

## **Connect Global: Week Three Report**

### **Main Activities and Group Dynamics:**

On the third week of the program, most participants started their sessions with icebreakers and warmup activities. Then, they split into smaller groups to discuss the Final Project videos that they conducted with their chosen community members earlier this week. After the Final Project discussions, students engaged in activities that allowed them to develop good questions and understand how to deeply explore topics and engage with each other's differences constructively. During the second half of the session, most groups practiced asking good questions while they led discussions about social and global issues. Some explored the political issues in their respective countries while others delved into the "sharing circles" activity which allowed them to learn from each other on a much deeper and personal level.

Towards the end of the session, facilitators took time to summarize what students shared during the discussions and reminded their groups of the second set of required readings.

This week, most facilitators reported that the group dynamics were good or excellent. Some facilitators shared how asking good questions helped them gain ownership over the dialogue process. During the discussions, participants reacted to their peers' personal stories with respect and discovered similarities in how they are dealing with the current global challenges. As they shared feedback at the end of the session, some participants expressed interest in leading the upcoming discussions and suggested topics they would love to explore with their peers.

### **Attendance and Technology:**

Although the majority of students were able to attend their sessions successfully, the absence rate was slightly higher this week. We would appreciate your help in reminding your students to attend the second half of the Program fully.

Like last week, no major technical issues were reported. Our technical and student management teams were able to assist students who needed help attending their sessions and uploading their Final Project videos.

### **Next week:**

During their fourth session, students will discuss the second set of required readings on intercultural communication and will reflect on the challenges that affect the process of communicating across cultures. Then, some groups will continue sharing thoughts on their peers' final project videos. During the session, students will also split into smaller groups to help each other prepare the questions they will use in the second set of interviews. While they work on their final projects and required readings, facilitators will keep encouraging students to reflect on what they have been learning throughout the program.