



Terms of Reference (ToR)

YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board



Last updated on 28 February 2025

1. Context and background

The UNODC YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board was established in 2022, under UNODC's Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment (GRACE) initiative. The GRACE initiative aims to foster youth empowerment and education to prevent and counter corruption, in alignment with the 2018 United Nations Youth Strategy 'Youth 2030' and the United Nations General Assembly's 2021 special session against corruption.

The Board embodies the commitment to engage young people as partners, leaders, and agents of change in anti-corruption efforts globally, also as outlined under the YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board Code of Conduct.

2. Purpose

The primary purpose of the Board is to provide strategic advice to UNODC on engaging young people in meaningful and effective anti-corruption initiatives and to support making their peers and young people in their networks and communities aware of the impact of corruption on society.

In addition, the Board is also expected to contribute to:

- Increasing youth involvement and engagement in UNODC's anti-corruption activities.
- Advocating for youth participation and youth-led initiatives within UNODC networks.
- Strengthening the role of youth in promoting transparency, accountability, and integrity at the local, regional and global levels, by facilitating meaningful youth engagement with anti-corruption authorities and UNODC intergovernmental meetings, such as sessions of the Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC and its subsidiary bodies.

3. Membership

Composition

At its outset, the Board consisted of 25 young individuals aged between 18 and 30 years old. As of December 2024, the Board was expanded to include a total of 41 members from 42 countries covering almost all geographical regions. Of the total number of members of the Board, 19 were existing members since 2022 while 22 new members were selected during the selection process that was undertaken in 2024, with a gender distribution of 23 women and 18 men.



Selection Process

Members are selected by UNODC through a highly competitive process¹ and based predominantly on their experience in youth empowerment, integrity, ethics, and anti-corruption. The selection process respects geographical and gender diversity. While UNODC oversees the selection process, existing Board members may be invited to provide insights or recommendations on candidates, ensuring an inclusive and informed decision-making process.

Board members do not receive remuneration and are acting on a voluntary basis in their capacity but, will have their travel and accommodation expenses covered and/or provided with a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) in line with the UN's Financial Regulations and Rules, for events or meetings requiring their physical presence.

The last application and selection process held in 2024 asked applicants to provide their CV, a motivation statement, and a 90-second video introducing themselves. While previous knowledge of anti-corruption was considered an advantage, it was not referenced as a fundamental requirement as UNODC, together with the rest of the Board members, provides opportunities for young individuals to develop their knowledge and skills further.

4. Terms of Appointment

Board members are recruited for a mandate of two years, barring the first group of YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board members, which received an exceptional four-year mandate.

Notwithstanding, cognizant of the difficulty in maintaining engagement high for the full two-year period and in the interest of providing opportunities also to new young individuals, new members are asked to serve for at least one year and up to a maximum of four years.

Older Board members serving from the inception of the YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board in 2022, may serve as Board members until 2026, while the newly selected Board members that started in 2024 may serve until 2028.

Future YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board recruitment processes will be conducted every two years, with a review of engagement levels and needs before initiating a new selection cycle.

5. Roles and Responsibilities of Board members

Board members will:

- Offer strategic advice on the GRACE programme's workplan and activities, ensuring youth perspectives are integrated.
- Advise on the development and dissemination of best practices for youth engagement in anti-corruption efforts.
- Make recommendations to guide the formulation of anti-corruption strategies, policies, and programmes as well as knowledge products and other content.
- Engage with other young people in their networks, communities, etc., to make them aware of the impact of corruption and to empower others to become guardians of integrity.

6. Expected Outcomes

¹ The last call for online applications was issued in July 2024 and kept open for a period of approximately one month. More than 350 applications were received including an application form, CV and an explanatory short video. Shortlisted candidates were interviewed to confirm their interest and ability to consistently contribute to the initiative.



The Board aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- **Enhance and promote youth participation** – empower young individuals and ensure Board members have a seat at the table by providing valuable exposure to national anti-corruption and other relevant authorities as well as participation in intergovernmental meetings.
- **Facilitate meaningful engagement** – encourage Board members to engage in meaningful discussion and collaboration to provide youth perspectives, as well as innovative and effective strategic advice to UNODC on anti-corruption initiatives. This includes nurturing a collaborative spirit that embraces creativity and ensuring an open dialogue.
- **Protect and Empower Communities** – emphasize the responsibility of Board members to protect the communities they engage with, ensuring that their actions contribute positively in preventing and countering corruption.
- **Supporting Continuous Learning and Development** – acknowledge the importance of ongoing education and training on issues related to integrity and anti-corruption and allow Board members to benefit from various capacity-building opportunities.
- **Enhanced visibility** – promote the mission, goals, knowledge products and tools of UNODC and the GRACE Initiative and increase awareness and recognition of meaningful youth engagement in the anti-corruption work by leveraging social media platforms and organizing and contributing to events, among other.

7. UNODC Engagement

Subject to the availability of funding for the activities bearing a cost, UNODC will:

- Engage the Board in the planning of youth activities, including involving Board members during future awareness-raising and capacity-building events being held under the GRACE Initiative, as well side those held in the margins of sessions of the Conference of the States Parties and its subsidiary bodies such as side and high-level events, where possible;
- Help to coordinate and manage the communication of the Board;
- Organize and deliver training and capacity-building in various anti-corruption areas, advocacy, and decision and policy-making processes and procedures to enable Board members to fully and effectively fulfil their responsibilities and continue developing their skills, as outlined above;
- Provide an enabling environment for the Board to liaise and collaborate with UNODC colleagues in HQ and the field and relevant focal points on substantive themes;
- Promote synergies and linkages between the Board and other possible relevant UNODC programmes and initiatives.
- Disseminate other opportunities for trainings, capacity-building and awareness-raising events being organized by other UNODC colleagues or UN agencies, as well as partner and related organizations and institutions, as and where these become known.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

Board members will regularly report activities and outcomes. The GRACE Initiative will facilitate regular virtual meetings to review progress and provide mentorship.

The Board's initiatives and achievements will also be showcased at various intergovernmental forums, including sessions of the Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC and its subsidiary bodies, where members can seek further support and collaboration from relevant stakeholders.

9. Accreditation

Upon request, Board members will be issued with:



- A letter of participation for new Board members who have been selected but, have not engaged in related activities yet.
- A certificate stating their membership in the YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board for those who have engaged in related activities.

In addition, upon successful completion of their term, Board members will receive an official certificate of service, recognizing their contributions to the YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board and UNODC's anti-corruption initiatives.