

Med Youth Lab'25



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الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

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Moderator

NADER ALJORF

Co-Founder & CEO
of V Corner

Nader is a Palestinian entrepreneur and ecosystem builder. He is the Co-Founder & CEO of V Corner, a venture studio and startup services firm supporting founders in MENA and Europe with branding, strategy, and digital solutions, and the Co-Founder of Silah, the first Arabic-language mentorship platform connecting Arab youth with experts from leading global tech companies. With years of experience leading world-ranked entrepreneurship programs and events in partnership with major international organizations such as Meta, Google, UNFPA, and GIZ, Nader has focused his career on empowering entrepreneurs, fostering innovation, and creating bridges between the MENA region and Europe through his international experience and extensive network.



Jury Supervisor

OMAR AMEUR

Entrepreneurship
Advisor, Euromed
University of Fes
(UEMF)

Omar Ameur is an Entrepreneurship Advisor at the Euromed Innovation Center (UEMF), supporting early-stage founders across Fès-Meknès, Morocco and the wider Euro-Mediterranean region. He designs and runs ideation and incubation programs (e.g., STARTECH, Tech4Farmers), mentors teams on problem-solution fit, go-to-market, and pitch readiness, and coordinates partnerships with public and private stakeholders. Omar focuses on youth innovation, AgriTech, and digital inclusion, and has contributed to EU-funded and regional initiatives with Tamwilcom (Morocco), AFD (France), EU, and the Union for the Mediterranean.

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1.

**FOTINI
ZAROGIANNI**
Research Officer,
Anna Lindh
Foundation

Fotini Zarogianni is a Research Officer at the Anna Lindh Foundation, for the Mediterranean Youth in Action programme and the Public Policies Unit, based in Alexandria, Egypt. She is a researcher and professional specialising in international security (conflict and warfare studies) and foreign policy, with a regional focus on the Middle East and North Africa and EuroMediterranean regions. She is currently a PhD Candidate researching on proxy warfare and threats of force (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), while also being a non-resident Junior Associate Fellow at NATO Defence College, and a member of the current cohort of the EU-MENA Mutual Mentorship Programme of the Swedish Dialogue Institute for Middle East Studies. She has worked at/with the European Parliament, EU Delegation in Egypt, NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Greece, Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and several research and policy-based NGOs or institutes. She has published several conflict or security-based research articles and analyses, with a regional focus on the MENA and EU-MENA relations. She holds a Master of Advanced International Studies from the Diplomatische Akademie Wien and University of Vienna and a BA in Law from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

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2.

**BERFIN
COŞKUN**
Co-director,
Young
Peacebuilders of
Turkey

Berfin Coşkun is a researcher and project coordinator at the Kurdish Studies Center, a think tank based in Diyarbakır, Turkey. She completed her postgraduate studies in Conflict and Development Studies at Ghent University with high distinction, with her thesis entitled “Ethnic Identity from an Intergenerational Perspective: An Ethnographic Research on Kurds in Diyarbakır, Turkey.”

She holds a bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Marmara University, Turkey. During her undergraduate studies, she actively engaged in various junior roles within non-governmental organizations. Her recent professional experience includes serving as a project coordinator at the United Nations World Food Programme. She continues her volunteer role as co-director at the Association of Young Peacebuilders of Turkey.



3.

**JOUMANA
SWEISS**
Programme
officer, Interreg
NEXT MED

Joumana Sweiss has 15 years’ experience in managing EU-funded projects with a special focus on Mediterranean cooperation for the last 8 years.

Programme officer at Interreg NEXT MED (ex-ENI CBC MED) programme, she follows projects dealing with youth employment and the green transition in the Mediterranean and more specifically those tackling the circular economy and adaptation to climate change. She is familiar with the evaluation of such projects proposals and works on how to better communicate about the results of these projects.

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4.

**ELIANE
EL HABER**
Youth Advisory
Board, Anna
Lindh Foundation

Eliane El Haber is a Lebanese education specialist with over 20 years of engagement in education across informal and intergovernmental settings. With a background in education, psychology, and business administration, she is currently pursuing a Master's degree in accessible and inclusive education, focusing her research on the intersection between psychological well-being and education.

She serves as a Project Officer at UNESCO IESALC within the Partnership and Agenda-Setting Unit, where she supports multilateral engagement and cooperation. Eliane is also a former Executive Committee member and current active member of the UNESCO SDG4 Youth and Student Network, contributing to youth- and student-led projects and advocacy campaigns for inclusive and equitable education.

Eliane is an ICH Research Associate with the Coalition for the UN We Need, contributing to the Information Clearinghouse project that maps civil society and stakeholder engagement in advancing the UN Pact for the Future. She is also a member of the Anna Lindh Foundation Youth Advisory Board. As the Founder of G.H.A.D. for Education and Career Consultancy, she has supported more than 600 students through curriculum development, mentorship, and scholarship opportunities.

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5.

**AHMED
ELSABACH**
Advisor,
Organizing
Partner at
United Nations
Major Group for
Children and
Youth

Ahmed Elsabagh is a global policy advisor with extensive experience in management consulting, government affairs, and international organizations. He currently serves as an advisor to the Organizing Partner of the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth, focusing on key SDGs thematic areas, including development economics and financing for development.

Previously, Ahmed worked in public sector consulting for the governments of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, where he played a pivotal role in integrating multinational business perspectives into policy governance and aligning national strategies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. From 2022 to 2023, Ahmed headed the United Nations Economic and Social Council Youth Forum in New York as a global focal point, where he co-led the negotiations that resulted in the establishment of the United Nations Youth Office. In 2021, he served as an advisor to Egypt's Minister of Youth and Sports.

He holds a master's degree in international relations from Boston University, a master's degree in law and economics from Hamburg University, and a bachelor's degree in political science and government from Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne.

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6.

**SALIM
MENACEUR**

Student in
Education,
Tlemcen
University,
Algeria

Salim Menaceur is a youth and education policy researcher with extensive experience in youth empowerment, higher education, and international cooperation. He has worked with institutions such as the Union for the Mediterranean, UNESCO, the North African Policy Initiative, and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. An Erasmus Mundus scholar, he is currently pursuing a PhD in Education at Tlemcen University, Algeria.



7.

**YARA
JRASHI**

Solidarity Lead,
MENA Coalition
on Youth, Peace &
Security

Yara Jrashi is a Palestinian peacebuilder, youth advocate, and co-founder of IBTIKAR Palestine for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship. With nearly a decade of experience in grassroots and regional peace efforts, she is committed to nonviolent resistance, peacebuilding, and youth-led transformation in fragile and protracted crisis contexts.

Yara currently serves as Solidarity Lead for the MENA Coalition on Youth, Peace & Security (MCYPS), where she works to amplify the voices of young people—particularly young women—in peace and security processes across the region. She has played a leading role in regional consultations, intergenerational dialogues, and advocacy efforts aligned with the YPS and WPS agendas, in collaboration with UN entities, regional institutions, and civil society networks.

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8.

**HATIM
AZNAGUE**
Project Analyst,
Energy and
Climate Action
Division, UfM

Hatim Aznague, known as the Green Diplomat, is a Project Analyst at the Energy and Climate Action Division of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) an intergovernmental institution bringing together the European Union Member States and 16 countries from the Southern and Eastern shores of the Mediterranean to promote dialogue and cooperation. His work focuses on advancing climate and energy policies, sustainable development, and strengthening regional cooperation in the Mediterranean, while integrating security considerations into policy design to ensure stability and resilience.

He has served as an international consultant and worked with global institutions, including the United Nations and affiliated agencies, where he contributed to climate negotiations and policy processes. His expertise spans inclusive climate governance, fair financing mechanisms, and the engagement of youth in global decision-making frameworks.

At the UfM, Mr. Aznague contributes to the development of strategies on clean energy transition, climate change adaptation, and security-sensitive approaches to sustainability.

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9.

**THAER
ABDELRAHMAN**
Communications
and Digitalization
Lead, MENA
Coalition on
Youth, Peace, and
Security

Thaer AbdelRahman is a Jordan-based peacebuilder and digital transformation strategist with over a decade of experience at the intersection of youth empowerment, civic tech, and social justice. He currently serves as the Communications and Digitalization Lead for the MENA Coalition on Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS), where he amplifies youth voices and promotes inclusive policymaking.

In parallel, Thaer holds the position of Head of Programmes and Planning at NAYA Community Network, a Jordanian NGO committed to community-led development. In this role, he develops and oversees youth-driven initiatives.

Thaer also serves as a Master Facilitator for the British Council's Youth Connect Programme, where he supports the co-design and implementation of Collective Action Projects (CAPs) aimed at advancing peace, gender equity, and community inclusion. He further contributes to the Intersectoral Dialogue Forum, facilitated in collaboration with the Dignity Institute, working to prevent and transform urban violence in Jordan.

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10.

**ELMA
AGA**
Human Capital
Development
Expert, European
Training
Foundation (ETF)

Elma Aga is a Human Capital Development Expert at the European Training Foundation (ETF), the EU agency supporting countries in the EU neighbourhood in reforming their education, training and labour market systems. At the ETF, she works on global education and skills, supporting better alignment between education systems and labour market needs. Previously, Elma worked as a policy analyst at the OECD, where she focused on education and employment policies in South East Europe. She contributed to the Western Balkans Competitiveness Outlook series, with a particular focus on youth, skills, and employment dimensions. She also represented the OECD in the G20 Youth (Y20) process in the future of work track. Elma holds a Master's degree in International Economics from the University of Paris Nanterre.

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11.

**GHAZI
SHARQAWI**
Co-Founder,
PolicyTabs

Ghazi Sharqawi is a regional policy advisor focusing on youth and climate governance programs. He served as the main coordinator and the main contact point for RCOY MENA 2024 (The biggest regional conference under UNFCCC) hosted for the first time in Amman, after co-hosting LCOY Jordan 2023 and representing MENA youth in COP28, and COP29.

With a background in renewable energy engineering, Ghazi specializes in climate resilience, waste management, migration, peace & security, and civil society engagement in national and regional policy processes. He previously served as Jordan's Net Zero Officer, is an EDGE Expert in green buildings, and holds AHK accreditation in PV installation.

He is the co-founder of Sammad, an innovative composting tools enterprise, and PolicyTabs, an innovative policy development company that works on inclusive and comprehensive policy development through the lens of climate change. He has authored publications on composting and energy recovery and regularly consults with institutions on advancing youth participation in climate policy.

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12.

**ORJANA
ÇEKREZI**
Co-Founder, Dora
Kreative

Orjana Çekrezi is a civil society activist and marketing professional with an MSc in Business Administration & Marketing Management (European University of Tirana). She is the co-founder of the marketing agency Dora Kreative. Her work and advocacy focus on youth causes—especially employability, as well as human rights, labour rights, student affairs, transparent decision-making, gender equality, and environmental protection. Orjana serves on the National Youth Council (representing the Young Professionals Network) and on the Youth Panel of the European Youth Card Association (EYCA), blending activism with PR and digital marketing to amplify impact.



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