

Youth Declaration

The 23rd International Youth Forum

Youth and New Media

August, 22-28, 2012 Seoul and Goesan, Korea

Preamble

69 youth participants from 29 countries gathered in Seoul and Goesan, Korea from August 22nd to 28th, 2012 to seek ways to emphasize Youth's Role in New Media Era.

The participants discussed the following:

- International Cooperation in the New Media Era
- Social Media and Youth Culture
- Government, Private Sector, Relevant International Organizations' role in support of Youths

We, the participants, of the 23rd International Youth Forum determined

- To emphasize the role of governments to reduce education inequality
- To promote the preservation of culture and national identity
- To reduce conflict and gap between cultures and generations
- To raise awareness for global problems such as starvation
- To highlight the role of public sector in assisting youths
- To raise awareness of the need of protection of reputation in new media while not restricting individuals' freedom of speech
- To raise awareness of the danger of bandwagon effect and selective exposure in new media
- To raise awareness of privacy issues such as privacy violation
- To protect individual privacy in new media

And for these ends recommend the following plans of action:

Government

A. Education Inequality

1. We encourage governments to use CME (Computer Mediated Education) equally in all sectors, especially in rural areas.
2. We encourage the use of SNS page for all levels of education. People can suggest their own ideas for developing education system without political opinion.

B. Misconception of education for people with special needs

1. We believe governments should educate people more about special needs high school through advertising in new media tools
2. We urge governments to make educational TV and online lecture for students with special needs. Ex) Providing sign language service for deaf people.

C. Loss of traditional culture and national identity

1. We urge governments to provide financial support for the preservation of national culture
2. We believe that all governments and the private sector should provide dual sound of foreign media content; dubbed and original version.

D. Conflict and gap between cultures and generations

1. We urge all governments to promote culture to reduce misunderstanding between generations through new media.

E. Campaign Structural Improvements

1. We believe that governments should provide easy access to legislation either national or international (Treaties) in order to create a legal framework that allows the promotion of social campaigns.
2. We urge all governments to create, support and maintain campaigns against social issues by using new media means.

F. Education of Social Media Privacy Issues

1. We encourage all governments to include mandatory internet and SNS in early stages of education. This education should be active, learning-based, with an aim to explain the public, archival nature of SNS.

G. Consent of personal information provision

1. We urge all governments to respect the privacy of individuals by not investigating or accessing personal data without consent.

H. Policy Transparency in Social Interactions

1. We encourage all the governments to engage its citizens by being transparent about their policies regarding social media.

I. Awareness of Social Media Threats (Online Defamation)

1. We urge governments to raise awareness on the issue of online defamation through public media campaigns and provide assistance to educational institutions

Private Sectors

A. Fundraising

1. We encourage the promotion of social issues towards private organizations in order to gain support.

B. Conflict and gap between cultures and generations

1. We urge private sector to promote culture to reduce gaps between generations through new media.
2. We believe that all private sectors should provide simple and easy new media usage that can engage different generations and bridge generation gaps.

C. Public Sector CSR

1. We urge private sector to launch campaign against social issues by using new media means that can improve their work processes and efficiency.

D. Identity Verification / Protection

1. We urge social media companies to ensure the protection of identities by requiring proof of identification to remove duplicate or false profiles.
2. We believe that social media companies should provide an option of blocking individuals/users. Furthermore, there should be an option that allows an individual to block any form of unsolicited contact.
3. We encourage companies to provide concise summaries and updates of terms and conditions for SNS in layman's terms.
4. We urge the private sector to focus on the prosecution of pirated copyright content provider rather than on the user.

E. Social Media Companies

1. We strongly urge Social Media Companies to provide an equal opportunity to express agreement, disagreement or doubt with the platforms content. We encourage them to remind users of their responsibilities regarding the sharing of content.

International Organizations, Academia and Civil Society

A. International Cooperation in Social Problems

1. We believe that academia, international organizations and civil societies need to be carefully concerned about social issues and actively utilize new media to promote raise public awareness.

B. Third Party Invasion

1. We encourage all individuals to be alert and informed when they provide any personal information on the internet. Individuals should ensure that they only register for sites that do not pass on their information to third parties without the user's consent.

C. Educational Institutions role in arbitration of online defamation

1. We request the empowerment of faculty in educational institutions to arbitrate cases of online defamation. We encourage the promotion of the issue by conducting educational seminars and lectures on the topic

D. Individual's Duty in Social Media Usage

1. We call on all individuals to recognize their duty to create and share new media content responsibly and understand its double sword nature.

Conclusion

In summary, the forum highlighted the issues that youths face in the new media age. Moreover, we discussed about possible uses of new media tools in order to raise awareness of different issues in society.

We concluded that new media would play a key role in society and individuals need to understand how new media works and to be aware of its powers.

Suggestions were made to, public and private sectors to address the issues that were determined in the forum.