Poland - 2015

Ms. Joanna Sztandera, Ms. Weronika Szwajda

UN Youth Delegate Programme

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95. **Ms. Sztandera** (Poland), speaking as a youth delegate, noted with deep concern that youth and other disadvantaged and marginalized social groups were still most affected by high rates of unemployment. Young adults in particular must be empowered through quality teaching and training. In recent years, governmental and non-governmental investment programmes in science and technology hubs, centres of entrepreneurship, outreach projects, scholarships and paid internships had enabled students and graduates in Poland to display their potential by creating new products, setting up businesses and involving themselves in political and voluntary work. However, the scarcity of quality internships and graduate employment was still a concern. International organizations should set exemplary standards and create opportunities for future leaders.

96. **Ms. Szwajda** (Poland), speaking as a youth delegate, expressed alarm at the lack of political engagement of young people and the failure to recognize their needs and opinions. Local youth city councils, the youth branch of the lower house of Parliament in Poland and annual delegations to international sessions of the European Youth Parliament demonstrated that political engagement was a necessity even at a very young age. Clear legislative regulation and purposeful social campaigning could address the inadequate academic environment, alarming rates of unemployment and lack of social activism. School curriculums should also be open to a more flexible syllabus and educators should be encouraged to enhance their teaching methods.

