



Action on Smoking and Health and its signatories

[www.ash.org](http://www.ash.org)

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Young people and future generations have the right to grow up in a tobacco-free world

The United Nations Summit of the Future and its planned outcome, the Pact for the Future is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to take cooperation within the United Nations to a new level.

It aims to unite all Member States behind a new common agenda that they are committed to continuously and consistently achieving. This agenda will stand on the shoulders of giants and take the world a big step forward. It should be built on the various United Nations human rights treaties, the SDGs, and global agreements that accelerate the achievement of the highest attainable standard of health, such as the NCD Global Action Plan and the WHO FCTC.

The practices and products of the tobacco industry negatively impact present and future generations along the entire product cycle, from tobacco growing and manufacturing to marketing, use and consumer waste. Tobacco is the only commercially available product that kills when used exactly as intended by the manufacturer. As a result, 8 million people die every year around the world, including 1.3 million who are killed by second-hand smoke<sup>1</sup>.

Tobacco products are the world's largest preventable cause of death. Tobacco has a negative impact on each of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals and is a preventable cause of violations of numerous human rights such as the right to health and the right to a healthy environment.

Tobacco has a significant negative environmental impact costing the world 600 million trees, 200,000 hectares of land, 2 billion tonnes of water and the unwelcome production of 8 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> and 4.5 trillion cigarette butts in litter<sup>2</sup>.

In addition, tobacco infringes on the rights of vulnerable populations, as exemplified by the rampant presence of child labour in the tobacco industry. In addition, around 80% of the 1.3 billion tobacco users worldwide live in low and middle income countries, where the burden of tobacco-related illness and death is heaviest<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.who.int/newsroom/factsheets/detail/tobacco>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.medicusmundi.ch/en/advocacy/publications/bulletin/fighting-tobacco-in-lmic/einleitung/sustainable-development-or-tobacco-17-shades>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/1305184?ln=en>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.who.int/news/item/30-05-2022-who-raises-alarm-on-tobacco-industry-environmental-impact>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jun/25/reveals-child-labor-rampant-in-tobacco-industry#:~:text=The%20Guardian's%20investigation%20found%3A,is%20sold%20after%20the%20harvest>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.who.int/newsroom/factsheets/detail/tobacco>.





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Lovexair Foundation  
M.I. Mother's Keeper  
Macedonian Respiratory Society  
Making it Count CDC  
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MOPH Afghanistan  
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New York State Public Health Association  
NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence on Achieving the Tobacco Endgame  
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North American Quitline Consortium  
Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition  
Norwegian Cancer Society  
Nursing Association of Moldova  
NYSAHY  
OneSea Foundation  
Parents Against Vaping of Cigarettes  
Parvarish Recovery Center  
Permanent National Commission for the Fight Against Tobacco CEAT -  
Physicians for a Smoke Free Canada  
Plastic Pollution Coalition  
Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation / Tobacco 21  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
PROGGA  
Public Health Advocacy Institute  
Rajasthan Cancer Foundation  
Research and Creative Dialogue Foundation  
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Respiratory Health Association  
Romanian Society of Pneumology  
Salud Justa MX  
Sandvik Health Empowerment Foundation  
SCATT  
Sierra Leone Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition  
Slovenian NCD Alliance  
SmokeFree Marin  
Smoke Free Israel  
Smoke Free St Joe  
SmokeFree Baguio  
Smokefree Bulgaria Association  
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Social Liberation and Health promotion network  
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Tennessee Tribune Newspaper  
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