



YOUR STORY CAN CHANGE THE PATH BE PART OF THE CHANGE

Call for Creative Contributions from Young People (18 to 29 years old)

Youth violence and crime affect communities across the world. These challenges take many forms, including delinquency, gang involvement, and recruitment by organized criminal groups. Law enforcement alone cannot address the problem. Lasting prevention requires understanding the root causes of violence, strengthening protective factors, and supporting rehabilitation and reintegration. Your voice and lived experience are essential to shaping meaningful solutions.

≡ About the Campaign

Under the theme “**Understanding Violence and Crime Through the Lens of Youth**”, this initiative invites young people to share their perspectives, experiences, and ideas through creative expression. Your story can help challenge stereotypes, promote understanding, and inspire more effective prevention.

≡ Who Can Participate?

Children and young people **18 to 29 years old** from all regions of the world are encouraged to contribute.

This campaign **especially welcomes** submissions from:

- Young persons **who are, or have been, in conflict with the law or affected by involvement in violence or crime** and wish to share their experiences, insights, or pathways to change;
- Young people who **observe, experience, or are impacted by youth violence and crime** in their communities. They are invited to share their experiences and perspectives to help inform effective prevention responses.



SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 31 JULY 2026



≡ What You Can Submit

All forms of creative expression are welcome, including **poetry, short stories, illustrations, drawings and paintings, photography, audio pieces, video works, and mixed media creations**. If it tells your story or expresses your perspective, it belongs in this campaign.

≡ How Your Story Will Be Shared

Your submission will inform and contribute to:



A digital youth zine to showcase creative youth art pieces from around the world on youth violence and crime experiences.



A youth art exhibition on youth violence and crime at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), from 19 to 23 October 2026 in Vienna.



A UNODC advocacy campaign to call for more and better youth-centred prevention approaches.