

The youth, peace and security agenda, towards sustaining peace and preventing violent extremism.

Launch of the full version of The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on YPS

MINISTERIAL SIDE-EVENT

28.09.2018 – 10h-12h

Thank you chair and thank you very much to the organizers of this event. Thank you also to the panelists for their views.

Belgium welcomes the **importance given to the inclusion of young adults and to the positive role they can play** within the processes of conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

And Indeed as we have clearly heard from the panelist this morning, **young people have an important capacity for action for peace** and so it is of vital importance to create the right conditions and an environment that enables them to participate, that allows them to be included in the peace processes.

We also believe it is fundamental not only to protect young people but also to invest in them so that they can realize their full potential. [In this respect] I totally agree with what Oscar said about that. **Equal access to inclusive and quality education as well as access to decent work** are key elements in facilitating youth participation. Likewise, it is essential to **strengthen the skills and competences of young people in order to be resilient and be able to bounce back when facing difficulties**. In particular when tackling radicalization leading to violent extremism, we strongly believe that it is paramount to develop and implement prevention strategies as well as resilience building tools.

This is something we are working on in Belgium. Building program with the youth with that objective in mind.

Finally let me announce that our UN youth delegates will organize a side event during this GA session to further reflect and discuss **how to move forward in order to implement the resolutions 2250 and 2419**. And we are very interested to hear their views and findings.

Thank you very much