

**OUTCOME OF THE 2nd BALI DEMOCRACY STUDENTS CONFERENCE (BDSC)  
“Democracy for Prosperity: Youth Perspectives”**

**Nusa Dua - Bali, Indonesia, 6-7 December 2018**

**“YOU[TH] MAKE CHANGE”**

We, 137 students from various universities in 58 countries have gathered in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, from 6 - 7 December 2018, to participate in the 2nd Bali Democracy Students Conference (BDSC II), held parallel with the 11th Bali Democracy Forum (BDF),

Recalling the spirit of “Voice of the Youth” as the outcome document of the 1st Bali Democracy Students Conference (BDSC) held in Serpong - Banten, Indonesia in 2017;

Recalling United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/58/133 on Policies and Programmes Involving Youth, enshrined therein the necessity of youth involvement in decision-making processes for sustainable economic growth and social development;

Having discussed issues and shared our views and experiences on the challenges of making democracy that delivers prosperity particularly with regard to pertinent issues such as education, politics, gender, technology, innovation, prosperity, and social media;

Recognizing the important role of youth as future leaders in the democratic processes in their own countries and in global settings by involving youth in crucial decision-making process on through youth representation and capacity building in-order to bring prosperity to the wider society;

Noting the necessity of a transparent and accountable government, that is responsive to the needs and interests of its people, including attention to nurturing youth and their passion, ideas, and creativity in order to encourage the growth of a strong and resilient democracy;

Recognizing that youth makes up a vast majority of social media users whereby many of the trends and norms of interaction in social media are spearheaded by them;

Reaffirming the importance of encouraging the development of democracy in corresponding institutions and in particular in developing countries, considering the dependence of every sphere of life in the policies of respective countries of origin;

*We, agreed to propose these two sets of recommendation for all youth:*

## **MAKING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND INCLUSIVE PROSPERITY**

1. Youth and education are two inseparable variables to create positive changes in society and contribute making inclusive democracy and prosperity. Youth should actively engage in the effort of making education accessible for all people and create a conducive environment for the open expression of opinion, knowledge and experience.
2. Youth should assert themselves and contribute to create a stable and viable democracy whenever possible. Youth should play their role to promote more participation in politics, deliver changes in societies and create an understanding that democracy is the key to prosperity.
3. The rise of populism and intolerance hampers the exercise of democracy. Youth should take an active participation in creating religious tolerance, mutual understanding and respect in order to establish a harmonious and peaceful society. Youth should practice the habit of interfaith dialogue that is effective in contributing to inclusive democratic practices and prosperity as well as using education as the key to eradicate prejudice towards religious differences.
4. Gender equality is an essential part of inclusive economic growth and is critical for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, its realization requires not only commitment by the government, but also the active contribution and leadership of the youth, women and civil societies for their environment. Youth must be the leading agent in shaping new gender-inclusive policies and to take the best approaches to support gender equality.

## **TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND THE FUTURE OF PROSPERITY**

1. No other generation is as closely intertwined with technology as the youth. Youth should take advantage of their familiarity to technology and make good use of its advancements. As could be achieved by providing democracy for prosperity including reaching out to marginalized members of society and undeveloped rural areas to equip them with the necessary tools to achieve prosperity through education then is encouraged by technological platforms.
2. Youth is full of energy, ideas and creativity. The energy should be channeled in a productive manner through innovation and to improve the environment. The youth should be empowered to create innovation and uphold the democratic values that support their creativity.

3. As the backbone and the future of the world, youth should avail themselves as the guardians of values and agents of change from within and outside the government to promote good governance. A government in touch with new technology and trends should be able to facilitate and encourage its people to achieve prosperity.
4. Youth should be aware of the world-changing potential of digital communication and promote responsible use of social media as well as fight against hoaxes and fake news to facilitate the spread of inclusive democracy for the benefit of humanity.

We extend our gratitude and appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, and suggest that the third BDSC to be held next year, students be included in practical discussions with state representatives to enhance their participation and capacity building on various topics.