



**THE 46TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

16-22 September 2025
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
*Parliament at the Forefront for Inclusive Growth and
Sustainable ASEAN*

(Res.46GA/2025/YPA/01)

RESOLUTION ON

**ENHANCING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS, LEADERSHIP
AND PARTNERSHIP TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE
ASEAN**

Sponsored by Malaysia

The Forty-sixth General Assembly:

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly [resolution 70/1 \(2015\)](#) and [resolution 72/121 \(2019\)](#), which recognised youth as agents of change as well as their vital role and potential in advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Noting the United Nations Youth Strategy ([Youth 2030](#)) that emphasises youth leadership development, aims to empower young people, and promotes meaningful youth engagement to intensify the impact of transformative change thus contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Reaffirming our commitment to the shared principles, goals, values, and norms outlined in [ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future](#) that recognise youth development as a key agenda to strengthen their capacity to actively and meaningfully contribute to ASEAN Community-building efforts;

Being cognisant of the principles of the [ASEAN Charter](#) and [ASEAN Work Plan on Youth-2021-2025](#), which highlight the vital role of youth in ASEAN's development and community building and emphasise their active participation, engagement, and contribution to regional progress;

Recalling resolutions of the AIPA General Assembly [Res.45GA/2024/YPA/01](#) on Empowering youth in building a secure, resilient, and inclusive ASEAN Community, [Res. 44GA/2023/YPA/01](#) on Advancing youth engagement for inclusive development, economic transformation, and democratic participation, [Res.44GA/2023/YPA/02](#) on Advancing the Role of Young Parliamentarians in Governance, [Res.43GA/2022/Soc/04](#)

on Fostering Engagement with Young People Through a Sustainable, Resilient, And Prosperous ASEAN Community;

Welcoming the substantive outcomes and contributions of the 2nd Consultative Meeting of Young Parliamentarians of AIPA, and the effective participation youth representatives in its programs;

Recognising the valuable contributions of the Model AIPA and AIPA Roadshow in strengthening youth capacities in politics, leadership and international affairs;

Expressing concern over the persistent underrepresentation of youth in political decision-making and governance structures across ASEAN Member States, and acknowledging the potential of digital technology to empower youth by making political participation more accessible, interactive, and inclusive;

Emphasising that a sustainable and inclusive ASEAN future requires active, meaningful participation from youth across all sectors.

Hereby resolves to:

Strengthen the role of Young Parliamentarians to support the development of frameworks that support the implementation of the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future, by empowering youth to participate fully and effectively in the development of national action plans, and fostering partnerships with youth organisations and networks;

Call Upon AIPA Member Parliaments to adopt, where appropriate, affirmative action legislation and policies, that enhancing youth participation in politics, leadership and partnership through, among others, facilitating youth engagement through various channels, and fostering trust between young people and political institutions;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to facilitate youth engagement at various levels of governance through mechanism such as supporting regular interaction between youth councils and national as well as local legislative bodies and by exploring modalities to include youth representatives, especially those from marginalised communities, in decision-making institutions, taking into account national contexts and regulations;

Recommend ASEAN Member States to develop youth political incubators, political fellowship programs, and leadership initiatives to nurture young leaders whereby enabling their engagement and partnership with governmental institutions, NGOs, and international bodies across ASEAN;

Call upon AIPA Member Parliaments to foster a culture that supports youth empowerment in political democracy at various levels by strengthening youth-led

organisations or initiatives, networks, advocacy, outreach efforts and civic engagement with and for youth;

Call upon ASEAN Member States to strengthen political education programs within national curricula, emphasising on civic responsibility, leadership skills module, ASEAN identity and democratic literacy;

Encourage ASEAN Member States to consider establishing a youth observatory dedicated to monitor and evaluate youth participation and partnership in political processes, to track the progress, share best practices, and refine strategies;

Recommend the use of digital platforms and encourages the exploration of diverse and innovative forms of youth engagement enabled by digitalisation, with the aim of promoting meaningful youth participation in democratic process, through e-participation in policymaking, and accessible tools that can stimulate youth involvement;

Suggest ASEAN Member States to collaborate with civil society organisations and international partners, where appropriate, in hosting youth-focused politics, leadership and partnership programs to build networks, share best practices and secure technical and financial support;

Propose the consideration of including the participation of youth delegates in the Consultative Meeting of YPA, or in any sub-committee and supporting mechanism of YPA, to ensure that the youth voice is actively represented in regional integration efforts; and

Approve the [Report](#) of the 2nd Consultative Meeting of YPA.

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the Twentieth Day of September, in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.



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EXPLANATORY NOTE *Original Version*

The IPU 2023 report¹, indicates that just 2.8 per cent of parliamentarians worldwide are under 30 years old. Additionally, data from Res.45GA/2024/YPA/01² shows that young parliamentarians constitute only 21.18 per cent of the total members of parliament in ASEAN. The ASEAN Youth Development Index 2022³ also reports persistent underrepresentation of youth in political decision-making roles across ASEAN Member States. Nevertheless, youth constitute the largest ever cohort of ASEAN youth and the youth population of the region is projected to peak at over 220 million by 2038⁴. Henceforth, enhancing youth participation in politics and leadership is crucial for achieving an inclusive and sustainable ASEAN. Despite their potential and capabilities, youth often face barriers to political participation, such as a lack of representation in government bodies, hindering progress towards sustainability and inclusivity goals. This necessitates proactive measures to address this imbalance and empower youth to become active agents of change.

The resolution outlines several key actions urging AIPA Member States to undertake:

1. **Legislative and Policy Reforms:** Implement quotas for young parliamentarians via legislative reforms and political party commitments and the establishment of youth advisory councils at various governance level.
2. **Capacity Building and Leadership Development:** Empower young parliamentarians to participate in **ASEAN 2045** framework development and create youth political incubators and leadership programs to foster emerging leaders.

¹ Youth participation in national parliaments: 2023

<https://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/reports/2023-10/youth-participation-in-national-parliaments-2023>

² https://aipalync.org/storage/documents/main/resolution-on-empowering-youth-in-building-a-secure-resilient-and-inclusive-asean-community_1738655221.pdf

³ chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/4th-VERSION_22313_ASEAN-YDI-Report_Spreads-LQ_23Jun23.pdf

⁴ <https://asean.org/our-communities/asean-socio-cultural-community/education-youth/>

3. **Fostering a Culture of Youth Empowerment:** Strengthen youth-led initiatives and advocacy efforts while enhancing political education in national curricula focusing on civic responsibility, leadership, and democratic literacy.
4. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establish national and regional youth observatories to monitor participation by leveraging digital platforms to boost youth engagement and e-participation.
5. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Foster collaboration among AIPA member states, civil society, and international partners including youth delegates in regional forums like the YPA and ASEAN summits.

The resolution significantly advances youth political participation by enacting legislative frameworks, building capacity, and fostering a supportive environment for young leaders. It emphasises collaboration, monitoring, and evaluation to ensure effective implementation and maximise impact, utilising digital platforms for enhanced engagement. The aim is a more sustainable, inclusive, and representative ASEAN community where youth play a central role, contingent upon AIPA member states' commitment to its provisions, including encouraging political parties to actively foster youth leadership and participation in electoral processes.