Rencontres Europe-Afrique par les jeunes

26>27 october 2020

REPORT
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INTRODUCTION

This is the official report on the Europe-Africa Youth Meeting 2020 (REA2020). The REA2020 is a series of 6 online conferences organised by the Youth Organisation for the European and African Union (OJUEA) on 26 and 27 October 2020, instantly broadcast on the REA2020 website and on the OJUEA Facebook page.

This report mentions the personalities presented at each session as well as the themes discussed. The speakers expressed their views on the themes defined a priori by the OJUEA and answered questions from the public live on Facebook. Emphasis was placed on the speakers’ recommendations.

You can find see the conferences on the website www.lesrea.org
and on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/jeunessesesUAUE
PICTURE IN BRIEF

Screenshot of the REA website during the Diplomacy Training Session.

Organisation des Jeu... ⬤

Organisation des Jeunes pour l'Union Européenne et Africaine était en direct.
27 oct. à 16:24 ⬤

Live REA2020 : UN objectives in a turbulent situation

Screenshot of the application Facebook during the conference Theme3 « The United Nations’ objectives in a turbulent current situation ».

Screenshot of the application Facebook and the many reactions and questions from Internet users.
THE REA IN NUMBERS

> More than 400 registered

> More than 25,000 spectators*

> A total of 7 hours and 45 minutes live

> 10 prestigious speakers

> 10 countries involved in Europe and in Africa**

> 11 moderators from the OJUEA and from partner organisations

> 9 months of preparation

> More than 20 partners

> 46 organizers

> 100% financed by the youth from Europe and Africa

* cumulative views for the 6 conferences on Facebook and on the REA website on November 13th, 2020

** OJUEA international representations and head office in France
REPORT ON THE SESSIONS

Day 1 - 26 October 2020

Introductory plenary session - «Europe - Africa relationship: close to the eyes, far from the heart?»
(1 hour and 40 minutes)

Speakers: Ms Stephanie Rivoal (member of the supervisory committee of Meridam, former French Ambassador to Uganda and former Secretary General of the Africa-France summit) and Mr Denis Deschamps (general delegate to the permanent conference of French-speaking African consular chambers)

Moderators: Ms Katharine Lange (Institute of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, IFAIR) and Mr Thomas Castelli-Taourel (Young EU-AU)

During this conference, our speakers addressed the themes of Morocco’s place in the Euro-African relationship, as well as Sino-African relations, ACP agreements, the environment, and the transfer of skills. Following recommendations were made:

➢ In fact, we are very close to the heart. Europe is working for Africa’s development, but Africa must also show itself at its best.

➢ We must continue this Euro-African relationship with a balanced and realistic partnership.

➢ We must improve the mentalities linked to neocolonialism. Europe and Africa have shown their sympathy for each other. The REA2020 is a perfect example of this.

➢ We have a common culture on the continents (for example, regarding French-speaking African countries) and we are a family. Therefore, we need a clear, precise and shared vision on the continents, especially in Africa.

➢ There is no better way to understand Africa than by being there. Anyone with the opportunity to get there should do, it could change his or her life.
REPORT ON THE SESSIONS

Day 1 - 26 October 2020

Theme 1 - «Post-covid African development: resilience or resurgence?»
(1 hour and 58 minutes)

Speakers: Ms. Nourane Foster (Member of the National Assembly of Cameroon) and Ms. Fati N’Zi Hassane (Human Capital and Institutional Development Supervisor at the African Union Development Agency of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development).

Moderators: Mr Abdoul Cissé (Institute of Applied Geopolitics of Paris) and Ms Mihaja Rasonaivo (Youth EU-AU).

This session dealt with the African Free Trade Area, health coverage in Africa and the principles of good governance. Our speakers made the following recommendations:

➢ The definition and implementation of public policies is the role of youth. We must find the necessary tools to fulfil this role and make leaders face up to their responsibilities. The European Union can set an example in this respect: it easily creates debates between the institutions and young people.

➢ Young people and women must be allowed to express their autonomy in all areas; they are already autonomous. The REA2020 are an example of this autonomy: it was organised by young people.

➢ However, young people need to express their talents and use their energy. Nobody will come to get them; they must claim on their own.

➢ Young deputies and politicians must open the doors to the youth of their countries.

➢ They must choose as an actor rather than a spectator. There is no harm in trying and failing but the mistake is to fail and not to get up. One must not end either the dream or the hope.

➢ Nevertheless, the support and experience of elders remains important.

➢ Africa’s opportunities must be displayed.
REPORT ON THE SESSIONS

Day 1 - 26 October 2020

Training session on Euro-African inter-parliamentarism
(1 hour)

Speaker : His Excellency Mr. Boubacar Gado Idi, Guest of Honour of REA2020 (Secretary General of the African Parliamentary Union).

Moderators: Ms İpek Demirbuker (Youth EU-AU) and Ms Roberta Bojang (Youth EU-AU, representation in the Netherlands).

This training session dealt with the role of the Pan-African Parliament, the African Parliamentary Union and their relations with the European Parliament. His Excellency Mr Boubacar Gago Idi made the following recommendations:

> In terms of future interparliamentary cooperation, it is possible to envisage going beyond the current framework which is limited to friendship groups between two or three countries. We should also remember that this is not just a matter between MPs. We must think about the involvement of young people in this perspective. Youth initiatives, such as the REA2020, will be a new element in the future of this cooperation.

> There must be an exchange and sharing of experience between the two continents.

> Training of administrative staff of parliaments is important. It is a way of building their capacity.
REPORT ON THE SESSIONS

Day 2 - 27 October 2020

Theme 2 - «Prospects for European governance after 2020»
(1 hour and 20 minutes)

Speakers: Mr Eric Martin (representative of Strat’Emh and former advisor to the European Commission and the French Ministry of Agriculture) and Mrs Alexandra Tomczak (member of the cabinet of Mr Timmermans, European Commissioner in charge of the Green Deal).

Moderators: Mr David Antoni (Young EU-AU) and Ms Alexandra Powels (European Parliament).

During this session, the speakers spoke on the themes of Euroscepticism, the European Union’s ecological initiatives in the light of the rise of ecological movements, the place of the European Union in the world in terms of development aid and the participation of young people in European governance. They made the following recommendations:

➢ Young people’s initiatives on the environment should be supported.

➢ It is necessary to think about building a common environmental vision with Africa and to include young people through practice.

➢ In general, young people must be included in the consultation process within the European Parliament.
REPORT ON THE SESSIONS

Day 2 - 27 October 2020

Theme 3 - «The United Nations’ goals in a turbulent current situation»
(1 hour and 26 minutes)

Speakers: Ms Marie-Claude Drouin (Secretary General of the Association Network normalisation and francophone) and Ms Olivia Mukulu (Chair of the Paris Chair of the International Youth Council).

Moderators: Ms Helena Abozan (Youth EU-AU, representation of Côte d’Ivoire) and Ms Chancia Ivala Plaine (President of the African Youth Association for the Environment).

The speakers and moderators addressed the issue of the achievement of the United Nations objectives by 2030 in the context of the Covid pandemic, South-South cooperation and the applicability of the International Convention on Human Rights with regard to racism. The speakers made the following recommendations:

- Citizen actions are needed to promote fundamental rights.
- Adults, especially parents, must pass these values to children.
- We shouldn’t be pessimistic on the issue of racism. Indeed, supporting the fight against racism can slow down the achievement of DOs, but many conclusive and effective actions have already been taken in both areas.
- As citizens, it is our duty to take a stand even if we are not victims of discrimination.
- We must believe in the power of citizens to change the order of things. A good example of this is the environmental movement created by Greta Thunberg. In spite of her youth, this young girl got involved and changed things.
REPORT ON THE SESSIONS

Day 2 - 27 October 2020

Diplomacy training session
(1 hour)

Speaker: Mrs Lauriane Devoize (diplomat, foreign policy correspondent at the French Embassy in Berlin).

Moderator: Mr Antoine Soulié (President of the Students’ Parliament of Strasbourg).

During this training session, Mrs Lauriane Devoize addressed the issues of the role of ambassador, the challenges of contemporary diplomacy, but also the limits of diplomacy. She made the following recommendations:

> The reform of the Security Council is an important issue that has been on the table for a long time. France supports the G4 countries (Germany, Brazil, India, Japan) for access to a permanent seat and greater representation of African countries on the Security Council.

> Young people need to be better integrated into the diplomatic process. For example, the Quai d’Orsay Young Diplomats Association aims to link young diplomats with their more experienced elders to share their respective experiences.

> Off-the-wall diplomacy should be encouraged, as this session does.

> Conferences should be organised at which institutions can gather information on the vision of youth. These could be organised by young people, where institutions would be invited, or vice versa.
ACTORS OF THE REA

The REA 2020 is the first intercontinental platform for dialogue and action, organised and financed entirely by young European and African students.

It is therefore with good reason that Mr. GABRIEL MVOGO, founding president of the OJUEA and general coordinator of the REA 2020, would like to express his sincere thanks to:
The speakers

Denis DESCHAMPS
General Delegate to the Permanent Conference of French-Speaking African Consular Chambers

Lauriane DEVOIZE
Foreign Policy Correspondent at the French Embassy in Germany

Marie-Claude DROUIN
Secretary General of the Francophonie Standardization Network

Nourane FOSTER
Member of the National Assembly of Cameroon.

Boubacar GADO IDI
Secretary General of the African Parliamentary Union (APU), Guest of Honour of REA2020

Eric MARTIN
CEO Strat Emh Africa - Europe, President of the UNESCO Circular Economy Chair, Former advisor to the European Commission and French Ministry of agriculture.

Olivia MUKULU
Lead France Europe, International Youth Council, Speaker ONU pour les Jeunes 2017

Fati N’ZI-HASSANE
Supervisor, Human Capital and Institutions Development Division African Union Development Agency – AU-DA-NEPAD.

Stephanie RIVOALE
Member of the Supervisory Committee of Meridam, former French Ambassador to Uganda and former Secretary General of the Africa-France Summit

Aleksandra TOMCZAK
Member of the Cabinet of the Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of GREEN DEAL EUROPA.
The moderators

Helena ABOZAN
PhD candidate,
EU-AU YOUTH
Communication Officer
Côte d’Ivoire

David ANTONI
Deputy Secretary for International Youth Cooperation EU-AU

Roberta BOJANG
Special Representative of EU-AU YOUTH in the Netherlands

Thomas CASTELLI
Director General of Communications of the OJUEA

Abdoul CISSE
Delegate for Sub-Saharan Africa at the Institute for Applied Geopolitical Studies in Paris

Ipek DEMIRBUKER
President Youth Europe EU AU

Chanvia IVALA
President of the African Youth Association for the Environment

Katharina LANGE
Regional Director Sub-Saharan Africa, Young Initiative on Foreign Affairs and International Relations (IFAIR)

Alexandra POWELS
Assistant in the Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs of the European Parliament

Mihaja RASOANOIVO
Director of the Cabinet of the EU-AU YOUTH Presidencies

Antoine SOULIE
President of the Student Parliament of Strasbourg - Sciences Po
The organisation committee

David ANTONI
Managing Director of the REA 2020 Organising Committee

Lou TORTORICI
Director of REA 2020 Planning

Benjamin KOUASSI
In charge of REA 2020 partnerships

Thomas CASTELLI
Responsible for the general communication of REA 2020

Mihaja RASONAIVO
Coordinator of speakers and moderators

Noemi ZENK-AGEYI
In charge of communication, responsible for social networks

Chaïmae FILALI
In charge of communication, management of participants

André Valdese JIOKENG
Communication officer, partnership management

Camille MOULLEC
Head of the scientific committee (Trainee May - August)

Nino TOUSSAINT
In charge of the scientific committee (September)

Salma ELHAINOUNI
Head of Partnerships (Trainee June - August)

Eunice ABAYAHUM
Responsible for financial forecasting
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Nadia ABDALLA

Chantelle JUANITA

Benin

Emmanuel GANSE

Chamma GBEHA

Cameroon

Achille DJOKO

Carole EBANGO

Christelle YOUDOU AMBASSA
Our international delegations

Ivory Coast

Ulrich ALBAN
Arsene GNANGORAN LEBAUDI
Constant KONAN
Martial NARCISSE SADIA

Egypt

Heba ALI
Madonna METRY
Ahmed SAIFELDEEN

Morroco

Rabia ATTNI
Driss BAKOU
Mazianat ELHOUSSINE
Ouarda ZEROUALI
Our international delegations

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Godwin KINGSLEY
Mashkur ISA

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Altan GAZYBEYOGLU

Senegal

Seyni AMY GUEYE
Mouhamadou DIENG
Our technical partner

Our institutional partners

UNION PARLEMENTAIRE AFRICAINE

AUDA-NEPAD
AGENCE DE DEVELOPPEMENT DE L'UNION AFRICAINE
Our organisational partners
SEE YOU SOON FOR THE REA2021!