

## United Nations Youth Delegates Luxembourg



### Infobox:

The UN Youth Delegates officially represent the interest of youth from their country at the United Nations (UN). They are selected to accompany the diplomatic delegation of their government to the meetings at the UN, and particularly the General Assembly of the UN.

The UNYD Luxembourg Program is an educational opportunity, a citizenship education project, which aims to support the UN Youth Delegates from Luxembourg so that the voice of youth from Luxembourg can be heard at the UN.

### Vous désirez plus d'informations sur ce projet?

Personne de contact:

Philippe Goeres  
Chargé de mission

[philippe@jugendrot.lu](mailto:philippe@jugendrot.lu)  
+352 40 60 90 338

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On April 1st, Julien Wald and Natasha Lepage officially took on their mandate as UN Youth Delegates for 2023-2024.

Over the first six months of their mandate, the two UNYDs engaged in a nationwide consultation with a diverse target audience. At the Europe Day stand, topics were raised by the general public, including climate change, the housing crisis, digital literacy, and youth participation. Students at the Diversity Day stand at the Lycée Michel Lucius addressed inequalities, discrimination, socio-economic challenges, as well as public health and safety. The St. George's International School workshop involved students adding public transportation, mental health, and unsustainable consumption to the conversation. The UNICEF youth ambassadors reiterated concerns about education, housing, mental health, and climate change. École Privée Fieldgen students covered violence against children, migration, poverty and family roles. The "Goûtez vos Droits" workshop engaged politically active and interested youth in discussions about women's advancement, family structures, and children's rights.

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Julien Wald also participated at the panel discussion in the closing event of the ALNU 2023 project with secondary schools.

**54** This year the UNYDs were invited to participate in the youth advisors pilot project initiated by OKAJU. Through this project, they engaged in open discussions with the Ombudsman and politically active youth, enabling the youth delegates to raise concerns voiced by the youth during the consultation phase. Additionally, the UNYDs gained insights into challenges related to violence, abuse, and neglect faced by young people in various aspects of their lives, from domestic settings to educational environments. Julien Wald further participated in the OKAJU Summer Seminar, where discussions centred around the well-being of children, abuse in institutions, and advocating for child rights in politics and law.

Throughout their mandate, Julien Wald and Natasha Lepage participated in a number of online EU Coordination meetings, which facilitated the exchange with fellow UNYDs. These interactions allowed them to stay informed about projects and events that UNYDs were taking part in and thereby enhancing their ability to better represent the youth at an international level.

From the 27th September to the 14th October 2023, Julien Wald and Natasha Lepage attended the Third Committee of the 78th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York. As part of the official delegation, the UN Youth Delegates engaged by intervening in committee meetings, presenting three declarations in general debates, and participating



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three times in interactive dialogues. Their interventions covered topics such as the rights of the child, women's empowerment, education, mental health, digitalisation, artificial intelligence, data protection, violence against children, minors before the law, well-being, as well as torture and inhumane treatment. Beyond their interventions, their presence extended to negotiations for the youth resolution.

In collaboration with youth delegates from Czechia, Hungary, Italy, Mexico, and Switzerland, Julien Wald and Natasha Lepage co-organised a side event on climate and women at the Luxembourg House. The event provided a platform for youth delegates from around the world to freely discuss the intersectionality of women's equality and the climate crisis, leading to the formulation of recommendations sent to relevant stakeholders.

Upon their return from New York, Julien Wald and Natasha Lepage entered their final phase of their mandate. Julien Wald participated in the ALNU Seminar on 'Info Sharing 2023 on Key UN Topics.' They both organised meetings with the official partners in December to share their experience as UNYD. Additionally, the two UNYDs also organised workshops and presentations in schools across Luxembourg to raise awareness about the UN Youth Delegate programme and the UN Agenda.



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