

YOUTH AGAINST SLAVERY MANIFESTO

**Youth United to Disrupt the Silence around
Ending Contemporary Forms of Exploitation
and Human Trafficking.**



“No one is free until
we are all free.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

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01



Welcome

WELCOME TO OUR YOUTH AGAINST SLAVERY MANIFESTO FOR THE GENERATION EQUALITY FORUM!

Sparked by the continuous exclusion of youth activists working tirelessly to end contemporary forms of exploitation, we are determined to take action. We stand empowered and will never give up until we break all barriers that prevent this from becoming a mainstream issue. We aim to ensure that every child, youth and adult is aware of, and empowered through choice, preventing any contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. We will continue to hold perpetrators and those in leadership positions accountable, for turning a blind eye to the voices, demands, desperation and powerlessness of those who are most vulnerable, as well as to those who are fighting to end contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. We stand united in inviting all youth groups in their constituencies and diversities and all other groups and individuals that believe in justice to stand in solidarity with us. We urgently call on their and your commitment to take concrete and comprehensive actions, standing together in solidarity with every person in and vulnerable to contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

We want to recognize the amazing work of everyone for their meaningful contributions to this collective effort. Thank you for daring to disrupt the silence with us to bring our issues that touch the core dignity of our collective humanity to the forefront of the Generation Equality Forum's agendas and beyond.

We want to start by extending a very warm thank you to the co-founders and core team of the Anti Slavery Collective for Generation Equality: Racha Haffar (Youth Against Slavery Movement, USA), Carolina Rudnick and Marcia Guerra M Capanema (Liberá, Chile), Sheffield Douglas (Guyana Women Miners Organisation, Guyana), Pal-labi Ghosh (Impact and Dialogue Foundation, India), Mona Ayoub (EcoArt Collective, Lebanon), Ezgi Yaman (ECPAT, Turkey).

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We thank our amazing graphic designers Juan Manuel Suarez and Mohammed Abdessalem Boubekri, and Kayla Hellal for the [website](#).

Finally we extend our gratitude to all of our [petition](#) signatories and to the supporters of the [Anti-Slavery Collective for Generation Equality](#).

We extend an urgent invitation to all who read this to unite with us and support our demands and work with youth to ensure that the most vulnerable demographics receive the utmost protection and dignity. To our allies, colleagues, and the global youth who support our work, please show your utmost solidarity to stand with us. You can start by signing our petition in this [link](#).

02



Introduction

The majority of the 1.5 billion people living in poverty are women and youth. 1 in 6 (365 million) children are living in extreme poverty. 70% of children aged 15 and over have either had no formal education or have only received a basic education.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, global levels of extreme poverty and child labour have increased at an alarming rate for the first time in over 20 years. Conflict, the effects of climate change and gender injustice have also contributed to increased poverty; the World Bank estimates that 150 million more people will be pushed into extreme poverty in 2021.

The Generation Equality Forum has excluded the tackling of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking from many conversations, blueprints, and agendas as a result of the political and ideological divide on the issue of the commercial sex trade. Consequently, youth voices have been dismissed from important conversations around the Action Coalitions of the Forum. As such, as youth activists fighting in this sphere, we have struggled to have our demands respected and translated into tangible actions. For the 2021 Generation Equality Forums, youth raising these issues have not been represented in leadership positions and this has led to a suppression of our voices in the overall process.

Building on the recommendations of the Anti-Slavery Collective for Generation Equality Forum and further consultations with youth internationally, we have presented demands from a youth perspective that challenge and shift mainstream practices around addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. We have highlighted the need to address the root socio-economic causes and vulnerabilities enabling exploitation while acknowledging, practicing and respecting intersectional narratives and approaches.

Viewed through an intersectional lens, to effectively end contemporary forms of exploitation, the root causes and vulnerabilities enabling exploitation in the first place must be addressed. Vulnerabilities that are push factors towards human trafficking include unequal distribution of power, lack of economic mobility, lack of opportunity for growth (economically, educationally, physically), discrimination, climate change and lack of access to education. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals consist of 17 targets acting as a “blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all”, which governments have committed to achieving by 2030. Thus, to end contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking, all of the Sustainable Development Goals must be achieved.

Governments who signed the 2030 Agenda committed to achieving their bold and transformative visions, promising to leave no one behind. Fulfilling these commitments requires investments in research, data and analysis to showcase the needs of individuals facing intersectional forms of discrimination. However, regardless of the support youth have received from global grassroots and international organisations, we continue to remain silenced and excluded by the Action Coalitions.

Changing consumer behaviour combined with advocacy work in collaboration with governments, international stakeholders and multinational corporations, will prioritise people over economic development, profits and unsustainable growth. This will pave the way for a sustainable and inclusive world with no room for contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

Sparked by the continuous exclusion of youth activists working tirelessly to end contemporary forms of exploitation, we are determined to take action. We stand empowered and will never give up until we break all barriers that prevent this from becoming a mainstream issue. We aim to ensure that every child, youth and adult is aware of, and empowered through choice, preventing any contemporary forms of exploitation. We will continue to hold perpetrators and those in leadership positions accountable, for turning a blind eye to the voices, demands, desperation and powerlessness of those who are most vulnerable, as well as to those who are fighting to end contemporary forms of exploitation. We stand united in inviting all youth groups in their constituencies and diversities to stand in solidarity with us. We urgently call on their and your commitment to take concrete and comprehensive actions, standing together in solidarity with every person in and vulnerable to contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

03



Core Aims

1

To produce a set of inclusive, concrete policy recommendations and demands that youth believe are the most important for tackling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

2

To influence the Generation Equality Forum processes and ensure that addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking are boldly included in the finalised blue-prints and agendas of both the Generation Equality Forum and Action Coalitions.

3

To provide the Global Youth with the opportunity to be heard and meaningfully lead the change they aspire to see within the Generation Equality Forum processes, Action Coalitions and beyond, specifically in relation to combatting contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking through concrete actions.

04



Core Demands

Include & mainstream anti-trafficking at the Generation Equality Forum and beyond.

For far too long addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking have been excluded from the Generation Equality Forum and other advocacy spaces. As youth, we demand change so that ending contemporary forms of exploitation is firmly rooted on international blueprints, frameworks and agendas in all advocacy spaces.

Recognise the cross-cutting feminist intersections.

Stakeholders must recognize and acknowledge that the existence of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking are influenced by many factors. The factors driving exploitation include (but are not limited to) poverty, gender inequality, economic insecurity and climate change.

Anti-trafficking efforts must focus on preventing the root causes enabling exploitation in the first place. This includes prevention through educating children and adolescents about human trafficking at all ages.

Include, support, and resource youth anti-trafficking activists and initiatives.

Youth anti-trafficking activists continue to be excluded from and tokenized in advocacy spaces at all levels. We demand inclusion, resourcing and co-leadership. Youth must be co-creators of efforts that affect our lives. Spaces must be created for inclusive and intergenerational anti-trafficking work.

Prioritise anti-trafficking legislation (i.e. Palermo Protocol).

Legislation plays an instrumental role in ending contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. Therefore, governments must collaborate with youth and other stakeholders to ensure that international law standards are upheld and to implement national referral mechanisms to meet the needs of local contexts.

Centre survivor voices through a human-centered approach.

Youth and others with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking must be centred in all advocacy spaces, efforts, decision making processes and when designing and implementing anti-trafficking frameworks.

Protect youth and marginalised groups from wrongful prosecution and revictimization of all sorts.

People who have lived experiences of exploitation and trafficking must not be criminalised or revictimized. A human-centred and non-punishment principle approach should always be adopted.

To put in place human-centred protective measures across all concerned sectors to provide multi-sectoral, comprehensive services to youth that will protect them from re-victimisation and provide them with adequate well-being support.

Creation of accountability measures.

Only through committing to a feminist participatory and mutual accountability framework will we be able to achieve our urgent demands.



05



Key Terminology

All definitions have been pasted from official documents provided by the International Labour Organisation. The definition for 'Trafficking in persons' has been pasted from the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Any person - "Any person" refers to all human beings, adults and children, nationals and non-nationals, including migrants in irregular situations.

Bonded Labour - is a person's pledge of their labor or services as security for the repayment for a debt or other obligation. The services required to repay the debt may be undefined, and the services' duration may be undefined.

Child labour - work performed by children that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children, affecting their health and personal development, or that interferes with their compulsory schooling. It is important to note however that not all child labour is forced labour.

Children in Armed Conflicts - The use of children in armed conflict is a worst form of child labour, a violation of human rights and a war crime. ILO Convention No.182 defines forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict as a worst form of child labour. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict prohibits all recruitment – voluntary or compulsory – of children under 18 by armed forces and groups. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court makes it a war crime, leading to individual prosecution, to conscript or enlist children under the age of 15 years or use them to participate actively in hostilities.

Child soldiers - Involves the unlawful recruitment or use of children through force, fraud, or coercion as combatants, or for labor or sexual exploitation by armed forces. Perpetrators may be government forces, paramilitary organizations, or rebel groups. Some children are made to work as porters, cooks, guards, servants, messengers, or spies. Young girls can be forced to marry or have sex with male combatants.

Child trafficking - Forms of child trafficking include trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation, labor trafficking, removal of organs, illicit international adoption, trafficking for early marriage, recruitment as child soldiers, use in begging, and recruitment of athletes.

Coercion - Threats or perceived threats of serious harm to or physical constraints against any person; causes a person to believe that failure to perform will result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any persons. Types of coercion:

- Threat of physical violence
- Threat of sexual violence
- Threat or actual violence against family
- Physical violence
- Sexual violence
- Withholding of passports
- Withholding of air tickets
- Withholding of salary
- Controlling communication
- Controlling movement
- Threat to report to the police
- Threat to report to Immigration

Commercial sexual exploitation - of children is the exploitation by an adult with respect to a child or an adolescent – female or male – under 18 years old; accompanied by a payment in money or in kind to the child or adolescent (male or female) or to one or more third parties. Commercial sexual exploitation in children includes all of the following:

- The use of girls and boys in sexual activities remunerated in cash or in kind (commonly known as child prostitution) in the streets or indoors, in such places as brothels, discotheques, massage parlours, bars, hotels, restaurants, etc.
- The trafficking of girls and boys and adolescents for the sex trade.
- Child sex tourism.
- The production, promotion and distribution of pornography involving children.
- The use of children in sex shows (public or private.)

Contemporary forms of exploitation (modern slavery) - is not defined in international law. It generally refers to a wider range of situations of severe exploitation where a person is heavily dependent on another and cannot escape because of mechanisms of control and coercion, violence, deception or abuse of power. In such situations where there is a threat and absence of freedom to leave work, modern slavery can constitute forced labour as defined in Convention No. 29.

Debt Bondage - A condition where a person is held as collateral for a debt. Whatever work they do does not technically belong to them, because they are collateral. It is the most common method of enslavement in the world today, accounting for nearly 20 million of the world's slaves. The debt is passed down from generation to generation, creating hereditary enslavement. This system is well- entrenched in South Asia, and can trap entire families in slavery for illegal debts as small as \$40.

Domestic servitude - a form of trafficking in human beings which is extremely difficult to detect because the work is performed in private residences. Domestic work is by nature a hidden form of employment and often part of the informal economy. In many countries, this labour sector is poorly regulated and not recognized

as real work. Moreover, it takes place out of sight, thereby isolating the workers. As such, domestic workers are generally more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation than other workers. Trafficking for domestic servitude covers a range of situations, all of which share certain features: subjugation, intimidation and an obligation to provide work for a private individual, excessively low or no salary, few or no days off, psychological and/or physical violence, limited or restricted freedom of movement, denial of a minimum level of privacy and health care. Living in the household of the employer, the domestic worker may constantly be required to be available to work day and night, often in living conditions that are unacceptable and subject to abuse, humiliation, discriminatory behaviour and punishment.

Forced labour - Article 2(1) of the ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) defines forced labour as: “all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself [or herself] voluntarily”.

Forced labour of children - corresponds to:

- work performed for a third party (other than his or her own parents), under threat or menace of any penalty either on the child directly or the child’s parents; or
- work performed with or for his or her parents, under threat or menace of any penalty applied by a third party either on the child directly or the child’s parents; or
- work performed with or for his or her parents where one or both parents are themselves in a situation of forced labour.

Forced marriage - refers to situations where persons have been forced to marry without their consent. A marriage can be forced through a range of different mechanisms, including physical, emotional or financial duress; deception by family members, the spouse or others; or the use of force or threats or severe pressure. The 1956 United Nations Convention on slavery and slavery-like practices covers various mechanisms of forced marriage, as institutions and practices similar to slavery.

Hazardous work - is defined in the ILO Conventions as: “work which, by its nature or circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to jeopardise the health, safety or morals of children” (Article 3(1) of Convention No. 138 and Article 3(d) of Convention No. 182.).

Human Smuggling - Helping someone to illegally cross country borders, often without identification or papers, for financial or material benefit. Smuggling ends with the arrival of the migrants at their destination, whereas trafficking involves the ongoing exploitation of the victims in some manner to generate profits for the traffickers.

Lack of voluntary offer - In the definition of Forced labour, the term “not offered himself/herself voluntarily” refers to workers not hav-

ing given their free and informed consent to enter into an employment relationship and/or their inability to withdraw their consent at any time; that is to say to freely leave the employment. The free and informed consent to work must exist throughout the labour relationship.

Perpetrator - is someone who commits an illegal, criminal or evil act. Often a person is a suspect until it has been proven that he or she carried out the offense. In terms of sexual violence and abuse the perpetrator is the person who commits the offence and in terms of commercial sexual exploitation a perpetrator can be the pimp or the client or anyone involved in such activity against the child.

Recruiter - (in the context of CSEC and trafficking) is a person who looks for individuals to fill positions in the commercial sex industry. The recruiter may do this through coercion or befriending an individual before passing them on to the trafficker for transportation.

Sexual exploitation - Any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.”

Slavery - is defined under Article 1(1) of the League of Nations Convention to Suppress the Slave Trade and Slavery (the Slavery Convention), 1926, as “the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised”. Slavery is an institution of complete ownership, in which an individual is subjected to the full control of the slave owner who can make decisions for this individual on education (attending school or not), work (type and conditions) or even private life (who to marry). The prohibition of slavery in international law has achieved “jus cogens” status, meaning that all states accept it as a principle that cannot be derogated from.

State-imposed forced labour - The ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) complements Convention No. 29 and prohibits Member States from having recourse to any form of compulsory labour, including compulsory prison labour, in five specific circumstances:

- as a means of political coercion or as a punishment for expressing political views; X as a sanction for participating in strikes;
- as a means of labour discipline;
- as a means of racial, social, national or religious discrimination; and
- as a method of mobilizing labour for economic development purposes.

Trafficking in persons - shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits

to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;

The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation;

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons”

Work or service - “All work or service” refers to any type of work, service and employment, occurring in any activity, industry or sector, including in the informal economy. It also encompasses activities that may be illegal or not considered as “work” in certain countries, such as begging or prostitution. Forced labour can occur in both the public and private sectors.

Worst forms of child labour - ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999, (No. 182) identifies the worst forms of child labour in its Article 3 as:

- “all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
- the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;
- the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in relevant international treaties;
- work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.”

Violence against women - Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

06

Action Coalition 1: Gender-Based Violence

Combatting contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender-based violence must be included within the framework of this Action Coalition. Contemporary forms of exploitation constitute serious violations of human rights. States must comply with their obligations to take action to prevent and investigate contemporary forms of exploitation, protect marginalised and vulnerable demographics, support grassroots organisations, initiatives, movements and activists and adopt appropriate prosecution methods. Accountability must extend to include perpetrators that are individuals, State and/or non-State organizations. Accelerated, concrete and comprehensive action is needed to address contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender-based violence.





Demand 1 - Policy & Legal Framework

There is an urgent need for the implementation of legislation and policy frameworks that are dedicated to prohibiting and eradicating contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender-based violence. Combatting these issues are often excluded from mainstream advocacy and policy spaces.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

1.1 Ensuring that comprehensive gender-adaptive anti-trafficking legislation fully complies with international human rights standards; primarily with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (which defines “*trafficking in persons*”), supplemented by additional relevant international legislation and conventions.

Demand 2 - Prevention

The implementation and financing of evidence-driven prevention strategies that combat contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender-based violence by public and private sector institutions must be scaled up. This aims to drive down the prevalence of gender-based violence in all its diversity.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

2.1 Governments must partner with and provide grassroots organisations working with youth with the resources, support and platforms to collate evidence, carry out extensive research and, subsequently, inform evidence-driven prevention strategies and policies relating to contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking, as forms of gender-based violence.

2.2 Adequate training must be provided and made accessible to service providers which include but is not limited to local authorities, law enforcement personnels and individuals who are the first point of contact for people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

2.3 Establishing local youth led networks that support and guide youth on how to report contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender-based violence. These networks could be created within civil society groups, youth groups and in educational institutions (i.e. schools, universities). When establishing these networks, the use of creative and interactive forms of communication need to be considered as methods of effectively engaging, educating and empowering youth.

Demand 3 - Protection & Services

To provide affordable, accessible and quality services for survivors of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender-based violence. This will generate multi-sectoral demand frameworks and referral mechanisms that include the provisions and services of policing, justice, health and social sectors by 2026.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

3.1 Ensuring mandatory capacity building for first contact responders to strengthen their ability to identify cases of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking among the youth demographic. This will prevent the negligence, false prosecution and revictimization of children who have lived experienced of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

3.2 Providing assistance, support and guaranteeing protection for children who have lived experienced of contemporary forms of exploitation and human

trafficking. This should include (but not be limited to) access to information, financial, linguistic, legal and cultural support.

3.3 Allocating resources in consultation with youth-led and youth-focused civil society organizations. This can be achieved by developing and implementing standard operating procedures for shelters to ensure consistent, high-level service provisions for youth with lived experience of contemporary forms of exploitation. Services are required to be sufficiently funded, well-equipped and have fully trained staff for providing trauma-informed assistance.

3.4 Special attention must be given to migrants, refugees, forcibly displaced persons, internally displaced people, LGBTQIA+ persons, vulnerable communities and youth. These demographics must be provided safe access to social services and security. This should include (but not be limited to) shelter, economic empowerment, sustenance, health care, education, asylum, safety, and security. This is in recognition of the increased vulnerability to gender-based violence within these demographics.



Demand 4 - Partnership & Funding

A proportion of the proposed 50% increase in international flexible funding to feminist groups must be allocated to support grassroots organisations, activists and movements that are working to tackle contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender-based violence.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

4.1 Governments must consult with youth-led and youth-focused feminist and grassroots initiatives focusing on tackling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender based violence to ensure that they have a seat at the decision making table when funds are being allocated.

4.2 The 50% increase in funding outlined should incorporate providing funding to youth-led feminist groups and movements that focus on combatting contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as forms of gender based violence. Funding should include (but not be limited to) grants, facility development or maintenance, technical support, consultations and capacity building.



Action Coalition 2: Economic Justice and Rights

The current economic system jeopardizes the wellbeing of people and environmental sustainability . Precarious work is on the rise, linked to the erosion of labour rights, levels of income, social and job security. Increasing economic injustices and insecurities are trends that affect youth and adolescents. In this context, contemporary forms of exploitation involving youth are the most egregious violations at workplaces, in a continuum of a series of labour abuses, such as delayed payment of wages, excessive overtime, non-paid holidays or the payment of recruitment fees to intermediaries. Forced labour is a widespread phenomenon, involving millions of people globally. People engaged in contemporary forms of exploitation provide cheap or unpaid labour, are misused and exploited; the proceeds of their labour enrich their traffickers and their final exploiters, very often well-established and respected actors in the formal economy.



Demand 1 - Policy & Legal Framework

Governments must implement robust legislation that promotes decent work for youth in the formal and informal sectors. Legislation must address the root economic injustices enabling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. Greater economic security will reduce vulnerabilities and subsequently, the rates of child labour, forced labour, human trafficking and poverty by 2026.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

1.1 Adopting measures to discourage the demand for contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking by strengthening existing legislation and/or implementing strategic techniques through economically driven educational, social and cultural measures.

1.2 Prioritising the ratification and implementation of the four core International Labour Organisation Conventions: Convention 189 on Domestic Workers, Convention 190 on Violence and Harassment in the World of Work, Recommendation 204 on Formalizing the Informal Economy and the Protocol 2014 of Convention 29 on Forced Labour. Additional ratification of the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families should be recognised.

1.3 Governments must establish economic funds to provide technical support and business management training to youth. This will encourage increased grassroots entrepreneurship amongst those who have lived experienced of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

1.4 Introducing, strengthening, and enforcing legislation and policies that prioritize reforms to guarantee equal pay, decent work and fair recruitment. There should be a focus on the protection of all workers, irrespective of skill level, industry, age, ethnicity, gender, or duration of employment.

1.5 Minimising the opportunities for exploitation, legislation must provide clear protections of appropriate economic provisions for youth. This is particularly relevant in unregulated or unmonitored economic sectors, for example in the care economy and domestic work sectors that commonly rely on migrant labourers.

1.6 Developing effective monitoring systems to focus, in particular, on sectors in which youth in work are at risk, or have a degree of likelihood of engaging in contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. There should be a focus on domestic and care work, the agriculture, mining and fishing industries. These systems must include a recognition of care sectors as legitimate paid work and must map the risk of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking within these industries.

1.7 Governments must introduce mandatory human rights due diligence legislation to ensure businesses are adopting processes to address forced labour in corporate supply chains. This should aim to make transparency mandatory, stimulate action, provide an effective remedy for violations and produce zero tolerance policies towards contemporary forms of exploitation in supply chains. Legislative action must be internationally coordinated.

1.8 Governments must focus mandatory human rights due diligence legislation on the industries that are at high risk of using contemporary forms of exploitation in their supply chains. This includes focusing on the agricultural, garment (fast fashion), technological and construction industries. Additionally, audit organizations must be provided with the power to hold perpetrators accountable by suspending and sanctioning suppliers who fail to bring their operations into compliance with the due diligence processes. Legislative action must be internationally coordinated.

1.9 Effective provisions and protections must be established for whistle-blower channels if workers

Demand 2 - Prevention

are experiencing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. These channels should provide adequate conditions for youth to make statements in a language that they can comprehend, without fear of reprisals, arrest, detention or deportation.

1.10 Ensure that policies designed to tackle contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking include provisions for the safety and protection of children in adoption homes and foster care systems. For example, establishing independent inspections and providing the required resources to adoption and foster care homes.

1.11 The disproportionate impacts of period poverty and menstruation stigma on people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking must be acknowledged. Governments should eliminate or decrease the taxation of menstrual products, integrating access to and distribution of menstrual products for people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation into healthcare and asylum systems. This will ensure availability, accessibility, appropriate and free sexual and reproductive healthcare services (for example: providing free HPV vaccination) to all people.

Governments must adopt a comprehensive set of economic measures that will generate 80 million decent care jobs, recognise, reduce and redistribute unpaid care work, reward paid care work, guarantee rights for workers and increase their representation, thus reducing the demand for contemporary forms of exploitation.

We can co-lead to achieve these demand through the following actions:

2.1 Promote and implement a new economic framework that values gender equality in all diversities and intersectionalities.

2.2 Develop a long term employability strategy that provides youth who have lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking with the support, training and skills to find safe and decent work and employment.

2.3 Governments must recognise the distinctions between illegal immigration, migrant smuggling and human trafficking. Governments must not use anti-human trafficking policies to justify anti-immigration or border policies.



2.4 Governments must promote a human rights-based approach to movement, mobility and migration. This can be achieved by creating safer migration routes that will reduce vulnerabilities to human trafficking.

2.5 Conduct an impact assessment of, monitor and if necessary reform existing oppressive visa regimes such as the Kafala system and forms of “tied visas”. This aims to increase worker autonomy, independence and to prevent contemporary forms of exploitation.

2.6 Commit to establishing ethical and equitable recruitment measures outlined by the International Labour Organisation’s “Fair Recruitment Initiative” (FRI) and the “Know Before You G” information campaigns for prospective workers. This should involve the consular networks of all member states..

2.7 Financial literacy should be mainstreamed across all educational curricula to empower youth and people of all ages. This will prevent economic insecurities and dependencies which will reduce economic vulnerabilities to contemporary forms of exploitation.

Demand 3 - Protection

Marginalised groups must have greater economic and financial independence, control and freedoms.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

3.1 Enhancing women, girls’ and youth access to political decision-making, financial training, credit, land, the modern tools and inputs required for its efficient cultivation.

3.2 Provide economically liberating vocational training in technology, engineering and teacher training which will allow individuals to participate more in leadership. This has been implemented with great success in Guyana where women from rural areas were trained in mechanics and heavy-duty machinery and subsequently gained employment as technicians and operators post-completion.

3.3 Establish micro-grant projects investing in small businesses owned by those in economically vulnerable and rural communities.



Demand 4 - Partnership & Funding

Create, enact and maintain gender-responsive macroeconomic strategies, to ensure that those who are vulnerable to or have already experienced contemporary forms of exploitation have access to quality public social safety floors and systems.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

4.1 Commit to providing individualised support and assistance to youth with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking in their country of identification, respecting cultural identities and customs.

4.2 Developing a comprehensive, robust and inclusive strategy to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, securing a decent and equitable recovery. This must include providing youth in situations of disadvantage with access to basic services, including (but not limited to) education, information, health care and employment opportunities. With regard to those engaged in or with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking:

- It must be acknowledged that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the existing systemic and deeply entrenched socio-economic inequalities that are root causes of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.
- Children are at most risk of contemporary forms of exploitation and so, strategies need to be adopted that allow youth to recover from lost education and provide them with a source of shelter and nourishment. Child labour has increased for the first time in twenty years and the recommendations to stakeholders provided by the International Labour Organisation and UNICEF's recent report, 'Child Labour: Global estimates 2020, trends and the road forward', must be acted upon.
- Recognising links with Sustainable Development Goal 2, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced more children onto the streets in search of food and income, heightening their risk of infection, short and long-term health issues and engaging in contemporary forms of exploitation.
- Legislation to combat contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking must focus on strengthening societies and economies to protect those who are most vulnerable and must enforce human rights under national laws.



An illustration featuring a large red circle in the center, surrounded by various stylized human figures in different colors and poses. The background is a solid red color. The figures include a man with red hair, a woman with dark skin and a yellow top, a woman with white hair and glasses, a woman with dark skin and a blue top, and a woman with dark skin and a yellow top. The overall style is modern and graphic.

Action Coalition 3: Bodily Autonomy, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking results in severe physical and psychological consequences with profound impacts on bodily autonomy and sexual reproductive health, particularly affecting the most vulnerable youth and women. In many instances people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation experience permanent physical and psychological health damage. The patriarchal norms and values, often formalised in legislation, including in family laws, facilitate contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

Demand 1 - Policy & Legal Framework

Legislation must provide people with the ability to make independent decisions about their bodies, sexuality, and reproductive rights. This can be achieved through challenging gender norms and increasing education of rights. This should be supported by legislative changes to preserve and promote bodily autonomy, as well as sexual and reproductive health and rights.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

1.1 Adopting legislative partnerships that will be used to strengthen global collaborations and intersectional approaches to projects around tackling contemporary forms of exploitation, human trafficking, bodily autonomy, sexual and reproductive health and rights.

1.2 Increase research, data collection and comprehensive evidence collection to inform the policy and legislation that includes provisions to create and/or strengthen laws concerning people with disabilities who are engaged in or vulnerable to contemporary forms of exploitation. It must be recognised that throughout the creation and strengthening of these policies and legislation, persons with disabilities must be involved in decision making. Policies must be created with or by persons with disabilities to centralize their experiences and perspectives.

1.3 Taking into consideration the disproportionate impact of period poverty and menstruation stigma on people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking, access to and distribution of menstrual products into the healthcare and asylum systems must be integrated. Additionally, providing menstrual products for free in relevant healthcare, asylum and judicial centers is important.

Demand 2 - Prevention

Increase the number of children, adolescents, and youth receiving comprehensive sexuality education, providing information about the relevant contemporary forms of exploitation (including but not limited to forced marriage, sexual exploitation, and grooming).

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

2.1 Governments must invest in and partner with educational organisations and activists to ensure that children have access to early childhood education on bodily autonomy.

2.2 Establishing and encouraging youth and adolescents to join safe space gatherings to share and converse about sexual and intimate relations to eliminate stereotypes that promote violence. The promotion of bodily autonomy, sexual and reproductive health are vital elements in fostering a society where people can thrive and develop as future healthy and productive members of society.

2.3 Increasing community educational awareness campaigns on the links and intersections between contemporary forms of exploitation, grooming, online exploitation, early forced marriage and related issues, through the practice of bodily autonomy and reproductive health.

2.4 Creating, developing or continuing educational awareness campaigns on early childhood marriages and forced marriages to shift behavioural and deeply rooted beliefs, correcting misinformation.

2.5 Increasing education and awareness for young men on autonomy in reproductive health to promote understanding and to eliminate stereotypes that promote violence.

2.6 Include overall-well being in the comprehensive sex education (CSE) curriculum. This would include steps to maintain the dimensions of youth well-being (emotional, social, spiritual, physical, occupational,

Demand 3 - Protection

intellectual, financial and environmental), reducing psychological vulnerabilities.

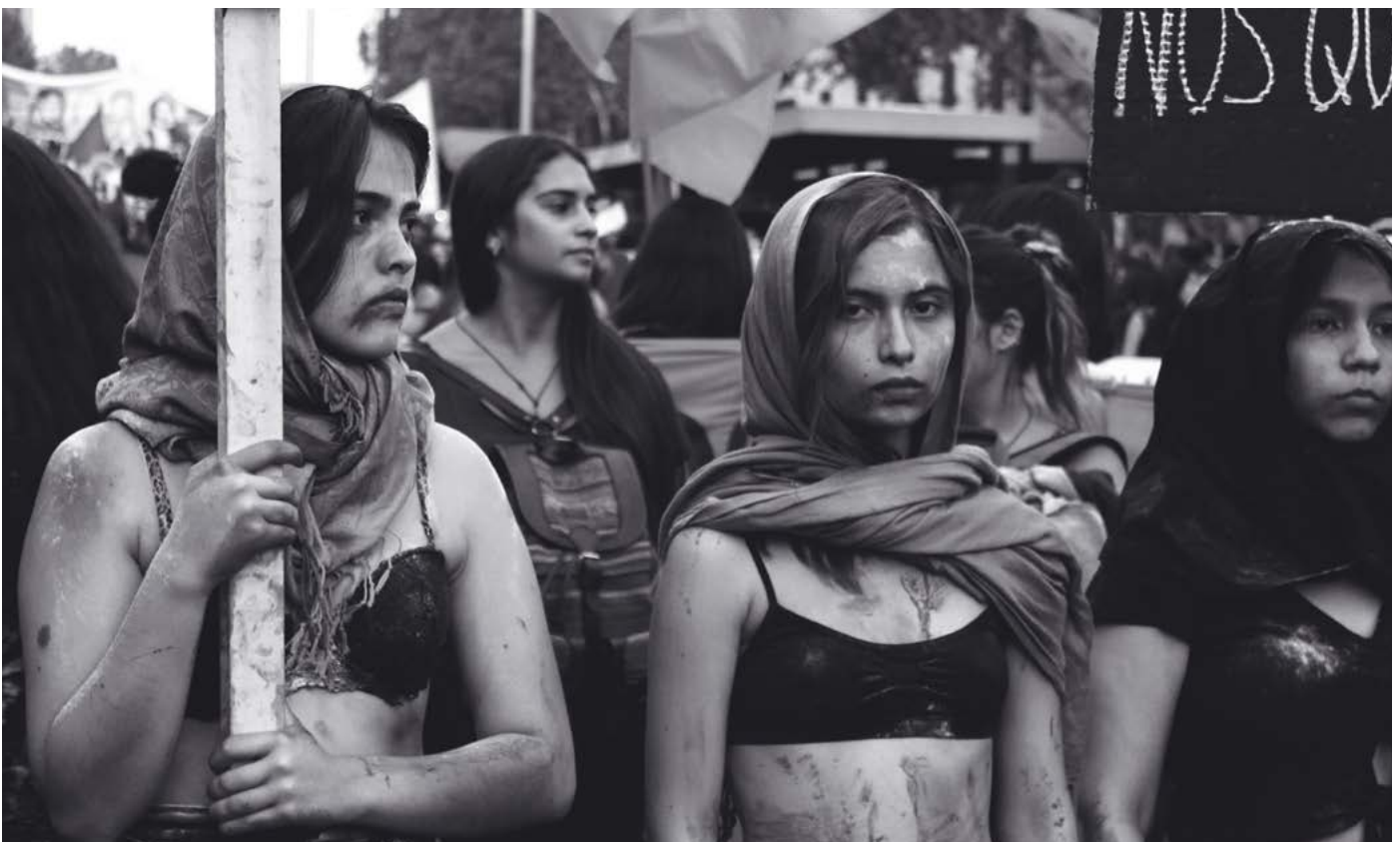
2.7 Providing comprehensive sexuality education from an early age (pre-teen years onwards) with attention to menstrual hygiene management. Puberty and menstruation must be explained in detail by experts, emphasising on eliminating menstruation stigma and traumatic experiences with regards to the bodies and experiences of youth.

Increase the quality of contraceptive services and remove restrictive policies and legal barriers that prevent access to safe (and legal) abortions through the construction of a comprehensive framework.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

3.1 Making family planning, contraception and abortion available for people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking in relation to sexual violence. This would act as a mechanism to ensure that vulnerable youth have access to autonomous decision making about their bodies, prioritising their health and long-term mobility, transforming their lives.

3.2 Urgent legislative and policy reform must be conducted by departments of education to ensure that youth who are pregnant are able to continue their education without stigma or dismissal.





Action Coalition 4: Feminist Action for Climate Justice

Increases in contemporary forms of exploitation are partly driven by the varying effects of climate change. Rising temperatures, droughts, flooding and other negative implications of climate change are displacing people, drastically impacting the livelihoods of rural populations who often depend on agriculture and other forms of subsistence work for their survival. Subsequent increases in climate-induced human migration have resulted in increased “climate refugees” with limited choices and increased vulnerabilities to human trafficking. Population displacement and forced migration results in irregular and dangerous migration practices putting our most vulnerable at risk of physical harm and death.

Demand 1 - Policy

Increase the number of women and girls in decision-making positions relating to environmental governance, facilitating the transition to a more inclusive green economy.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

1.1 Encourage the study of ecological sustainability and promote the open exchange and wide application of knowledge and research acquired. This must include increased education to allow youth to pursue leadership positions in spaces where decisions about climate action and its intersections with contemporary forms of exploitation are made.

1.2 Women and youth working to end contemporary forms of exploitation should be active decision makers on climate justice related issues. This will provide them with a platform to include their priorities on agendas.



Demand 2 - Prevention

Develop strategies that mitigate the impacts of climate change, addressing loss and damage through building resilience by supporting grassroots, community-based, youth-focused models. Securing land rights and providing security reduces vulnerabilities and thus the risks of youth engaging in contemporary forms of exploitation.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

2.1 Adopting patterns of production, consumption, trade and reproduction that safeguard Earth's regenerative capacities, human rights, progressive labour standards and community well-being.

2.2 Including mandatory clauses regarding the prevention of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking in international investment, loans, development, legal and trade agreement frameworks.

2.3 Integrating measures that relate to addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as a result of climate-change-induced and natural disasters into emergency readiness and response plans.

2.4 Monitor and appropriately respond to contemporary forms of exploitation in the extractive industries.

2.5 Improving the rights of youth engaged in farming or agricultural labour practices. This can be achieved by allocating greater resources and financial support to farmers affected by the adverse impacts of climate change.

2.6 Facilitating greater advocacy, educational sessions and resources to assist with disaster preparedness and mitigation. This includes increased attention to rural communities and youth.

2.7 Providing support, protections and attention to displaced youth and households due to climate change. The support will allow people affected to

Demand 4 - Partnership & Funding

safely and securely establish themselves, minimising vulnerability to contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

2.8 Improving the socioeconomic status of environmentally displaced people, particularly youth, to lower the risk of engaging in contemporary forms of exploitation. This can be achieved through funding and providing greater decent work opportunities in areas of lower socioeconomic status.

2.9 Improve youth education regarding the intersections between climate challenge, contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

Demand 3 - Protection

Research and gender-related environmental data must be used to inform the development of frameworks and the implementation of policy relating to addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as a result of climate change.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

3.1 Ensuring that agricultural workers are working Fairtrade and just wages in a child-labour and contemporary forms of exploitation free, decent work setting.

3.2 Improving migratory regulations by creating more feasible and flexible policies to cater for migrating communities affected by climate change.

Increase funding to grassroots and rural gender-just climate solutions to mitigate the vulnerabilities to contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking caused by climate change.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

4.1 Developing capacity building programs for economic, social, and climate resilience that is targeted at youth and at-risk communities; promoting the green, blue and circular economies.

4.2 Increasing funding for youth-led and youth-focused, feminist organizations, collectives and activists in rural areas of low economic backgrounds where people have been negatively affected by climate change. Funding should be allocated to help the creation of projects, especially in the agricultural, small-business and entrepreneurial sectors, to economically empower youth.





10

Action Coalition 5: Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality

The rapid digitalisation of our world and growing use of the online and tech-facilitated goods and services utilised daily has exacerbated contemporary forms of exploitation. The advent of social media has been of immense value to criminal-exploitation groups in obtaining information that facilitates the recruitment, control, trafficking and conviction of persons. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the urgent need to tackle online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation. Technology and innovation can and must be used to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

Demand 1 - Prevention

Prevent and eliminate online and tech-facilitated discrimination and contemporary forms of exploitation. Governments must introduce regulations and measures to combat these forms of contemporary exploitation, ensuring that youth are protected in a rapidly digitalising world. Statistical methodologies and conceptual frameworks related to data collection to include indicators that reflect States' systemic responses to contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking must be reviewed.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

1.1 Disaggregating data collected on people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking by sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, immigration status, location and socioeconomic status under indicator 16.2.2.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

1.2 Collecting and publishing data on contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking that specifically focuses on:

- Forms and prevalence of online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation.
- Root causes of online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation.
- The impact of online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation on youth.
- The links between online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation and other forms of exploitation (i.e. forced, bonded and child labour).
- The use of online and tech-facilitated platforms for recruiting people to engage them in contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.
- Prosecution data for perpetrators of online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation.

1.3 Establishing partnerships with national organisations, international organisations and civil society stakeholders to systematically collect information around online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation.

1.4 Improving the exchange of data among stakeholders to ensure prompt and needs-based assistance is provided to people with lived experiences of online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation. Due respect must be given to data protection, anonymity and confidentiality.

1.5 Analysing data with the objective to inform the development of:

- A strategic response to address the economic and social context creating the demand for online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation.
- Enacting, modifying and implementing strategies to combat online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation that address the root causes.
- Legislation aimed at preventing and combating online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation, enhancing the protection of youth and the criminal justice response to persistent and related challenges and data trends, including the misuse of technology.

1.6 Social media companies must cooperate with governments and law enforcement to appropriately respond to and prosecute perpetrators of online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. Social media companies must also collaborate with governments, grassroots organisations, movements and activists working to end online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking by publishing and signposting content that relates to keeping youth and adolescents safe online (including but not limited to how to spot the signs of traffickers or exploiters online, where to reach support and the appropriate reporting mechanism). It should also be considered for an independent committee within the framework of social media companies to be established and tasked with responding directly and explicitly to reports of online and tech-facilitated contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking, thus protecting youth.

An illustration in the top left corner shows a group of diverse people of various ethnicities and ages. They are framed by a large, stylized yellow circle. The background behind them is a mix of yellow and blue with small black dots. The overall style is flat and modern.

Action Coalition 6: Feminist Movements and Leaderships

The feminist movement is an umbrella movement to liberate and empower all marginalized groups that have been oppressed by the patriarchy and its systems. Feminist movements around the world are addressing issues of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. Feminist voices in political decision-making, communities, parliaments and peace negotiations are essential to support and sustain prosperous, sustainable and peaceful societies. Feminist organizations are indispensable in bringing marginalised demographics together, amplifying their voices, and mobilizing their collective power to demand accountability and change.

Demand 1 - Prevention

Advance gender parity, increasing the meaningful participation, leadership, and decision-making power of women, girls, and youth in efforts to tackle contemporary forms of exploitation. Legislation and policies adopted by governments must be in line with feminist values, using a gender transformational and inclusive approach.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

1.1 Youth should have more spaces and seats in the political sphere, high-level negotiations and decision making processes. Youth must be represented and included in political spaces where feminist decisions concerning their lives, contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking are being made. This will also ensure that gender issues are placed at the heart of policy making and budgeting.

1.2 Increased access to intellectual well-being resources must be provided to ensure that youth are able to meaningfully lead and participate in decision making.



Demand 2 - Funding

Fund feminist organisations, activists and movements working to end contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

2.1 Provide sufficient funding streams for the sustenance of feminist movements, organisations and activists combating contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

2.2 Support and resources must be provided to youth-led, youth-focused and new waves of intersectional, grassroots feminist movements. They must be given access to shaping international policies that will create the pathways for generation equality, dismantling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as a result.

2.3 Increasing awareness among donors about new forms and patterns of mobilization and activism used by young feminist movements on the ground. This will allow funds to effectively accommodate their needs and support their work towards achieving generation equality and addressing all related intersectional issues.

2.4 Ensuring the inclusion and participation of youth and those with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking at all stages of the peacemaking, stabilization and reconstruction processes, in line with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

2.5 In line with feminist values, substantial, effective and professional wellbeing support for children with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation must be provided. Funding should be allocated to organisations supporting children with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation in order to ensure psychological damage is minimised. Furthermore, this will allow those children to have the greatest chance possible of reclaiming their livelihoods and reintegrating back into society safely.

Demand 3 - Partnerships

Create, extend, and defend civic spaces for youth-led and youth-focused feminist organisations, activists and stakeholders around ending contemporary forms of exploitation, removing barriers to organising and mobilisation in all forms.

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

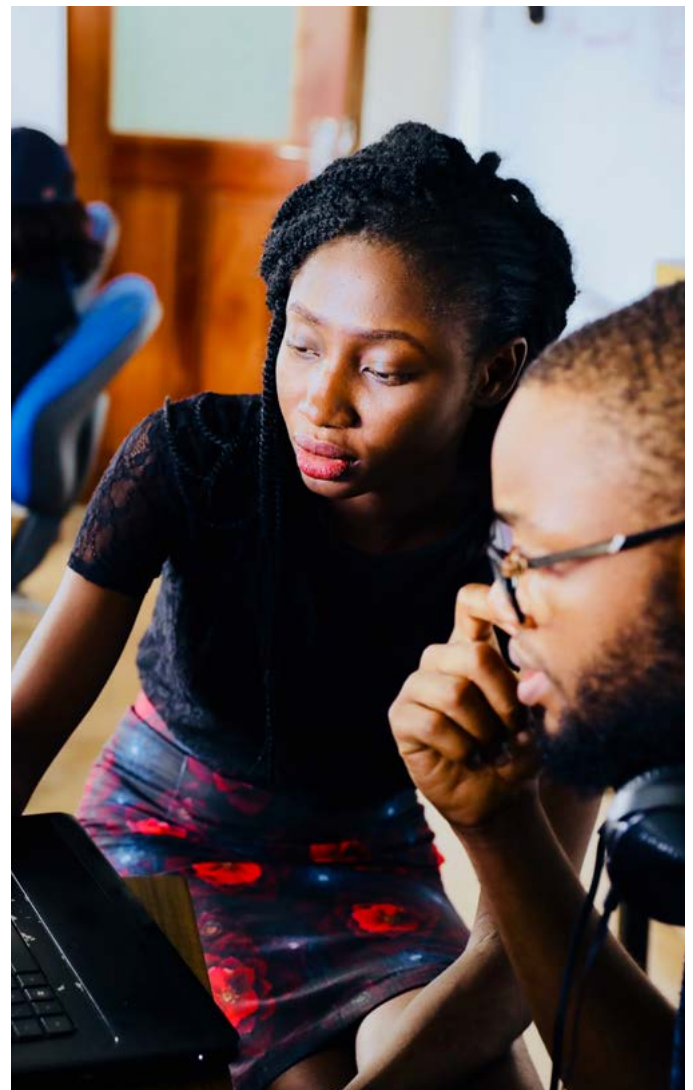
3.1 Creating civic and safe spaces for feminist movements and networks working to combat contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. Spaces should allow for connection, collaboration, learning and networking among actors to galvanize movements on the feminist agenda regarding leadership and recognising intersections.

3.2 Enhance State collaboration with civil society organizations, including through strengthening their human, technical and financial resources, to ensure that those with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation are identified, assisted and protected at an early stage, through the operation of mobile units.

3.3 Support the creation of an international, independent and impartial Youth Advisory Board or Alliance to pave the way for meaningful youth engagement in taking policy action against contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. This must be effectively supported by United Nations agencies, United Nations Special Procedures, the Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report Committee, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Labour Organisation (ILO), United Nations Women, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and other relevant international organizations.

3.4 Firmly rooting the combating of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking on the agenda and blueprints of the Generation Equality Forum and beyond. This can be supplemented by the establishment of a virtual design sprint with relevant stakeholders to create an action plan for activities to champion the combatting of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.

3.5 Assigning Youth Advisors to government officials and special rapporteurs to support their efforts in all consultations, including official, formal governmental processes regarding the combating of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking.



12



Women Peace &

Security Compact

Youth provide unique contributions as peacebuilders, stemming from their knowledge and lived experiences of; violence, injustices, forms of exclusion, discrimination, organized crime and sexual and gender-based violence. These different forms of violence often manifest domestically and publicly and are perpetrated by different actors, from violent extremists to States. Contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking may be experienced. Therefore, action must be taken by governments to protect youth and to ensure that their voices are incorporated in the decision making process .

We can co-lead to achieve this demand through the following actions:

1.1 In contexts of armed conflict, the bodies of women are a loot. There are innumerable cases in which women, girls, and boys have been coerced to get involved in the war as child soldiers, informants, cooks, sexual objects for the armies, or also to-profit and finance the armed groups. Therefore, it is important to:

- Make contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking cases visible in these contexts. Crimes committed in these contexts by people with lived experiences should not take the same prosecution course as in normal situations.
- Generate adequate care and protection measures for people with lived experiences of contemporary forms of exploitation according to the type of severity of injury inflicted upon persons.
- Strengthen actions so that States generate instruments and laws that prevent women and youth from engaging in contemporary forms of exploitation in the context of armed conflicts, or any expression of violence.



13



Accountability

The processes of the Generation Equality Forum and beyond must accelerate gender equality as a means of addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. This can be achieved through the demands that this Manifesto has stated including (but not limited to) the introduction of concrete, increased youth leadership and opportunities. Accountability is important regarding this Manifesto because as youth leaders within this movement, we are determined to ensure that our demands are acted upon through the mechanisms that reflect our core values. The Youth Against Slavery Manifesto embodies intersectional feminism.

All stakeholders must recognise the cross-cutting relevance between contemporary forms of exploitation and the themes of the Action Coalitions. Intersectionality is a central concept throughout this Manifesto because the root causes enabling exploitation in the first place must be prevented (including but not limited to poverty, gender inequality and climate change).

The disproportionate impact of contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking on marginalised demographics must be acknowledged. Furthermore, the accountability framework must include transparency provisions for the Youth Against Slavery Movement and the Generation Equality Forum leaders/processes. This should require the full and timely disclosure of challenges, progress, and information upon request.

The accountability framework must also acknowledge how, despite the complexities of tackling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking, youth, in collaboration with stakeholders (governments, civil society organizations, private sector and international organizations) can work together to take our recommended tangible actions in this Manifesto.

The Youth Against Slavery Movement will publish the demands that have and have not been achieved. Demands that have been achieved by stakeholders at the Generation Equality Forum will be published publicly. We invite supporters and civil society to hold our Movement accountable too; questioning and challenging how we function and what we need to do differently. We pledge to publicly embrace, learn, and build back better from our failures and publish the failures of stakeholders, to facilitate meaningful progression. This could be done, for example, by calling for "Failure Reports".

As a youth-led movement, we have been deeply disappointed that the Generation Equality Forum's processes are excluding youth voices from agenda and blueprint setting and decision making spaces. Youth do not have the access within these processes and beyond to hold stakeholders to account. Platforms for intergenerational dialogues with different stakeholders (including within spaces where trade agreements/negotiations takes place) will enable youth to meaningfully co-lead, collaborate and co-create initiatives to address contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. Our demands call for transformative yet necessary commitments to increase youth meaningful engagement within this movement and intersectional issues relating to gender equality.

We demand the creation of an independent monitoring mechanism of the Generation Equality Forum's processes and outcomes especially relating to tackling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking. This mechanism should be co-led by youth and involve all stakeholders within these processes. While the United Nations may cooperate within this framework, this must be an independent body. For this independent mechanism to exercise its function effectively and sustainably, funding and resources must be provided to ensure participatory and mutual accountability processes and mechanisms.

Accountability mechanisms for monitoring must be established at a broader level (governance) and within each of the Action Coalition themes. The Youth Against Slavery Movement is willing to co-lead in developing this accountability framework, strategically planning, improving, and strengthening existing accountability strategies and creating complementary frameworks.

All leaders within the Generation Equality Forum's processes should be held accountable. Civil society and youth-led organizations must be at the centre of all accountability frameworks. Further formal discussions will need to take place to determine how to overcome challenges, who follows up with official entities and what sanctions or consequences will be implemented if progress is stalled.

We demand that all commitments are met. Additionally, we demand that stakeholders publish progress and challenge reports regarding tackling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking once a year (minimum). There can be different accountability mechanisms for different stakeholders. For example, governments should be held accountable in a different manner to civil society, youth-led organizations, private sectors, or foundations.

We pledge to do our part of the accountability processes by publicly monitoring and tracking progress and failures, enhancing transparency and accountability to ensure that youth remain at the centre of conversations around tackling contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking within the context of the Generation Equality Forum's processes and beyond.

14



Conclusion

This Manifesto will allow us to tackle the root causes intersected with contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking, supporting the existing youth work related to the Sustainable Development Goals (namely: Decent Work and Economic Growth, Economic Rights and Justice, Climate Justice, Gender Equality and Gender Based Violence, Quality Education, Peace and Security and No Poverty). We will continue to formulate partnerships and drive action to mobilize, engage and collaborate with global youth constituencies, groups, organisations, activists, movements and initiatives.

We pledge to supporting the Action Coalitions and Compact in delivering these commitments, which will allow us to establish a global shift in regards to addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking as a component of gender equality and justice. We will ensure the fostering of collective global action to tackle those structures allowing vulnerabilities to thrive and we will deliver tangible results. Our focus remains on developing policy and advocacy, providing youth with the tools to engage and lead in the movement.

We will continue to engage our partners and stakeholders with brainstorming sessions, consultations, surveys and focus groups to collate their inputs. We will also initiate a global call for funders and philanthropists to commit to providing financial support to youth-led initiatives working on addressing contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking in relation to the themes of the Action Coalitions. Our core target is that this Manifesto will enable youth to co-lead in designing and overseeing the implementation of each demand stated under each Action Coalition theme. This will ensure that governments and international stakeholders listen to our youth demands and take concrete actions to end contemporary forms of exploitation and human trafficking in all of their forms.



"IT IS THE RIGHT OF EVERY WOMAN,
EVERY HUMAN, TO REBEL AGAINST
EVERYTHING THAT DENIES THEM
EXISTENCE AND HUMANITY."

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