

#ASEFYLS

# ASEF ENTREPRENEURSHIP YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

1-5 November 2015, Luxembourg. In conjunction with the  
12th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ASEM FMM12)

## OVERVIEW



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# OVERVIEW – ASEF YOUNG LEADERS SUMMIT 2015

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## BACKGROUND

The [ASEF Young Leaders Summit](#) is a 4-day project initiated by the [Asia-Europe Foundation \(ASEF\)](#). The ASEF Young Leaders Summit emerged from a call by the young citizens of the [Asia-Europe Meeting \(ASEM\)](#) member countries<sup>1</sup> and the ASEM Head of States and Governments for a closer interaction and exchange of perspectives between the ASEM policy makers and young people on pressing societal issues. The project will take place in conjunction with the [12th ASEM Foreign Ministers Meeting \(ASEM FMM12\)](#) in Luxembourg in 2015.

The topic of the 1st edition of the ASEF Young Leaders Summit is “Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment”. In the wake of rising youth unemployment in both Asia and Europe and given its long-term implications such as inclusive economic growth, equality and accessibility to the workforce, this topic is currently on top of the political agenda of both regions.

During both the recent [10th ASEM Summit \(ASEM10\)](#) in 2014 and the [4th ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers’ Conference \(ASEM LEMC4\)](#) <sup>2</sup> in 2012, the ASEM Leaders emphasised the importance of fostering “decent and productive employment” and committed to “strengthen apprenticeships and training programmes that improve employability and facilitate school-to-work transition”.<sup>3</sup>

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## OBJECTIVES

The core objective of the ASEF Young Leaders Summit is to create a platform for interaction and engagement between Young Leaders and the Political Leaders of the ASEM process. In particular, the project aims to:

Achieve a constructive dialogue and exchange of best practices on youth employment and youth policies among the generations concerned

Facilitate direct communication between young leaders and political leaders of the ASEM members

Develop a joint position paper (ASEF Young Leaders Call for Action 2015) to be handed over to the ASEM Foreign Ministers at the ASEM FMM12

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1 ASEM brings together 51 members countries: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, the Lao PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom and Viet Nam.

2 See [Hanoi Declaration](#), 4th ASEM Labour and Employment Ministers’ Conference (ASEM LEMC4), 25-26 October 2012, Hanoi, Viet Nam, p. 2, section 4.

3 See [Chair’s Statement](#), 10th ASEM Summit (ASEM10), 16-17 October 2014, Milan, Italy, p. 9, section 31

## PARTICIPANTS

150 participants from all ASEM member countries selected through an Open Call

ASEM experts from the field of civil society organisations, not-for-profit organisations, private sector, social enterprise sector, academia and relevant ASEM Ministries

The Open Call and the selection process will ensure a geographical and gender balance as well as a diversity of participants from various relevant fields.

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## PROGRAMME

The ASEF Young Leaders Summit consists of 4 phases:

### 1) Online-survey

Through the Open Call, ASEF will conduct an online survey to gain initial insights on perceptions of leadership, practices and recommendations related to Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment in Asia and Europe. The data will be presented during the Summit and shared online.

### 2) Online preparatory phase

Participants will engage and prepare through an e-platform prior to the on-site event.

### 3) Actual Summit

The on-site meeting includes plenary discussions, dialogue sessions and skill-orientated workshops. The participants will jointly develop the ASEF Young Leaders Call for Action 2015 on Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment to be handed over at the [ASEM FMM12](#) (5-6 November 2015).

### 4) Interaction between participants and ASEM Foreign Ministers

Meetings between participants and their respective Foreign Ministers/Delegations of the ASEM FMM12 will be arranged where possible to personally convey the messages from the ASEF Young Leaders Summit.

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## RESULTS

### Intangible

Increased understanding of the complexities and case-study-based proposals and solutions concerning youth employment in Asia and Europe among the participants

Enhanced hands-on skills, which can be applied in the academic and professional life of the participants

Improved understanding of the ASEM process among the participants

Enhanced recognition of the younger generation by the political leaders of the ASEM members as a crucial stakeholder group within the ASEM process

Direct contacts established between youth representatives and ASEM Officials

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### Tangible

ASEF Young Leaders Call for Action 2015 on the subject of Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment

Acknowledgement of the ASEF Young Leaders Summit in official ASEM documents

E-Publication of the online survey, which offers insights on Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment through the lens of Asian and European young professionals and students

E-Publication of the presentations and reports during the Summit

Direct interaction between participants' representatives and the ASEM Foreign Ministers and government officials

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## MORE INFORMATION

Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)

For partnerships:

**Ms Leonie NAGARAJAN**

Director, Education Department

For participation:

**Ms Nathalie SAJDA** and **Ms Maneeha CHOWDHURY**

Project Coordinators, Education Department

Email: [asefyls@asef.org](mailto:asefyls@asef.org)

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