



## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

[UNITED NETWORK EUROPA]

### Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: January 2022

To: January 2024

Rome, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that United Network Europa hereby reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

United Network Europa is a Non-Governmental Organization associated with the Department of Global Communication of the United Nations, with a special consultative status at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations.

United Network currently stands as the major European organization promoting high level, innovative projects for young students: over the years, more than 40 thousand students took part to our national and international conferences, both in Italy and abroad. Our goal is for young students to learn the value of diplomacy and international relations, as well as to understand how National and International Bodies play a role in the international scenario. At the same time, we commit ourselves to unlock the inner potential of students, by encouraging them to practice with Team Working, Public Speaking, Problem Solving, and Resilience, as primary Soft Skills which are crucial in a constantly evolving society.

The key source guiding our projects is known as “**Challenge based Learning**”, an approach which stimulates students to develop their practical skills and simultaneously increases their knowledge to achieve goals. Its major component is known as “Learning by doing method”, which allows students to learn notions by means of active engagement, guiding the students toward a full and practical comprehension of the skills learned.



## **MAJOR PROJECTS DEVELOPED BY UNITED NETWORK EUROPA IN ITALY**

### **IMUN - Italian Model United Nations**

A simulation of the United Nations held in Rome, Naples, Catania, Turin, Milan, Bari, and Venice. Each student embodies a delegate and is called to represent one of the 193 Countries which are part of the United Nations, while defending its position about a specific international topic. Students engage English-spoken debates and share different opinions to redact an ultimate Resolution, merging different positions to effectively address the topic. IMUN is participated by more than four thousand students every year.

### **SNAP - Simulazione Nazionale dell'Assemblea Parlamentare**

A simulation of the Italian Parliament annually held in Rome, calling students to embody the role of fictional Deputies from the Italian Chamber. Students debate to ultimately draft a Legislative Proposal.

### **PRESS - Progetto Redazione e Scrittura per la Stampa**

An interactive laboratory calling students to portray real journalists. Participants write articles denying fake news through the correct use of sources, produce agency takes, newspaper articles and work on the construction of a special television news edition.

### **European Camp - Ventotene**

A model of the European Parliament held in the Isle of Ventotene. The students are asked to speak in English and/or in French and act as real members of the EU Parliament, each in representation of a different Country. Through debates and discussions, they cooperate to write a final Recommendation on the topic. Guided by historians, students also participate in guided visits through the Island territory to learn more about European History.

## **UN PROJECTS ABROAD WITH FOREIGN PARTNERS**

### **United States of America**

#### **GCMUN**

United Network Europa is one of the main partners of Global Citizens Model United Nations, an intense 3-day conference held every year in New York City. GCMUN was born as a conference with the purpose of delivering the highest educational experience to its participants. The Secretariat of the conference is entirely composed of graduates and undergraduates from the world's most prestigious universities. GCMUN is thought and developed as a highly formative international forum and delivers one of the highest educational experiences in matters such as International Relations and Diplomacy.

#### **BMUN, HMUN, and NMUN**

United Network Europa also handles the participation of hundreds of Italian students to the prestigious BMUN (Berkeley, San Francisco), and HMUN (Harvard, Boston) models, organized inside the headquarters of two of the most important American universities.

Furthermore, a delegation of students annually take part to the National Model United Nations (NMUN), the major US Model UN dedicated to college students.

#### **Ethiopia**

Since 2023, United Network also organizes a Model United Nations in Ethiopia, which sees the participation of students from the "Istituto Statale Italiano Omnicomprensivo" in Addis Ababa.



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We are profoundly devoted to the promotion of innovative education among students, as we believe it is imperative for young generations to be involved, to learn and to test their skills, so they can become conscious participants of our complex and dynamic society.

United Network Europa renovates its solid commitment to this end, and equally renovates its participation to the Global Compact. We therefore commit to report on progress every two years according to the Global Compact COE policy.

Sincerely yours,

Avv. Riccardo Messina

President, United Network Europa

## Part II. Description of Actions

United Network Europa became a member of Global Compact in 2018 and has ever since committed itself to the promotion of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To this end, we did combine our usual diplomatic scenarios with themes and topics fully devoted to promoting the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. As of 2024, “Sustainability and Development” remains the key pillar of our work on a multilevel scale: from social security to economic development, to environment protection we adopt a transversal approach to promote awareness on the 17 SDGs.

At the same time, our work portrays values and scope of the 10 UN Global Compact Principles.

### Topics, IMUN 2022 - 2024

Clear evidence of such commitment is the bulk of topics proposed to our students for discussion, as it follows.

*“Facing the rise of Emerging Disruptive Technologies: The Weaponization of Artificial Intelligence”*

*“Post-Conflict Economic Reconstruction: A call for Coherence”*

*“Ensuring a Sustainable and Equal Future to People with Disabilities”*



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*“Revolutionizing Peacekeeping Operations in the Age of Cyber Warfare”*

*“Towards the Achievement of the Right to Privacy in the Digital Era”*

*“The Use of Gene Editing and its Potential Implications in Achieving the SDGs”*

*“Developing Environmental Protection: the exploitation of Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE)”*

*“Transforming Cities for a Better Urban Future”*

*“Outer Space Economy: Regulating the Emerging Market”*

*“The Impact of Automation and Artificial Intelligence on the Labor Market”*

*“Preserving Indigenous People’s Rights while Guaranteeing Protection of Territory and Full Representation”*

*“Assuring peace and security through international cooperation between military forces and peacekeepers”*

*“Our Fauna’s welfare and rights: safeguarding animal species for a more Sustainable Future”*

*“Innovative Technologies To Improve Prisoner Rehabilitation”*

*“The Role of Nuclear Technologies to Diagnose and Fight Cancer”*

*“The Exploitation of Migrant Workers in Agriculture and Construction: Tackling Contemporary Forms of Slavery Globally”*

*“Below Sea Levels: Protecting Underwater Cultural Heritage”*

United Network Europa fully commits its work to the scope of educating the future generations about sustainability, and we renovate our dedication to encourage students fully embrace the value of the 17 SDGs on a daily basis.



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Both our conferences and projects will continue to faithfully reflect such commitment in the upcoming years.

### Global Compact Italy

United Network is one of the original founders of **Global Compact Network Italia**. We proudly support its mission and take part to main events and initiatives, contributing to our local activities in favor of sustainability.

### Our Partners, 2022 - 2024:



### Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Please use the box below to include the most relevant qualitative and/or quantitative indicators to measure the outcome of the activities described in Part II above.

To fully measure the contribution and efficacy of its work, United Network Europa relies upon the three key pillars of evaluation: **accountability, transparency, and learning**.

By preferring such an approach, we can generate empirical knowledge about our successes and failures, to grow and improve our methodology.

As of 2024, we can proudly report that our projects grew both in scale and in scope, engaging thousands of new students from every region of our Country. At the same time, our Conferences also emerged on an international level, attracting foreign Schools and Institutions, such as the Italian School in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



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Such a consistent participation clearly stands as an indicator of the urgency felt by students to be active participant, to learn and grow, both on an academic and professional level.

Furthermore, United Network Europa remains an active component of “**Rigenerazione Scuola**”, the Italian national “Green Community” engaged to promote awareness about sustainable development and the 2030 agenda within Schools and Institutions. In support of **Global Compact Principle 8**, “**undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility**”, we are eager to explore further possibilities for our organization to evolve, and to unlock the potential of this new and promising resource.