

12 AUGUST

# INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

*"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow."*

- Nelson Mandela -

## Why do we mark this day?



The International Youth Day is celebrated on August 12 every year with the recognition of the importance of young people. The day calls upon various stakeholders, including governments, civil societies, individuals and communities to pay attention to youth issues both at local and global levels.

Youth are the torchbearers for a brighter future. They can be a positive force for development when provided with adequate knowledge and opportunities to thrive. The number of young people is increasing and expected to grow to nearly 1.3 billion. It is recognized that engaging young peacebuilders in promoting peace and countering extremism is critically important.

## Questions for Discussion

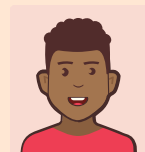
✓ From the Sustainable Development Goals, in which category do the youths belong?

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✓ What is the theme for this year's International Youth Day?

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## Meet Today's Global Citizen



**Vic Barrett**

As a 22-year old Honduran-American college student, Vic Barrett is actively raising his voices on the issue of climate change and human rights, particularly on the climate and justice issues affecting young people like him. He has experienced the firsthand climate impacts by Hurricane Sandy and realized the need to speak on the climate change. He is a fellow with the Alliance for Climate Education and spoke at various international conferences, including COP21 UN Conference on Climate Change. He organized his peers in local climate campaigns and gets involved in various advocacy activities.