



"It is important to emphasize the positive contribution young migrants make to societies of origin, transit and destination – economically and by enriching the social and cultural fabric. Most work hard to earn a living and improve their circumstances. The remittances they send to support families in their home countries are a major contributor to economies worldwide."

[Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's Message](#)

Young people make up a significant share of the global number of international migrants. In 2010, there were an estimated 27 million international young migrants. While migration can often offer valuable opportunities and contribute to the development of communities and society at large, it can also pose risks and lead to unacceptable situations, including discrimination and exploitation.

The 2013 observance of International Youth Day will raise awareness of the opportunities and risks associated with youth migration, share knowledge and information stemming from recent research and analysis on this topic, and engage young people in discussions on their migration experiences.

As a keynote speaker at the debate *“The MDGs after the MDGs....will young people be involved after 2015?”* organised by the European Youth Forum at the European Parliament, Mr. Alhendawi reflected on the role of Youth in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. At the multicultural music festival Couleur Café he witnessed first-hand how the European Commission brought a message of solidarity and sustainability as part of the EU initiative 'Youth on the Move'.

Why Youth & Migration?

Youth are recognized as one of the most mobile social groups in the context of migration – they form about 30% of international migrants! Yet very little is known about the livelihood struggles and opportunities that migration presents for young migrants and other youth who are affected by migration. We need to raise awareness about the situation of these young people as well as the role of youth-led organizations in addressing migration issues!

The 2013 World Youth Report (WYR) on Youth Migration and Development will be launched on 12 August! The Report will offer a multidimensional perspective of the life experiences of youth migrants, as well as some insights on the role of youth participation in migration-development policymaking and practice.

To learn more about the Report click here: www.unworldyouthreport.org

To watch our Google+ Hangout youth migration video: [click here](#)

The ILO Global Trends in Youth Labour Migration report, which presents findings from research conducted in nine different countries and at the level of two regions on the motivations and experiences of young people who leave their home countries in search of employment and the policy implications from these trends, will also be launched on this day.

Additional links:

- [UN International Youth Day](#)
- [SG's message](#)
- [UN Secretary General's Envoy on Youth-Ahmad Alhendawi](#)