Open source technologies, critical thinking and strong institutions

Building peace, justice and Strong institutions through education
Campaña Latinoamericana por el Derecho a la Educación – CLADE
HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM – HLPF 2024
An overview of the impact of digitalisation in education

- Human Rights Watch: out of 163 EdTech products, **89% engaged in data practices that put children’s rights at risk**; out of 49 countries where these products were used, **14 did not have any data protection laws**

- **Surveillance pedagogy**: the constant monitoring of students and teachers powered by digital technologies, such as predictive algorithms, facial recognition and generative AI

- **Digital colonialism**: data extraction and infrastructure monopolization by a few technology companies that are also in the education sector

- How does this correlate with SDG 16?
Strong institutions for a rights based use of digital technologies

Key targets

- 16.3: Promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice
  - Data privacy laws must be developed and implemented

- 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions.
  - Data must be safely stored using accountable means

- 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive and representative decision-making
  - Educational community can and must be included in such processes

- 16.A: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms
  - The public must know how their data are stored and use

- 16.C: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies
  - Large language models and generative AI may hide discriminatory algorithms
How to achieve it?

New sociotechnical imaginary

Based upon

Digital sovereignty
Closing digital gaps
Human Rights

Use of open source platforms
Critical digital literacy
Digital citizenry

Resulting in

Educational public policies

That will influence

Including

Right to education with: availability, accessibility, acceptability, adaptability and accountability
Results and recommendations

**Jnoptik Intrabach: an open platform to preserve Tseltal language**
- An intranet system to publish *didactic texts in Tseltal language*;
- Evolved to a platform to *preserve Tseltal language and culture*;
- Present in *dozens of primary schools, 2 secondary schools and 14 high schools*.

**Key recommendations regarding justice and strong institutions**
- The *normative framework for the human right to education remains fully applicable* to guide new practices, promoting rule of law and non-discriminatory policies;
- *Technologies must be open, free and sovereign* to protect institutions and promote justice;
- Teachers and students *can produce digital technologies* and be active agents in supporting strong institutions and decision-making.
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