Call for Session Proposals

Co-create the Portorož Youth Health Forum Programme

The International Youth Health Organization (YHO) invites its Full Members and project partners to co-create the programme of the **Portorož Youth Health Forum (PYHF)** by proposing and delivering an interactive thematic session.

The Portorož Youth Health Forum is a high-level international event bringing together young people, public health experts, researchers, policymakers and civil society representatives to explore emerging health challenges affecting young people today. We believe that the best programme is one that is co-created by the organizations and experts working with young people every day, and we warmly invite you to contribute your expertise.

About the Session

We invite you to develop and facilitate an interactive session within one (or more) of the following thematic areas:

- **Non-Communicable Diseases in Pop Culture**
- **Mental Health in Pop Culture**
- **Environment & Health in Pop Culture / AI Impact**

The themes have intentionally been kept broad to encourage creativity and innovation. We welcome diverse formats, perspectives and methodologies. The title, objectives, content, learning outcomes and session design are entirely up to you.

Each selected session will be delivered **twice** on **Day 2 of the Portorož Youth Health Forum (September 22nd)**, allowing all participants the opportunity to attend.

Session times:

- **09:30-11:00**
- **11:30-13:00**

During each time slot, the three thematic sessions will run in parallel, and participants will choose which sessions they wish to attend. Each participant will attend **two out of the three thematic sessions** during the morning programme.

About the Portorož Youth Health Forum 2026

This year's Portorož Youth Health Forum is built around youth health issues that are immediate, recognisable and culturally relevant to young people - the *"if you know, you know"* determinants of health. These include emerging trends, products, behaviours, digital environments and

cultural influences that young people often understand long before institutions and policies can respond.

The Forum explores health risks that are not always visible or widely discussed but have a significant impact on young people's health and everyday lives. It brings together youth perspectives and expert knowledge to better understand these emerging challenges and transform them into meaningful prevention, advocacy and policy solutions.

The programme is grounded in the principle of **lifelong prevention** - identifying new health challenges early and translating them into effective preventive action before they become long-term consequences for individuals, health systems and society.

The Forum recognises that industries often adapt to youth culture faster than public institutions. Young people therefore play a crucial role in helping decision-makers understand new trends, online spaces and cultural dynamics. PYHF positions young people not only as beneficiaries of health policies, but as essential partners in shaping them.

We encourage you to design your session with this spirit in mind: interactive, forward-looking, evidence-informed and centred on meaningful youth participation.

What's in it for you?

Selected organisations and facilitators will get a chance to:

- co-create an important international youth health event with the YHO team;
- be listed as official facilitators in the PYHF programme;
- receive guidance and mentoring throughout the session-development process;
- be entitled to individual one-to-one mentoring sessions with the PYHF Programme Coordinator;
- present their expertise, good practices and organisation's work to young people, public health experts, researchers, policymakers and civil society representatives from across the network.

How to Apply

To submit a proposal, please fill out the session proposal template attached to this email.

Please send your proposal to:

ines.likar@yho.network

Deadline for submission: 10 August, 12:00 CET