



# Chiang Mai Declaration of the Asian Youth Leadership Academy (AYLA) 2026

## “Leading Change for Justice and Solidarity in Asia”

**30 June 2026**

**International Youth Training Centre (IYTC), Chiang Mai, Thailand**

We, the participants of the inaugural Asian Youth Leadership Academy (AYLA) 2026, representing diverse countries, cultures, faiths, professions, and communities across Asia, gathered at the International Youth Training Centre (IYTC) in Chiang Mai, Thailand, affirm our shared commitment to leading positive change through justice, solidarity, dialogue, and service.

Throughout this journey, we have learned from one another, reflected on our diverse realities, and deepened our understanding of leadership, human rights, social justice, migration, inclusion, intercultural dialogue, environmental sustainability, and community engagement. While our experiences, beliefs, and contexts are different, we are united by our shared humanity and our desire to contribute to a more just, peaceful, compassionate, and sustainable Asia and beyond Asia.

Recognising that the challenges facing our societies cannot be addressed by individuals or institutions alone, we commit ourselves to:

- Uphold the dignity, equality, and human rights of every person.
- Promote justice, solidarity, peace, inclusion, and respect within our communities and across borders.
- Foster dialogue across cultures, religions, race/ethnic and gender identities, generations, and communities, recognising diversity as a source of strength.
- Stand alongside people who experience poverty, discrimination, exclusion, displacement, or injustice, and work towards more equitable, inclusive and compassionate societies.
- Care for our common home by promoting environmental responsibility and sustainable ways of living for present and future generations.
- Lead with integrity, humility, empathy, accountability, and a spirit of service.
- Apply the knowledge, values, and experiences gained through AYLA in our personal lives, professional work, and community engagement.
- Encourage collaboration, mutual learning, and partnerships across Asia to address shared challenges and create lasting positive change.
- Continue supporting one another through the AYLA Alumni Network by sharing experiences, opportunities, expertise and initiatives through media engagement that strengthen youth leadership and solidarity across the region.
- Remain connected with the International Youth Training Centre (IYTC) and contribute, whenever possible, through dialogue, learning opportunities, workshops, mentoring, research, or collaborative initiatives that promote justice, solidarity, and a sustainable future for all.

We recognise that meaningful change often begins with small but consistent actions. Therefore, we commit to taking at least one meaningful step within our own communities, institutions, or workplaces to translate the values of this declaration into action.

As we return to our respective countries, we carry with us not only new knowledge and friendships, but also a shared responsibility to build bridges across differences, strengthen solidarity across borders, and inspire hope through our actions.

Together, we reaffirm our commitment to Leading Change for Justice and Solidarity in Asia, believing that by walking together with humility, courage, and compassion, we can contribute to a future where every person lives with dignity, every community has the opportunity to flourish, and no one is left behind.

Adopted in Chiang Mai, Thailand

30 June 2026

### Adopted by

### Participants of the Inaugural Asian Youth Leadership Academy (AYLA) 2026

SL No.	Name	Country
1	Tuvini Nithsara	Sri Lanka
2	Vinoli Luzan Morris	Sri Lanka
3	Astha Barsagade	India
4	Andrea Vaz	India
5	Stephan Rozario	Bangladesh
6	Benedicta Josephina Gomes	Bangladesh
7	Arin Nirmola Costa	Bangladesh
8	Kerry Gogelawanan	Malaysia
9	Tran Ngoc Bao Tram	Vietnam
10	Amber Bajwa	Pakistan
11	Niwat Wanawikrom (Tudao)	Thailand
12	Supachai Siripraweennakul (Alu)	Thailand
13	Nattapon Pittayapornchai	Thailand
14	Anne Beatrice	Malaysia
15	Adrian Anthony Perera	Malaysia
16	William Nokrek	Bangladesh
17	Suman Ghale	Nepal
18	Sailen Hajong	Bangladesh
19	Argo Saimon Sku	Bangladesh
20	Navodi Fernando	Sri Lanka
21	Ruki Fernando	Sri Lanka

## Supported by the Co-organising Organisations

- International Youth Training Centre (IYTC)
- North South Initiative (NSI)
- Pax Romana - International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS-MIEC)
- Communal Life of Love and Unity of the Mountain People (CLUMP) Foundation
- Life Skills Academy

