

G7 Youth Summit
Paris, June 9 - 13, 2019

Under the High Patronage of
Mr Emmanuel MACRON
President of the French Republic



Call to action on G7 Leaders
to pave the way for a fair future

We, the Y7, convened in Paris to call on the G7 and the African Union Leaders to urgently work for a fair future. The accelerating climate crisis and the ongoing technological disruptions amplify existing inequalities and have a devastating impact on social cohesion.

The youth have lost faith in our systems. This dramatically lowers our capacity to pave the way for the future we want, leaving more and more people behind. Current policies do not reflect the interests of the youth. There should be nothing about us, without us.

We must define success by current and future societal wellbeing to sustainably and intersectionally tackle inequalities. Our youth envision a brighter future with intact ecosystems, equitable access to opportunities, and inclusive policies for all.

The Y7 demands that the G7 Leaders, partnering with the African Union, take bold and multilateral action to achieve and finance the **Sustainable Development Goals** for a just and fair transition by:

- **Declaring climate emergency, restating the States' commitment to the Paris Agreement**, and enhancing their Nationally Determined Contributions to guarantee sustainable future. Youth urge for a full decarbonisation of the world economy and sustainable agricultural practices to uphold climate justice.
- **Declaring that the right to access a neutral and affordable Internet is a Human Right**. This enables the exercise of other Human Rights such as: the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, to work, to education, to healthcare, and to non-discrimination.

- **Committing to women's participation by designing all public policies with a feminist approach**, especially health and education, since they will suffer from disproportionate impacts of the climate crisis and technological disruptions on top of existing economic inequalities.
- **Launching an alliance for fair globalization with the wellbeing** of present and future generations at the center of policy making and evaluation with clear-cut indicators.

We appreciate the opportunity to gather in Paris under the Honorable Patronage of Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, and to discuss these recommendations to Mr. Gabriel Attal, Mr. Bruno Le Maire, and Ms. Brune Poirson, members of the French government, as well as with senior members of the National Assembly and the Senate. **The Y7 looks forward to personally presenting these recommendations to G7 leaders at the 2019 G7 Summit in Biarritz.**

SECURE CLIMATE JUSTICE FOR ALL

The Y7 is concerned about future climate catastrophes and echoes the calls for urgent change expressed by youth around the globe. Immediate action to limit the global average temperature increase to +1.5°C is needed to uphold climate justice for the environment, for all people, and for future generations. The Y7 therefore urges G7 leaders to declare a state of climate emergency by the 2019 UN Climate Change Summit.

I. As G7 Leaders, you should mitigate the causes of the climate crisis; therefore the Y7 recommends to:

1. Enforce climate justice through bolder policies

Enhance their Nationally-Determined Contributions to the implementation of the Paris Agreement with (1) clear sectoral guidelines to achieve greenhouse gas net neutrality by 2050;

(2) complete taxonomy of binding reporting requirements, actions, and incentives to reach an intermediary target of 50% emissions reduction from 1990 levels by 2030.

Fully endorse and accelerate implementation of the G7 Ocean Plastics Charter, the New York Declaration on Forests, and the Metz Charter on Biodiversity, both within and beyond all G7 countries.

Enforce climate justice through systematic ex ante analysis of and reporting on the impact of laws and regulations on climate, with particular consideration for the most vulnerable and future generations.

Appoint a special youth advisor (under 35) on environment in each G7 country to translate youth climate demands towards meaningful action.

2. Accelerate the energy transition towards sustainable sources

Adopt a target of 50% share of renewable energy production in the energy mix by 2030 and 80% by 2050, prioritising and incentivising the development of smart micro-grids in remote communities and the rapid phase out of the most polluting fossil fuels such as coal.

Stop all forms of subsidies to fossil fuel industries by 2021.

Implement fair carbon taxation along three principles: (1) costs are borne by the originator, primarily by businesses; (2) consumers should not bear the burden of increased costs; (3) tax revenues should be redistributed to communities most in need to afford sustainable lifestyles.

Enhance support for emerging green energy production by (1) raising public authorities' share of low carbon investments to more than 50% of their portfolios; (2) incentivising private investments in low carbon and energy efficient ventures through prudential and fiscal measures.

3. Facilitate the circular economy of products and services

Ban all non-recyclable and single-use plastics by 2025 and rollout these interdictions along international supply chains rooted in G7 countries.

Accelerate innovation for domestic waste processing, especially concerning electronics and plastic waste, to limit waste exports to developing countries.

Launch a G7-wide Ecological-impact Trading System by 2021, which includes a standardized mechanism to measure, monitor and report corporate impact on biodiversity, ensuring that companies reduce, offset, or pay for their impacts to avoid net biodiversity loss.

Guarantee that the G7 Fashion Pact has strong reuse policies, incorporates sustainable sourcing measures, and acknowledges the specific responsibility of the cotton production.

Enforce financial and non-financial information disclosure standards for private companies to foster fair and sustainable supply chains.

Develop strategies for responsible production and consumption - especially for transportation and food, with meat reduction objectives - to reduce agriculture land use by 20% by 2030.

II. As G7 Leaders, you should achieve climate justice along the adaptation to the climate crisis for the most vulnerable; therefore the Y7 recommends to:

1. Ensure sustainable and prosperous agriculture for all

Partnering with the African Union:

Stop speculation on raw material markets by strengthening the IMF and regional compensation mechanisms to avoid food security crisis.

Engage all G7 agri-food stakeholders to foster agroecology practices and eradicate hazardous substances (such as Glyphosate) along their global supply chains by 2025.

Facilitate access for vulnerable farmers to (1) climate forecasting, (2) crop optimization technologies, and (3) affordable market-based solutions of insurance to cover climate risks.

2. Secure a just transition towards sustainability

Adopt a wellbeing budget by 2022 that substantively addresses the adverse effects of the climate crisis on social cohesion and mental health.

Sustain evolutions of the labor market towards net-zero emissions with fair public-private skills adaptation programs, accessible to all workers.

Change the design of adaptation and mitigation strategies to include vulnerable populations, especially women, who are disproportionately affected by the climate crisis.

3. Undertake humanitarian responses to the climate crisis

Collaborate with the United Nations to adopt a definition of Climate Refugees, and design a complete framework to tackle the needs of those displaced by climate change by 2022.

Raise financial commitments by 50% for both the Adaptation Fund and the share of international aid for climate crisis adaptation and mitigation by 2025.

Enhance knowledge and technology transfer of adaptation measures to the African Union in particular.

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND IN THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION

I. As G7 Leaders, you should involve every citizen in the digital revolution; therefore the Y7 recommends to:

Recognize the right to Internet access as a Human Right, since it is an enabler of other Human Rights such as: freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work, education, healthcare and non-discrimination.

We call for the implementation of national legislation to:

1. Ensure equal access to digital opportunities for everyone

Establish the appropriate technological infrastructure in G7 nations to guarantee 100 % access to Internet by 2025. Make access to a high-quality, stable, and neutral internet affordable and equitable through (1) investments in reliable and sufficiently fast broadband networks; (2) incentives to bring the latest digital technologies to underserved areas; (3) training and financial support to improve digital literacy among marginalized communities.

Pledge to work in partnership with African nations and developing countries to establish access to Internet as a Human Right, through (1) helping build infrastructure; (2) providing training and digital equipment; (3) exchanging knowledge and best practices.

Take a zero-tolerance approach towards entities that prevent an equal access to the Internet and digital opportunities, especially regarding censorship due to political interference.

2. Transform educational curricula to make digital literacy a core competency

Support research on the potential impacts of digital technologies on child development.

Create curricula that develop one's ability to adapt to digital disruptions, by (1) introducing compulsory education on up to date and emerging technologies starting in primary school; (2) instituting a pedagogical approach that incorporates technology across all disciplines starting in primary school; (3) implementing a monthly "Tech day" with interactive activities such as programming, artificial intelligence, data science, design, blockchain, data privacy, cyber security, anti-cyberbullying and fake-news' sensationalization classes.

Develop professional training to digitally upskill teachers.

Implement a universal framework on digital literacy reflecting the model of the Unesco digital competence framework.

Accelerate the transformation of universities in G7 nations to adapt to upcoming technological disruptions and to recognize the credentials received from Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

Establish a 50% gender parity target, create dedicated awareness programs, and ensure that the country's racial diversity is represented in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education programs by 2030 in order to encourage equal access to STEM education.

3. Engage with all stakeholders of the digital revolution for social justice

Along with all relevant stakeholders including digital platforms:

Create a Research G7-task force in partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO) to (1) understand and analyse the impact that the Internet has on mental health, especially regarding social media addiction; (2) produce a progress report for G7 2020; (3) act on the findings.

Establish a universal right to digital oblivion on social platforms for minors.

Implement data protection and cyber security legislation in all G7 countries comparable to the General Data Protection Regulation and the Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems.

Share best practices and invest in resources to promote cyber security and data protection in developing nations.

Support SMEs with subsidies dedicated to cyber security and data protection to mitigate inequalities, and to protect individual's privacy, which is a fundamental Human Right.

II. As G7 Leaders, you should promote digital literacy and competency programs to defend workers against digital disruption; therefore, the Y7 recommends to:

1. Guarantee social protections for all workers

Ensure social protection to all “gig workers” with: (1) proactive information on their rights; (2) smart contract technologies to foster their use of their social rights; (3) minimum wages aligned to national standards in their country.

Establish a national benefit program encouraging workers to take time off work to improve their digital skills while being supported by their employers, similar to Canada's Training Benefit program.

2. Help workers to adapt to changes caused by the digital shift

Develop an online platform, in partnership with the OECD, monitoring the changing nature of work and professions of the future.

Create a safety net for workers with assurance that a job loss due to technological disruptions opens a right to a maximum 1-year long training program to keep up with evolutions of the economy.

Achieve greater racial and gender diversity in technology companies by (1) establishing equity and inclusion targets in the workplace; (2) enforcing 50% gender parity on all boards by 2030.

III. As G7 Leaders, you should adhere to ethical practices, principles, and application of artificial intelligence; therefore, the Y7 recommends to:

1. Establish an Intergovernmental Panel on Artificial Intelligence (IPAI)

Promote cooperation between the international community, including G7 members, African nations, private and nonprofit sectors, academics, industry experts, civil society and youth-led think tanks, with a strong representation of young people under the age of 30 (20%) and women (50%) on the IPAI.

Mandate the IPAI to (1) create industry standards, norms and promising practices regarding issues such as unemployment and healthcare; (2) work on a common ethical framework; (3) monitor the implementation of OECD Principles on AI; (4) discuss the strategic arms agreement regarding the lethality and proliferation of AI for military purposes; (5) research the social implications of AI on society, public good and individuals.

Ensure all IPAI reports are available in words that someone who is not an expert can understand and create online participatory platforms for citizens to become involved in the debate.

2. Fight against all biases, particularly gender and racial biases, in algorithms or datasets at the national level

Implement and promote the OECD Principles on AI.

Develop a system of transparency, monitoring and labelling of algorithms on the basis of the OECD Principles on AI.

Enforce a right for citizens and consumers to appeal in national courts against unfair AI-made decisions based on the OECD Principles on AI.

BETTER PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE

I. As G7 Leaders, you should launch an alliance for fair globalization; therefore, the Y7 recommends to:

1. Move beyond traditional economic indicators while placing the wellbeing of present and future generations at the centre of public policy

Commit to expanding the definition of economic inequalities and supplement traditional measures of wealth and income inequalities with wellbeing indicators, using metrics such as the OECD Better Life Index, Human Development Indicator, and the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI).

Create national budgets which, along with appropriate legal frameworks, target the above-mentioned wellbeing indicators, including mental health, homelessness, and youth poverty by 2022.

Implement systematic public policy evaluation of annual national budgets and every major reform with regard to their impact on economic inequalities.

Encourage value-based service delivery and procurement at all government levels.

Enforce the accountability of services delivered to vulnerable and youth populations by incorporating their voices and experiences into service design and evaluation through formats inspired by existing initiatives such as Poverty Truth Commissions and Youth Parliaments.

2. Transform international trade into a fair, sustainable and accessible system

Supplement all current and upcoming trade agreements with additional non-commercial, environmental and social clauses including measurable actions to reduce global inequalities.

Strengthen the transparency of trade agreement negotiations by involving civil society and by including diverse youth representatives in the process.

Ensure accessibility of information on trade agreement outcomes once they are negotiated by writing information that is easily understandable and by using video formats.

Commit to developing international trade with African and other emerging countries through balanced and transparent commercial agreements that recognize their specific needs, especially their need to diversify growth sources.

Push for an agreement on common financing standards with bilateral and multilateral creditors of African and other emerging countries, with the aim of financing sustainable growth, promoting local economic development, respecting national sovereignty, and valuing workers' rights.

Re-commit to the rules of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the inclusive use of trade policy as a means of reducing inequality and safeguarding international stability.

Utilise the international leadership of G7 nations and partners to implement the above-mentioned principles at the level of the WTO.

3. Require the ethical economic behavior of corporate entities

Demand that corporations: (1) ensure the social and economic rights of employees through liveable income; (2) report on their sustainability and social impact; (3) ensure that their supply chains are ethical and sustainable.

Introduce a common tax base for the taxation of multinational companies, notably digital companies; building on the work of finance ministers in the G20 in Japan.

Call for extraterritorial legislation giving G7 States the right to scrutinize tax reporting and activities of multinational companies abroad.

Set a G7 common administrative, financial, and commercial sanction system targeting countries that do not disclose their tax information.

4. Implement fair and progressive tax policies in G7 countries

Disrupt wealth concentration, through a more progressive: (1) income and wealth tax system; (2) inheritance tax centered on the aggregated amount received throughout the individuals life.

Improve social fairness by reducing VAT or sales tax on environmentally clean staple products.

Ensure systematic and fair compensation to vulnerable households for taxes aimed at greening the economy.

Strengthen the working class, youth, and other vulnerable populations' access to financial products, such as higher yield savings accounts, to accumulate wealth.

II. As G7 leaders, you should guarantee equitable access to opportunities; therefore, the Y7 recommends to:

Promote equality of opportunity for all regardless of one's socioeconomic background, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, age, and disability.

1. Facilitate social mobility through a fair, resilient, and accessible job market

Guarantee: (1) a livable minimum income, across all ages, in G7 countries based on the regional cost of living; (2) wage transparency to demand equal pay.

Curb the abuse of short-term contracts through legal frameworks and incentivize companies to do so by directly relating social contributions to contract length.

Foster stronger upward social mobility by: (1) having state-supported apprenticeships; (2) financing mentoring programmes; (3) ensuring that internships are decently paid.

Strengthen the resilience of the labor market by providing SMEs and non-profits access to state-sponsored advisory services, which can help them better adapt to cyclical downturns.

Promote active labor market policies with: (1) investments to facilitate a quick return to the job market; (2) conditions for unemployment allowance to follow trainings and professional orientation workshops.

2. Improve social protection and access to public services for all

Provide social protection; including universal health coverage, parental leave and sick leave to each citizen, irrespective of employment contract type.

Commit to promoting young people's wellbeing by investing in community youth services, particularly those that support young people's mental health, following the ethos of the Global Coalition on Youth Mental Health.

Ease the access to quality housing for youth and vulnerable populations by: (1) encouraging the development and/or rehabilitation of affordable housing; (2) protecting the rights of tenants as outlined in the UN Habitat, "The Right to Adequate Housing"; (3) prohibiting discrimination against renters based on socioeconomic background.

Widen the reach of public service delivery by increasing awareness among and local assistance to vulnerable populations.

Equip local initiatives fighting inequalities with a simpler legal framework and better access to funding, including zero interest rate loans for public utility organizations complementing public services.

Prioritize public space for all by: (1) providing NGOs six months to purchase public space prior to the private sector; (2) promoting the integrity of public spaces to local governments.

3. Launch a pact for fair and affordable education

Expand and act upon the definition of education as a Human Right to include access to early childhood education such as daycare or preschool to all children.

Promote fair educational opportunities in: (1) primary and secondary education by ensuring better wages, career progression and adequate training for teaching staff working in underprivileged communities; (2) higher education by focusing on financial measures, such as a cap on student loans and increased scholarships, to increase the representation of youth and vulnerable populations.

Prepare all of our citizens for the changing future of work by: (1) prioritizing soft skills development (problem-solving, self-efficacy, creativity, resilience, leadership, etc.) in school curriculums through blended and transdisciplinary learning; (2) providing lifelong learning opportunities that allow retraining.

4. Empower youth and vulnerable populations by eliminating inequalities in political participation

Empower vulnerable populations by increasing their engagement with, and accessibility to, politics by: (1) investing in civic education; (2) providing easily understandable political information; (3) reviving local political activity; (4) encouraging the establishment of Youth Parliaments.

Eliminate obstacles to political participation by: (1) lowering financial barriers to entry for political candidacy and by lowering the eligibility age to 18; (2) launching online voting systems in national elections; (3) introducing early voting or paid leaves on election day; (4) lowering the voting age to 16.

Introduce legislation that requires the disclosure of how resources from lobbies are used in G7 countries.

ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AT LAST

We recognize that gender equality is fundamental for the fulfillment of human rights, imperative for economic growth and sustainable development as it is interconnected with global challenges such as climate change and the digital revolution. Highlighting the importance of education and the inclusion of women in policy design, the Y7 acknowledges the need for all G7 countries to incorporate feminist principles of intersectionality, transformative change, and equality in all foreign and domestic decision-making.

I. As G7 Leaders, you should enforce gender equality at all levels of society; therefore, the Y7 recommends to:

1. Secure equal access for girls and boys to education and career opportunities

Reform the school curricula by (1) identifying and eliminating gender biases, including those regarding masculinity and femininity in syllabi; (2) providing training to educators on how to address implicit and explicit gender biases.

Engage more boys and men through influential role models in the wider conversation about gender roles and inequalities through a global campaign led by the G7 that aims to provide lifelong education, combat stereotypes and decrease discrimination.

Bolster the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) worldwide through increased investments and advocacy.

Support women's economic empowerment in the global south, by (1) promoting entrepreneurship and business programs for women in rural areas to boost independence and self-reliance by having access to bank accounts and higher loans; (2) recognizing the large number of women working in the informal sector and those subject to unfair labor practices.

Highlight the importance of gender equality by endorsing the One Million by 2021 Project for the youth of the African Union.

Reinforce the "International Women's Day" by: (1) engaging all educational networks in skills development for girls and women; (2) organizing executive management conferences for them; (3) enabling girls to spend a day with chief executives in job sectors where women are least represented.

2. Set a global example of inclusivity and workplace equity within existing organizations and structures

Commit to eliminating career barriers based on gender identity, race, ethnicity, cultural background, national origin, religion, class, sexual orientation, ability, age, indigeneity and/or any other factor that may cause marginalization.

Expand mandatory paid parental leave and encourage men to take an equal share of child care work by: (1) giving tax incentives; (2) guaranteeing job security.

Support State programs that recognize women's unpaid labour, expand and subsidize private and public childcare services, and improve accessibility to these services.

Ensure the collection of child support to the women who are entitled to it through the creation of a guarantee fund in all G7 countries.

Develop an online networking database gathering women experts of various sectors as a tool for media and business contexts.

Create or support third party initiatives to (1) collect data on gender biases in media; (2) apply that data to establish best practices for non-discrimination and fair media representation of women.

Establish laws ensuring fair gender representation in companies' executive boards in all G7 countries [following the models of the French (Copé-Zimmermann) and Italian (Golfo-Mosca) laws].

Set the quantitative annual Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) by a government commission for private companies which include the gender pay gap, the ratio of women, men and non-binary employees and their percentage in managerial positions, the percentage of employees taking parental leave, and the average amount of leave taken per person.

Disclose and publish publicly an annual report based on the different means to measure gender equality policies (public policies and quantitative KPIs) and rank to show which companies ensure the best equal career evolution.

Mandate private companies to disclose the aforementioned gender diversity information in their corporate governance reports to foster the gender lens investments from institutional and financial investors.

Promote gender inclusion in energy and climate policies by: (1) collecting data in relation to the level of production, distribution and use of energy as well as the disproportionate impact of climate change on women; (2) recognizing their important role as key stakeholders in achieving low carbon societies in line with the SDGs 5, 7 and 13.

Implement in each G7 State the necessary means to measure the impact of gender equality policies, budgets and programs in order to: (1) feed into the work of the G7 Gender Advisory Council; (2) evaluate the commitments made from the G7 legislative package. Progress should be reported annually at each G7 Summit.

II. As G7 Leaders, you should end gender-based violence and commit to equal rights-based policies; therefore, the Y7 recommends to:

1. Commit to the establishment of governmental measures that ensure basic human rights

Address health inequalities in women's and girls' access to reproductive health services and their sexual rights, especially in the most vulnerable populations and contexts. This should be done by embracing a feminist approach that ensures equitable access to reproductive health services and free women's sanitary products.

Reinforce the G7 commitment to women's bodily autonomy by eliminating all formal and informal barriers to the access of abortion.

Increase governmental and private investments to women's rights, feminist, and civil society organizations working to support programs that focus on gender equality and meet the standards set by the OECD-DAC gender marker.

2. End sexual and gender-based violence in all contexts

Recognize violence against women as a continuum that includes economic injustice, climate impacts, social disparities, the lack of fair health care, as well as physical, mental and emotional violence.

Commit to end online gender-based harassment and violence by: (1) creating or expanding legal frameworks that address digital media harassment as a crime; (2) collaborating with digital platforms in order to enable them to report any form of harassment; (3) requiring digital platforms to have a mechanism that sensitizes users against digital media harassment risks and legal resources when registering online.

Strengthen protection against sexual harassment in the workplace by: (1) implementing mandatory gender sensitivity trainings; (2) improving the reporting structures; (3) appointing gender advisors and/or contact persons responsible for safeguarding providing information and guidance.

3. Adopt a feminist approach in any diplomatic commitment

Adopt feminist foreign policy agendas that recognize how supporting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is the best way to build a more peaceful, more inclusive, and more prosperous world.

Promote the ratification of the Istanbul Convention through the G7 political leadership to push the reduction of intimate partner violence.

Encourage women's equal and meaningful participation in public events, diplomacy, mediation, multilateral negotiation, disarmament, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and international security in accordance with UNSC Resolution 1325 and subsequent reporting resolutions.

Continue progress towards the Women Peace and Security agenda by revising National Action Plans on resolution 1325 and ensuring that they are accompanied by budgets by 2020. Progress should be reported annually at each G7 summit.

Address the lack of a coordinated response by the international community in recognizing sexual violence as a war crime, providing physical and mental health services to survivors, and acknowledging the importance of prosecuting perpetrators.

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