INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ORGANIZATION (OIJ)

Positioning the leading role of youth in the transformation
We believe in the **transforming power** of young people

1/4 of the regional and world population are young people

They **have the strength of change** to meet global challenges

- As **protagonists of development**
  (They are the "S" of sustainability)
- They must be **at the center of the public agenda**
  (not in its corners)

Therefore, we are promoting a **process of transformation to transform**, responding to the demands of the 21st century and the characteristics of its youth.

Thanks to this:
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We are a renewed Organization* in accordance with the global challenges.

We are a multigovernmental body, made up of 21 countries.

We focus our actions on the young people to position their transforming role and contribute to the improvement of their living conditions.

We promote the meeting between governments, young people, and other actors (international cooperation, civil society, academy and private sector).

*After our refoundation process, approved at the Conference of Ministers of Youth (Colombia, 2016).
Therefore:

We are a strong, open and collaborative organization of action which listens carefully to young people and analyzes their proposals and demands to act effectively for transformation.
Young people have the Ibero-American Youth Pact

A #Youth Pact built with a **wide participative process:**

- 20 thousand young people who contributed their ideas in the National Forums of Youth (2016)
- Representatives of governments (Ministerial Meetings)
- Representatives of international cooperation, the private sector and civil society.

A #Youth Pact with 24 agreements that embrace these proposals for youth transformation and the commitments of governments to make them a reality.

A #Youth Pact that outlines a clear framework for action, in line with Agenda 2030 and SDGs.
Today, after this approval and building process, we face the challenge of making the #Youth Pact a reality.

So that it is not another empty political declaration;

So that it adds to the building of a better region and a better planet;

So that it can be, indeed, a road towards transformation.
Strategic Objectives of the OIJ for the implementation of the #Youth Pact

The implementation of the Ibero-American Youth Pact implies the development of national and regional programs, projects and initiatives that integrate the efforts of the Member States.

On a regional level, OIJ promotes actions around its 3 strategic objectives:

A

Strengthen the capacities of young people to carry out their projects autonomously and responsibly with their environment

B

To generate open, useful and accessible knowledge, promoting its implementation in favor of youth realities.

C

To impact the environment so that young people are positioned at the center of the public agenda.
Programs prioritized by the OIJ for the implementation of the #Youth Pact

Ibero-American Youth Volunteer Program
Ibero-American Political Leadership Program
Cultural exchange and mobility program “Travesías”
Social Skills Development Program “Prepárate”
Innovation Program “I Social”
Entrepreneurship Program "I Emprende"

In addition, due to its structural relevance, the commitment of all countries is expected with:

- The implementation of the youth goals and indicators system for monitoring SDGs (built with the ECLAC)
- The signing and ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Young People and its Additional Protocol

We have made progress, but we want achieve more; thus:
Strengthen the main role of young people as agents of transformation, linking Agenda 2030, the International Treaty on the Rights of Youth and the Ibero-American Youth Pact.

Generate synergies between actors committed to youth development, taking advantage of comparative advantages and avoiding duplication of efforts under the principles of aid effectiveness.

Promote complementarity between actions implemented in youth, reinforcing and expanding their impact on capacity building, knowledge generation and impact on the environment.
The **International Alliance for Youth Cooperation** becomes an instrument through which we can continue contributing to the fulfillment of SDG and the reduction of development gaps in Latin American countries.

**Recognizing the role of youth** NOT on paper... Not just in the speech ... NOT from the corners, but **with concrete commitments and explicit actions**.
If transformation is our horizon, collaboration is the best strategy to achieve it.

The time is now, and this is what we invite you to

Thank you!