

Support Youth Peacebuilders!

An estimated one in four young people around the world are affected by armed conflicts and violence. Yet all too often, their voices are ignored, and their needs overlooked in national and regional peacebuilding efforts. They are frequently stigmatized as a threat and marginalized by repressive governments, causing further cycles of instability.

Including youth as full participants in peacebuilding is essential for ending cycles of violence. Indeed, youth movements have already shown their power to achieve positive change. For instance, in 2019, Sudanese youth, who represent 64 percent of the population, led a nonviolent movement that ended a 30-year dictatorship.

[The Youth, Peace, and Security Act of 2020 \(H.R. 6174\)](#) would address these issues by making it U.S. policy to improve youth participation in U.S.-funded peace and security efforts.

The Youth, Peace, and Security Act of 2020 (H.R. 6174) will:

- » Make it the policy of the United States policy to promote youth participation in efforts to build peace at all stages of conflict from prevention to recovery, and reinforced through diplomatic efforts and assistance programs;
- » Create a whole-of-government strategy to accomplish the new policy.
- » Establish a Youth, Peace and Security Coordinator at USAID and an Advisory Group of Experts, with at least 30% youth members, to oversee the strategy.
- » Promote the physical safety, economic security, and dignity of youth in conflict zones;
- » Support youth-led organizations with technical assistance and training;
- » Authorize the Youth, Peace and Security Fund to provide grants, and emergency assistance to eligible youth-led civil society organizations and youth peacebuilders.

Cosponsor and Pass the Youth, Peace and Security Act of 2020 (H.R. 6174).

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