dangerous.
7. To work in the communication between member organizations to improve global and regional activities coordination.
8. To work in creating awareness about the importance of individuals for the sole cause of being people, reaffirming human dignity and the unavoidable government protection of human rights. Emphasizing vulnerable groups such as refugees and war victims.

Social democracy is at a landmark moment. We fight for a modern IUSY, one that mobilizes youth, one that – with courage and solidarity - gives responses to the thousands of men and women out there who do not wish to see the opportunities of a whole generation being squandered in the current global order.

It is a proper pain the one provoked by the humanitarian crisis of the refugees; we feel as ours the pain of those excluded and segregated for gender, religious or racist reasons. That pain of the lack of equal opportunities, when circumstances have determined the limits of your aspirations.

Let us all build bridges; in a world that is currently building walls.

All over the world, to change it.

Yours,

Maira Julieta Vitale