

## Connect Global US-MENA Final Report

### **Main activities and group dynamics:**

On this final week of the program, facilitators encouraged students to continue leading thought-provoking discussions about the current events including media and how the global health crisis is affecting their lives. As they delved into the discussion topics, participants reflected on how they can play an active role in addressing the issues they discussed throughout the program.

Facilitators shared several instances where students took full ownership over the dialogue by asking good questions and practicing active listening. Students demonstrated a high level of interest in each other's perspectives and were very curious about how the discussed issues are affecting their respective countries. After they closed the discussions, some participants spoke about the key elements of the Final Project while others took time to reflect on the dialogue process and shared thoughts about final takeaways of the semester.

By the end of the session, students participated in the recognition activity and typed the names of peers that impacted them. This activity was an opportunity for students to show appreciation and gratitude towards each other.

This week, most facilitators rated the sessions as "Good" or "Excellent". Some described the final sessions as insightful and dynamic. Facilitators reported how quiet and shy students built confidence throughout the sessions and became more engaged in the dialogue process. Some of them also commented on the language-related progress they have made in the past eight weeks.

### **Attendance and technical updates:**

This week, 90% of students successfully attended their last sessions. Thank you so much for your constant effort in reminding them of the importance of attendance throughout the Program. We really appreciate your collaboration.

On the technical front, our team reported that a few users had issues accessing their meeting rooms on Tuesday and Wednesday. This issue only impacted a handful of groups on both days and most of the affected users were able to access their meeting rooms within a minute.

### **Final Project Paper:**

Now that students have completed their sessions, they will need to submit their Final Project Papers today **Friday, December 4**. Students were emailed individually with all the submission details.