

JANUARY 2022

# EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

INFORMATION PACK



**UN**  
youth  
australia

# FROM THE CONVENOR

Hello and welcome to the Emerging Leaders Program Information pack!

This coming January 2022, UN Youth Australia will be welcoming 30 young leaders from across Australia on a six-day online tour of Asia to explore how Japan, Vietnam and Taiwan have responded to conflict since 1950. You will have the opportunity to engage in lively discussion with your peers and talk about the issues that matter to YOU!

My name is Amy (she/her), and I'll be your Convenor for this tour! I'm joined by three, excellent Deputy Convenors; Iris (she/her), Josh (he/him), and Simran (she/her). Over the six-day tour we look forward to getting to know you and discussing the issues of conflict with some of the brightest young minds across Australia.

The tour will be centred around the theme of 'Conflict' and will focus on three culturally and politically significant countries in Asia - Japan, Vietnam and Taiwan. Over the six days, we will engage with Japan and explore the historical impacts of World War II and its relationship with the West. Our tour will then continue to Vietnam, where we will look at the impact of 'war' on its society. Our final stop will be Taiwan, where we will pose questions relating to sovereignty and geopolitics.

The theme of conflict will not just be examined from a 'war' perspective. We will come to understand the impact on individuals, the political outcomes and how this has affected Australia's relationship with Asia. By immersing yourself in the program, we hope to not only open your eyes to some of the issues affecting our world beyond Australia's borders, but also inspire you to continue your passions for international relations and diplomacy after its conclusion.

This information pack will provide you with all the relevant information associated with the tour, and will be especially useful in helping you apply for the tour. You'll find details including the themes of the tour, how to apply, and UN Youth Australia's welfare policies for this event.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to send me an email at [amy.johnston@unyouth.org.au](mailto:amy.johnston@unyouth.org.au).

We can't wait to receive your application to join us for ELP 2022!

Many thanks,



**Convenor**

**Amy Johnston**

# ABOUT US

## About UN Youth Australia

UN Youth Australia is a national youth-led organisation that aims to educate and empower young Australians on global issues. All of the work that we do is rooted in the belief that young people can and do make a difference in their communities. We foster ideas and innovation, and we give young people the inspiration and support they need to create change.

Through its eight divisions in each state and territory, UN Youth Australia provides an impressive array of events each year for secondary and tertiary students centred around global affairs. We equip students with the skills and the confidence needed to voice their opinions and to make positive changes on local, national and global levels.

For more information on UN Youth, please visit our website at [unyouth.org.au](http://unyouth.org.au).

## About the tour

We are looking for 30 high-school students from across Australia who will be selected to participate in a six day online tour of Asia. The tour will be centred around the theme of 'Conflict' and will focus on the following countries - Japan, Vietnam and Taiwan. During this tour you will be engaging with key players in this emerging region, from UN representatives, NGOs, multinational businesses, embassies, and grassroots organisations (both in Australia and Asia).

The six-day tour in 2022 are as follows:

First week: Monday 10th January - Wednesday 12th January;

Second week: Monday 17th January - Wednesday 19th January.





## ELP22 ONLINE FORMAT

In previous years, UN Youth has been able to provide young people with the opportunity to travel overseas to a variety of places in Asia, for the Emerging Leaders Program. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, international travel is not possible at this present time.

Nevertheless, UN Youth Australia is adapting to the rapid changes taking place and this year's Emerging Leaders Program has been revamped to an online format in light of the travel restrictions.

We are committed to delivering a fun, engaging and interactive online experience for this year's Emerging Leaders Program! All of the sessions will take place over Zoom - this includes activities, discussions, speaker panels and social events. We also plan to use other engaging, online resources to make this tour as captivating as possible.

# ELP22 EDUCATIONAL THEMES

The 2022 Emerging Leaders Program will focus on three culturally and politically significant countries in Asia; Japan, Vietnam and Taiwan. See below for a sneak peak into what we will cover!

## JAPAN

After surrendering in World War II due to the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan became subjected to the military and political rule of the Allied forces up until 1952. This control, although officially a joint Allied task, was mainly wielded by the United States, who influenced extensive political and economic reforms. However, the Japanese population continued to suffer from health impacts such as residual radiation causing cancer and numerous other diseases.

By examining the historical and political conflicts that have arisen since the San Francisco Treaty, we will look at how Japan has evolved to become the third largest economy in the world, and a significant power in the Indo-Pacific.

How has Japan adapted to their singular allowance of self-defence forces, especially in light of recent military tensions concerning territory with China, such as the Senkaku islands? Why has the trade, political and economic relations between Japan and South Korea deteriorated - can we blame historical consequences or is it something more?

## VIETNAM

The United Nations' establishment of the 1954 Geneva Accords after the First Indochina War soon gave rise to the Second Indochina War, or the 'Vietnam War', from 1955 to 1975. The consequences of the Indochina Wars on Viet Nam extended long after the conflict ended, such as the consequences of the US military in devastating the countryside of North and South Viet Nam, which led to mass hunger and starvation.

During the program we will examine Viet Nam's political shift from a socialist economy impacted by conflict, to one of the fastest-growing mixed economies in the world.

What can we learn from the origins of the divide between Ho Chi Minh's communist North Viet Nam and the US-backed South Viet Nam which led to the Second Indochina War? How has Viet Nam's trade agreements in recent years, including within its ASEAN and WTO membership, strengthened its economic growth in the Indochinese region?

## TAIWAN

In 1971, the Republic of China (ROC), commonly known as Taiwan, lost its diplomatic recognition within the United Nations. It was then replaced by the People's Republic of China (PRC), commonly known as China. The sovereignty and political dispute between the two states that originated from the Chinese Civil War has continued until today.

We will examine the conflict between Taiwan and Mainland China and explore the concept of state sovereignty and its impact on modern international relations. We will contextualize the conflict as per its wider role in the global political arena and how it has shaped the geopolitics of the 21st century. We will also examine how globalisation has reduced the role of military power in inter-state conflicts and explore the rising prominence of economic power in shaping the conflict dynamics of the 21st century.

What is the political status of Taiwan? What is the importance of recognizing economic power and trade alongside traditional inter-state military conflict as tools of coercion in the 21st Century? How does the concept of state sovereignty in reference to the ROC and PRC impact modern international relations?

# MEET THE TEAM

## CONVENOR - Amy

Amy has been involved with International Relations Programs since she was in high school. Amy engaged with her Rotary club during high school and was chosen to deliver the youth ANZAC Day speech. She was also asked to speak on NSW Radio as a part of ANZAC day ceremonies. This is Amy's first time working with UN Youth and she is so excited to be a part of the Emerging Leaders Program. Asia has always been an area of interest for Amy, and she can't wait to explore this topic further.

Aside from UN Youth, Amy is completing a Juris Doctor degree (Masters in Law) at Macquarie University in Sydney. Previous to this, Amy completed a Bachelor of Media (Public Relations and Advertising) at the University of New South Wales. Having worked in the events and media space for two years, Amy has a good understanding of running events and engaging with external partners.

In Amy's spare time she loves watching films and going for walks on the beach! Film is a major passion for Amy, so if any delegates want to spend a few hours talking about Christopher Nolan's films – she will be very happy!



## DEPUTY CONVENOR - Iris

Iris has been involved with UN Youth since 2019, when she was a delegate on the international program the Timor Leste Project. She has loved participating in UN Youth events ever since, and became a facilitator in 2021. She is the convenor for the Voice competition in NSW this year, and is also involved in UN Youth's reconciliation working group.

Iris studies a Bachelor of Arts and Advanced studies at the University of Sydney, majoring in International Relations and Arabic Language and Cultures. She loves learning about and exploring key global and political issues, and is super passionate about providing a space for other young people to do so too. Iris loves to read and go explore new places. She can't wait until international travel opens up again! Most of all, she can't wait to hang out with UN Youth delegates in person soon!



# MEET THE TEAM

## DEPUTY CONVENOR - Josh

Josh has been involved in UN Youth since 2017, starting as a delegate in various summits and Evatt Competitions. He is particularly fascinated by the interconnectivity of our increasingly globalised world and how this has impacted economies globally, particularly Asian economies.

Outside of UN Youth, Josh is involved in volunteering, including previously serving as a Student Ambassador of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. Josh is currently studying a combined Commerce and Law degree at the University of New South Wales. When he isn't organising events or studying, he'll be playing tennis or table tennis ... and maybe travelling as well when it's not lockdown. But right now during the lockdown, he's been enjoying daily runs and a bit of piano-playing from time to time.



## DEPUTY CONVENOR - Sim

Sim's first experience with UN Youth was back in 2017 when she was selected to be a delegate for the Pacific Project. The trip gave her a meaningful insight into the mechanisms behind sustainable development and its relation to international relations. She has been in love with UN Youth and its core principles ever since and started her involvement as a Deputy Convenor for the 2021 Young Diplomats Tour - UN Youth's first ever online tour!

Sim has also studied a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Melbourne, majoring in Politics and International Studies. Outside of UN Youth, Sim is intrigued by the arts and has been the Executive Producer of two radio shows as well as the Production Manager of an entirely online theatre playreading! Sim is fascinated by the rich culture and history of the Asian continent and can't wait to embark on this educational journey with the 2021 delegates.



# WELFARE POLICIES

UN Youth Australia and the ELP volunteer team are committed to ensuring that all participants at our events are safe and supported.

UN Youth Australia has a comprehensive Federal Welfare Policy that applies to all our events; it can be found at [unyouth.org.au/legal/](http://unyouth.org.au/legal/).

In order to mitigate any potential issues, UN Youth Australia prepares a risk management plan for all events. It is important that all welfare information is disclosed to us so we can arrange necessary precautions and ensure that the facilitation team is able to assist everyone in having a positive experience.

In addition to the convening team, there will be a Welfare Officer readily available should you have any welfare concerns throughout the event. The Welfare Officer will be trained in First Aid Training and Mental Health First Aid. The Welfare Officer contact details will be provided to every delegate on the first day of the online tour.

Additionally, there will be an external member to the tour who will be our Welfare Arbitrator. Should there be a serious incident throughout the program, the Welfare Arbitrator will step in to assist.



# COST AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The total cost of this program will be \$75, and will be due by the end of December. We have limited full and half bursaries available for any delegate that needs financial support to attend the event. Please see the form for more information.

We strive to keep costs low and want to help make our programs as accessible as possible for students. If the cost of this program presents as a barrier to you attending the Emerging Leaders Program, please don't hesitate to contact the Convenor at [amy.johnston@unyouth.org.au](mailto:amy.johnston@unyouth.org.au) and we can discuss potential payment plan options.

# HOW TO APPLY

If you're as excited as we are for the tour head over to [unyouth.org.au/event/emerging-leaders-program/](http://unyouth.org.au/event/emerging-leaders-program/) and fill out the application form to apply.

Delegates can fill out the short application form which will be due on Thursday 21st of October 2021\*. If selected, the second and final stage of selection to be a delegate in this year's Emerging Leaders Program will be an interview. Successful applicants will be contacted in early December.

\*extended from Tuesday 18th of October 2021.





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the world**

[unyouth.org.au](http://unyouth.org.au)