

70
YouthAction
NORTHERN IRELAND
YEARS

Youth Peace MANIFESTO

418 young people demand action for peace

A

Action

Action should be taken along with young people.

S

Society

To create a shared society where people are happy, safe and live peaceful lives.

K

Knowledge

The government must have knowledge of young people and their needs.

S

Strategy

A fresh, modern strategy for our generation and the next.



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We are ASKING of ourselves, other young people, our communities, our politicians, our parliament and other countries to make a promise to peace in partnership with us as young people.

1. We ask for investment in real and lasting programmes which provide more opportunities for young people to mix with others.

2. We call upon people in our communities to come together to motivate and inspire young people about the potential of peace.

3. We need to protect young people from violence and offer them safe spaces to mix and learn.

4. We need to learn about our past and different cultures through fair and equal education syllabuses.

5. We ask for our Police Service to understand young people and work fairly with them.

6. We ask the media to highlight positive stories about young peoples' contributions to society.

7. We need more young adults, especially young women in government to champion young people and encourage us to vote.

8. We need opportunities for young people to visit other countries emerging from conflict, so they can understand peace building and use their new skills at home.

We are young volunteers with YouthAction Northern Ireland, aged 16-25 yrs, from across Belfast, Newry, Armagh, South Tyrone and Monaghan. From 2012-2013 we completed focus group research with 418 young people from across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland.



We have come a long way from the 'Peace Process', but our research shows that the suspicion and fear between communities

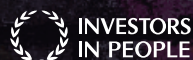
and young people persist, maintained by continued separation and controversial symbols and parades. We have been frustrated by the lack of progress in peace locally and globally.

The majority of young people want positive action towards peace. We feel so inspired, hopeful and excited that our peace manifesto could lead to a fresh, modern strategy for our generation and the next.

YouthAction Northern Ireland is a membership based, regional, youth organisation, with a 70 year history of working with young people to tackle inequalities in their lives, improve their life chances and contribute to flourishing communities. We value peace-building and want to contribute to a society which is shared, peaceful, stable and fair, and in which there is no place for violence.

Find the full manifesto on **www.youthaction.org**

Follow us  YouthAction NI and  @YouthActionNI



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