



UNA-YP

United Kingdom

For Succeeding Generations

Prospectus

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Welcome from the General-Secretary

Dear prospective member,

Welcome to the United Nations Association - Youth Platform of the United Kingdom! The UK has since the UN's inception been a key and integral part of the last 75 years of global diplomacy, with a permanent seat on its Security Council and an influence that extends well beyond its own borders. Yet despite this, the youth of our country - its very future - has been ignored and denied a permanent place in representing it. UNA-YP seeks to change that. Formed originally as a coordinator of various UN associations and Model UN societies scattered around our country's universities, it has since grown into an unprecedented national organisation that seeks to redefine the youth's role in the UK's diplomacy, and foster the vision that any young person - no matter their background - may become leaders, campaigners, innovators and activists for a brighter future.

But this may only be achieved if all of our members take an active part. Joining UNA-YP is only the first step. What you do from here, be it representing your group's delegation, joining our campaigns or inspiring others like yourself, is what will make that vision our reality.

We hope this prospectus will give you a deeper insight into our work and the numerous benefits of your membership to UNA-YP. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of our directors, who will be more than happy to answer any of your enquiries.

Sincerely,



Ethan R.A. Lees, *General-Secretary at UNA-YP UK*



ETHAN R.A. LEES

General-Secretary

Brief overview

1. Our objectives

As an organisation built for the purpose of bringing together those who are interested in the workings of the United Nations, the UNA-YP serves three core functions within the broad spectrum of associations in the UK:

- National Youth Discussion Body
- UN Youth Delegate Programme in the UK
- Supporting the UK Model UN Circuit

Read more about our objectives on our [website](#) and in our brochure [here](#).

2. Our departments

- [Campaigns](#)
- [Outreach](#)
- [Marketing](#)
- [Conferences](#)
- [Model United Nations](#)
- [Finance](#)

** Please note that some of the department webpages are under maintenance. If you would like to find out more information about those specific departments, please consult our brochure [here](#).

3. Advantages at a glance

- **Speaker Events** - open to all our members, these events bring some of the most high-profile UN experts to raise awareness of important international issues.

Some of our past events include:

- July 2020: Climate & Covid : Combining National & Collective Action to Combat Global Security Challenges (Lord David Hannay)
- Aug 2020: The Future of Multilateral Aid (Lord Mark Malloch-Brown, Prof. James Putzel, Dr. Annalisa Prizzon)
- Dec 2020: Global Poverty and Covid-19 (Prof Oliver de Schutter)
- Mar 2021: From Germany to the UN (Christoph Heusgen)
- May 2021: International Court of Justice as a Central Part of the UN (Sir Christopher Greenwood)

Coming up soon:

- June 2021: United States Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations, Richard M. Mills

- **Educational Resources** - we know that knowledge is power, therefore the MUN Department has been developing a pack of resources to get you started not only in the world of Model UN Debates (as an organiser), but also in the world of the UN itself. Here are some resources we are planning on publishing on our website:
 - Global MUN Landscape - learn about MUNs around the world!
 - The Youth's Guide to the UN
 - How to start/develop a MUN Society
 - How to organise a MUN conference (both in-person and virtual)

- **Workshops** - interactive activities and events that will develop your understanding of the United Nations and explain how the youth can get more involved.

- **Networking & Mentoring** - be it to strengthen relations in the MUN circuit or gain contacts for your personal network, we have what you need to make a start in the (M)UN world! We offer:
 - Regular networking opportunities and social events with other member societies
 - Mentorship scheme with career professionals (TBC)

The admissions process

Once you decide that you would like to join UNA-YP, here is the process that follows:

Step 1: Fill in the questionnaire at the end of this prospectus or on our website (Get involved < Represent your local Youth UNA/MUN/Become an Independent Member < Questionnaire)

Step 2: Our dedicated Outreach/MUN teams will get in touch and organise a meeting with you to discuss the admission process, set expectations and answer any questions you may have. Most importantly, this is a good opportunity for you to get to know us better!

Step 3: Everything is set! You will receive an invitation to all our social platforms and our newsletter so that you are up-to-date about our news and events.

*** Note for UNAs/MUNs:* If you would like to be the primary contact for the society you represent, you will be denoted **Head Delegate**. Any other members of your society are welcome to join, but they will be denoted as **Delegates** only. Only the Head Delegate has the right to vote in General Committee Meetings - more on that in the [“How voting works” section](#).

United Nations Association Branches / Model UN Societies

1. Your role as a society in UNA-YP

- Be an active part of a strong network of more than 35+ member organisations
- Collaborate and network with member societies and UNA-YP
- Share expertise and Model UN organisational practices
- Help us improve as an organisation by providing feedback on our work and practices

2. What we offer

- A platform to publicise events, initiatives, and conferences to the UK MUN circuit
- Opportunities for inter-UNA collaboration and networking
- Full guidance and support for the organisational aspects of your society, conference management and promotion
- Access to our workshops, networking and mentoring events, featuring experienced youth delegates and UN experts from around the world
- More details in the section [“Advantages at a glance”](#)

3. Your rights and responsibilities

- As a UNA/MUN, you have **full rights** to contribute to the inner workings of UNA-YP
- You can contribute with agenda items and raise points in our General Committee Meetings (or GCMs)

- You have the right to exercise your vote in procedural matters such as amending the constitution and bye-laws of our organisation, as well as electing a new directorate.

a) General Committee Meetings

- What is a GCM?

General Committee Meetings (or **GCMs** for short) are our monthly meetings which are open to all youth to attend, regardless of whether or not you are affiliated or a member of a local UN-related group. This is where directors and members alike communicate updates, have interactive discussions about UNA-YIP and youth campaigns for the UN, and also make procedural decisions. These meetings also have a 'Working Groups' component, whereby members can hold presentations about their projects and/or events they are organising, or even raise awareness of topics they are passionate about. This is a great opportunity for members to have their voice heard and contribute to the shaping of our organisation as well.

Logistics

Our meetings take place on the **first Sunday of every month at 12pm BST on Zoom**. We kindly ask our members to fill in an attendance form before every meeting, so that we are aware of the numbers. The form also gives you the chance to propose any agenda items that you want to see discussed.

If you would like to get a taster of how our GCMs work, feel free to sign up here to get an invitation: <https://forms.gle/dkkqnyJRJXuawSj9>

b) How voting works (with reference to our *Constitution*)

Decisions of members (Clause 10)

- Any decision of the members of UNA-YIP may be taken by means of a resolution at a general meeting. Such a resolution may be passed by a simple majority of votes cast at the meeting (including votes cast by postal or email ballot, and proxy votes) or
- By written resolution without a general meeting.

- **Remember that the Head Delegate is the only one that can cast votes**, representing the will of the society they represent. If they are unable to do so, they should appoint a **proxy**, but not before notifying the Board of Directors/Returning Officers first about the change.

Amendment of Constitution (Clause 28)

- by resolution agreed in writing by all members of UNA-YP; or
- by a resolution passed by a 75% majority of votes cast at a general meeting of the members of UNA-YP provided that it is submitted by members at least 72 hours prior to the starting time specified in the notice of the meeting.

For further reference, please have a look at our [Constitution](#) and [Bye-Laws](#).

Independent Members

1. Your role as an independent member in UNA-YP

- To be part of a strong network of more than 35+ member organisations and young UN enthusiasts
- To collaborate and network with UNA-YP members and UN experts with a view to campaign for youth issues and initiatives

2. What we offer

- An opportunity to contribute to youth involvement in our events, campaigns and projects, helping to shape the organisation
- Access to our centralised database of resources related to the United Nations, as well as Model UN debates
- Access to our workshops, networking and mentoring events, featuring experienced youth delegates and UN experts from around the world
- Career opportunities - we are in the process of researching exciting opportunities to work with the UN and other related organisations, so you can have a hands-on experience of diplomatic work for the betterment of the youth

3. Your rights and responsibilities

Whilst only official UK UNAs/MUN societies have full voting rights, **any person present at General Committee Meetings may freely contribute**, propose agenda topic items and make their voice heard.

What is a General Committee Meeting? Please consult the [“What is a GCM?”](#) section of this prospectus.

For the admissions procedure, please consult [“The admissions process”](#) section.

Interested? Sign up!

Have we piqued your interest? Sign up now using the appropriate link for your membership status:

- Sign-up admission form for UNA/MUN societies:
<https://forms.gle/8SryFJyco6mp8eV86>
- Sign-up admission form for Independent Members:
<https://forms.gle/HEdXmp4xZwdbqUQZ7>