



For Youth, By Youth International Conference **Conscious Leadership and Global Solidarity**

Istanbul Türkiye | 16-19 November 2025





A movement is not held by a structure but by a social glue that drives and binds it together. Our social glue is shared creativity and agency, culture and meaning, solidarity, and the radical desire to transform.

For Youth, By Youth values: Impact, Humility, Kindness, Respect, Collaboration & Inclusivity, Solidarity, Hope & Levity

Mastercard Foundation values: Humility, Listening, Kindness and Respect, Co-creation, and Impact

* The two-day Conference will be hosted in Radisson Blu Pera Hotel Evliya Çelebi, Refik Saydam Cd. No:19, Beyoğlu. The Dinner on day one will be hosted at Peymane Restaurant Grand Pera Hotel 7. Kat, Asmalı Mescit. The Closing Ceremony & Dinner will be hosted in Sabanci University, Karaköy Campus–Kasa Galeri, Minerva Han.

For Youth, By Youth International Conference Conscious Leadership and Global Solidarity

Radisson Blu Hotel*

Istanbul Türkiye | 16-19 November 2025

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Activity	Details
PRE-CONFERENCE: 16 November 2025	
Arrivals & Accommodations 07:00 AM – 07:00 PM	Participants arrive at Istanbul airport throughout the day Travel from airport to hotel (via shuttle busses) Guests can visit the hotel's recreational facilities Guests can order A-la-Carte dinner at the hotel restaurant (1 per person)
DAY ONE SCHEDULE: 17 November 2025	
Breakfast 07:00 AM – 8:30 AM 08:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Buffet breakfast at hotel (optional) Movement & Breath Guided Practice (optional)
MORNING SESSION DAY ONE Spielberg Conference Room, First Floor Radisson Blu Pera Hotel	
Conference Overview 09:00 AM – 09:15 AM	Schedule, Ground Rules, Day 1 & Day 2 Previews
Opening Plenary 09:15 AM – 10:00 AM	Welcome Next Generation Leaders Alumni Video Message from Reeta Roy Talloires Network Executive Director & paNhari co-founders Sabanci University Co-hosts <i>For Youth, By Youth Leaders</i>
Movement-building Activity 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Sharing personal artifacts
Networking Break 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Beverages and Turkish delights <i>Spielberg Foyer, First Floor Radisson Blu Pera Hotel</i>
Roundtable Discussion 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Struggles for Justice and Peace in Our World Voices of marginalized youth facing ongoing violence - South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo—uplifting youth experiences and resistance efforts. Contextualizing conscious leadership and global solidarity for understanding our shared struggle for justice and building a more peaceful and prosperous world. <i>Moderated by Duaa Mohamed, Mastercard Foundation</i>
Luncheon 12:30 PM – 02:00 PM	Hamdi Restaurant (Hotel rooftop)

Conscious Leadership and Global Solidarity International Conference

Activity	Details
AFTERNOON SESSION DAY ONE	
Spielberg Conference Room, First Floor Radisson Blu Pera Hotel	
Next Generation Leaders Stories 02:00 PM – 02:30 PM	Watch Party, part one <i>Storytelling & Movement-building working group</i>
Interactive Workshop 02:30 PM – 03:30 PM	Declaration on the Future of Higher Education Introducing the first youth-written Talloires Declaration, “In Solidarity We Lead, with Courage We Act” <i>Future of Higher Education working group</i>
Self-care Break Concurrent Activities 03:30 PM – 04:00 PM	Radical Self-care (optional) Energizer (optional) Beverages and Turkish delights
Interactive Workshop 04:00 PM – 05:00 PM	Youth-led Participatory Action Research & Climate Justice <i>Youth participatory action (research) working group</i>
Next Steps 05:00 PM – 05:15 PM	Preview of Day 2 Dinner arrangement announcements
Dinner 06:00 PM – 08:00 PM	Group Dinner at Peymane Restaurant <i>Grand Pera Hotel 7. Kat, Asmalı Mescit, Meşrutiyet Cd. NO:55 Beyoğlu, İstanbul</i>
DAY TWO SCHEDULE: 18 November 2025	
Breakfast 07:00 AM – 8:30 AM 08:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Buffet breakfast at hotel (optional) Movement & Breath Guided Practice (optional)
MORNING SESSION DAY TWO	
Spielberg Conference Room, First Floor Radisson Blu Pera Hotel	
Plenary Provocation 09:00 AM – 09:30 AM	Inclusivity as Our Compass: A Guided Reflection led by Women, Indigenous Youth, Displaced Youth, and Youth with Disabilities A communal session for self-reflection, guided by framing questions that invite journaling and visualization in preparation for creating the Movement Charter <i>Moderated by Harunah Damba, Next Generation Leader</i>
Interactive Workshop 09:30 AM – 10:30 AM	Belonging by Design: Inclusive and Ethical AI Systems <i>Responsible AI workshop group</i>
Networking Break 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Beverages and Turkish delights provided
Call to Action, Part One 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Practicing Conscious Leadership Creating a Movement Charter and reflecting on our individual journeys through a facilitated discussion <i>Moderated by Fadi Salahedin, Next Generation Leader</i>

Conscious Leadership and Global Solidarity International Conference

Activity	Details
Luncheon 12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Hamdi Restaurant (hotel rooftop)
Movement-building Activity 01:30 PM – 02:00 PM	Group Photograph & Energizer Activity Wear a traditional outfit expressing your culture and traditions

AFTERNOON SESSION DAY TWO

Spielberg Conference Room, First Floor | Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

Call to Action, Part Two 02:00 PM – 03:00 PM	Inclusive Global Solidarity Continuing to craft our Movement Charter and reflecting on our collective journey through a facilitated discussion <i>Moderated by Fadi Salahedin, Next Generation Leader</i>
Group Energizer Activity/Break 03:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Group activity and/or break (optional) Beverages and Turkish delights
For Youth, By Youth Cohort Stories 3:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Watch Party, part two <i>Storytelling & Movement-building working group</i>
Call to Action, Part Three 04:00 PM – 04:30 PM	Next steps in the For Youth, By Youth Movement Post-event engagement and mapping out Youth-led Participatory Action (Research) projects timeline and expectations
Transition to New Location 05:30 PM – 06:00 PM	A 15-minute walk to Sabanci University Karaköy Campus Accommodations provided, if needed

CLOSING CEREMONY DAY TWO

Sabanci University, Karaköy Campus, Bereketzade Mah, Bankalar Cad. No 2. 34420 Beyoğlu

Closing Ceremony & Dinner 06:00 PM – 08:00 PM	Welcoming Remarks Celebrating Sabanci University 25-year anniversary Celebrating Talloires Network's 20-year anniversary Enacting the 2025 Istanbul Declaration Solidarity Chain activity Cocktail-style Dinner & Group Photo
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POST-CONFERENCE/DEPARTURES: 19 November 2025

Radisson Blu Pera Hotel Lobby/Reception

Breakfast 07:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Buffet breakfast at hotel (optional)
Hotel Checkout and Farewells 08:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Photographs and Farewells Wellness check-ins (optional) Room Check-out (by 12:00 PM)
Hotel Departures (throughout the day)	Shuttles provided from hotel to airport; hotel may store baggage for those with later flights

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

For Youth, By Youth International Conference Conscious Leadership and Global Solidarity İstanbul Türkiye | 16-19 November 2025

PRE-CONFERENCE: 16 November 2025

Participants arrive throughout the day at Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

The Radisson Blu Pera is located in the historic Pera neighborhood of Istanbul. We invite conference participants to settle in upon arrival and take some time to enjoy the hotel amenities and explore the surrounding area.

Hotel amenities:

- Relax in the indoor swimming pool, sauna, or steam room, or visit the gym.
- Enjoy dinner at the hotel restaurant (covered, up to €25/\$20).

Nearby attractions:

- Take a walk to the Galata Tower, Istiklal Street (cafés, shops, historic buildings), the Grand Bazaar, or the Pera Museum (open 12-6 p.m. on Sundays).
- For snacks, beverages, souvenirs, or essentials, stop by Özçiçek Kuruyemiş or the Şok grocery store nearby.

Radical Inclusion:

Several valued members of the inaugural cohort and movement architects who faced barriers to travel to Istanbul will be joining us remotely from Ashesi University (Ghana), the University of Pretoria (South Africa), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana), the University of Edinburgh (Scotland), the American University of Beirut (Lebanon), Makerere University (Uganda), and Tufts University (United States). In the spirit of radical inclusion, we have created “The Radicals” group to ensure their full participation—affirming that our movement extends beyond physical spaces and that inclusion is not just a value we name, but a practice we live. See Appendix 1 for details.

DAY ONE PROGRAM: 17 November 2025

Breakfast buffet | Hotel Restaurant | 07:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Movement & Breath Guided Practice with Amy Eldredge (optional) | 08:00 AM – 8:30 AM
Spielberg Foyer, Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

MORNING SESSION DAY ONE

Spielberg Conference Room | Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

Opening Plenary | Welcome Remarks | 09:00 AM – 09:45 AM

Next Generation Leaders Alumni, For Youth, By Youth Inaugural Cohort, Talloires Network Secretariat, Mastercard Foundation, paNhari, and Sabanci University Partners

The opening plenary will feature the faces and voices of the *For Youth, By Youth* movement, setting the stage for this year's theme: *Conscious Leadership and Global Solidarity*. You will hear stories from its co-creators, feel our shared values come to life through remarks from long-standing partners, and learn from inaugural cohort members shaping a youth-led social movement alongside their peers.

Get energized about actively contributing to shaping our movement's culture and collective identity. During the two day conference, conversations will span justice and peace in conflict-affected regions, the future of higher education, youth-led participatory action research on climate justice, and inclusive and ethical AI. Through roundtables, interactive workshops, storytelling, and collective reflection, we will weave together ideas and experiences across dialogues—linking radical inclusion, co-creation, well-being, and youth empowerment as essential elements of a global youth-led network rooted in solidarity and purpose.

Together, we invite you to explore, reflect, and add your voice to the collective story we are writing—one that continues to evolve through our shared actions, aspirations, and commitments. It is a story written not only in words, but in how we show up for one another, the difference we make in our communities, and the courage we bring to shaping our institutions and society.

Next Generation Leaders Alumni

Vuthlarhi Shirindza, Paseka Elcort Gaola, and Mercy Koti Fri

Video Message from Reeta Roy, President and CEO of the Mastercard Foundation

Talloires Network of Engaged Universities Executive Director & paNhari co-founders

Lorlene Hoyt, introduced by Mitiku Hoyt-Rouse, Phil Mlanda, and Mushandi (Donald) Bodzo

Sabanci University Director of Civic Involvement Projects Office

Zeynep Bahar

For Youth, By Youth Inaugural Cohort

Niyana Fikru Amanu, Ayanda Wasekelagha Mwambetania, Catherina Dogmo Ngongni Kuetezang, and Mathew Tuurozeeng

Echoes of My Story, Seeds of Glory

Poem by Diane Mushimiyimana

Conference Overview | Schedule, Ground Rules, Day 1 & Day 2 Previews | 09:45 AM – 10:00 AM

Talloires Network Secretariat

We encourage conference participants to immerse themselves into the *For Youth, By Youth* culture and ethos. During our time together, we invite you to take a step back from the realities, stresses, and pressures that we face daily as leaders. We seek to create a learning environment that allows us to reflect on our work, engage in dialogues to learn about each other's unique experiences, and consider

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what connects us across our differences. This is hard work, and we recognize that participants may feel challenged at times. Remember that we are in a marathon, not a sprint. Take breaks, call on your peers and designated volunteers for support, step out and breathe as you need to. Let us extend grace, patience, and flexibility to each other, and to ourselves as conscious global leaders, as we build this movement together!

Movement-building Activity | Sharing personal artifacts | 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Maria Gitau, Samantha Katsande, and Halima Dolif

As part of our Welcoming Ceremony in Istanbul, each participant is invited to bring a personal artifact, a small, meaningful object from home that reflects a piece of who you are. The artifact should fit in the palm of your hand, be something you are comfortable giving to a friend, and should not be purchased. It might be a natural object such as a shell, stone, or leaf; a cultural token like a bead, piece of cloth, or charm; or a personal item such as a small drawing, note, or keepsake.

This practice continues a tradition that began at the Boston gathering, where NGL alumni exchanged personal artifacts to connect beyond words.

In Istanbul, we will continue this ritual as a celebration of connection, reflection, and belonging. Please bring your artifact to the opening ceremony, where it will be shared and exchanged as a gesture of friendship and solidarity.

Networking Break | Beverages and Turkish delights | 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Spielberg Foyer, Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

Roundtable Discussion | Struggles for Justice and Peace in Our World | 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Moderated by Duaa Mohamed, Mastercard Foundation

This roundtable brings together voices of marginalized youth from South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo—youth whose lives have been shaped by ongoing conflict and displacement. Through their stories, we honor youth resilience, resistance, and the pursuit of justice. As part of our growing global movement *for and by* conscious young leaders, this session creates space for freedom of expression, shared learning, and collective reflection—centering dignity, humanity, and solidarity in what it means to strive for justice and peace in turbulent times. Together, we will explore conscious leadership and global solidarity as pathways to understanding our shared struggles for justice and to building a more peaceful and equitable world.

Participants will:

- Deepen their understanding of the lived realities of youth in conflict-affected regions
- Gain greater awareness of who is being targeted and why, and examine how extremist rhetoric and systemic violence impact marginalized and Indigenous communities
- Reflect on how solidarity and collective action can counter exclusion and help communities move toward justice, peace, and empowerment across regions
- Identify ways to amplify visibility of injustices and strengthen global awareness through shared storytelling and advocacy

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Luncheon | Hamdi Restaurant | 12:30 PM – 02:00 PM

AFTERNOON SESSION DAY ONE

Spielberg Conference Room | Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

Next Generation Leaders Stories | Watch Party, part one | 02:00 PM – 02:30 PM

Storytelling & Movement-building working group

In this session, we will watch short segments from four Next Generation Leaders' stories created at a 9-week workshop with award-winning global hip-hop artist and activist Dee-1. We invite you to reflect on these stories, and the transformational journeys of these individuals, who dreamed up the *For Youth, By Youth* movement.

Guiding questions:

- What images or messages resonated with you from these stories? What feelings and memories they evoke?
- What qualities of conscious leaders you discern from these stories?
- How are these stories going to impact you as a leader and a movement-builder?

Interactive Workshop | Declaration on the Future of Higher Education | 02:30 PM – 03:30 PM

Future of Higher Education working group

Youth are the faces, minds, and hands of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities. We are at once the stewards of physical university campuses and a network of virtual spaces for learning and collective action.

The Future of Higher Education group leaders are inviting you to experience the first youth-written Talloires Declaration, *"In Solidarity We Lead, with Courage We Act."* We want you to feel, hear, and see how we express and embody the meaning of the declaration. We invite you to connect with the messages in the declaration and make them your own—reflecting on "How do I connect with this declaration?"

In this workshop, we will create a canvas that represents the declaration in each of us. You will be asked to reflect on the four core areas of the declaration: 1) *locally grown—globally connected*; 2) *championing shared governance and co-creation*; 3) *value and purpose-driven*, and 4) *regenerative, living systems rooted in community*. See full text on page 22. How does it feel for you? What does it inspire within you? How does it transform our educational environments? We will ask you to capture this on a canvas through whatever form of art speaks to you—written word, paint, drawing, movement, expression. This is your declaration, and together we hope to use it to collectively create the transformational educational environment we aspire to be.

More than having a beautifully crafted document that is easy to forget or ignore, we invite you to join us in bringing this declaration to life through your creativity. This declaration is a living and breathing book of life that contains our movement's genes and binds us together.

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By interpreting what it means to us individually and collectively, and uniting us around our shared goals and values, we invite you to partake in an interactive workshop featuring a 20-year old effervescent creature named Hope.

Hope was born 20 years ago in Talloires, France. She was like a spark that connected the minds, hearts, and hands of community-engaged/university leaders. Hope knew no gender, no physical boundaries or limitations, for they were conceived out of abundance, kindness, and generosity.

Hope was brave and protected humanity and freedom. Hope tolerated no injustice, saw the enormous potential for good through standing as one. They were cultivating the land in remote villages, building schools, hospitals and bridges in cities, and creating transnational earth treaties. She became a force of nature, the lifeline of academic institutions.

Self-care Break | Beverages and Turkish delights | 03:30 PM – 04:00 PM

Health and Wellness Group, Sabanci University Students

We are on this journey for the long-run. Practicing conscious leadership requires that we nourish and nurture our mind, body, and soul. Choose an activity that will be best for you. What's best for you is best for all around you. Choose between three optional activities to nourish yourself.

- **Unstructured break** to pray, go for a walk, visit the Kasa Gallery in the basement, or walk to the rooftop for a stunning view of the Bosphorus. Enjoy a friendly banter or a deep conversation with your peers while nourishing your body with delicious snacks and beverages in the lobby.
- **Radical Self-care:** Join health and wellness guide Amy Eldredge for a rejuvenating experience on the rooftop with stunning views of the Bosphorus. This optional session offers a chance to reconnect with your senses through movement and taking in the natural panoramas.
- **Energizer Activity: Human Bingo** To build on the energy and warmth of the artifact sharing, participants may join Sabanci University students for an interactive *Human Bingo* session. This engaging icebreaker allows everyone to get to know each other, discover cultural similarities and differences, and build the foundation for authentic connection. *Human Bingo* is a fun and interactive icebreaker designed to help participants get to know each other and build connections across cultures.

Interactive Workshop | Youth-led Participatory Action Research & Climate Justice | 04:00 – 05:00 PM

Youth Participatory Action (Research) Working Group

During this session, the members of the Youth-led Participatory Action (Research) (YPAR) working group will present a case study on climate justice. The case study centers on the question: What becomes possible for universities, communities, and the planet when youth are not only included but trusted as co-creators of climate solutions?

Participants will:

- Reflect upon and discuss successful applications of youth-led community-university research collaborations to address the climate crisis.
- Make connections between the projects presented within the case study and your own innovative project ideas for bringing real change to your community.
- Discuss lessons to incorporate into your initial plans to address challenges in your community.

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Next Steps | Preview of Day 2 | 05:00 PM – 05:15 PM

This segment will wrap up day one activities with a teaser to day two activities. Staff members will direct participants to the dinner venue and review options for sightseeing with a care note for including all.

Group Dinner at Peymane | 06:00 PM – 08:00 PM

Peymane, Grand Pera Hotel 7. Kat, Asmalı Mescit, Meşrutiyet Cd. NO:55 Beyoğlu, İstanbul

Small Groups Istanbul Sightseeing | after dinner

Patrons + buddy groups + Sabancı students

After dinner, participants who wish can continue the day with an informal city exploration. Sabancı University students will prepare and share a curated list of recommended places to visit in Istanbul, encouraging participants to connect while discovering the city's rich culture.

DAY TWO SCHEDULE: 18 November 2025

Breakfast buffet | Hotel Restaurant | 07:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Movement & Breath Guided Practice with Amy Eldredge (optional) | 08:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Spielberg Foyer, Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

MORNING SESSION DAY TWO

Spielberg Conference Room | Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

Plenary Provocation | Inclusivity as Our Compass: A Guided Reflection led by Women, Indigenous Youth, Displaced Youth, and Youth with Disabilities | 09:00 AM – 09:30 AM

Moderated by Harunah Damba, Next Generation Leader Alum

The plenary provocation is a communal session for self-reflection, guided by framing questions that invite journaling and visualization in preparation for creating our Movement Charter. No need to prepare in advance, we ask that you are fully present and use your creative imagination when prompted by the facilitator. This session is intended to be a continuation of the Day 1 Roundtable Discussion that elevates the voices and stories of displaced youth who are committed to building a more peaceful world. Participants will be able to surface unmet needs, expectations, and concerns within universities and communities grounded in lived experiences, in preparation for creating the Movement Charter. Crayons, sketchbooks, pads will be provided.

Short Summary of relevant policies and legal frameworks

- Agenda 2030 (SDGs, 2015)
- Paris Agreement (2015)
- UNCRPD (2006)

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- African Youth Charter (2006)
- Geneva Conventions (1949)
- The Safe Schools Declaration (2015)

Interactive Workshop | Belonging by Design: Inclusive & Ethical AI Systems | 09:30 AM – 10:30 AM *Responsible AI workshop group*

This session, led by Ángel Solís and supported by Patrovas Gabriel Okidi and Karen Lizbeth Estevez Sanchez, will spotlight how the *For Youth, By Youth* movement is shaping inclusive and ethical AI through innovation, collaboration, and youth leadership. Participants will experience three milestone outcomes: the YouthIN AI Mentor Chatbot, the Impact Dashboard, and a Policy Brief on Ethical and Inclusive AI. Together, these tools illustrate how young leaders are transforming ethical principles into practical solutions that promote inclusion, accountability, and social impact.

Networking Break | Beverages and Turkish delights | 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM *Vuthlarhi, Bakhile and Mohak, Next Generation Leaders Alums*

Call to Action, Part One | Practicing Conscious Leadership | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM *Facilitated by Fadi Salahedin, Next Generation Leaders Alum*

This session is dedicated to co-creating a **Movement Charter** and reflecting on our individual journeys through a facilitated discussion. The charter is envisioned as a grounding experience anchored in our community culture and commitments. We invite you to shape the *For Youth, By Youth* movement through defining what accountability, benefit, and responsibility mean in the context of the movement. Suggested communal learning objectives include (to be shaped together):

- Define our social norms, values, and accountability.
- Identify tangible benefits from participating in the movement—linking engagement to real opportunities such as additional funding, fellowships, or recognition.
- Link the Movement Charter to the Declaration on the Future of Higher Education—identifying connections between physical campuses and the broader global network of engaged universities.
- Agree on our shared language that shapes our shared identity—use language and framing that is accessible; avoid academic jargon; communicate in community settings or professional contexts (Examples of more accessible language: social entrepreneurship instead of youth-led participatory action research and referring to students as learners).
- Connect language to job applications and grant applications.

Luncheon | Hamdi Restaurant (hotel rooftop) | 12:30 PM – 01:30 PM

Movement-building Activity | Group Photograph & Energizer Activity | 01:30 PM – 02:00 PM *Sabancı University Students*

After lunch everyone will gather on the hotel terrace for a symbolic group photo— a visual celebration of unity and global solidarity.

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Cultural expression elements: Participants are encouraged to wear traditional outfits representing their cultures and heritage, creating a vibrant celebration of global diversity. The photo session will capture this cultural showcase, and participants are encouraged to bring flags from their home countries to visually represent the movement's international reach.

Spielberg Foyer | Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

Sabancı University students have prepared a *Common Word Activity* designed to celebrate linguistic diversity and shared meaning. This is an opportunity to select a word that expresses one of *For Youth, By Youth* core values and connect it through our multiple native languages for a rich cultural exchange.

AFTERNOON SESSION DAY TWO

Spielberg Conference Room | Radisson Blu Pera Hotel

Call to Action, Part Two | Inclusive Global Solidarity | 02:00 PM – 03:00 PM

Facilitated by Fadi Salahedin, Next Generation Leaders Alum

During the second part of the Call to Action, youth leaders will continue crafting our Movement Charter and reflecting on our collective journey through a facilitated discussion.

Participants will:

- Co-create and sign our Movement Charter.
- Discuss how we envision the future of the movement.

Group Reflective Activity or Break | Beverages and Turkish delights | 03:00 PM – 03:30 PM

Sabancı University Students

Participants can choose from taking a break, join health and wellness coach Amy Eldredge for a breathing practice, or participate a group reflective activity with Sabancı students.

This reflective activity invites participants to explore the connection between individual well-being and community/collective strength through interactive games: the *Tower Game* and the *Connection Game*. Together, we will engage in a shared experience that illustrates how self-awareness, care, and collaboration weave the foundation of resilient communities—closing with a guided reflection on how nurturing oneself strengthens the whole.

For Youth, By Youth Cohort Stories | Watch Party, part two | 3:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Storytelling & Movement-building working group

In this session, we will watch short segments from four Inaugural Cohort members' stories created at a 9-week workshop with award-winning global hip-hop artist and activist Dee-1. We invite you to reflect on these stories, and the transformational journeys of these individuals, who together with the Next Generation Leaders Alumni are building the *For Youth, By Youth* movement.

Guiding questions:

- What images or messages resonated with you from these stories? What feelings and memories they evoke?

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- What qualities of conscious leaders you discern from these stories?
- How are these stories going to impact you as a leader and a movement-builder?

Call to Action, Part Three | Next steps in the *For Youth, By Youth* Movement | 04:00 PM – 4:30 PM
Samantha Katsande, Stephen Munyoki Mwangangi, and Mercy Koti Fri, Next Generation Leaders Alumni

In this session you will discuss what post-conference engagement looks like, mapping out your Youth-led Participatory Action (Research) projects timeline and expectations.

Participants will discuss:

- Community projects timeline
- Stipends distribution for community projects
- Public scholarship

Transition to Sabanci University Karaköy Campus | 05:30 PM – 06:00 PM
Buddy groups, meet in hotel lobby

CLOSING CEREMONY DAY TWO

Closing Ceremony & Cocktail-style Dinner | 06:00 PM – 08:00 PM
Sabanci University, Karaköy Campus/Kasa Galeri, Minerva Han, Bereketzade Mah, Bankalar Cad. No 2. 34420 Beyoğlu

Our *For Youth, By Youth: Conscious Leadership and Global Solidarity* Inaugural Cohort Conference will culminate in an uplifting evening at Sabancı University's beautiful Karaköy Campus, about a 15-minute walk or a short drive from the hotel.

As the sun sets over Istanbul, participants will gather to celebrate the voices, stories and shared purpose that defined our time together, and to unwind after two days of shared learning and dialogue. Enjoy a cocktail-style dinner with light refreshments and non-alcoholic beverages, accompanied by music from across the countries represented by our participants in a relaxed and jovial atmosphere. You may wear attire that reflects our movement's vibrant multicultural heritage, adding color, beauty, and warmth to the evening's celebration.

The official program will open with welcoming remarks from Sabancı University and the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities leaders, honoring Sabancı's 25th anniversary and the Talloires Network's 20-year legacy. The program will feature reflections and closing words from leaders, culminating into a *Solidarity Chain*—a collective activity symbolizing our shared commitments and connections. The ceremony will conclude with a group photo in front of the historic Karaköy building—as a joyful reminder of the connections we've made and the journey that continues beyond Istanbul.

Welcoming Remarks

Prof. Dr. Cem Güneri, Vice Rector for Education, Sabancı Üniversitesi, Istanbul Turkey

Celebrating Sabanci University 25th year Anniversary

Zeynept Bahar, CIP Progm Manager, Sabancı Üniversitesi, Istanbul Turkey

Celebrating Talloires Network's 20-year Anniversary

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Enacting the 2025 Istanbul Declaration

Lorlene Hoyt, Executive Director of Talloires Network of Engaged Universities

Solidarity Chain: Collective Reflection & Commitment Activity

The ceremony will conclude with a collective and symbolic activity, followed by a group photo capturing the spirit of unity, creativity, and conscious leadership. Participants will each receive a colored card representing one of three dimensions of transformation—individual, community, or institutional—and will be invited to write one idea, action, or commitment they wish to carry forward after the gathering. Together, these cards will form a solidarity chain, a tangible expression of connection and shared purpose that will remain on display as a reminder of our collective commitments.

Throughout the evening, share your stories and star in TikTok-style videos alongside have your pictures taken to document this celebratory moment capturing highlights of the Talloires Network's 20-year anniversary and the diverse, inclusive spirit of the *For Youth, By Youth* movement.

POST-CONFERENCE/DEPARTURES: 19 November 2025

Breakfast buffet | Hotel Restaurant | 07:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Morning Checkouts and Farewells | 08:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Participants departing on Wednesday morning may join their buddies in the hotel lobby.

Room Check-out by 12:00 PM

The hotel staff may store your luggage if your flight is later during the day.

Hotel Departures (throughout the day)

Shuttles from hotel to airport.



Maria Gitau and Halima Dolif are leading a small team documenting our shared conference experience. Throughout the event, they will be coordinating short, TikTok-style videos and photo moments that capture the energy, creativity, and authentic moments of our time together.

During breaks, the team will invite participants to join quick video shoots or have individual portraits taken. Volunteer photographers and videographers from the cohort will also be capturing moments to share on social media.

You can upload and access all photos and videos from the event at a shared location, co-creating a shared digital archive of the conference experience.



During the conference, participants may step out to pray during observed times.

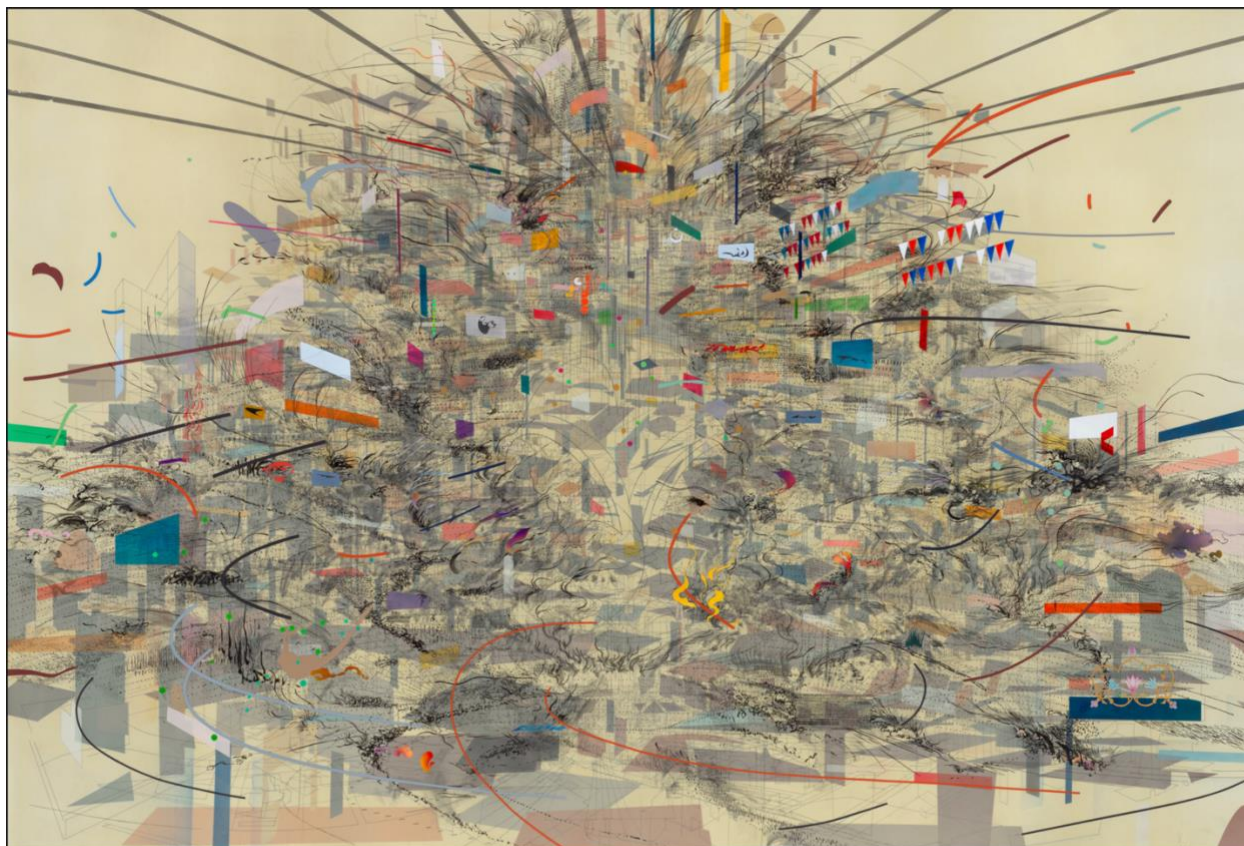
Prayer Times:

Fajr - 6:05 AM

Dhuhr - 12:55 PM

Asr- 15:38 PM

Maghrib - 18:03 PM



Julie Mehretu. *Empirical Construction, Istanbul*. 2003

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Conference Participants

1. Abdulraheem Yousef Abdullah, *For Youth, By Youth* Inaugural Cohort, American University of Beirut (Lebanon)
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3. Abdullahi Mohamed Abdi, *For Youth, By Youth* Inaugural Cohort, University of Edinburgh (Scotland)*
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**The Radicals group joining remotely.*

APPENDIX 2

2025 Talloires Network Declaration on the Future of Higher Education
In Solidarity We Lead, With Courage We Act

Our future is held in the hands of young people today. We have inherited a world marked by rising inequality, climate change, political violence, wars, displacement, and civic institutions under threat, including higher education. We are the faces, minds, and hearts of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities. In solidarity we lead, and with courage we act: we are building what the world urgently needs. We are both the stewards of physical university campuses and a global network of virtual spaces for learning and collective action. We acknowledge that learning happens both within and outside of university walls, that knowledge can and should be co-created with communities, and that leadership can be collective, intergenerational, and in kinship with the land.

Twenty years ago, university leaders gathered in Talloires, France, with a radical vision: universities must embrace their civic roles and social responsibilities. Brought to life by 29 presidents from 23 countries in 2005, today this idea has grown into a dynamic global network of 453 engaged universities across 93 nations. On the 20th anniversary of the Talloires Network, we commit to advancing this legacy by expanding this mission through the *For Youth, By Youth* movement.

We are a movement of conscious young leaders rooted in engaged universities and communities. Our movement creates spaces for learning, connection, imagination, and civic action. We are the values-based civic infrastructure of engaged universities and a nimble network of virtual spaces where global citizens dismantle oppressive systems, while creating an environment for new habits and structures to take root and flourish. Our vision for the future of higher education is to meaningfully connect local and global communities; to establish and safeguard inclusive spaces where human rights are non-negotiable; to co-create knowledge while responding to pressing societal needs; to contribute to long-term solutions; and to build trusting and sustainable partnerships.

Community engagement and social responsibility are universities' most valuable currency. Higher education stands at a crossroads: in times of crisis, institutions cannot remain detached, operating on the margins of society. Engaged universities must reimagine governance, priorities, and partnerships where learners, educators, and communities co-shape knowledge and solutions. This kind of engagement emphasizes civic responsibility, truth-telling, and repair; it is not extractive, nor is it charitable. In this way, engaged universities demonstrate how we can transform the world in which we live.

To regain relevance, higher education must demonstrate its purpose. Too many educational systems are preparing people for a world that no longer exists. No longer confined to theory or tradition, universities must become a living force for good, equipping us to act, care, and dare to shape a better world and future for all. Learning must remain at the core of human thriving, cultivating empathy, creativity, deep listening, and critical thinking. Conscious leadership and civic education must prepare us for livelihoods and for lives rooted in civic responsibility and hope. Education must serve all learners across their lifetimes, meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing world. Education must be driven by an ambitious set of moral values. With this proposition, we nurture a culture of values such as kindness and respect, radical inclusivity, collaboration, humility, hope and levity, solidarity, and impact. The transformation of higher education is a journey that requires conscious leaders who uphold these values.

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To solve multiple intersecting crises, education must evolve into regenerative, living systems rooted in community. Many universities or parts of universities remain “ivory towers,” promoting competition over collaboration, and contributing to societal inequities. Current models of access and recognition frequently exclude marginalized groups, including Indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, disabled people, and forcibly displaced people. We call on universities to represent all members of society at large, to be the force that speaks truth to power and the force that normalizes and legitimizes empathy as the center of learning and belonging for all as the ideal to be reached. We envision education as a seamless ecosystem across all levels of schooling, where every learner around the world can contribute, receive, and thrive. We urge universities to take responsibility for the direction and impact of technologies like artificial intelligence that are reshaping society. Youth must be co-creators in solving global challenges, while universities steward safe spaces for critical discourse and shared learning. By uniting and supporting learners, universities too may adapt to change while creating systems to sustain human dignity, well-being, and intergenerational knowledge.

With the Talloires Network, we pledge to be good predecessors, sustainable stewards of land and resources, and better neighbors, investing in reciprocal relationships, experiential learning, and accessible spaces for dialogue and collaboration. We commit to sustaining this work by collecting and sharing resources with partners who share our values and vision.

On November 18, 2025, we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Talloires Network with the first youth-written Talloires Network Declaration, in collaboration with more than 100 leaders from 27 countries around the world.

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