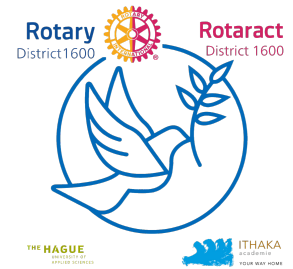


# International Youth Peace Summit 2026 Newsletter



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 The Hague |  17–19 June 2026

## Day 1- New Faces, New Ideas, New Connections

After months of preparation, the moment finally arrived: the Youth Peace Summit 2026 officially began!

We welcomed young people from across the globe to The Hague, where strangers quickly became a community united by a shared commitment to peace. The day started with inspiring contributions from Hans Lodder, District Governor of Rotary District 1600, Lars Westra, EU Youth Delegate to the United Nations, and Fiona Rea from our partner organization Corrymeela Community.

Through team-building activities, meaningful conversations, and the first workshops, participants began exchanging ideas and building connections that would shape the rest of the summit.

We ended the day with a screening of *Thabyay: Creative Resistance in Myanmar*, sparking reflection on resilience, creativity, and the role young people can play in building peace.

As the first day came to an end, one thing was already clear: this summit was not only about discussing peace—it was about building the relationships and understanding that make peace possible.



## Day 2 – Learning, Connecting & Getting Inspired

The second day was all about exploring new ideas and connecting with the people behind them.

The day began with another round of interactive workshops, followed by our **Taster Talks**, where partners from different organizations shared short and inspiring insights into their work in peacebuilding, dialogue, youth participation, and social change. You can find an overview of all connected partners on [our website](#).

In the afternoon, participants had the opportunity to meet our partners during the **Activity Market**. Each organization hosted its own stand, creating space for conversations, questions, and new connections. It was a unique chance to learn from experienced peacebuilders, discover different approaches to creating impact, and gather inspiration for initiatives back home and in local communities.

After a full day of learning and networking, it was time to celebrate. We ended the day together at **Seizo**, the student bar next to the venue, where participants continued conversations, shared stories, and strengthened the friendships that had been forming throughout the summit.

By the end of Day 2, the Youth Peace Summit was no longer just an event, it had become a growing international community.



## Day 3 – From Dialogue to Action

The final day of the Youth Peace Summit focused on turning ideas into action.

Participants worked in breakout groups across different themes, developing proposals and recommendations that would contribute to the Youth Peace Charter. During a dedicated charter-writing session, these ideas were brought together into a shared vision for youth-led peacebuilding.

In the afternoon, we gathered for the official closing ceremony. Participants and mentors reflected on their experiences and shared what they would take home from the summit. One special moment was the handover of the Youth Peace Tree to the university, symbolizing the growth of a lasting peacebuilding community.

The ceremony featured inspiring contributions from **Juriaan Middelhoff**, Youth Ambassador at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **Micha Baai**, Mayor of Madurodam, **Lars Westra**, EU Youth Delegate to the United Nations, **Peter Kievot**, Director of International Affairs at the Municipality of The Hague, **Annet Weijermars**, Assistant Governor of Rotary District 1600, and **Jan Pronk**, former minister, diplomat, and United Nations representative. Their messages highlighted the importance of youth leadership, international cooperation, and continued action for peace.

The summit concluded with words of gratitude from **Gordon Graham** on behalf of the advisory team, thanking the donors, hosting families, volunteers, and partners who made the summit possible.

As participants exchanged final hugs, contact details, and promises to stay connected, one thing became clear: the Youth Peace Summit may have come to an end, but the friendships, ideas, and commitments it created are only just beginning.



## What's Next?

While the Youth Peace Summit 2026 has come to an end, its impact is only beginning.




Over the coming week, the Youth Peace Charter will be finalized and shared with participants, partners, and stakeholders. The ideas, proposals, and recommendations developed during the summit will serve as a foundation for future youth-led peace initiatives, both in the Netherlands and beyond.

We also will stay connected through the growing Youth Peace Summit network. The friendships, partnerships, and collaborations that started in The Hague are an important part of the summit's legacy, and we encourage participants to continue sharing ideas, opportunities, and initiatives with one another.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who made this summit possible: our participants, volunteers, partners, speakers, donors, and hosting families. Together, we have shown that young people are not only the leaders of tomorrow - they are already shaping peace today.

Stay connected through our website and social media channels for updates on the Youth Peace Charter, future activities, and the next chapter of the Youth Peace Summit.

## Stay Connected

-  Website: [www.youthpeacesummit.com](http://www.youthpeacesummit.com)
-  Contact: [info@youthpeacesummit.com](mailto:info@youthpeacesummit.com)
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