



AU-EU Youth Cluster in New York

Africa and Europe share a future. The AU-EU Youth Cluster exists to make sure young people have a say in shaping it.

Launched in July 2026, the Cluster is a network of youth delegates, activists, and representatives from African Union and European Union member states who care about the AU-EU partnership and what it means at the United Nations. It brings together young people who want to move beyond parallel conversations and influence the decisions being made about their future.

What we do

The Cluster meets twice a year in New York — in person, with the option to join online — during moments when young people are already in town: the Third Committee negotiations in October, CSW in March, or the ECOSOC Youth Forum in April. Each meeting focuses on a single topic chosen by members themselves — gender equality, climate, education, peace and security, mental health, mobility, multilateralism — and that's just the starting list.

Every session opens with senior AU and EU ambassadors and experts setting the scene, followed by youth voices from both continents. The floor then belongs to the young people in the room. Closing remarks from diplomats capture the key takeaways, which feed directly into AU and EU coordination processes — as recommendations, questions, and a written report circulated to all member state missions.

How it's run

Four chairs — two from the AU, two from the EU — lead the Cluster on a two-year rotating mandate, with two replaced each year to keep things fresh without losing continuity. They prepare and moderate the meetings and run a WhatsApp community where members exchange opportunities, updates, and ideas between sessions.

Why it matters

Too often, youth input arrives after international decisions are already finalized. Grounded in the UN Pact for the Future and the African Union's Agenda 2063, the AU-EU Youth Cluster is built to systematically change that pattern. This initiative secures a structured, recurring seat at the table where global policy is drafted, opening a direct line of institutional accountability to the organizations shaping our shared tomorrow.

If you're young, engaged, and care about the AU-EU relationship, this is your space.