IUSY is a youth-led NGO umbrella organisation that gathers socialist, social-democratic and labour youth organisations worldwide. Founded in 1907, it concentrates its efforts on support and capacity building for young people fighting for freedom, human rights, social justice, equality and democracy, international solidarity and political solutions. It is the biggest political youth organisation in the world: over 140 member organisations in over 90 countries. IUSY has a long tradition in being involved in different activities through regional committees, seminars, workshops, trainings, and study visits. Activities implemented by IUSY are based on its fundamental values those of socialism and social democracy: freedom, equality, and solidarity. In essence these three values can be summarised by the word “democracy”, as real democracy assumes and creates freedom, equality and solidarity at the same time. IUSY build bridges of dialogue and understanding, in which justice and intergenerational solidarity are present. It is essential to move to a paradigm in which the youth is not only accepted as subjects with legal rights, but also becomes important agent of social change in national, regional and global dimensions.

This report presents the activities that have taken place between January-December 2020.
The crisis has mostly affected vulnerable people and groups in our societies and deepened already existing inequalities. Young people have been hit by the crisis too. Many of us have lost our jobs, many of us have not received any support or social protection. The pandemic also affected our educational process: schools, universities, youth centres were closed. Many of us faced interrupted or postponed volunteering or internship projects. Distance learning has been offered to many but many also left out from that process. Lack of internet, lack of computer or other devices did not allow many young people to follow the distance learning opportunities. Many young people with disabilities also were forgotten in this process. During our meetings, we have recorded concerns in increased housing insecurity, poverty, worsening of mental health. The crisis that made the issues that are deep in the system even more visible also showed the weakened democracies. Declared states of emergencies, nationwide lockdowns have been used to pass antidemocratic and discriminatory laws in many countries. This affected civic space putting it at risk. This crisis has also showcased how much the current economic system affects our environment and how we exploit our natural environment. As young people and youth organizations we have the opportunity to reflect and take steps towards protection of natural environment.

IUSY organised online activities and panel discussions to foster youth participation and international solidarity.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, IUSY has worked to ensure that activities planned were not left behind and that our member organisations do not lose the opportunities of meeting, learning and sharing. IUSY adapted to this new reality organising and engaging in different activities, meetings and solidarity actions. IUSY organised online activities and panel discussions where our members led the discussion and actions. In this time of uncertainty, we strongly believe that youth participation, empowerment and active political engagement is the way for system change.
**Student Working Group Meeting** took place 27-29 April on the theme of Students rights in the times of crisis. The aim of the three-day meeting was to learn on the implications of crisis situations on basic human rights and students’ rights and enhance student international solidarity. The meeting offered a platform to discuss how the situation has affected student life in the regions, give space to engage in a dialogue on common struggles and obstacles, and work together to come up with strategies to defend, advocate and campaign for student’s rights in crisis situations. The working group published a statement and agreed to have regular online meetings discussing students issues internationally.

**Feminist Working Group Meeting** took place 11-13 May. The theme of the meeting was Feminist Activism in the time of Emergencies. The three-day meeting gave our participants the opportunity to share how they are doing in this situation and what is happening in their realities from the feminist perspective. As a direct outcome, working group published a statement. The working group has also initiated a series of webinars on Intersectional Feminism.
**WORKING GROUPS**

**Queer Working Group Meeting** took place 27-29 May. This year's QWG recapped on the work done in the past year and worked further on guidelines and policy proposals for adapting their online activism to the current online times. The working group published the 2nd edition of the Guidelines on How to be a Better Ally. Working group planned to organise an online meeting to present the guidelines as well as a workshop on allyship. At the end of September 2020, working group organised a 2 day virtual event on Labour market discrimination.

**Training of Trainers for Pool of Trainers** took place on 14-19 September. The training provided the participants to acquire and develop training and facilitating skills, knowledge on non-formal education and youth work. Participants explored non-formal education methods and discovered how it can improve their political work and political education. In addition, the activity also strengthened the network of trainers for the Pool.
Feminist Working group organised a webinar on “Women* and Social Movements” that took place on 28 June. This webinar aimed to open international discussions on feminism and its relevance to social movements with the objectives to discuss the intersectionalities of movements and emphasize the significant role of women* in social movements around the world.

Internal capacity building workshop on facilitation and moderation skills for the Feminist Working Group took place 5-6 October with the aim to develop and strengthen the skills and capacities of the working group.

Virtual discussion on Women* and Leadership took place on 5 November with the objectives to understand the main challenges women* face in leadership positions, especially in decision-making politics and to discuss possible measures that governments, parliaments, regional and global institutions, as well as political parties and organisations can take to improve gender representation in leadership positions.

Queer Working Group organised 2-day virtual event on Queer Fights and Labour Issues on 28-29 September. Event aimed to identify queer labour issues, showing a queer-socialist perspective to labour issues and the economic and climate crises socialism as the solution, solidarity of queer-socialists with all comrades from the socialist and queer movement in our work for a just economy for young people.
WORKING GROUP FIGURES

4 WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

90 PARTICIPANTS & SPEAKERS

7 REGIONAL REACH
IUSY Mediterranean and European Committees joint meeting took place on 3 April. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the recent situations on the regions, governmental responses to the emergency as well as to share the actions that youth organisations took to fight the pandemic in local and regional level.

Balkan Round Table Leadership Conference (BRT) took place 24-25 June under the topic Covid-19 and Future of Youth. During the meeting, participants focused on the concerns that young people and youth organisations have in the region. Participants shared their vision for the future of youth in the region. The Committee published a statement after the meeting.

Black Sea Area Cooperation Leadership Conference (BSAC) took place 1-2 July. The topic of this year’s meeting was “Lessons learnt and Recover plan for the region”. The Committee focused on the lessons learnt from the crisis situation due to COVID-19. The Committee approved and published a statement after the meeting.

American Committee (AC) titled “Desafíos progresistas de las Américas en la recuperación post pandemia” took place 27-29 November. This year the focus of the Committee was on the current situation in the region, on the state of democracies, consequences of COVID-19 and political movements in each of the countries. Committee gathered together over 50 participants.
REGIONAL COMMITTEE FIGURES

- 4 Activities
- 95 Participants & Speakers
- 3 Statements

IUSY, FEBRUARY 2021
OTHER IUSY ACTIVITIES

- 21 March, Covid-19 and Global Solidarity (webinar)
- 22 March, IUSY Control Commission meeting
- 30 April, IUSY-ILFRY meeting · 1 May, International Choir on the occasion of Workers day
- 19 May, OPC-CIS-IUSY-IFLRY Steering group meeting Global Youth Programme
- 14 June, Presidium Call
- 17 June, OPC-CIS-IUSY-IFLRY Steering group meeting Global Youth Programme
- 22 July, Impact of Covid-1- on Global Youth (webinar)
- 5 September, Day of Democracy (global online event)
- 16 September, OPC-CIS-IUSY-IFLRY Steering group meeting Global Youth Programme
- 16 October, Control Commission Meeting · 20 October, OPC-CIS-IUSY-IFLRY Steering group meeting Global Youth Programme
- 24-25 October, Presidium Meeting
- 3 & 8 November, Global Seminar
- 8 December, OPC-CIS-IUSY-IFLRY Steering group meeting Global Youth Programme
- 11 December, Control Commission Meeting
- 12 December, Presidium Meeting
The struggle for equality: A toolkit for the feminist fight, January 2020
IUSY and YES Statement on Trump’s “Peace Plan”, February 2020
IUSY Statement on the Situation in El Salvador, February 2020
IUSY Statement on the Situation in the Dominican Republic, February 2020
IUSY and YES Statement on Hungarian Coronavirus Act, April 2020
IUSY Presidium Statement on Covid-19 Situation, April 2020
The Pandemic and the Palestinian people: A Matter of Human Rights, April 2020
IUSY 1st of May Statement, May 2020
IUSY Says no to Israel’s annexation and announces measures to fulfill the human and national rights of the Palestinian people, May 2020
IUSY Queer Working Group Guidelines on How to be an Ally (2nd edition), June 2020
IUSY Feminist Working Group Statement and Call for Action, June 2020
Statement regarding the recent attacks by the Turkish state in Northern Syria and South Kurdistan/Northern Iraq, July 2020
Balkan Round Table Committee 2002 Statement, July 2020
Black Sea Area Committee 2020 Statement, July 2020
Student Working Group Statement, July 2020
Statement regarding the recent attacks against Mapuche demonstrations in Chile, August 2020
Statement on the immediate release of human rights Defender Mahmoud Nawajaa, August 2020
Solidarity with Lim Guan Eng, Democratic Action Party Leader, August 2020
Statement on the Situation in Mali, August 2020
Declaración de IUSY ante Masacres de adolescentes y jóvenes en Colombia, August 2020
Desde IUSY reiteramos nuestra condena a la sistemática violación de DDHH en Venezuela, September 2020
Statement on situation in Armenia and Azerbaijan, September 2020
Desde IUSY felicitamos al pueblo boliviano por el rescate de la democracia y al Presidente electo Luis Arce Catacora, October 2020
Soutient Au President Roch Marc Christian Kabore Et Au Mpp, October 2020
IUSY Condemns Attacks om Nigerians, October 2020
Concerning the latest developments in the Western Sahara, November 2020
IUSY condena el asesinato de dos jóvenes en medio de las protesta en Perú y llama al respeto de los Derechos Humanos y de la Democracia, November 2020
IUSY Statement on the protests in Thailand, November 2020
IUSY Statement on the Occasion of International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, November 2020
Hacemos un llamado al gobierno de Guatemala a escuchar las exigencias del pueblo y garantizar los Derechos Humanos, November 2020
Declaración Final Comité Americano IUSY 2020 “Desafíos progresistas de las Américas en la recuperación post pandemia”, December 2020
Aborto legal, seguro y gratuito en Argentina, December 2020
OVERALL FIGURES

29 ACTIVITIES

420 DIRECT PARTICIPANTS

32 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS

IUSY, FEBRUARY 2021
9 May, What is the European Dream? - FEPS Future of Europe debate series
6 June, Online Extraordinary General Assembly of European Youth Forum
29 May, PES Women meeting
10 June, FEPS Call to Europe
15-21 June, Youth Forum Academy of the European Youth Forum
26 June, FEPS General Assembly
28 June, Online discussion- A new world after Corona Virus, GD Italy
3 July, Training on online activities, Olof Plame International Centre
23 July, IUSY-YES-IFM-KLH cooperation meeting
28-30 September, FEPS Annual Autumn Academy
5 September, Reset! Towards digital, climate and regional justice Conference
1 October, Korčula School: a feminist lens to economic recovery
13 October, S&D Africa Week
INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY
The activities described in this report would have not been possible without the support of our partners. The organisations and foundations that support IUSY’s work are presented below in the form of their logos.
All published documents and information about our activities can be found in our webpage:

www.iusy.org

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