

Second day of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting
MC(25) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 7

**DECLARATION ON
THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE
AND SECURITY EFFORTS**

1. We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, acknowledge that youth are an important part of society and the role that they can play in supporting participating States in the implementation of commitments in all three dimensions.
2. We recall the OSCE commitments relating to youth, built upon relevant provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, the 2014 Basel Ministerial Council Declaration on Youth, the 2015 Belgrade Ministerial Council Declaration on Youth and Security.
3. We take note of United Nations Security Council resolutions 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018), on youth in the maintenance of international peace and security.
4. We take note of the efforts of the current and previous OSCE Chairmanships and the work carried out by participating States to advance the youth, peace and security agenda, such as the OSCE conference on “Working with Youth and for Youth: Strengthening Security and Co-operation Online”, held in Málaga, Spain, on 25 and 26 May 2017.
5. We recognize the role youth can play in contributing to a culture of peace, dialogue, justice and peaceful coexistence, trust and reconciliation.
6. We invite the Partners for Co-operation to voluntarily join us in affirming this declaration.

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Attachment

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**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Norway (also on behalf of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden):

“Mr. Chairperson,

On the adoption of the Declaration on the Role of Youth in Contributing to Peace and Security Efforts, I would like to make the following interpretative statement on behalf of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway.

The Declaration, though being short and weaker than we would have preferred, takes note of *inter alia* United Nations Security Council resolution 2250, which calls on all relevant actors to consider instituting mechanisms to promote a culture of peace, tolerance, intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

We acknowledge youth’s role in peace and security and underline the importance of the participation of women and the incorporation of gender perspectives in peace efforts.

The resolution outlines a long range of areas where youth can have such a role.

We encourage coming Chairmanships to explore ways to include youth in the work on security in line with this UN resolution.

Norway requests that this statement be attached to the Declaration, and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.”