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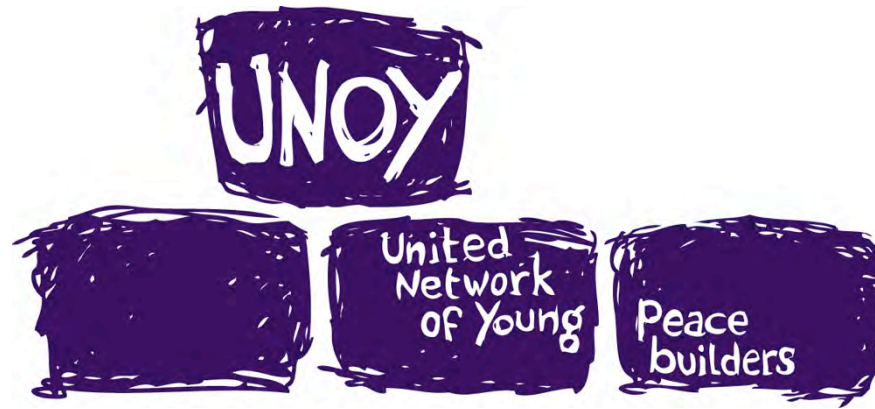


Role of youth-led civil society in preventing violent extremism

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- Coalition, solidarity, inspiration
- Exchange, peer-to-peer learning, collaboration
- Shaping policy & practice

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- Transition, waitinghood, “leaders of tomorrow”
- Risks, personal security, restricted civic space
- Slow-moving processes

Countering violent extremism and youth radicalisation

- “Radicalisation”
- Countering violent extremism (CVE) or preventing violent extremism (PVE)?
- Peacebuilding ≠ P/CVE

Countering violent extremism and youth radicalisation

- Gendered stereotypes of youth:
 - young men = perpetrators
 - young women = victims
- **Positive role of young people in preventing violent extremism!**

P/CVE policies

- **Council of Europe's** Action Plan on The fight against violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism (May 2015)
- **European Union's** European Agenda on Security and the EU Commission (April 2015)
- **United Nations** Secretary General's Plan to Prevent Violent Extremism (January 2016)

Youth participation in PVE

local examples

- Critical thinking in Afghanistan
- Arts-based peacebuilding in Northern Ireland
- Peer-to-peer approaches in the Netherlands & Tunisia



Youth participation in PVE

regional example

- No Hate Speech movement in Europe



Youth participation in PVE

global example

- Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security adopted by the United Nations Security Council (December 2015)



Do's & Dont's for youth participation in PVE

- **Don't** reinforce the narrative of youth as perpetrators or victims of radicalisation and violent extremism
- **Don't** put youth's fundamental human rights (e.g. right to travel, freedom of expression and right to mobilise) at risk through hard security measures
- **Don't** only focus on socioeconomic empowerment of young people

Do's & Dont's for youth participation in PVE

- **Do** acknowledge and support youth-led initiatives
- **Do** conduct contextual research in collaboration with youth organizations to understand root causes
- **Do** create opportunities for young people's participation in decision-making processes at all levels

More resources?

- Youth Action Agenda to Prevent Violent Extremism and Promote Peace
- 10 Guiding Practices for Countering Violent Extremism from a Human Security and Young Peacebuilder's Perspective
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