

2018 ANNUAL Young Political Leaders Programme (YPL)

Following the successful establishment of the new Young Political Leaders (YPL) programme, and with it the successful inter-institutional cooperation with the HRVP, EEAS and the European Commission, the 3rd Annual Programme will continue to emphasise the importance of the extended Neighbourhood, and extend the geographic and thematic focus based upon the experience of the first two programmes. As such, the 2018 focus will be:

(a) Thematic

- Focus on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security will be prioritised
- Develop cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and its young parliamentarians programme
- Continued incremental support to EU regional Summits based on the positive cooperation with the EEAS and Commission on the Western Balkans Berlin Process and on the EU-Africa Summit

(b) Geographical

- Provide follow up on the EU-Africa Summit, develop activities with the Pan African Parliament's Youth caucus in support of the strategic partnership with the Pan African Parliament. Other CDSA countries in Africa could be considered including, Tanzania, Nigeria and Kenya.
- In the MENA region, provide continued support to the Israeli-Palestinian Young Political Leaders as well as cooperation with the HRVP's initiative for the region entitled "Young Med Voices Plus Initiative".
- In the Eastern Partnership region, the focus will be on the theme of frozen conflicts ie. Nagorno-Karabakh or a CDSA priority country.
- In the Western Balkans and Turkey, a CDSA region, the focus will be:
 - on follow-up to the November 2017 Western Balkans Young Political Leaders event
 - on Turkey, in-line with the DEG debate on 18 January 2018

The 3rd Annual Programme will be implemented within the budget allocated for YPL or CDSA priority country activities for 2017. All individual YPL programmes will be presented for review by the lead member for the Young Political Leaders programme and any variations from the above programme will be subject to review by the DEG.

Lead Member: Mr **Fabio Massimo CASTALDO**