About National Conference

National Conference brings together over one hundred and fifty of the brightest and most engaged young people from around Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific for a week of educational activities and social events. Running from July 6th - 12th 2019, it’s a privilege to be hosting this event in Melbourne for the first time since 2012.

Each state and territory, as well as our international partner organisations, select ten students in years ten to twelve who have the potential to contribute to discussions at National Conference, as well as take their learning back to their communities. Each delegation is led by three exceptional volunteers, who facilitate the students’ learning and ensure they have the best possible social experience. With exposure to a pool of passionate, engaged students, organisations that partner with us have the chance to invest in the global leaders of tomorrow.

The theme, ‘The Age of Information’ will explore a variety of topics such as access to information, privacy, corporate transparency, the future of education and journalism. Students will delve into these topics in six discussion-based workshops, four model United Nations debates, a crisis simulation and a variety of speaker sessions.
Having attended National Conference, students will gain a nuanced understanding of these issues, as well as develop their in public speaking and problem solving skills. As a non-partisan organisation, UN Youth aims to help students develop their own thoughts and opinions, by providing the tools and opportunities to discuss their ideas in a supportive environment.

Along with educational activities, National Conference delegates will also attend numerous social events, so that they have the opportunity to meet like-minded people from around Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region. Social activities will include small group dinners, a movie night, a scavenger hunt, Finale Dinner and more.

National Conference 2019 will be held in the Melbourne Central Business District and the surrounding suburbs, and will showcase the best that the city has to offer. Based at Queens College and the University of Melbourne with activities and debates around the city, National Conference will provide local, interstate and international delegates with a lasting impression of the city.
UN Youth Australia is a national youth-led not-for-profit organisation, run entirely by volunteers aged 16-25. We are dedicated to educating young people about international relations, providing an avenue for them to express their views and empowering them to engage with the world around them. Through peer-to-peer education, we are in a unique position to inspire students by providing diverse opportunities for learning, which encourages them reach new heights at school and beyond.

Through its divisions in each state and territory, UN Youth Australia provides an impressive array of events each year for secondary students centred on global affairs, social issues and, fundamentally, the issues affecting young people today.

UN Youth Australia offers students the opportunity to engage with the world beyond Australia, with programs such as the Australian Youth Representative to the UN, the Evatt Model UN Diplomacy Competition and international tours to Europe, Timor-Leste, New Zealand, the United States, East Asia and the Middle East.

UN Youth has the potential to truly change young people’s lives by opening their eyes to new ideas, and helping them find newfound confidence and self-belief. We believe that young people can and do change the world, and National Conference is one of the best opportunities for them to do just that.

For more information, please visit our website at unyouth.org.au
Key Dates and Contacts

Working Itinerary

Day 1 - July 6
Delegates arrive in Melbourne
Scavenger Hunt

Day 2 - July 7
Formal Opening Ceremony
Workshops
Interactive Problem Solving Activity
Trivia Night

Day 3 - July 8
Speaker Panel
Workshops
Bloc Dinners in the City

Day 4 - July 9
Committee MUN Debates
Movie Night

Day 5 - July 10
Workshops
Speaker Panel
Youth Representative to the UN Consultation
Newspaper Fashion Show

Day 6 - July 11
General Assembly MUN Debate
Finale Dinner

Day 7 - July 12
Delegates return home

Key Contacts

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