



### **A Young Person Shares Her Thoughts on the Upcoming Day of General Discussion (English Translation)**

*My name is Jasmin, I'm 21 years old, I was born in Peru but I live in Argentina and I'm part of the collective Guía Egreso, which is part of Asociación Civil Doncel.*

I remember that time when I was holding hands with a friend, walking around and looking at the stars, that day I daydreamed, I imagined myself far from home, I knew that behind the dry hills there were other ways of living life.

When I was 12 years old while travelling from Peru on the international bus, on the fourth day, after passing through Chile and part of Argentina, I discovered that there really were other ways of living and today I am aware that this is so.

At 16, I realised that I could change my reality, that violence could be replaced by affection and that I could really build another destiny, not alone but accompanied. I discovered all this together with many people who are now my chosen family.

I met the Asociación Civil Doncel and the Guía Egreso just before leaving the children's home where I was living, and since then I have been part of this group that I represent today.

Some of the activities we do are:

Workshops about leaving care

Notes in the media

Events with public impact

Of all these actions, perhaps what we like the most is to meet with each other every month.

Another important space of participation for us is the Latin American Network of Care Leavers (Red Latinoamericana de Egresados de Protección), young people from different countries in the region, with whom we meet, create and transform. Participation varies but the collective conviction remains.

We are the voices of many children and young people who are still in the child protection system and of those who have already left.

We know that we do not want to be a number.

We want to see concrete changes in realities.

Now I know that there are many of us dreaming of a different reality for those who are still living in the child protection system and for those who have already left.

Today I am standing here with resilience as many of my colleagues from Guía Egreso and the Latin American Network taught me, eagerly awaiting the "Day of General Debate" to give voice to the different realities and to bring about transformation.

*Translated with [www.DeepL.com/Translator](https://www.DeepL.com/Translator) (free version)*