



ALL OVER THE WORLD TO CHANGE IT!

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SOCIALIST YOUTH

Vienna, 19th December 2017

IUSY POOL OF DIPLOMATS (TERMS OF REFERENCE)

United Nations Tasks Team

LINE/ LÍNEA/ LIGNE:	TEXT/ TEXTO/ TEXTE
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1 **Background**

2 The International Union of Socialist Youth - IUSY has a long history of advocacy and activism
3 at the United Nations (UN). From the earliest days of movement's involvement in the UN,
4 IUSY has mobilized its members around critical intergovernmental processes that have had
5 wide reaching impact on policy at all levels of governance. Now, the leadership of IUSY is
6 heavily engaged in a number of platforms and spaces for youth-led organizations, namely the
7 UN Major Group for Children and Youth (UN MGCY) and the International Coordination Meet-
8 ing of Youth Organizations (ICMYO). Through these platforms, the leadership is working in
9 partnership with other youth-led and youth-serving movements, as well as likeminded NGOs,
10 to ensure that social justice and human rights are the cornerstones of the policy frameworks
11 adopted by Member States of the UN.

12 As the IUSY leadership strives to engage and impact more vigorously in the UN, primarily by
13 playing a central role in youth advocacy around sustainable development processes like the
14 High Level Political Forum on the SDGs (HLPF), the Third UN Conference on Housing and
15 Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), and the follow-up and reviews processes of a
16 number of other key global frameworks, the IUSY Presidium seeks to expand the involvement
17 of members at the regional and national levels as to further mobilize IUSY members to take
18 their messages and advocacy to the UN.

19 The IUSY Pool of Diplomats - UN Task Team (PoD), will bring together the IUSY leadership
20 with members of the Organisation eager to engage in policy advocacy at the global level.
21 The PoD will not only help bolster the work of the IUSY Leadership, it will help bring aware-
22 ness to the national movements of the work being done on their behalf in international organ-
23 izations like the UN. It is an opportunity to further enrich the advocacy of IUSY through
24 grassroots involvement, while also nurturing a greater understanding of the UN and global
25 advocacy of the Organisation among members on the ground.



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26 **Organisation of the PoD**

27 The PoD will be curated and administered by the IUSY Leadership in Vienna, bringing togeth-
28 er three distinct groups that will ultimately form the three parts of the whole of the PoD:

- 29 1. The UN IUSY Leadership Team;
- 30 2. The UN Support Group;
- 31 3. The Core Group.

32 The UN IUSY Leadership Team will play the primary advocacy role at the UN, representing
33 the movement and interfacing directly with the UN System. It will be composed by the IUSY
34 Secretary General, the IUSY President, whomever holds the UN Portfolio in the Secretari-
35 at/Presidium, and an appointed Pool of Diplomats coordinator.

36 The UN Core Group will consist of young activists with a strong knowledge of the UN Sys-
37 tem, but may not necessarily come from a IUSY Member Organisation leadership position.
38 The members of this group will be IUSY MO activists who are trusted by the IUSY Leadership
39 and Presidium, and who seek to lend their expertise to the work of the PoD as a whole.

40 Finally, the Support Group will consist of the members of IUSY coming from the Member Or-
41 ganisations with a keen interest in the UN and in supporting the work of the UN Advocacy
42 Team.

43 The UN Support Group will not have a limit on their numbers, but the Core Group will consist
44 of not more than ten (10) members, taking into consideration regional and gender balance.
45 These ten members of the Core Group will have equal roles in the work of the PoD and can
46 volunteer for work as their time permits. Nevertheless, each member must undertake re-
47 sponsibilities pertaining to the work of the movement in the UN in order to maintain good
48 standing in the PoD and continue to function as a member with all the privileges and oppor-
49 tunities related to it.

50 **Role of the PoD**

51 The PoD will help bolster the work of the IUSY Leadership while also providing a link between
52 processes at the UN;

- 53 1. Providing grassroots insights into the advocacy positions of the UN IUSY Leadership
54 Team;
- 55 2. Bringing the advocacy messages of IUSY at the UN back to the Member Organisations;
- 56 3. Engaging in relevant regional and national meetings on behalf of IUSY in collaboration
57 with the UN IUSY Leadership Team;
- 58 4. Expanding the partnerships of IUSY around UN advocacy at regional and local levels.
- 59 5. The PoD may extend its mandate over other international bodies (e.g. OECD, CoE, or any
60 other regional cooperation group) if and when asked by the IUSY Presidium.

61 **Selection of the Members of the PoD**

62 The PoD Coordinator is appointed by the same procedures of any other IUSY Working Group
63 coordinator.



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64 The members of the Core Group will be chosen as follows:

- 65 1. A global call will be shared with the Member Organisations of IUSY requesting individual
- 66 members to apply to join the Core Group of the PoD.
- 67 2. The UN IUSY Leadership Team and the Presidium will review the applications and select
- 68 the members of the Core Group.
- 69 3. Those selected to join the PoD will then be notified that their applications have been suc-
- 70 cessful and be invited to join the PoD.
- 71 4. National movements will be notified of any selection made from among their member-
- 72 ship.
- 73 a. The members of the UN Support Group will be chosen as follows:
- 74 5. Activists with a strong knowledge of the UN System and the relevant platforms in which
- 75 IUSY engages will be invited to participate in the work PoD, be given a global mandate
- 76 from IUSY, and provide support to the work of IUSY in the context of the UN.
- 77 6. The invitation to participate in the PoD will be based on a joint decision by the Presidium
- 78 and the UN IUSY Leadership Team.

79 **Methods of Work**

80 The PoD will work primarily through online meetings. Once the PoD is established, it will
81 have an initial coordination call and then have monthly update calls to make sure tasks are
82 being completed. Tasks for the PoD will be crafted by the UN IUSY Leadership Team in con-
83 sultation with the UN Support Group and the Presidium. It is then the responsibility of these
84 groups to build the capacity of the members of the Core Group so they may carry out their
85 tasks and bring their valuable expertise to the global advocacy work of the Organisation.

86 In terms of the online meetings, each meeting will be chaired by the IUSY Leadership Team.
87 The chair of the meeting will have the following responsibilities:

- 88 1. Setting the date and time of the online meeting;
- 89 2. Organizing the online meeting;
- 90 3. Appointing the note taker(s) for the meeting;
- 91 4. Chairing the meeting itself;
- 92 5. Sharing the outcomes and action items from the meeting with the other members of the
- 93 PoD and the Presidium.

94 When possible, and when funding allows, the PoD will have a face to face meeting that in-
95 cludes the Presidium representatives to further accomplish the tasks set out in this docu-
96 ment. The location, date, and agenda of the meeting will be set by the PoD as a whole taking
97 into consideration the cost, convenience, and accessibility of a location.

98 **Amendments**

99 These Terms of Reference may be amended, as and when necessary, by the PoD as a whole
100 through consensus or by the IUSY Presidium or Congress/Council.