FUTURE LEADERS NETWORK

Opportunity Description

Y7 Delegate 2024

Highlights

Opportunity: U.K. Delegate to the Youth 7 (Y7)

Expected Commitment: 7 hours per week on average.

You also must be able to attend the full duration of the week-long Y7 Summit - expected in second half of May 2023, exact dates TBC.

Duration: Fixed Term – 12 months (January 2024 to January 2025)

Location: The majority of your activity (e.g. pre-Summit preparations with your delegation, pre-negotiations or Post-Summit Initiatives) is expected to take place remotely. The Summit itself is expected to take place in Rome, Italy.

Costs: Future Leaders Network does not charge any fees to apply to or participate in this opportunity.

If the Y7 Summit takes place in-person in Rome, in-country costs (accommodation and board) will be covered by the host organisation.

The successful candidate will be expected to pay or secure funding for their travel to/from the Summit.

PLEASE CONTINUE READING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS OPPORTUNITY

About the opportunity

The Group of 7 (G7) is an annual process which brings together the leaders of the world's most advanced democracies (Canada, France, Germany, Italy,

Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, with the European Union as a permanent guest) to agree actions they will take together to solve shared challenges.

The Youth 7 (Y7) is the official youth engagement group for the G7. It sits alongside several other engagement groups (including the Business 7, Civil Society 7, etc) and its purpose is to ensure that the agreements reached and actions taken by G7 leaders truly reflect the needs and priorities of all parts of society. Find out more about previous Y7s here.

In 2024, Italy hosts the G7 Presidency. The Y7 Summit is expected to take place in the second half of May 2024, in Rome, Italy.

Being a Y7 delegate - or a youth representative to the G7 on the behalf of the U.K. - is a huge privilege and a huge responsibility. Your role is to champion the voice of U.K. and international youth at the highest level of international decision making.

You'll be responsible for gathering evidence about what young people in the U.K. care about and want G7 world leaders to take action on. You'll develop ambitious, actionable and achievable policy recommendations for world leaders on behalf of the young people you represent. You'll campaign, tirelessly, for those recommendations to be adopted - by your international youth counterparts, by the U.K. government, by the G7, or by business or community partners.

Here's what you need to know about this opportunity and working with FLN:

1/ You are an ambassador for all young people across the United Kingdom.

This isn't a platform for your personal cause. You are here to represent all young people from across the United Kingdom. You should expect to be exposed to new perspectives; take forward ideas that aren't your own; and be held accountable to the young people you serve. You will be committed to behaving professionally, ethically, respectfully and with integrity, recognising that your actions speak for more than just yourself.

2/ You'll be rewarded with opportunities to develop your leadership skills, build your network and access unique and exclusive experiences.

We do everything we can to give young people unparalleled access to leadership opportunities that help them develop themselves, their careers and ultimately, to change the world. In previous years, this has included introductions to thought-leaders; expert mentorship; access to a wide-ranging and exciting training programme; and nominations for media and speaking opportunities. You should be excited about personal growth, learning new things and challenging yourself. Many young people talk about how their lives have changed as a direct result of the work we do - we hope yours is too!

3/ Our opportunities have been designed to fit in with any work or study obligations you may have, but they still require a commitment.

This opportunity will require a time commitment of 7 hours per week, though this may vary throughout the year and sometimes may exceed 7 hours (see below for full list of responsibilities). You will take responsibility for your actions and be accountable for the quality and timeliness of your work and attendance. Whilst we recognise that work and personal life can sometimes throw you curveballs (and we are committed to supporting you in a compassionate, respectful way), if you're not fulfilling the demands of the opportunity, or simply not showing up, we will have to ask you to step aside. You'll be expected to attend:

- Weekly virtual meetings with your U.K. delegation;
- Weekly virtual check-ins with your FLN mentor;
- Regular meetings with your international partners - expect at least monthly international meetings, but most likely weekly calls in the run up to your Summit;
- The full duration of your Summit (normally 1 week long). Partial or limited participation will not be accepted.

Key responsibilities of the opportunity

1. Policy Development

You'll need to develop policy recommendations for G7 world leaders on behalf of young people across the United Kingdom. You will:

- **Carry out desk-based research into your policy track.** You will need to evaluate existing quantitative and qualitative data on the main problems or issues in relation to your policy area. You will also need to investigate existing interventions or policy solutions, evaluating their effectiveness.
- **Lead the delivery of public consultations with young people from across the United Kingdom**, to gather further evidence on the scale or nature of the issues relating to your policy track, and generate ideas for potential policy solutions to those issues. You will work tirelessly to engage young people from a diverse range of backgrounds, listening to their stories and gathering data about their priorities and ideas. To do this, you will work closely with the U.K. Youth Forum, a group of young people from across the U.K. who have lived experiences of the policy tracks, developing a wide-reaching public consultation plan. You'll deliver your consultations in a way which ensures all voices - including some of the most marginalised - are heard.
- **Develop pragmatic, innovative and proportionate policy recommendations on behalf of young people in the United Kingdom.** You'll develop a consistent U.K. position in relation to your policy track, in collaboration with your Y20 and COP counterparts. You'll need to weigh up the evidence you have gathered from your desk-based research and your findings from public consultations. You will need to balance any competing priorities, come to reasoned conclusions, and understand financial, operational and political constraints in regards to what you're recommending.

2. Advocacy and impact

You'll work tirelessly to ensure those recommendations are adopted at a national and international level. You will:

- **Engage early, regularly and professionally with decision makers and partners** to explain the U.K. youth position and influence them to adjust their strategies or support your ideas. These partners could include the U.K.

Government; the Japanese G7 Presidency; business, industry or civil society leaders. You'll need to be able to build trust with senior stakeholders, and present the youth perspective in a credible and compelling way.

- **Negotiate with and influence youth delegates from G7 countries,** aiming to persuade your international peers to adopt the policy position preferred by young people in the U.K. You'll draft a set of internationally endorsed policy recommendations (known as a communique) for world leaders, on behalf of G7 youth, which you will launch at your Y7 Summit.
- **Promote the U.K. (and international) policy recommendations through traditional and social media.** You'll build a programme of work to raise awareness of, gain interest in and secure support for the policy recommendations you develop. You'll seek out or participate in speaking engagements, write opinion pieces or develop social media campaigns to ensure the world knows what young people want from world leaders and hold them to account on delivering those changes.
- **Deliver meaningful change in your own community** through the delivery of a Post-Summit Initiative (PSI). This will involve you taking personal responsibility for delivering one policy recommendation (either from the U.K.'s position or your negotiated communique), translating the words you wrote into real-world action and outcomes.

3. Team leadership

You know that leadership doesn't have to come with a position or a title. It comes from the actions you take, and the intentions you have. You will:

- **Play your part in creating a high performing team**. You will take responsibility for creating a positive team culture, working collaboratively and effectively with your U.K and international peers. You'll be willing to muck in when the going is tough, to support your peers, and to have fun!
- **Identify your personal strengths, and take the lead where it matters.** You'll know what you're great at, volunteer to lead on items that suit your strengths, and not be afraid of taking the first step. If not you, who? If not now, when?
- **Support with 2025 recruitment** - a big part of your role will be legacy and working with FLN to identify the next cohort of Y7 delegates.

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How to apply

To apply, please complete the application form here. In the application form you will be directed to answer the following questions and evaluated against the essential criteria below.

Q1 - This question has two parts.

a. Tell us about why you would like to become a Y7/Y20/COP29 delegate and how would it progress your personal and professional ambitions.

b. What skills have you gained from your experiences to date that would make you a great Y7/Y20/COP29 delegate.

You have 500 words in which to answer both parts of the question. You can choose how many words you would like to use to answer each part but the two parts together must be 500 words or less.

Q2 - Tell us about a time you have made a positive change in the world. What was the problem, how did you resolve it and what was the impact?

You have 500 words to answer this question.

You will also have to submit a 3 minute video, of no more than 3 minutes talking about one policy change you would like to see world leaders take forward and why?

Please upload this video to YouTube, an unlisted video, and copy and paste the link here. Uploading the video as unlisted means it will only be visible by recipients of the link.

About the selection process

We will operate a two-stage selection process for this opportunity.

(1) Written applications and videos must be submitted by 23:59 on **14 January 2025.**
(2) Candidates successful at the first round will be invited for interviews on **20 - 24 January 2024.**

All Delegates will be selected by **the end of January 2024**.

Throughout the application process, we'll be assessing you against the following **Essential Criteria**:

- Passion for youth leadership and youth participation in decision making - **strong alignment with the Future Leaders Network vision, mission and values**
- High degree of **self-awareness**, reflecting on personal goals, strengths and areas for development
- Ability to **take initiative** and deliver real-world change, whether that is at a local, community, national or international level
- Strong **interpersonal skills**, able to listen effectively, work with people from a wide range of backgrounds, and build trust and rapport.
- Excellent **communication skills**, able to adapt your language and style to different audiences and deliver impactful written and verbal messages.
- Outstanding **team working skills**, able to share work effectively and achieve shared goals.
- Excellent **analytical skills**, capable of understanding, analysing and interpreting quantitative and qualitative evidence.
- Outstanding **problem solving skills**, able to balance competing perspectives and propose innovative, realistic solutions.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for this Opportunity, you must be:

- Aged 18 - 30 by 14 January 2024
- A U.K. Citizen OR have lived in the U.K. for 5 years by 14 January 2024
- Able to commit to the stated time commitment and the full duration of your Summit.

About the Future Leaders Network

Future Leaders Network is a not-for-profit organisation aimed at discovering and developing the next generation of social, economic and political leaders in the United Kingdom.

Leadership (especially good leadership) matters - at an individual, societal and a global level. Yet there is no systematic, structured process to develop the leaders of tomorrow - and mechanisms that do exist are expensive, elitist and out-of-date.

Our vision is a world where leaders at all levels of society are effective, ethical and affect positive change. To achieve this, we need to equip people with the knowledge, skills, experiences and networks they need to be successful before they step into leadership positions - not after. To change the face of leadership tomorrow, we need to start with young people today. We offer:

- Contemporary, youth-centred and youth-relevant leadership training;
- Unique, life-changing, capability-building opportunities; and
- A diverse, stimulating and enriching network of changemakers, united by their desire to make a difference.