



SUPER ELECTION YEAR 2024
The Central Role of Youth in Participatory Democracy in India

Panelists

Dr. Stéphanie Tawa Lama
Senior Fellow/ Research Director,
Centre de Sciences Humaines
(CSH)

Anshul Tewari
Founder and CEO, Youth Ki Awaaz

Moderator

Judith Weinberger-Singh
Resident Representative,
Hanns Seidel Foundation
India

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 **Friday, 28 June 2024**
16:00 - 17:15 (IST)

Super Election year 2024: 'The Central Role of Youth in Participatory Democracy in India'

Friday, 28th June 2024, 04:00 pm – 05:15 pm IST (Online)

With almost half of its population of 1.8 billion below the age of 24 (as of 2019), led by India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, South Asia has one of the largest youth populations in the world. This demographic is the key driver of sustainable development in the region. However, youth continue to be largely excluded from participating in policy and governance related issues.

In the backdrop of the recently conducted elections in South Asia and globally (including the European Parliament), the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) is organising an online Dialogue on the "The Central Role of Youth in Participatory Democracy in India". Since the participation of youth in democracy goes beyond merely casting votes during elections, it is crucial to explore non-traditional ways for youth to enhance their participation in politics (decision-making) and democratic processes at local, national and international levels.

Background:

Guided by the motto "in service of Democracy, Peace and Development", Hanns Seidel Foundation promotes democratic and civic education through capacity building programmes, socio-political debates, dialogue with various interest groups/ stakeholders, and the development of solution strategies. In India, Hanns Seidel Foundation has been actively working on youth-centric initiatives

such as [Young South Asia Network \(YSAN\)](#) and [Youth for Governance \(Y4G\) Fellowship](#), which foster meaningful participation of youth in political and democratic spaces. The event is open to all our fellows of YSAN, Y4G programmes, as well as anyone and anyone interested in the topic.

Programme:

16:00 Opening remarks

Ms. Judith Weinberger-Singh, Resident Representative, Hanns Seidel Foundation India

16:10 Panel Discussion on ‘The Central Role of Youth in Participatory Democracy in India’

Speaker 1: [Dr. Stéphanie Tawa Lama](#), Senior Fellow/ Research Director, Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH)

Speaker 2: [Mr. Anshul Tewari](#), Founder and CEO, Youth Ki Awaaz

(moderated by Ms. Judith Weinberger-Singh)

16:50 Q&A session

17:15 End of event