
Summary Report

Jordan 'VIRTUAL' NATIONAL
DEBATE FORUM

30 – 26th Nov 2020

Co-organized by:



In association with

Co-funded by the European Union



Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	3
1.1	Phase one and two	5
1.2	Phase three and four	6
2.	National Debate Forum	7
2.1	Welcome Speeches	7
2.2	Policy Dialogue	8
2.3	Communication Plan	10
2.4	Forum Registration and participation	11
2.4.1	Group compositions	11
2.4.2	Registration & Consent Forms;	11
2.5	Debates Results & Winning teams	13
2.6	Documentation	13
2.7	Evaluation Form Responses	14
2.8	Pictures and images from the NDF	15

Young Mediterranean Voices (YMV) launched, a region-wide program of debate competitions and national debate forums between October and November 2020 across eight South Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia). The overall objective of the Young Mediterranean Voices program is to: 'Empower young people to enhance a culture of dialogue, to contribute to public policy and shape media discourses, and to create a shared understanding with peers across the Mediterranean on how to address issues of common concern to their communities.

What is the “Young Mediterranean Voices” program?

Young Mediterranean Voices is the EU-funded Programme for intercultural dialogue and debate, aimed to promote the culture of dialogue amongst youth and creates a shared understanding with their peers across the Mediterranean.

Who are our partners?

Ministry of Youth, All Jordan Youth Commission, Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD) , Arab Women Media Center.

What are the program’s objectives?

The Young Mediterranean Voices program aims to provide young women and men with a unique opportunity to:

- develop 21st century skills such as critical thinking and cultural intelligence through debate training and leadership;
- facilitate constructive online engagement and participate in intercultural debate groups through virtual exchanges;
- Securing a dialogue platform for youth to discuss constructive suggestions for current challenges with experienced leaders, mentors, and partner institutions working across the globe

How is the program implemented?

The Young Mediterranean Voices program is implemented through a year-long cycle of activities. Through 'Debate Hub', 'Master Facilitator', 'Peer Facilitator.' The below explains the cycle of activities and all these terms in detail.

336
DEBATERS

We conducted 20 debate trainings with Ministry of Youth, All Jordan Youth Commission, JOHUD, Arab Women Media Center

39

VIRTUAL FIELD
VISITS

20

DEBATE
CLUBS

16 

VILLAGES &
CITIES

4 

INTRA-HUB
COMPETITION

80 

DEBATERS
PARTICIPATED

**NATIONAL
DEBATE
FORUM**

60 

DEBATERS
PARTICIPATED

14

FACILITATORS AND ADJUDICATORS

I.1 Phase one: Identification and training of Debate Hubs and facilitators

• Identification of “Debate Hubs”

“Debate Hubs” were identified via an open call to the Youth and Civil Society Community Based Organizations, governmental and Non-governmental organizations

• Master Facilitation Training

A regional ‘Master Facilitation Training’ was organized in Tunisia February 2020 for Master Facilitators, to hone their skills in adjudicating, judging, and hub management, the aim being the reinforcement of quality assurance across the program.

• The National Debate Training refresher

Was organized to provide the necessary theory, skill, and practice of debate and its formats. The training was delivered by the Master Facilitators. Through these debates, Peer Facilitators were identified. The National Debate Training refresher was delivered online from 3rd July - 18 July every Friday and Saturday for 4 hours per day. This training is designed for the existing Peer Facilitators of the project in order to refresh their knowledge and to share with them the YMV updates. 8 Peer Facilitators were validated to cascade the Debate trainings.

Phase two: Debaters training

• Kick-off meeting

On the 18th August 2020 “Hub Leads”, “Master Facilitators”, “Peer Facilitators” gathered. to know each other, learn more about the program, and develop a timeline of activities for the ongoing year.

• Cascade Training

With the support of the “Peer Facilitators”, the cascade trainings were delivered within the selected “4 Debate Hubs”. Through this process, young debaters were trained to form new debate clubs. Debate Hubs gained the capacity to run a program of local debate activities and contribute to promoting a culture of debate at the local community level. Delivering over 600 hours of online training and virtual follow up sessions and debates to 336 debaters (61.5 % females and %38.5 males) across 16 different cities and village.

I.2 Phase three: Debate hub competitions

• Intra-hub competitions

As part of the training cycle of the debaters, 4 intra-hub competitions Engaged 20 teams from different debate clubs that belong to the same hub.

Phase four: National Debate Forum

Following the intra-hub competitions, a National Debate Forum took place at a country level including competitions between teams from debate clubs Teams from the different “Debate Hubs” took part in 5 days event during which they debate motions were directly linked to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) themes etc The National Debate Forum was an opportunity to dialogue with experienced leaders, mentors, and partner institutions through the Policy Dialogue activity through Policy Dialogue etc.

2. National Debate Forum

The National Debate Forum Jordan is a five-day event involving teams from four different national debate hubs with 60 participants in 20 debates conducted over five days of the National Debate Forum in 30 – 26th November 2020. The motions of the debates were based on Covid19- and the response of different sectors as a thematic area linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), contributing to the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. The National Debate Forum highlighted national and global priorities under the framework of SDGs, giving an opportunity for young people to exchange their views, to dialogue, and to find innovative and sustainable solutions. The Forum proposes the following SDG's:

- SDG 3: Good Health and Well Being
- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Each debate was featured in Arabic by teams of young debaters from different debate hubs who presented evidence to validate their argument for or against a motion linked to a specific SDG. Issues, challenges, arguments, and recommendations were captured. This year, it is true that the global pandemic has forced us to limit face-to-face interaction; however, the technology has given unprecedented opportunities for learning, dialogues, and connectedness. The National Debate Forum was delivered virtually bringing 60 young debaters and 14 facilitators from across cities and villages of Jordan.

2.1 Welcome Speeches;

The fifth day of the forum started with a welcoming speech from the YMV British Council Project Manager and stakeholders, welcoming the hub coordinators, debtors, and facilitators. The Keynote speeches were delivered by Head of Cooperation Delegation of the European Union to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the British Council, the Anna Lindh Foundation. The Hubs lead sent a positive and encouraging message for the youth thanking them for their dedication and efforts throughout the timeline of the project.

Corinne Andre - Head of Cooperation Delegation of the European Union to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
It's my pleasure to be attending this virtual national debate forum in order to address today the EU perspective and role in Jordan as regard to digital transformation in higher education ... this had a transformative effect on the life of young people by allowing them to develop their capabilities for higher education. It has also shown that digital and online learning can widen the provision of higher education for refugees and youth at large.

Joel Bubbers - Director Jordan & Levant Cluster Lead British Council

I am so pleased to be joining today, I want to congratulate the young people for making it to this day especially that you have spent the last few days talking to people who disagree with you and that is never easy, many people never learn how to disagree constructively there is an art to disagreement. The skills your learning here will give you the tools to build a more peaceful home life, work-life, and community.

2.2 Policy Dialogue

A high-level discussion around policy recommendations generated in the Final Debate phase, with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, where youth selected a theme to be discussed with policymakers in collaboration with the national/local authorities. Based on the interest and priorities of young people within the Jordanian Community and based on their voting on topics to be developed as a theme for the NDF and Policy Dialogue. Therefore, Relevant stakeholders representatives from Jordanian universities and technical colleges as well as a panelist from the World Bank and Center for Mediterranean Integration. were invited to have a dialogue with young people as a means to further challenge and mentor the young debaters in sharpening their content in order to formulate more efficient policy recommendations. The experts were invited to share their experience, views, and recommendations around the following objectives:

1. Teachers' and school leaders' capacities to use the new teaching methodologies.
2. The curriculum content development as a response to e-learning during Covid-19 lockdown.
3. Inclusion education opportunities for SEND and marginalized students.
4. The quality of E-learning and the collaboration of stakeholders.
5. Recommendations on enhancing further quality education.

The session was moderated by two main facilitators of the project targeting the above-mentioned objectives as well as the questions and issues asked by the youth attending the forum, The four experts shared their views, recommendations, and experience with the youth representing different universities and organizations as per the following,

1. Dr. Hayel Fakhoury – Arab Open University
2. Ms. Giulia Marchesini – World Bank and Center for Mediterranean Integration
3. Ms. Reem Khahman - Al Hussein Technical University
4. Mr. Ibrahim Al Safadi - Luminus Education

During the session and in addition to the main discussion points, the speakers answered the youth clarifications and questions as per the below example of questions,

Do you think the Challenges and the gap that was hindering the access of these learners with special needs to appropriate educational will increase due to Covid & e-learning?

Dr. Hayel Fakhoury: *The idea that presented by the Arab Open University is to provide the opportunity for learners with special needs to learn through the blended learning system merging online with Face to Face. The student can join Face to Face lectures and attend the rest of the lectures at home.*

Blended education or the idea of the Arab Open University provide opportunities for learners with special needs to take advantage of this opportunity. There is cooperation with the British University to obtain a degree from the Arab University and the University of Britain.

Dr. Hayel Fakhoury
Arab Open University

The idea that presented by the Arab Open University is to provide the opportunity for learners with special needs to learn through the blended learning system merging online with Face to Face.

How did Luminus rehabilitate and equip the educational cadres to apply new methods compatible with the Corona pandemic situation?

Mr. Ibrahim Al Safadi: Luminus invested in the last 4 years to build a strategy for education in a new way to build a base for progress that communicates with hundreds of thousands of students. We brought technology from the best international companies. We are building this system to raise the qualification of teachers in a different way.

The most prepared educational institution during the Corona pandemic, today teachers are using technology in the current era and we have made trainings for teachers The problem we faced is the responsibility of mothers and give online courses for teachers one on one coaching.

Are we able to develop appropriate educational content during the pandemic at the level of face to face education, and can we outperform face to face education if we prepare educational content appropriate to the current education?

Ms. Reem Khahman: The educational content preparation differs in Preparation for online lectures and a classroom from our experience at Al-Hussein Technical University we take all our knowledge from different cadres and transform the educational environment from classroom to interactive online and The evaluation method is more challenging in the online method since The student is in his home, how can I be sure as a professor who is actually attending and engaged in the online class, there is more effort on the teacher, Al-Hussein University is already a university that relies on both distance education and regular education.

There is a different way of evaluating exams that helps distance education to succeed because the student's job expresses success or failure and not only an exam. As well, there are enormous materials in Jordan, because of the existence of various online content, there are competencies that facilitate online lectures, and there are existing jobs, such as opportunities that provided the opportunity for the Coursera program to take a certificate equivalent to the university plan's certificate, to exploit the existing resources, and to take different courses from different universities of the world and take advantage of them. It is an opportunity to fully exploit the resources and diversify teaching methods.

Do you believe that we are in the same level of other countries during Corona virus in providing successful educational content, or are we a new experience and needs more time?

The online is not easy for all people. There is international educational content and online training that needs time during the Corona period. There must be universal ways to make it more relevant to education. And the existence of easy ways that allow all people to deal with it. Also, in Jordan there is a good and easy platform to deal with all people. Knowing the available methods during the Corona period.

*** Two interpreters were provided during the final day session for translation purposes English – Arabic -English to ensure understanding of the content throughout the session.*

The problem we faced is the responsibility of mothers and give online courses for teachers one on one coaching

There is a different way of evaluating exams that helps distance education to succeed because the student's job expresses success or failure and not only an exam

2.3 Communication Plan

All communication actions were conducted according to the Communication Plan National Debate Forums (NDFs), focusing on Young People in the Euro-Med region as the targeted audience. Utilizing several channels to communicate the program activities pre during and post the forum as per the following:

1. Online Invitations; The project team worked to design and share the event invitation in two campaign Private Invitations Via Email including Registration Link, as well as the Public Invitation Via Email & Social Media Posts including a designated Registration Link.

2. Social Media Plan; Designing and preparing social media posts to be posted on Facebook and Twitter accounts using the main hashtag to be used during the event #YoungMedVoices2030 , Country specific hashtag #YoungMedVoicesJordan as well as General hashtags #MediterraneanGeneration #SDGs #Agenda2030 #DebatetoAction.

3. Press Release; Prepared and distributed to media and journalists by the end of the last day in English and Arabic, the press release was shared with more than 8 websites.

4. Social Media Influencer; Social media posts were shared via several accounts to promote NDF activities on their social media accounts as posts and stories. Such as Better Business Company account, Mrs. Abeer Qumsieh Account Dr, Suhail Jouaneh Account.

5. Radio Interview; an interview was held on the 30th of November on Radio Al Balad with Ms. Sarah al Ghazou to talk about the program and national debate forum. To review the interview please click [HERE](#).

6. Virtual Background for speakers and debaters; a branded background was designed as per British Council visibility guidelines, prepared and shared with the participants along with a small video providing guidance on how to use it. The virtual background was used in the 5 days of the forum.

7. Live streaming on Social Media; the final day of the forum was live streamed using Better Business Facebook page with a total of 4 hours of live video, the Livestream link was shared on the program channels as well as on the influencers' accounts. To review the livestreamed video please click [HERE](#).

2.4 Forum Registration and participation

Teams from different “Debate Hubs” participated in the forum. 12 Debaters from each Hub were invited to debate and offered an opportunity to dialogue with policy-influencers through the Policy Dialogue activity. The Debaters competed in the debates from several governments in Jordan representing their hubs as per the following

1. The ministry of youth
2. The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD)
3. Jordanian Youth Commission
4. Arab Women Media Center

2.4.1 Group compositions; Teams were distributed and scheduled to compete according to a pre-assigned motion and agenda as per the following,

Group D (AWMC)	Group C (JOHUD)	Group B (AJYC)	Group A (MoY)
D1	C1	B1	A1
D2	C2	B2	A2
D3	C3	B3	A3

2.4.2 Registration & Consent Forms; Two registration form were shared with the attendees. To review the registration forms and responses, refer to annexes 3-6

- **Private Registration Form;** Shared with the participants in the private debate conducted between 26th and 30th of November. In total 84 Participants were registered and approved on the British Council consent.

The registrants had various positions in the YMV project as per the following,

1. Debaters (main or additional) – 56 Registrants
2. Main Facilitators – 5 Registrants
3. Peer Facilitators – 11 Registrants
4. HUB / Centre / Debate Club coordinators – 9 Registrants
5. British Council Staff – 3 Registrants

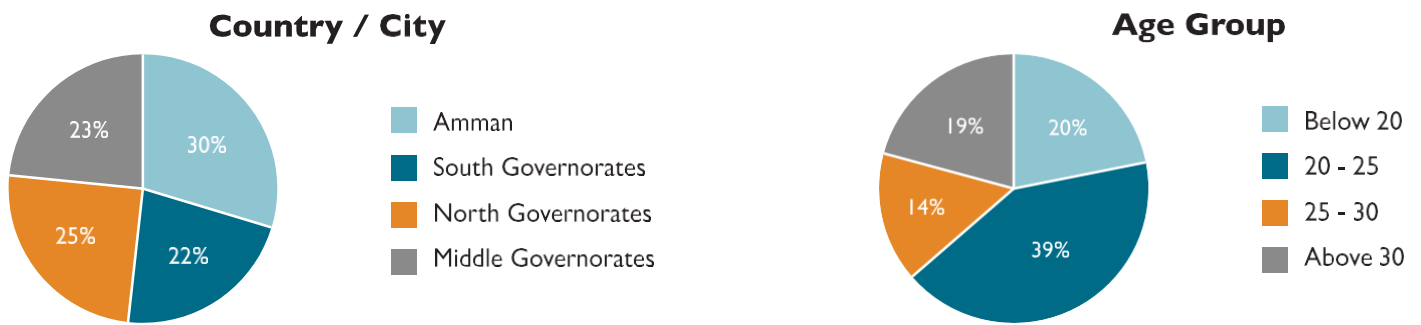


Figure 2- Private Registrants Location & Age Group

- **Public Registration Form;** Shared using British Council Mailing List, Project Stakeholders, and through Social Media platforms. In total 57 Participants were registered and approved on the British Council consent.



Figure 3- Public Registrants Location & Employment

Stakeholders, and through Social Media platforms. In total 57 Participants were registered and approved on the British Council consent.

2.5 Debates Results & Winning teams

Round 1 27.11.2020 & 26	The ministry of youth A1 A2 A3	Jordanian Youth Commission B1 B2 B3	JOHUD C1 C2 C3	Arab Women Media Center D1 D2 D3
Round 2 28.11.2020	1. The ministry of youth – A3 2. Jordanian Youth Commission – B3 3. The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD) – C3 4. Arab Women Media Center – D3			
Third Place Debate 29.11.2020	Jordanian Youth Commission – B3 (Winner of third place) Vs The ministry of youth – A3			
Final Debate 30.11.2020	Arab Women Media Center – D3 Vs The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development – C3			
First Place	Arab Women Media Center - D3 Winning Team		Best Debater: Yasmeen Al Far	

2.6 Documentation

The project team worked on documenting all deliverables and obtaining a database for the events as per the following

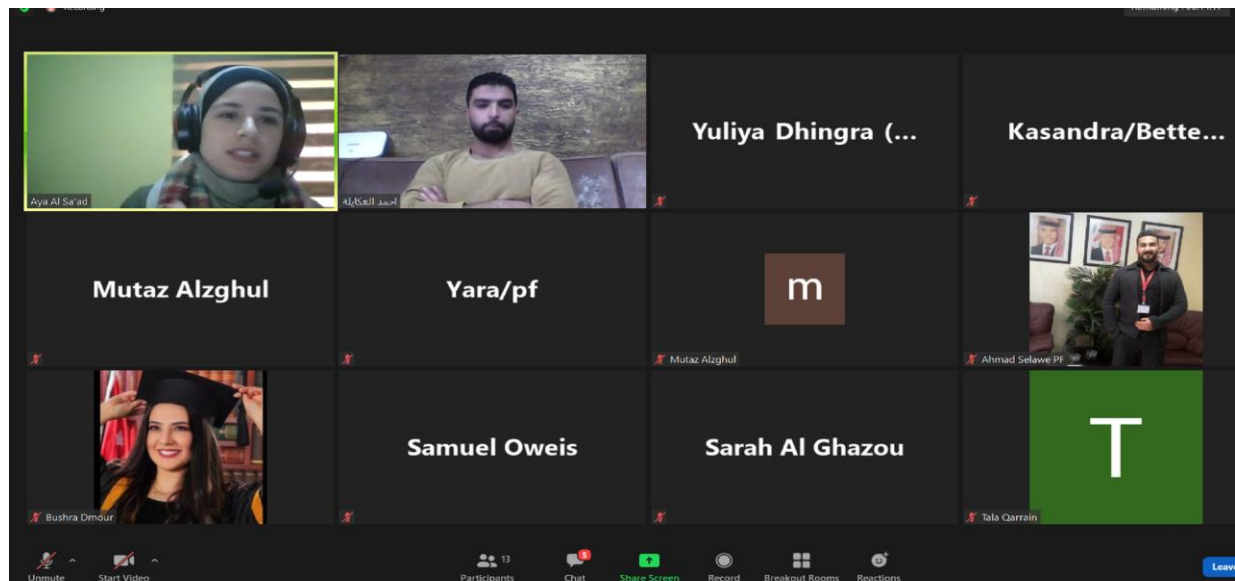
1. Video Documentation; A full record for the online events for the five days including the main room, debate rooms, and adjudicator rooms. To review the zoom records please click [HERE](#)
2. Database for the participants in the forum including full name, email, phone number, organization, and consent form.
3. Chatlog for the questions asked in the final day.
4. Social Media plan and final report.
5. Registration forms and responses as per British Council forms.
6. Evaluation form and responses as per British Council forms.
7. Short video; documenting the implementation of the event. Combining shoots from the virtual delivery as well as featuring best debaters\participants\decision maker

2.7 Evaluation Form Responses

An evaluation form was distributed for the participants to fill in their view and evaluation on the event and the responses were as per the following

<p>%90 Very Likely to recommend attending a British Council event to a colleague or friend</p>	<p>%25 of the participants joined the event for professional development</p>	<p>%60 of the participants joined the event to gain new knowledge</p>
<p>%100 agreed that the content was relevant and useful</p>	<p>%100 agreed that the details of the event were communicated well</p>	<p>%100 agreed that the details of the event were communicated well</p>
<p>%100 agreed that the session was engaging and interactive</p>	<p>%90 agreed that the presenter(s) who spoke were knowledgeable and engaging</p>	<p>%60 are very satisfied from this event</p>

2.8 Pictures and images from the NDF



بتمويل مشترك من الإتحاد الأوروبي



بتنظيم مشترك بين

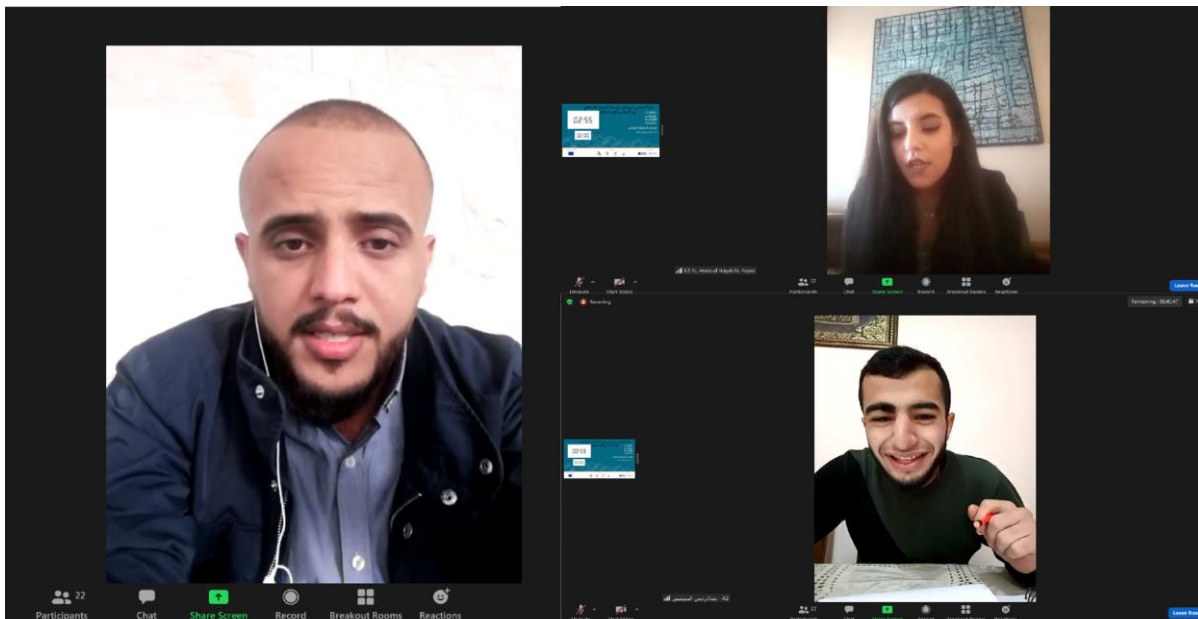


بالشراكة مع



صوت شباب المتوسط
منتدى المناظرات الوطني
2020 تشرين الثاني 26 - 30
YOUNG MED VOICES

#YoungMedVoices2030 #YoungMedVoicesJordan



بتمويل مشترك من الإتحاد الأوروبي

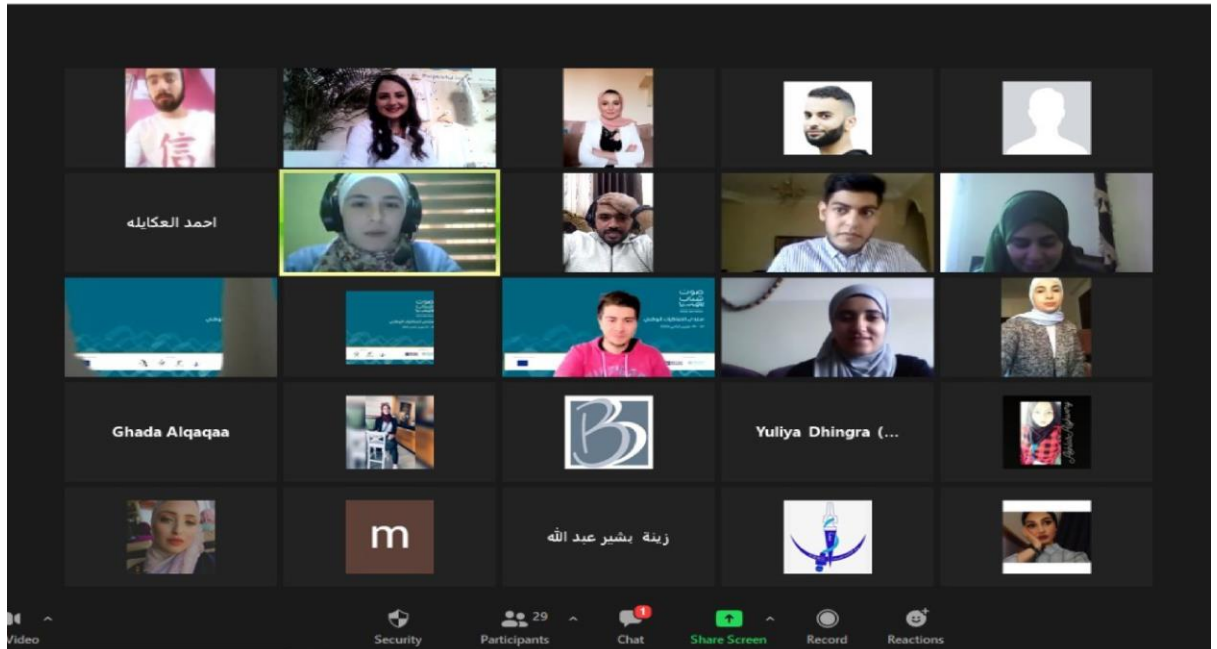


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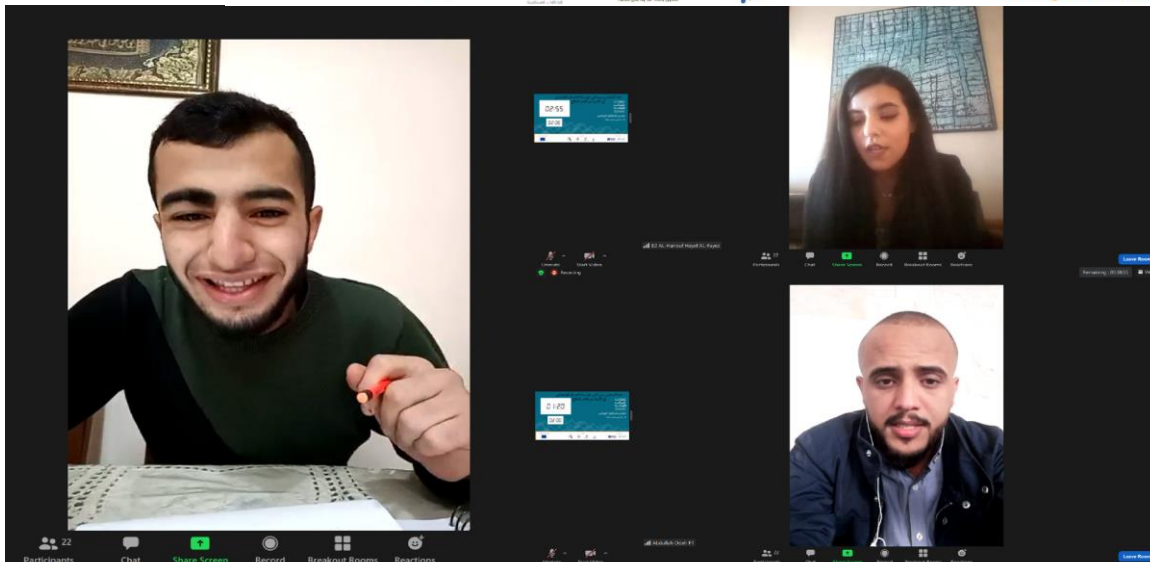
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منتدى المناظرات الوطني
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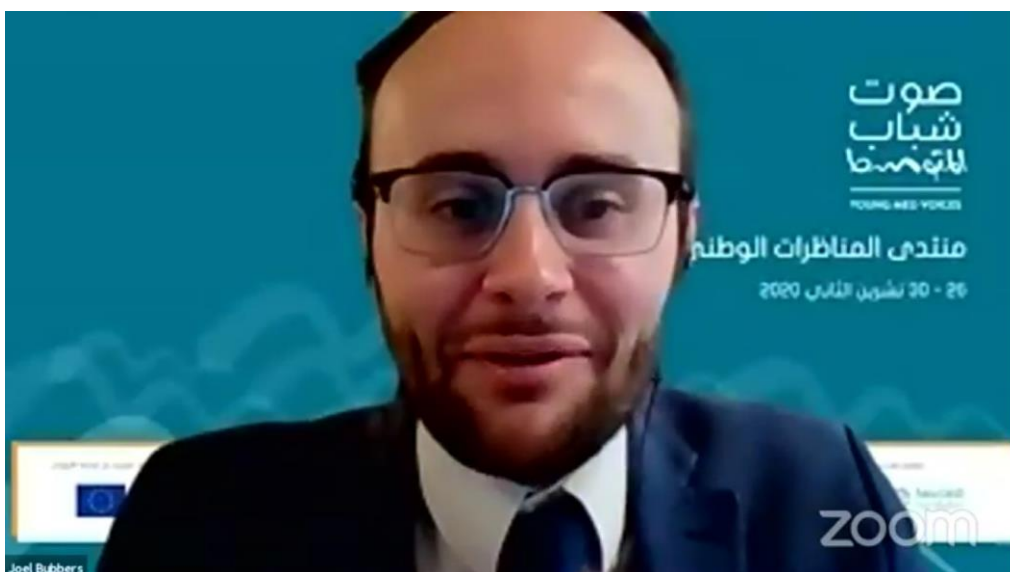
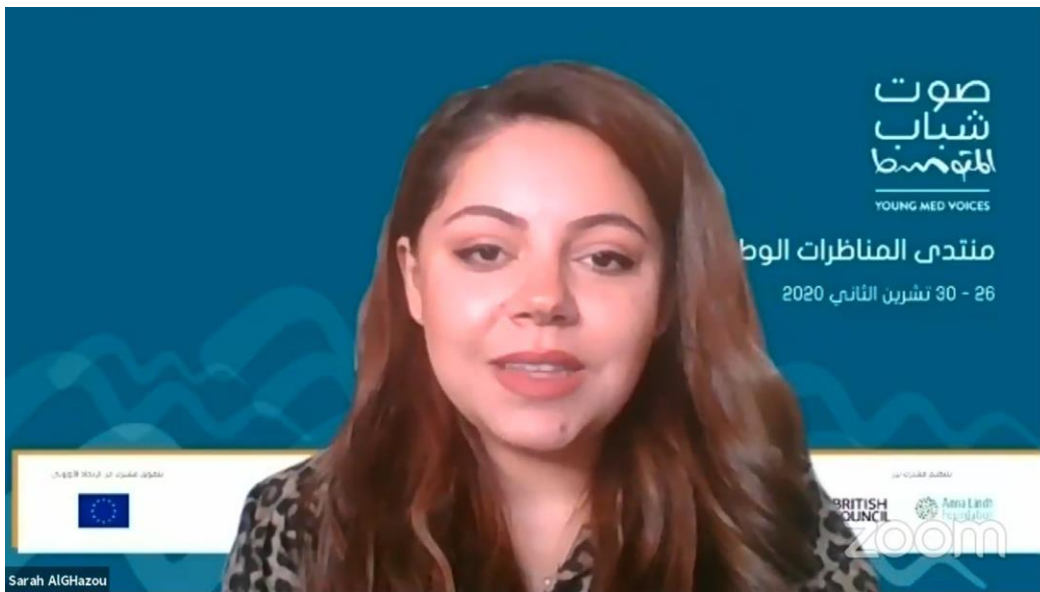
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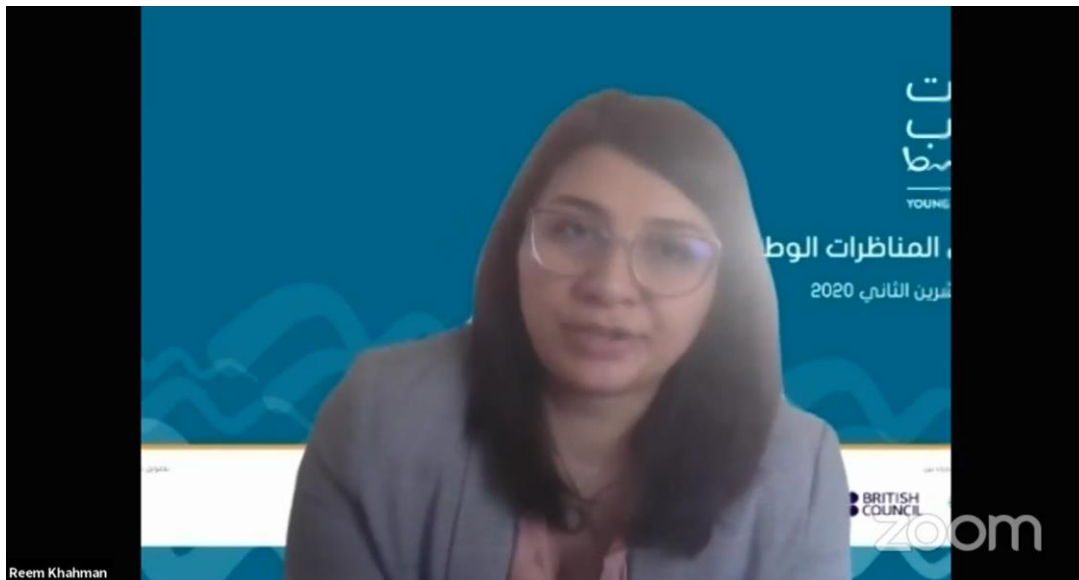


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End of Summary Report

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