

# 6<sup>th</sup> ASEF LEADERSHIP YOUNG LEADERS IN SOCIETY SUMMIT 5.0

July - October 2025 | Osaka, Japan  
In conjunction with Japan World Expo 2025

## Overview & Frequently Asked Questions



## How can YOUth be the change for Society 5.0?

We invite you to join a leadership journey bringing together Asian and European youth!

### BACKGROUND

The ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS) is a Youth platform that connects young people from Asia and Europe. The ASEFYLS applies a 360° approach on leadership development and community engagement: 1) self-leadership (you), 2) team leadership (we), and 3) societal leadership (all). Since 2016, ASEFYLS has brought together over 830 young leaders – contributing to strengthening the relationships of future leaders.

See what the ASEFYLS is all about in this [trailer!](#)

### WHAT IS #ASEFYLS6?

The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS6) will take place from **July to October 2025**, focusing on the theme of 'Leadership & Society 5.0'. It is a hybrid project with collaborative programme elements, taking place virtually, and in Osaka, Japan.

#### Leadership in Society 5.0

The Society 5.0 concept describes a human-centred society that balances economic advancement with the resolution of social problems by a system that highly integrates cyberspace and physical space. ASEFYLS will explore what kind of leadership is needed for Society 5.0 and how young people can prepare for an ethical, sustainable and digital future.

Take a look at previous ASEFYLS editions: [ASEFYLS1](#), [ASEFYLS2](#), [ASEFYLS3](#), [ASEFYLS4](#) and [ASEFYLS5](#).

### #ASEFYLS6 PARTICIPANTS

Step into ASEFYLS6 and join a visionary community of young changemakers from Asia and Europe, united by the ambition to shape a human-centered, inclusive, ethical, and sustainable Society 5.0. As a participant, you'll collaborate across cultures, transform ideas into action, and help lead the future where technology empowers humanity.



### ELIGIBILITY & SELECTION CRITERIA

60 youth leaders from across Asia and Europe will be selected to join as ASEFYLS6 participants, who meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Students and young professionals between 18-30 years
- Citizens of eligible [Asian and European countries](#)\*
- Excellent command of English (verbal and written)

Selection criteria that will be considered:

- Motivation to participate
- Demonstrated experience in community and societal leadership
- Relevance and thematic connection to the programme topic

All youth have something to offer and contribute, and participants will come from a variety of academic and professional backgrounds.

The Open Call and screening process will ensure a non-discriminative approach assuring an even geographic representation, gender balance, and fair access to the opportunity for all.

**There are no registration or participation fees!**

## PROGRAMME & COMMITMENT

### The ASEFYLS6 programme consists of 3 Phases

Participants are required to join and commit to all 3 phases of the Programme, with active engagement throughout, from July to October 2025. Participants need to commit to set aside time to participate fully in the online sessions, and at the Youth Summit.

#### Phase:

#### Commitment in each Phase:

##### 1. Knowledge Building Phase

**29 July – 26 August 2025 | Online**

An in-depth exploration into Leadership and Society 5.0 featuring trainings with thematic experts and high-level leadership dialogues.

- Actively participate in 9 live sessions on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 8am–10am UTC online
- Contribute to Forum Discussions

##### 2. Leadership in Action Phase

**27 August – 28 September 2025 | Online**

Participants will be allocated to a team of Asians and Europeans to collaborate and find solutions for real-life global challenges set by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

- Actively join weekly sessions with your team of participants
- Be an active member of the team to conduct case study research online
- Engage in intercultural discussions & peer-to-peer learning

##### 3. Youth Summit

**29 September – 5 October | Osaka, Japan**

An opportunity for people-to-people exchanges, dialogues with experts, networking, and learning in a local context.

- Actively participate in 5-day summit in Japan

See more details and the timeline of commitments in the [Programme here](#).

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- **Leadership for Society 5.0!** Brush up on your understanding of leadership and play your part towards solving global challenges through technology.
- **A space for diverse interactions!** Meet with other youth from Asian and European countries for intimate & in-depth dialogues, and question, challenge, & learn from each other.
- **Lead towards solving real societal challenges!** Lead the collaborative efforts to find best practice solutions for societal challenges

## WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

**CLICK  
HERE TO  
APPLY**

The Open Call for Application will close on **Tuesday, 3 June 2025 at 23.59 UTC!**

All the applicants will have to go through the selection process and will receive an email about the outcome by **Friday, 20 June 2025**.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### Q1: Are there any costs involved?

There is no application or participation fee. For the in-person programme in Japan, the organisers will provide:

- shared accommodation (twin rooms) for participants travelling from abroad;
- meals, adjusted for participants who have special dietary requirements, as much as possible;
- a travel subsidy (including flights, airport transfers in Japan, insurance, visa fees if applicable) for participants travelling from abroad, from your country of residence to Japan and back [*provided on a reimbursement basis i.e. participants will pay the costs upfront and will be reimbursed up to 3-months after the event*]; and
- a visa support letter to those who require it.

### Q2: I am older than 30 years old. Am I still eligible to apply?

This particular programme is addressed to youth between 18-30 years old, however if you are above 30 and believe you have a lot to contribute, we encourage you to still apply. Please bear in mind, however, that we will prioritise applications from those who are a closer fit to the eligibility criteria.

### Q3: If I am a citizen from an eligible country, but currently living in a non-eligible country, can I apply?

Yes, you are welcome to apply. Please note, however, that the online sessions during the programme will require joining from your respective time zone, therefore it may be difficult to join if you are in a time zone before UTC.

### Q4: I do not have experience in such a programme. Can I still apply?

Yes, we welcome applicants from all backgrounds, whether you have participated in similar programmes before or not. The programme is designed to be inclusive of people with different levels of prior experience and knowledge. We recognise that participants both have a lot to learn from, as well as bring to our programme. We will base the application selection on the criteria above.

### Q5: If I was a participant at a previous ASEFEdu project, can I still apply?

Yes, you can apply if you were previously a participant in an ASEFEdu project.

### Q6: What will the case studies be about during the 'Leadership in Action' phase?

Each team, led by two ASEFYLS6 Navigators, will be allocated a 'challenge question' and the task is to collaborate to find best practice case studies of existing solutions from across Asia and Europe. The case studies will be presented onsite in Osaka, and compiled into a publication.

### Q7: Who will the ASEFYLS6 Navigators be?

Each team will be led by 2 ASEFYLS6 Navigators, who are ASEFEdu alumni. The Navigators will receive a training prior programme.

### Q8: What support is provided during the Leadership Action Phase?

Navigators will be the primary lead for their group in the Leadership in Action phase. The ASEF team and Organising Partners will support the participants with mentoring and guidance.

### Q9: Will I receive a certificate of participation?

Upon completion of the full ASEFYLS6 programme, each Participant will receive a Certificate, jointly issued by ASEF and organising partners, for their participation in the programme.

### Q10: Is the programme inclusive?

We aim to make all our projects as inclusive as possible and accommodate all needs of participants. We will, therefore, request all selected Participants to provide us with their special requirements.

For other questions:

- [Join our FAQ Webinar on 16 May 2025 at 16:00 SGT / 10:00 CEST](#)
- or drop us an email: [asefyls@asef.org](mailto:asefyls@asef.org)

The [Asia-Europe Foundation \(ASEF\)](#) promotes understanding, strengthens relationships, and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions, and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges, and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, governance, economy, sustainable development, public health, and media. ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore.

The [Japan Hub for Innovative Global Education \(JIGE\)](#) is an educational and workforce development initiative promoted by Kansai University, Chiba University, and Tohoku University. This project started in 2023 and is promoted as a Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology - Japan (MEXT)'s Inter-University Exchange Project until 2028. Aimed at a diverse audience from high school students to professionals, the project offers specialized virtual learning spaces containing interactive COIL/Virtual Exchange modules.

The [College of Europe in Natolin \(CoEN\)](#) is an academic institution offering an advanced Master of Arts in European Interdisciplinary Studies programme, which attracts students from across Europe and beyond wishing to study new developments in the EU and neighbouring countries in a multicultural learning environment and prepare for international career opportunities. The CoEN is also a recognised provider of executive education programmes, expertly tailored to meet the specific needs of its participants through close collaboration with stakeholders and beneficiary institutions.

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