



6TH INTERNATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS ASSEMBLY
Moral and Innovative Leadership: Vision, Service, and Entrepreneurship
Asunción, Paraguay | Noviembre 18-24, 2014

The 6th International Young Leaders Assembly (IYLA), the first in Latin America, took place from November 18-24th in Asunción Paraguay. This historic global conference in the heart of South America gathered over 1,000 young leaders from around the country and the world including Argentina, Colombia, China, United States, Ireland, Nepal, and Nigeria under the theme “Moral and Innovative Leadership: Vision, Service and Entrepreneurship.”

The aim of this IYLA was to inspire young leaders from Paraguay and abroad, to impact their communities through principled leadership. Paraguay was a perfect host for IYLA since more than 70% of its population is below the age of 35, making it one of the youngest populations in the world. Students and young professionals came from all provinces in Paraguay to attend a four-hour program and engage in a leadership environment, “a room packed with dreams.”

The remarkable IYLA team of staff and interns delivered an unforgettable program, choosing outstanding speakers who touched the delegates’ hearts and whose life experiences illustrated IYLA’s themes.

The now famous Landfill Harmonic Orchestra highlighted young leaders as protagonists of change through their philosophy- the world sends us trash, we send back music. This group of young people builds instruments out of recycled trash, transforming their lives and society in a unique way.

After the heartfelt concert, the executive panel, moderated by Yan Speranza took the stage. Its world class speakers included former Minister of Tourism of Paraguay, Liz Cramer; International President of the Global Peace Foundation, Jim Flynn; Attorney General of Paraguay, Roberto Moreno; Social Affairs Officer for UNESCAP, Marco Roncarati; Biologist, Fernando Griffith and Senior Advisor for the UN Envoy on Youth, Saskia Schellekens. The United Nations Envoy on Youth, Ambassador Ahmad Alhendawi, spoke to us through video emphasizing the importance of engaging young leaders in all levels of government, including the UN.

After a brief Q&A session, the outstanding speakers of the Youth Panel, moderated by Bruno Defelippe, President of Koga Social Lab, continued to inspire the audience. It was 9:30pm and the CONMEBOL was still packed. The speakers focused on how implementing vision, service, and entrepreneurship through moral and innovative leadership has given them early success in their careers. The six panelists were Santiago Gonzalez, a journalist and main presenter of the TV show “Algo Anda Mal (Something is Wrong);” Juan Carlos Losada, a Congressman from Colombia’s House of Representatives, Soledad Núñez, Minister of Housing and Habitat of Paraguay, Robert Watson, Department of Social Innovation: Ministry of Federal Planning of Paraguay; Nadia Delgado, President of the Young Entrepreneurs Association; and Dipendra Gurung, Nepalese entrepreneur. The speakers discussed the

importance of being anonymous heroes, who don't look for recognition and the urgency of integrity and innovative leadership to face today's challenges.

As the program concluded, the energetic participants shared with each other and took pictures with the panelists. Some of their comments included "this is the best event I have attended, when is it happening again?" "I loved this program, you should do it often," "This was so inspiring and I am so happy I traveled 7 hours in bus from the countryside."

IYLA Paraguay provided the opportunity to engage with civil society and political leaders including 14 former presidents from Latin America and an intimate VIP session with presidents Alvaro Colom from Guatemala and Jaime Paz Zamora from Bolivia. After the Global Peace Convention, the IYLA full program delegates continued to a cultural exchange program with El Cántaro, an adobe-built community art school in the city of Aregua; a challenging eco-adventure leadership program in Tobatí, and visited the beautiful Salto Monday and Itaipú Dam. These dynamic components were essential to the success of the program and the unique experience of the delegates.

This significant assembly was organized in conjunction with the Global Peace Convention and was convened by the Global Peace Foundation, Ministry of Youth of Paraguay, Koga Social Lab, and Global Young Leaders Academy with the support of 16 generous cosponsors.

IYLA was a historic event in Paraguay, touching the hearts of more than 1,000 passionate young leaders from throughout Paraguay and the world. They said "yes" to moral and innovative leadership!