Terms of Reference: Parliament Youth Ambassador Initiative

Term: January 2027 - December 2027
Time commitment: Approximately 10 hours per month. This is a volunteer position.
Location: Remote

Background and Purpose:

The Parliament Youth Ambassador Initiative creates a structured opportunity for young professionals to contribute to the Parliament of the World's Religions' interfaith work, bringing youth perspectives and particular attention to experiences and priorities from the Global South. The initiative connects young people across religious, spiritual, and ethical traditions to foster dialogue, build relationships with faith communities, and support collaboration on shared concerns.

Selected through an open call, Youth Ambassadors will contribute to the work of youth dialogues, collaborate with Parliament Task Forces, support communications and media activities, and help shape and deliver online events. The initiative seeks to make youth participation substantive by connecting ambassadors to ongoing interfaith work and providing clear responsibilities, support, and opportunities to influence outcomes.

Objectives:

The initiative will:

- Integrate young professionals from around the world into the Parliament's interfaith discussions, priorities, and outputs.
- Strengthen connections between the Parliament and young people across diverse faith and spiritual communities and regions.
- Support accessible communications and meaningful youth engagement in interfaith dialogue and action.
- Bring youth input into the design and delivery of meetings and events.
- Develop ambassadors' skills in interfaith policy engagement, communication, and international collaboration.

Role and Responsibilities:

- Attend and shape youth dialogues that explore the role of religion, faith communities, and interfaith cooperation in addressing issues affecting young people.
- Participate in an assigned Task Force and contribute to relevant meetings.
- Attend and actively participate in assigned Task Force events.
- Bring forward issues, examples, and recommendations grounded in youth experiences.
- Help identify relevant youth networks, community organizations, researchers, and potential contributors.
- Contribute ideas and content for the Parliament's communications channels.
- Support campaigns and outreach that highlight youth perspectives.
- Participate in interviews, public discussions, or other media opportunities when agreed and supported by the communications team.
- Follow the Parliament's editorial, branding, and approval procedures.
- Support event preparation, facilitation and moderation, as agreed.
- Help capture key messages and identify follow-up actions.
- Participate in programme feedback and evaluation.

Eligibility and Selection:

Applicants must:

- Be within the age range of 18-35 at the application deadline.
- Fluency in spoken and written English.
- Demonstrate an interest in the Parliament's mission, interfaith dialogue and cooperation, and issues affecting young people.
- Be willing to collaborate respectfully across different backgrounds and perspectives.
- Be available for the stated term and approximate time commitment.

Previous engagement with the Parliament of the World's Religions, policy, or international experience is not required. Relevant experience may come from community involvement, education, employment, volunteering, caregiving, or informal organizing.

Selection will take place through an open call and consider motivation, relevant perspectives, collaboration, and potential contribution. Cohort composition will reflect geographic, religion and spirituality, gender, and other forms of diversity, with particular emphasis on participation from the Global South.

Youth Ambassadors will serve for 12 months, from January through December 2027, with an expected commitment of approximately 10 hours per month. Meeting schedules and deadlines will account for different time zones and ambassadors' study, employment, and caring responsibilities.

The Parliament will provide recognition of contributions and a certificate upon satisfactory completion.

Conduct, Representation, and Confidentiality:

Parliament Youth Ambassadors are expected to:

- Treat others respectfully.
- Avoid discrimination, harassment, and other inappropriate behavior.
- Protect confidential information and handle personal information responsibly.
- Obtain appropriate consent before sharing others' stories, images, or personal details.
- Use the Parliament's name, branding, and resources only as authorized.

Youth Ambassadors contribute their own perspectives and are not expected to represent all young people, their country, or the Global South as a whole.

The ambassador role does not confer authority to speak on behalf of the Parliament of the World's Religions, make commitments, or enter agreements unless expressly authorized. Youth Ambassadors may express personal views while making clear when they are speaking in a personal capacity.

Participation in public-facing activities, including media appearances and the publication of personal profiles or images, will be agreed in advance.

Acceptance:

Selected ambassadors will receive notification in January 2027.

For questions, contact: Jessica Karpilo, jessica.karpilo@parliamentofreligions.org
Application deadline: December 8, 2026
Application link: https://forms.gle/KKKJNPTNRhXEZWBAA