The International Youth Leadership Conference is a prestigious international event that builds the leaders of tomorrow. With four locations around the world, IYLC is the premier global experience for the future leaders of your university.
We are building the future!

The International Youth Leadership Conference (IYLC) is a week-long youth forum on world politics, international relations and justice. Hosted in five different countries worldwide, the IYLC brings together prominent students from 40 different countries for an open-minded exchange of diverse perspectives on contemporary global challenges.

IYLC is ideal for universities and outstanding college students, as well as recent graduates, between the ages of 18 and 24, who seek to strengthen their leadership skills and, in the process, gain meaningful international experiences. The Conference is a unique model that harmoniously combines academic and socio-cultural components. With its busy 5-day schedule, the IYLC involves participants in diverse discussions and activities that directly and indirectly contribute to their academic and professional growth, as well as raise their intercultural, gender and environmental awareness.
A unique comprehensive learning experience.

The main objective of the IYLC is to facilitate an exchange of ideas across an ethnically diverse and socially responsible group of young international leaders. The conference blends social interaction with cultural and educational components into one cohesive event. We strongly believe in the learning method of direct, hands-on practice. In our simulation activities, students have the opportunity to test their leadership skills, debate current issues, deliver speeches, make executive decisions, and realize through their participation the complexities of international relations. Their interaction provokes communication and dialogue that, throughout the week, provides an unparalleled learning experience and cross-cultural adventure.

The IYLC work on three key levels:

**Interpersonal Dynamics**
By learning to work with a diverse and international group of people, each student collaborates with individuals of all backgrounds and diverging opinions. This dynamic helps develop their interpersonal and intrapersonal skills.

**Intellectual Development**
A pre-requisite of being able to work in the simulations is the ability to hold an unwavering understanding of the workings and aims of these organisations. The simulation aims to test that knowledge in various situations whilst developing key transferable leadership skills.

**Individual Development**
By challenging ideas, their previous conceptions and engaging with the realities of others, the participants develop skills of leadership, communication, expression of arguments, and cultural intelligence.

**Pre-Conferece Research**
20 HOURS
The research is carried out by the participants in two stages:

- **Background research** is integral in composing the application essays. This encompasses two large subject areas: UN Global Compact and WFUNA Millennium Project;
- **Pre-conference reading** is prerequisite for a successful completion of the course. This includes the statutory documents of the simulated organisations, as well as analytical articles and reports on the issues at hand.

**In-Class Work**
25 HOURS
The in-class activities during the IYLC are designed in a form of simulations and follow the following pattern:

- The objectives of the simulation are identified and set
- The simulation roles are outlined and distributed
- The agenda for the simulation is set
- The case for the simulation is examined
- The proceedings for the simulation are laid out
- The simulation is carried out

**Practical Activities**
20 HOURS
The practical activities during the IYLC include:

- Speeches
- Site visits
- Panel discussions
- Cultural activities

**Speeches** by leading experts touch upon the current state of world leadership and the complexity of contemporary global challenges. These speeches equip the participants with a different perspective on issues facing humanity today and offer insights into these issues as seen by the experts in the field.

**Visits** to foreign embassies and government agencies of the host country offer an opportunity for participants to meet diplomats, government officials and politicians, which exposes the participants to the ‘reality’ of these vocations. These visits provide for useful first-hand experiences, contributing to a better understanding of the careers chosen by the participants.

**Panel discussions** engage the participants in a dialogue with various professionals, who while sharing their experiences and opinions contribute to a better understanding of the issues at hand, including topics such as: responsible leadership, leadership and gender, and mass media in conflicts.

**Cultural activities** are designed to illustrate the diversity of our world and to promote better understanding of cultures and traditions. These activities expose participants to the cultural heritage of various peoples that they might not have otherwise experienced.
We teach more than just International Politics

As a standard in all of our IYLC conferences, we divide our modules into five core subject areas: international security and global politics, international relations and diplomacy, environmental security and sustainability, international justice and, finally, responsible leadership. We believe these five subject areas help the participant evolve into global leaders with a comprehensive knowledge of all prominent issues that affect the international community.

International Security and Global Politics

In this module, the IYLC will explore an issue that poses a threat to international security. Some of the areas the participants will learn about:

- interdependence of national and international security,
- sovereignty of the state in resolving internal conflicts,
- effectiveness of existing superstructures and models (like UN Security Council, NATO, OSCE, EU).

Environmental Security and Sustainability

In this module, the IYLC will touch upon critical environmental issues of concern to global community. In particular, it will address the existing practical and legislative schemes for combating, reducing and preventing the consequences of climate change. In this context, the participants will learn about:

- economic stability vs. environmental sustainability,
- greenhouse gas emission trading,
- challenges in adopting and enforcing environmental policies.

International Relations and Diplomacy

In this module, the IYLC will address the complexity of contemporary international relations on a changing geopolitical arena. It will explore the challenges facing diplomats in the present-day framework, where national interests contradict with international priorities and commitments. In this context, the participants will learn about:

- differences between the theory and practice of diplomacy and diplomatic service,
- priorities and challenges of present-day diplomacy,
- achievements and failures of diplomacy in maintaining peace and security,
- role of diplomacy in resolving conflicts.

International Justice

In this module, the IYLC will explore a case referred to an international criminal court (e.g. the case of Omar Al-Bashir, President of Sudan). It will address the intricacies of ensuring world-wide justice employing globalized concepts of law, fairness and human rights. In this context, the participants will learn about:

- ad hoc and institutionalised international tribunals and courts,
- legal understanding of crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide,
- “universalism” of human rights,
- globalization of law and justice, and international jurisdiction,
- procedures of international justice.

Responsible Leadership

In this module, the IYLC will address the ethical principals of leadership in various settings, including business, politics, public administration and non-governmental sector. It will attempt to demonstrate the difficulties in balancing social and environmental responsibility with economic needs and requirements. In this context, the participants will learn about:

- definition and practice of responsible leadership,
- socially responsible, sustainable and ethical leadership,
- economics of responsibility,
- responsibility criteria in business, government and environment.
Skill Growth

At the end of each conference we give the participants a questionnaire to self assess their skills and development throughout the week. We find that by allowing the students to take ownership of their own evaluation, not only do they assume full responsibility for their performance, but it also, provides them with an opportunity to introspect on their overall abilities.

The two graphs showed here demonstrate the true impact the IYLC has on the young leaders of tomorrow.
Everything that counts.

As evidenced on the graphs, the majority of participants experience an overwhelming growth of skills and knowledge throughout the conference.

In just five days, these students are exposed to renowned experts, individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds, and situations that each participant’s worldview.

Being an IYLC Alumni isn’t just a prestigious title, it is also a way of life. Our alumni go on to excel in their relevant fields and most attribute their success— in some way or another— to their participation at IYLC.
Progressive solutions to an everchanging world

At IYL, we truly believe that the answer to Earth’s most present issues exist in the minds of the future leaders of this world. Although some cynics claim tomorrow’s outlook for the global community is grim at best, we believe that they are just noticing the incredible potential of this generation and the next. Millennials may have been christened as the “me” generation, we see them for what they really are: the “we” generation. A generation that is ready to show the world what they are capable of, and what better place to build these leaders than at the International Youth Leadership Conference.
International Youth Leadership Conference
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