

Factsheet for the international Youth Ambassador Program 2023-2025

January 2023

Introduction and Overview

The international Youth Ambassador Program is a program organized by [Mission 21](#).

Mission 21 operates internationally to bring about a fairer world. Since 1815, we have been sending out a message of hope based on the Christian faith and human rights. All over the world, we work to promote peace, improve education and healthcare, and to support agriculture and livelihood security. We focus our efforts on women and girls in particular. In 20 countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America, we are involved in over 100 projects in the fields of long-term development cooperation, emergency relief and reconstruction. We work jointly with over 70 partner churches and partner organisations across the globe, and we engage in professional exchange and cooperation at eye level.

The Youth Ambassador Program is part of young@mission-21, Mission 21's international network for young adults.

Aims of the Youth Ambassador Program:

- The international youth exchange strengthen the international network of young adults, who are youth ambassadors, agent of change for peace, justice and environmental protection.
- Young adults improve their competences in inter- and transcultural as well as interreligious communication. Empowered through the program the youth ambassadors act as agents of change in plural society and work on a peaceful living together.
- Young adults gain competences and are aware on plurality for jobs and tasks in their societies and churches.

Certificate of inter- and transcultural competences

Part of the international Youth Ambassador Program is a certificate of inter- and transcultural competences. To receive this certificate it is part of the program to participate in online courses and online workshops before the visit in Switzerland and also after to reflect on it. We are here to support you during this whole period!

What does the program look like and timetable

Please be aware, that changes in the timetable can be possible!

Activities in 2023

Start of the new Youth Ambassadors Program 2023-2025.

International young adults (between 18 and 30) from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe can apply for the Youth Ambassadors Program. The youth ambassadors are being recruited and first preparations (online workshops) are taking place. Also the travel preparation for Summer 2024 is starting.

Activities in 2024

Further preparation of the international youth ambassadors through online courses and international calls. The international youth ambassadors visit Switzerland for a period of two weeks, share this time together as an international group and get insight into the life of young adults in the European context. They also take part in the Mission Synod in Basel (June 2024). The Swiss youth ambassadors are hosts and are actively involved in the program. After the visit the youth ambassadors write a self reflection and participate in the online-evaluation.

Activities in 2025

Youth ambassadors from Europe (mainly Switzerland) are divided in groups and visit a country in Latin America, Asia, or Africa. During this stay, a seminar or workshop is held to which other young adults are invited.

This year, regular online workshops to reflect will take place with all youth ambassadors.

The program will conclude with diverse evaluations and agreements on how to strengthen the international youth network of Mission 21.

Conditions

Individual:

- Age: year of birth between 1995-2004
- Language skills: fluently in English in listening, reading and speaking
- No health restrictions that do not allow travelling international
- Participant or volunteer of a partner organization/church of Mission 21
- Commitment and engagement for the Youth Ambassador Program of Mission 21 and its terms of participation (see application form)
- Willingness to learn about new point of views, to discuss, reflect and share thoughts and life with others
- Completed application (see application form)

Continental delegation

- Africa: 5 Ambassadors & 1 Youth Coordinator of the Continental Assembly of Mission 21
- Asia: 5 Ambassadors & 1 Youth Coordinator of the Continental Assembly of Mission 21
- Latin America: 5 Ambassadors & 1 Youth Coordinator of the Continental Assembly of Mission 21
- Just one youth ambassador or youth coordinator of one country - if that is not possible, there might be a change of this rule
- The delegation should consist of people of various genders

Application

- Signed application form
- Picture
- Copy of valid passport (expiry date after 2024)
- Recommendation letter from your church/project/organization for civilian engagement

Submission deadline: end of April 2023