



**FN-SAMBANDET**  
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF NORWAY

# UN 75 – Shaping our future together

## FOR TEACHERS

### Introduction

Our world is changing rapidly. Climate change and global warming are transforming our environment. Technology and population composition have advanced. A pandemic is at this very moment raging through the world leaving us more vulnerable than ever. Injustice, long-term conflicts and new forms of violence are increasingly challenging international peace and security. Adjusting to these changes, finding common ground and solutions for tomorrow's challenges, will require collaboration across borders, sectors and generations. A collaboration that is necessary in order to achieve a more sustainable, safe and just world.

At United Nations' 75<sup>th</sup> birthday the organization wants to hear from all corners of the world on how to build a better future. A global survey has therefore been developed by the UN. The answers from the survey will contribute and shed a light on how the world community may face the global development trends. The answers can also help in realizing a better world by 2030, and in our efforts to reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

### Survey

In this learning resource the students and their teachers will be given the opportunity to share with the UN how they envision their future. By answering the survey, the students are given the chance to reflect upon their views on the current state of the world and on the future. These reflections provide a solid foundation for the different student tasks.

The students start by answering the survey. You as their teacher are also encouraged to answer:

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<https://un75.online/?lang=eng>

The survey consists of 7 questions and is anonymous. Think before answering and reflect upon your answers as you go.



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### **The world today and tomorrow – writing task**

In this task, the students are asked to write a text based on the following scenario:

Imagine the following: For the United Nations 75th anniversary, the UN has published a writing contest for young adults. The purpose of the contest is to hear from young adults on their views upon the current and future world. You are asked to write a contribution to this contest. Your text should include your views upon the world today (strengths and challenges), your thoughts upon current and future international relations and your hopes for the future as seen from a global perspective. Make the title of your text “The world today and tomorrow”.

### **The world in 2045 – classroom discussion**

Find a suitable setting for a classroom discussion. Either a digital platform, such as Zoom, Whereby, Microsoft Teams, or as a classroom discussion.

The students will be given three topics to discuss in this task. The first is to define and reflect upon values the students find the most important today. The second is to reflect upon what it would take to make the world a better place by the year of 2045. The third is to define and reflect upon how the international community can make the world a better place.

Useful bullet points for the classroom discussion include:

- Given that the world is going to be better in 25 years, what are the most important areas the international community should focus on? Why?
- Who has the responsibility for making a better future? Us? Your country as a whole? Heads of States? The United Nations? Others?
- What can you do today that will make the world a better place 25 years from now?
- Which values do you consider the most important to cherish in order to make the world better 25 years from now on your school, in your country, in Europe and in the world?
- Are you convinced that the world is going to be a better place 25 years from now? Why? Why not?



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### **My wish list – group chat**

The students are asked to discuss in smaller groups. One purpose of this task is to challenge the students on their views and opinions through critical questions from their peers.

Divide the students into groups of 3-4. The teacher is encouraged to participate as an observer either physically or digitally when the groups meet. The students will spend five minutes to write a wish list on how they would like to see the world 25 years from now. After five minutes, the students will take turns presenting their wish lists, highlighting their proposed solutions and foreseen challenges. After one student has presented their wish list, the rest of the group are strongly encouraged to give critical and constructive feedback.

Useful questions include:

- Why do you consider X to be a greater challenge than Y?
- How do you think the world should address this challenge?
- Who do you think would benefit the most from a world without this challenge?

The main takeaways from this task are the reflections and the conversations that evolve from the different wish lists. It should therefore be given time to address discussions relevant to the topics being presented.



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## FOR STUDENTS

### Survey

At United Nations' 75<sup>th</sup> birthday the organization wants to hear from all corners of the world on how to build a better future. A global survey has therefore been developed by the UN. The answers from the survey will contribute and shed a light on how the world community may face the global development trends. The answers can also help in realizing a better world by 2045, when the UN will celebrate its 100th birthday.

Do the survey by clicking on the following link:

<https://un75.online/?lang=eng>

The survey consists of 7 questions and is anonymous. Think before answering and reflect upon your answers as you go.

### The world today and tomorrow

Imagine the following: For the United Nations 75th anniversary, the UN has published a writing contest for young adults. The purpose of the contest is to hear from young adults and their views upon the current and future world. You are asked to write a contribution to this contest. Your text should include your views upon the world today (strengths and challenges), your thoughts upon current and future international relations and your hopes for the future seen from a global perspective. Make the title of your text "The world today and tomorrow".

### The world in 2045

Prepare for the classroom discussion by reflecting upon the questions below. Also, prepare to give reasons for your answers and reflections:

- Given that the world is going to be better in 25 years, what are the most important areas the international community should focus on? Why?
- Who has the responsibility for making a better future? Us? Your country as a whole? Heads of States? The United Nations? Others?
- What can you do today that will make the world a better place 25 years from now?
- Which values do you consider the most important in order to make the world better 25 years from now? On your school, in your country, in Europe and in the world?



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- Are you convinced that the world is going to be a better place 25 years from now? Why? Why not?

### My wish list

1. Divide the students into groups of 3-4 and give each student a number based alphabetically by their first name (Alex = student 1, Bernhard = student 2, Carol = student 3, Dana = student 4).
2. Take 5 minutes to write a wish list on how you would like to see the world 25 years from now. Include solutions and challenges and give reasons for your answers and reflections.
3. Student 1 presents what is on top of their wish list. Student 2 gives suggestions on how one can realize that top priority. Student 2 then presents what is on top of their wish list, and student 3 gives suggestions on how one can realize this top priority.
4. Student 1 presents their thoughts on the biggest challenge the world must overcome in order to become a better place in 25 years. Student 2 asks a critical, but constructive question back to student 1 based on the presented challenge. Then student 2 presents their thoughts, and student 3 asks a critical question back.

Useful questions include:

- Why do you consider X to be a bigger challenge than Y?
- How do you think the world should address this challenge?
- Who do you think would benefit the most from a world without this challenge?

The main takeaways from this task are the reflections and the conversations that evolves from the different wish lists. It should therefore be given time to address discussions relevant to the topics being presented.