

Norway – 2015 – I

Ms. Inga Marie Nymo Riseth, Mr. Erling Laugsand

UN Youth Delegate Programme

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Youth Delegate Search: <https://youthdelegatesearch.org/norway-2015-i/>

44. **Ms. Nymo Riseth** (Norway), speaking as a youth delegate, said that despite the high proportion of youth in the world's population, young people were grossly underrepresented in parliaments. That democratic deficit hindered the protection of their human rights. Students in some countries were expelled from university and persecuted for their political engagement, and in countries in conflict, schools were sometimes used for military purposes. The youth delegates urged Member States to endorse the Safe Schools Declaration and to provide assistance to students persecuted for their support of democracy and human rights.

45. **Mr. Laugsand** (Norway), speaking as a youth delegate, said that the Norwegian youth delegates were especially concerned about the human rights of young people living in the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Western Sahara. The best way to ensure sustained, independent and impartial monitoring of human rights in that territory was to incorporate human rights monitoring in the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara. Indeed, a human rights mandate should be included in all United Nations operations. To ensure that persons with disabilities were not left behind, the indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals should refer to them specifically, and reliable data and statistics must be made available to decision-makers, experts and interested organizations. Youth should take an active part in the planning, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and should be included in decision-making at the local, regional and international levels, preferably through permanent structures

