

5th World Youth Congress

**TURKIYE
2010**



IMECE
Joint Action



5th World Youth Congress

TURKIYE 2010

31 July - 13 August 2010



“We will leave everything to the youth... They are the hope and the blossoming flowers of the future. All my hope is in youth.”

Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK

TURKIYE WELCOMES YOU !
to the 5th World Youth Congress is in
Turkiye, 31 July - 13 August 2010

We are delighted that the 5th in this great series of World Youth Congresses on Youth and Development will be held in Istanbul, Turkiye in 2010 !

Turkiye will welcome 1000 young people from around the world to meet during Istanbul's year as the European Capital of Culture. You will have the chance learn a lot about Turkish culture, about Turkish people, and the history of one of the oldest civilizations of the world - which is now the 2nd fastest growing modern economy in the world after China.

Also, just as in Hawaii, you learned about the word 'Aloha' - and here in Canada - you learned the meaning of 'Regeneration,' in Turkiye, we hope you will discover the meaning of the word: "imece" - a turkish word which doesn't have exact definition in English. It refers to an ancient tradition of solidarity - working

collectively for the common good. But it carries with it - not the connotation of effort or duty - but the fun of collaboration: like its always a festival of enjoying yourself when you work and achieve things together.

We hope that this is how young people around the world will see youth-led development: the effort to make poverty history in our lifetimes - and create peace, human rights, democracy, trust, volunteerism and a prosperous green economy that will bring sustainable happiness to every race and nation on the earth - this is imece! And it will be the greatest source of joy and fun for us all to take part in this effort.

Istanbul is at the crossroads of civilisations - a meeting point of two great continents. Join us in Istanbul, and help us write another chapter in this history of this fascinating city: one in which the young people of the world and their governments learn to work together in 'imece' to eliminate the scourge of poverty from our world.



● IMECE: Joint Action

What is "imece"?

Imece is an old Turkish solidarity system which has been applied for centuries in countryside. It is an example of social solidarity and sensibility.



In literature, imece is explained as: mutual aid, collective work, working together for the community or for one of its members, bee, solidarity, etc... In daily life, imece refers to coming together to help an individual, a community or for commons in order to finish the work as quickly as possible and easily and doing this work like a festival, with cheer.

Why is imece important?



Generally imece is a voluntary organization. Main aim is to provide workforce for mutual works with cheer, joy and good spirits. Therefore, it teaches to help and reinforces the relations among people.

Nobody knows when imece was emerged. However, we



know that it first appeared in the countryside, especially in the villages. In the villages, imece is being applied on works like building a school, repairing a mosque, establishing a village clinic, or building and repairing other common areas; thus, the works that cannot be done alone. Thus, imece is vital for living together because every people may sometimes need the help of others. In this view, imece is also a symbol of neighborhood.



How can imece contribute to rebuilding of future?

Considering the existing problems of the world; such as poverty, epidemic diseases, pollution, climate change, social problems, corruption, disarmament, etc; we really need to globalize imece to take comprehensive steps to promote solutions for those problems. The earth is our common; an individual or a community cannot save it alone, we need collective action; we need imece to provide sustainability for our planet Earth.





Democracy

Imece is shaped due to the needs of community. If there is a need of building a new clinic or repairing a school in a village, people come together and discuss the situation. Then, they take the decision of imece democratically. Individuals or parties feel the ownership of the decision and the following action; we cannot expect efficiency from imece work or any kind of international partnerships without democratic decision making.



Togetherness

One of the most important necessities required for imece is togetherness. For the harmony of imece, people come together, work collectively, and develop partnerships. The state of feeling and being emotionally and physically close to another person, group, community is vital. Togetherness is of crucial importance for taking joint actions.



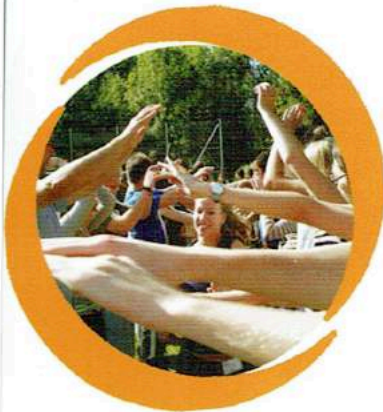
Solidarity

Solidarity refers to the ties in a society that bind people to one another; it is integration; acceptance of being "the society". Solidarity is vital for the society. In the same way, it is vital for the world community to achieve MDGs and promoting solutions for the existing problems of the world.



Trust

The relationship of reliance runs the partnership in both imece and international systems. To sustain a successful collective action, you first need to get rid of any kind of mistrust; then you can apply imece or can develop an efficient partnership.



Volunteerism

Volunteerism is the willingness of people to work on behalf of others without being motivated by financial gain. That is what imece implies. The spirit of volunteerism is the force which pushes the system of imece forward. Volunteerism is what our world actually needs. Young people with the spirit of volunteerism have a lot to tell to the rest of the world.

● PRE-CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

Action Projects

To increase the awareness of Turkish youth regarding Youth-Led Development and to encourage them to take voluntary action, we plan to start GÖK program-YLD program organize at least 100 action projects in Türkiye before the congress. Many other action projects would be initiated on by young people around world and more and more people will be familiar with the concept of Youth-Led Development. Above all, local communities will benefit from all those actions of youth.



Trainings

Trainings on various topics like sustainable life styles, MDGs, imece, partnership building, co-management, YLD will be organized in Turkiye and around world to make young people familiar with main themes of the congress.

Partnerships

We are open to start any kind of partnerships with international, national or local NGOs, governments, private sector actors, academic institutions, media partners and cultural institutions or groups to promote World Youth Congress and youth involvement in civic society.



● DURING CONGRESS

Exhibition:

All the delegates and NGOs that attend the congress will have opportunity to present their organizations, their countries and their cultures in the exhibition area.

Action Projects:

For 5 days of the congress, international delegates will work with local participants and will have the chance of taking part in 100 action projects in 50 different places in Türkiye.

Cultural Events:

The host city of 5th World Youth Congress, Istanbul, is not only a bridge between Europe and Asia, it is also a bridge between cultures. During 5th World Youth Congress, you will see and learn a lot about rich Turkish Culture. In addition to international cultural events, concerts, parties and shows; you will have unforgettable moments in Türkiye.

Skills Workshops:

You may choose at least 6 of the 80 skills workshops topics run by experts in the field or talented young people. You can also run a workshop, just contact with info@turkiye2010.org and see what you can do.





Plenaries & Workshops:

With a thousand creative young people, many politicians, academicians, artists, diplomats and experts from different fields we will have fruitful discussions in workshops about themes of the congress.



Social Program:

Istanbul extends both on the European (Thrace) and on the Asian (Anatolia) side of the Bosphorus and it is the only metropolis in the world which is situated on two continents. Moreover, the "Historic Areas of Istanbul" are in the UNESCO World Heritage List since 1985. You will have the opportunity to discover of this beautiful city. We definitely think that you will want to visit Istanbul again.



Festival:

In 1999, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly declared August 12th the International Youth Day. We will celebrate this day with all the delegates of the congress and youth of Istanbul by organizing an International Youth Festival on 12th August 2010 at Taksim Square (city center) of Istanbul.



More?

Do you have any ideas? What would you like to see at 5th World Youth Congress Türkiye 2010? Share your ideas with: info@turkiye2010.org

● Virtual Congress:

World Youth Congress is a lifetime event that a lot of young people want to participate, but since the number of delegates is limited, it is impossible for all the applicants to attend. However, thanks to technological advances, the world is a global village now. You can be a delegate of World Youth Congress from your seat at home! You only need a computer and internet connection.

Virtual Delegates will have accounts to connect the congress and they can participate in, and ask questions at, the Congress Plenaries and workshops. They may set up Action Projects around the world before, during and after the Congress which can report - daily or weekly - on their progress via the Congress website. They will even be certificated as delegates of the congress!





● Participants

The congress will bring together 1000 young people from around the world including activists, young journalists, young educators, young artists, performing groups and young observers. The delegates will have chance to meet many development experts, academicians, politicians, artists and diplomats in the discussions, workshops, plenaries and opening and closing ceremonies. Moreover, many young people who do not have the opportunity to attend the congress onsite, will have chance to participate through virtual congress as virtual delegates.



Activists: Activists are the young people who are serving for their community to create a positive change through their projects, trainings, peer-to-peer teaching and social enterprises voluntarily.



Young Journalists: Young journalists are key actors for making events, actions and results of the congress known in different parts of the world. We welcome young journalists to take part in the congress to report this important event wider.

Young Educators: Educators have the potential to create a positive change within the society. To share experiences and new methods we welcome young educators who have creative ideas about learning.



Young Artists: Peace Child started life getting Russians and Americans to perform a musical play together - so art, culture and entertainment have always been at the heart of our work. Artists who seek to communicate powerful messages about the sustainable development agenda will be most welcome at this Congress.



Young Observers: You may be interested in all these areas - but not have evidence of actually doing any of them yet. No matter - write an application explaining your interests and your intentions, and you will be welcome to come along to learn from those who have already trodden the Youth-led development path.



Virtual Delegates: If you do not have the opportunity to attend the congress on-site, you will have chance to participate through virtual congress as a virtual delegate. Virtual delegates can join discussions, plenaries and even action projects if they wish to organize one at their local.

● SUSTAINABILITY

GÖK programı - YLD program

GÖK programı - YLD Program will be started before the congress to make Turkish youth more aware of Youth-Led Development, to encourage them to take action and to improve standards of local communities. We are planning to make GÖK program sustained after the congress. GÖK program will promote YLD by funding and advising hundreds of action projects in Türkiye and around world.

Congress Booklet

To report and record events in the congress, decisions taken together and ideas of the delegates; we will prepare a booklet during the congress together. We will publish it and send to all the governments that they will see what young people are doing for sustainability and future of our earth.

A Memory of the Congress

A group of young artists will come together young Turkish artists and prepare a memory for Türkiye in İstanbul. It can be a wall, a statue or any kind of thing, it will be decided by delegates of the congress and Turkish youth later.

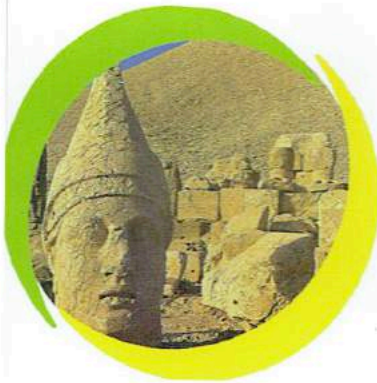




Türkiye

Türkiye, known officially as the Republic of Türkiye, is a democratic, secular, unitary, constitutional republic. Its political system was established in 1923 under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK.

Türkiye is a Eurasian country that holds place on both the Anatolian peninsula in western Asia and Thrace (Rumelia) in the Balkan region of southeastern Europe. Sea of Marmara and the Turkish Straits (the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles) separate Anatolia and Thrace, thus, the straits delineate the border between Asia and Europe, making Türkiye transcontinental.



It can definitely be stated that Türkiye is a bridge between Europe and Asia not only geographically but also culturally. A unique blend of Eastern and Western tradition forms Turkish culture. Its presence in Eurasia reflects a strong historic, cultural and economic influence in the area between the European Union and Central Asia, Russia and Middle East.



The population of Türkiye is 70,586,256 in accord with 2007 census of population. More than half of the population is under 30 years old. Nearly 20 million people are between 15-29 years old. This large population of young people is a great strength for youth-led development of Türkiye.



Major means of living in Türkiye depend on agriculture and livestock, fishery, tourism and industry. Agriculture has been very important in the land of Türkiye for years. For the last decades, due to its appropriate climate and investments, tourism sector is increasingly growing.

● İstanbul



"The god and human, nature and art are together in there, they have created such a perfect place that it is valuable to see." Lamartine's famous poetic line reveals his love for Istanbul, describing the embracing of two continents, with one arm reaching out to Asia and the other to Europe.



The geographical position of Istanbul is the north-west of Türkiye. The Bosphorus Strait provides an important access between Asia and Europe. During long historical times, Istanbul served as the capital city of the Roman Empire, the Byzantine Empire, the Latin Empire, and the Ottoman Empire.

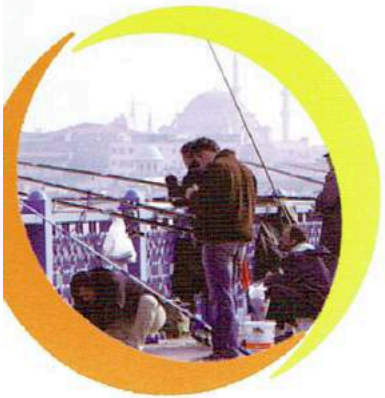


Istanbul is the most famous city of Türkiye. With its population of 11,372,613 in accord with 2007 census of population; it can easily be stated that a crucial part of population in Türkiye lives in Istanbul for years. Therefore, Istanbul can be considered as the industrial and cultural capital.

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Many trade activities are founded in Istanbul. Most of the representative agencies of the multi-national companies present in Türkiye are located in Istanbul. This capacity of international trade has an increasing trend.



Istanbul is a home for many historical and touristic places. The most outstanding ones are Hagia Sofia, Sultanahmet Mosque, Topkapi Palace, Kapalıçarşı Bazaar, Golden Horn and Galata Tower.



Rich and varied cultural activities, both traditional and contemporary takes place in Istanbul. Matching the increasing youth population, there is a growing number of festivals, galleries, new music venues and film centers. Within the last decade, Turkish artists have begun to make an international impact.

The ready infrastructure embracing the big number of conference halls, hotels, clubs and restaurants as well as the natural beauties, historical places; Istanbul has been a favorite host city for many crucial, national and international events such as conferences, congresses, meetings, concerts and festivals.



Istanbul European Capital of Culture 2010

The European Capital of Culture is determined by the European Union for one year. During that period, the designated city holds chance to set on show its cultural life and development.

Istanbul has chosen to be the European Capital of Culture for the year 2010. Therefore, during 2010, Istanbul will have the opportunity to transform its cultural base and be viewed internationally.

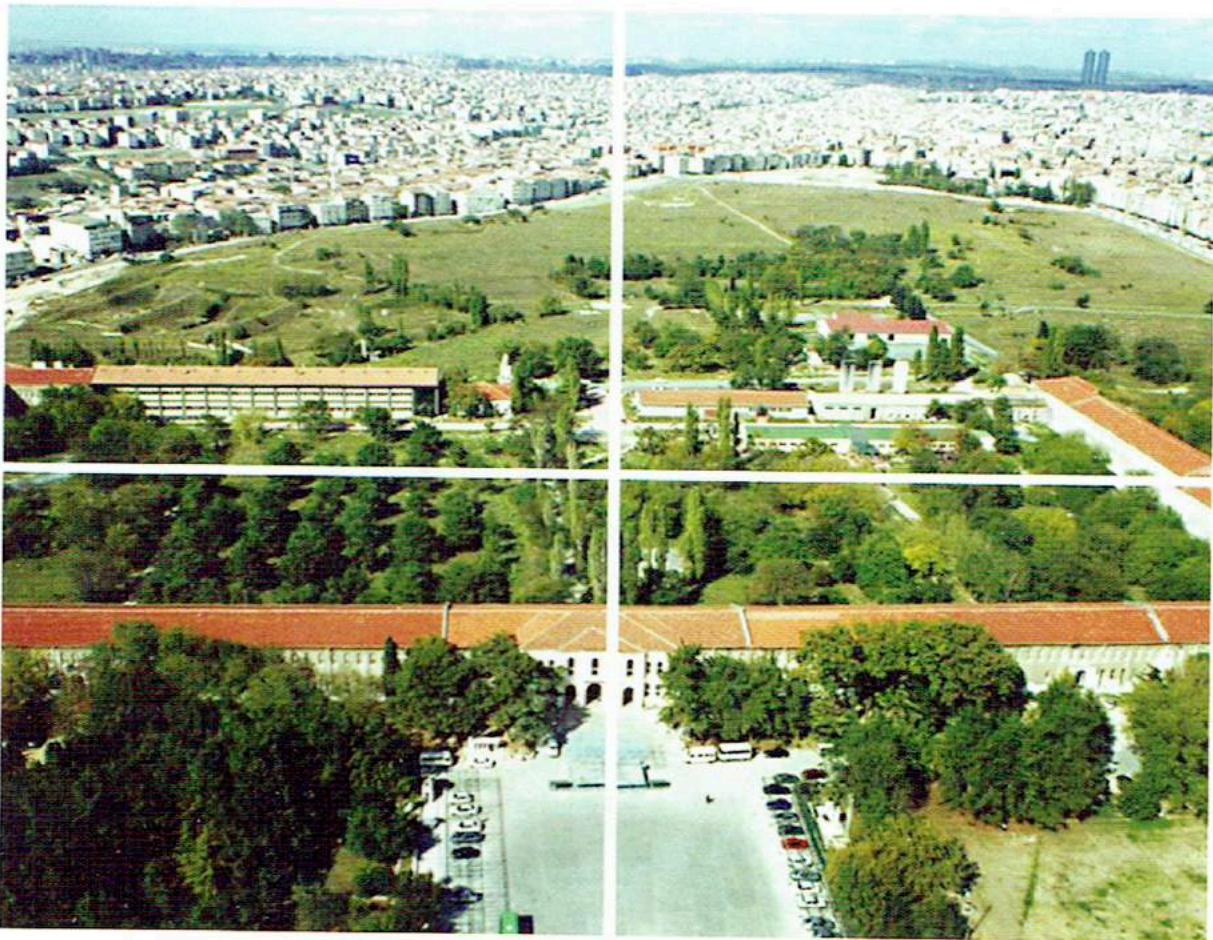
Many international and intercultural events will take part in Istanbul in 2010, during the one-year period when Istanbul is the European Capital of culture. The 5th World Youth Congress will be one of those fascinating events.



- Yıldız Technical University,
Davutpaşa Campus

5th World Youth Congress Türkiye 2010 will take place in The Davutpaşa Campus of Yıldız Technical University in Istanbul. Davutpaşa Campus is located on European side of the Istanbul.

The campus is capable for all the congress activities with its' rich facilities. There is even a go-kart track in the campus.







Republic of Türkiye Ministry of National Education - The Host

Ministry of National Education of Türkiye has declared to be host of the congress in accord with the agreement they have signed with Peace Child International.

e-genclik Association-National Lead Organizer

National Lead Organizer of this congress is e-genclik Association. e-genclik Association is a non-profit non-governmental organization and a local and national network between young people who are working in youth-led development area and aims to encourage young people to create and act in social, cultural and sustainable development projects in field of youth.



Peace Child International - International Secretariat

PCI, the International Secretariat that holds the licence of the World Youth Congress series, is an educational charity that empowers young people to take responsibility for peace, human rights and the environment through education, leadership development and direct participation in the events that shape our world community.



Taking IT Global - WEB Partner

TakingITGlobal is an international non-profit organization headquartered in Canada, connecting youth around the world. It provides a portal for young people to find inspiration, access information and get involved in improving their local and global communities.



You?

We are open to develop any kind of partnerships with international, national or local NGOs, governments, private sector actors, academic institutions, media partners and cultural institutions or groups to promote World Youth Congress and youth involvement in sustainability.