Without a youth presence at the UN Human Rights Council, the Council will not be able to represent the needs of young people around the world today. Political participation is a human right, yet young people do not have the opportunity to exercise that right at the HRC.

YouthUpUN aims to increase meaningful youth participation at the Council, and succeed in letting young people have more control over the human rights issues that concern them and policies that aim to address their needs.

YouthUpUN is an initiative spearheaded by CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality to increase youth engagement and representation at the HRC. Our goal is for an increase in Youth Delegates to participate in HRC proceedings, which we believe will lead to more youth-inclusive resolutions.

**Youth in the HRC**

- **Less than 1%** of over 64'000 Universal Periodic Review recommendations are about youth.
- **52%** of Special Procedures reports mention 'youth', & only 34% dedicate more than 1 sentence.
- **Of the 27%** of HRC resolutions that mention ‘youth’, only 14% dedicate more than 1 sentence.

**Only 4 states have HRC Youth Delegates:**

![Map of countries with HRC Youth Delegates]

**What can you do?**

CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality is hosting a breakfast meeting during the September Human Rights Council session, with allies of our campaign and other delegations who also believe in updating the UN mechanisms to adequately represent global youth, and increasing meaningful youth participation. Moreover, we are interested in holding one-on-one meetings with your country’s delegate to further this cause and discuss your current UN youth model, and how you can support our campaign.

**3 models for Youth Delegates at the HRC:**

1. Include a youth delegate in Human Rights Council delegations, contributing youth views and perspectives on statements, HRC resolutions, (panel) discussions and other conversations.
2. Sponsor a youth delegate to participate independently in the council’s proceedings, providing coaching and support where possible.
3. Invite a youth delegate to participate in (a series of) side events, where they can introduce a youth lens into the discussions.

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