

Youth-led Participatory Action Research (YPAR) Activities Introduction & Overview

Introduction to For Youth, By Youth:

For Youth, By Youth is a nascent, global, youth-led movement committed to fostering conscious leadership and global solidarity as pathways to meaningful and lasting impact. Developed by 36 university students across 18 countries, this movement has built a network of engaged young leaders who are shaping a more just and equitable world. The movement offers mentorship, financial support, wellness resources, and training in youth-led participatory action research, ethical AI, and storytelling.

Youth-led Participatory Action Research (YPAR) Working Group Overview:

Youth-led Participatory Action Research (YPAR) is a core component of *For Youth, By Youth's* growing global movement. YPAR redefines traditional academic research by making community members co-creators, not just subjects. YPAR is hands-on, justice-driven, and rooted in real-world impact. It values local knowledge, cross-cultural understanding, and advances inclusive knowledge production. *For Youth, By Youth* YPAR Working Group members will develop a shared understanding of YPAR, its foundational principles and applications, gain a collective understanding of its supporters and critics, and craft a vision for its radical expansion throughout higher education internationally.

Global Webinar Series Launching October 2025:

This October, the YPAR Working Group will host a three-part global webinar series designed to inspire students, university leaders, funders, and other partners to embrace YPAR as a powerful and transformative research method. The webinars will take place on **Fridays, from 9:00-10:30 AM (ET)** and will focus on:

- **Youth Power and Participatory Research | October 10th** – the opening session is a call to recognize youth not as future leaders, but as present-day change agents and researchers. Through compelling stories from climate-impacted regions, young leaders will share how Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) enables them to investigate the environmental injustices in their communities and take collective action. This session celebrates youth wisdom and centers lived experience and makes the case for YPAR as essential to advancing climate justice.
- **Research for Climate Justice in Action | October 17th** – the second session spotlights one extraordinary case of Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) about the issue of climate justice. It focuses on research design and methodology, as well as the challenges, and breakthroughs of the collaborative work. This session offers a living example of what's possible when universities trust, resource, and uplift youth leadership in the climate space.
- **Investing in Youth Research for Climate Justice | October 24th** – the final session is a bold call to action for funders and institutions: if we are serious about equity, climate action, and sustainability, we must invest in youth-led, community-rooted research. This session elevates the voices of funders who are backing YPAR, along with youth researchers who have turned small grants into big impact.

To learn more, share suggestions, or offer connections to potential Tufts University student contributors, contact: Velina Batchvarov at Velina.Batchvarov@tufts.edu and Caitlin O'Donnell at Caitlin.O_donnell@tufts.edu. Find webinar series details here: talloiresnetwork.tufts.edu/programs/fyby.