

Arctic Youth Conference Code of Conduct

The Arctic Youth Conference (AYC) will bring together a diverse and international community of Arctic youth leaders. As an array of topics will be discussed from different perspectives, cultures, and knowledge bases, we wish to create and foster a safe and inclusive environment for all attendees.

This code of conduct aims to support a community where all people feel open and safe to participate, exchange information and introduce new ideas, and inspire others, regardless of background, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender identities and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, language fluency, age, disability, mental illness, neuro(a)typicality, socioeconomic status, physical appearance, body size, education, religious beliefs (or lack thereof), political affiliation, or any other attributes.

Your registration for or attendance at the AYC indicates your agreement to abide by this policy and terms.

By registering for the Arctic Youth Conference, attendees consent to being photographed during the event, with the understanding that these images may be shared on social media, official websites, and other promotional materials associated with the Arctic Council.

Expected behavior

We expect our attendees to behave appropriately. Expected behavior includes:

- Treating all other attendees with kindness, respect, and consideration, and valuing a diversity of views and opinions;
- Be considerate about how you discuss and frame sensitive topics to avoid causing harm;
- Be respectful and aware of diverse experiences and histories as current relationship and collaborations are shaped by colonial histories;
- Be open to both learning from and educating others;
- Be respectful and inclusive of local and Indigenous cultures, perspectives, knowledge, languages and contributions that are different from your own;
- Be open to suggestions and feedback;
- Ask and correctly use preferred pronouns;
- Seek explicit permission to use photos, stories, ideas and statements shared during the AYC, whether during or after the event;
- Respect the rules and policies of the event venue, hotels, or any other venue.

Behavior that will not be tolerated

The following behaviors are considered unacceptable under these guidelines:

- Harassment, intimidation or discrimination, including unwelcome or personally offensive speech or behavior;
- Physical or verbal abuse;
- Sustained disruption of presentations and events;
- Bullying behavior;
- Deliberate intimidation, stalking, or following;
- Unwelcome sexual attention, which is unwelcome verbal, written, or physical attention, and includes unwanted and unnecessary touching, simulated physical contact (e.g. textual messages like “hug” or “backrub”) without affirmative consent or other inappropriate physical contact, and comments, suggestions or questions regarding sexual activity;
- Violence or threats of violence;
- Incitement of violence towards any individual, including to engage in self-harm;
- Derogatory language;
- Deliberate misgendering such as not using a person’s preferred pronouns or using rejected names;
- Advocating for, or encouraging, any of the above behavior.

Social media policy

The Norwegian Chairship encourages the use of social media throughout the AYC, to promote the conference, increase interest, and highlight specific events such as keynote speakers or onsite visits. Conference participants are welcome to use the AYC hashtag: #ArcticYouth2025.

When posting about the AYC, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Ensure that all posts related to the AYC are accurate and professional;
- Be fair and respectful to fellow attendees, presenters, and conference staff;
- Be aware of cultural sensitivities, particularly when posting pictures.

Alcohol and drug policy

Conference participants are expected to consume alcohol responsibly and in moderation. Intoxication that leads to disruptive behavior or endangers the safety and well-being of oneself or others is strictly prohibited. Underage (below 18) drinking and illegal substance use are not allowed under any circumstances.

Emergency and evacuation procedures

Conference participants should familiarize themselves with the venue’s emergency exits and evacuation procedures. In the event of an emergency, follow the instructions of event staff and emergency personnel promptly and calmly. Ensure your safety and assist others, if possible, without putting yourself at risk.

Norwegian emergency services:

- For emergency call and to the police, dial **112**
- For a medical emergency, dial **113**
- To call the Fire Department, dial **110**

Reporting unacceptable behavior

If you are the subject of unacceptable behavior or have witnessed any such behavior, please immediately inform an event organizer, identified by their badge, who are obligated to notify a trusted member of the Norwegian Chairship of the Arctic Council, or by emailing your concern to acs@arctic-council.org.

Anyone experiencing or witnessing behavior that constitutes an immediate or serious threat to public safety is advised to contact the Norwegian emergency services or venue security.

Consequence

AYC attendees who are asked to stop any inappropriate behavior by any other attendee and/or event organizer are expected to comply immediately. Attendees violating this Code of Conduct may be sanctioned or expelled from the event at the discretion of the Norwegian Chairship of the Arctic Council.

Participants are expected to maintain a respectful and inclusive environment, both in person and online. If a social media post is deemed inappropriate or harmful, attendees will be required to take it down upon request by the conference organizers.