



**37th UNESCO General Conference**  
**Item 5.5 - Conclusions of the 8th UNESCO Youth Forum**  
**Presentation by the 8<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Youth Forum delegates**  
**Culture Commission (CLT) , 14 November 2013**

*“Dear Madam Chairperson, Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*My name is Besmira Uruçi and I am the Youth Delegate from Albania, and my colleague is Mexind Suko Utomo the Youth Delegate from Indonesia. We are honored to be here today in front of you as the representatives of the 8th Youth Forum of UNESCO.*

*During three intensive days, this Forum gathered 500 youth delegates and participants from approximately 135 countries to discuss UNESCO’s Operational Strategy on Youth 2014-2021 under the theme of “Youth and Social Inclusion: Civic Engagement, Dialogue and Skills Development”. The outcomes of these discussions are 10 concrete Recommendations and 15 action projects which we will present to you today.*

*We concentrated our discussions on social inclusion, capacity development, civic engagement, support to non-formal and informal education, transmission of culture and tradition from one generation to another and promotion of creativity among others.*

*Education for sustainable development and education for peace were in the very heart of our debates. As the poet, diplomat and Librarian of the American Congress, M. Archibald MacLeish has said: “Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed”. This is also the vision of the youths. By promoting education for peace in the minds of young people that is how we're going to prevent conflicts. By teaching young generations in schools how important it is to preserve cultural and natural heritage that is how we're going to prevent the world heritage from diminishing through wars. By teaching young generations in school how to respect other cultures, traditions, races, ethnicities, religions and human rights in general, that is how we're going to cultivate peace in the hearts of these generations that tomorrow will hold the brakes of our society, and that is how our populations will be less incited to make war and will learn to live together in peace.*



*Building peace in the minds of Youth is crucial for the protection of our world heritage, for the prevention of illicit trafficking of cultural property, for the preservation of our culture and traditions. So we invite the Commission of Culture to collaborate with the Commission of Education for the education of the new generations for peace.*

*Sra. Presidenta, Excelencias, damas y caballeros,*

*En segundo lugar, insistimos que se promueva el dialogo intercultural basado en la “inclusividad”, exenta de todas las formas posibles de discriminación. A estos efectos, los Estados Miembros deben apoyar la integración en la sociedad de los actuales inmigrantes jóvenes, los jóvenes autóctonos y los marginados, y promover la diversidad intercultural, a fin de proteger los intereses de la población en todos los sectores de la sociedad.*

*Además, pedimos a todos los países que detecten y eliminen todos los factores culturales que contribuyen y dan impulso a la opresión sistémica y autonómica y a las desigualdades. Las políticas encaminadas a eliminar los obstáculos interculturales basados en la etnia, la religión, la edad, la lengua, el género, la situación socioeconómica, la orientación sexual y las capacidades deben constituir una tendencia mutua.*

*Para concluir, alentamos a la UNESCO y a sus Estados Miembros a seguir integrando a los jóvenes en los procesos de adopción de decisiones. ¡Vamos, vamos, vamos a trabajar juntos! Muchísimas gracias de haber escuchado a los jóvenes.”*

**\*Presentation prepared and delivered by Ms Besmira Uruçi (youth delegate of Albania) and Mr Mexind Suko Utomo (youth delegate of Indonesia).**