

ASEAN YOUTH DECLARATION ON PEACE AND TOLERANCE

WE, the Youth of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN);

ENGAGING IN DIALOGUES during the occasion of the “ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR) Youth Conference on Peace and Tolerance: Building Unity and Common Understanding in Countering Intolerance and Violent Extremism”;

EMPHASISING the Youth is one of the driving forces and primary stakeholders in ASEAN’s efforts to build and uphold peace to ensure the sustainable and inclusive development of its people as part of the ASEAN Community-building processes;

OBSERVING the peace and security challenges in the form of radicalism, violent extremism, and terrorism in recent years, that are posing a serious threat to the cohesiveness of communities in the region and hampering the ASEAN Community-building process;

REALISING with concern, the direct impact of such peace and security challenges, marked by increasing intolerance in communities, including through social media, that would pose negative and lasting effect to future generations;

REAFFIRMING that the Youth in ASEAN are for peace and against all forms of intolerance that could cause radicalism, violent extremism, and other forms of violence;

STRESSING the importance to enhance the role and contribution of the Youth in promoting peace and tolerance in our communities;

STAND READY to support and contribute to the realisation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 in maintaining peace, security and stability with the spirit of Culture of Prevention for a Peaceful, Inclusive, Resilient, Healthy and Harmonious Society;

ACKNOWLEDGING AND SUPPORTING the UN Security Council Resolution of 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security;

WELCOMING the support from our fellow Youth of the Republic of Korea in promoting culture of peace and tolerance in the region.

DO HEREBY DECLARE TO:

1. Empower Youth in ASEAN as primary stakeholders in peace building efforts and initiatives to prevent, address, and counter radicalism, extremism, terrorism, and all forms of intolerance based on gender, race, ethnicity, and religion,
2. Affirm our commitment as the ASEAN future leaders to actively take part in the promotion of peace and tolerance, in line with one of ASEAN's purposes, to maintain and enhance peace, security and stability, as well as to further strengthen peace-oriented values in the region,
3. Pursue cooperation, support and assistance in partnership with the government, private sectors, civil society organisations, media, think tanks, academes, and all other relevant stakeholders to enhance the role of the Youth in promotion of peace and tolerance,
4. Mobilise, engage, and lead such efforts at the community level, through - among others - constructive dialogues or people-to-people contact, to achieve mutual understanding, peace, and tolerance,
5. Create and promote narratives of peace, tolerance, and pluralism through various platforms such as art, creative industry, as well as information and communication technology (ICT) – including social media,
6. Strengthen interaction, collaboration, and network among Youth within ASEAN through various avenues of communications as envisioned in the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025,
7. Pledge our resolve and commitment to this Declaration for its effective implementation and to realise a common vision for an inclusive, sustainable, resilient, dynamic, and harmonious ASEAN Community.

WE REQUEST the ASEAN-IPR, the Secretariat of ASEAN and all relevant sectoral bodies under the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), and ASEAN Dialogue Partners to support the realisation and implementation of this Declaration and its Annex through appropriate mechanisms.

DONE in Jakarta, Indonesia, on this Twentieth Day of October in the year Two Thousand and Eighteen.