

Transforming Education: the need to expand the international legal framework

Side meeting, Transforming Education Pre-Summit

29 June 2022 – 9:00 to 10:00 am

Online and Room VII – Fontenoy Building

Rationale

The [Transformative Education Summit](#) and [Pre-Summit](#) are unique opportunities to reflect on the current state of education and make concrete recommendations to move forward in achieving SDG4 by 2030 and realize the right to education for all.

Education has drastically changed since the adoption of the [UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education \(1960\)](#) and other UN treaties that guarantee the right to education. The development of distance learning and the use of EdTech, accentuated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the increasing human movement, and the alarming effects of climate change are **rapidly transforming the education landscape**. In addition, SDG4 gave a new impetus to **lifelong learning** which is recognized by the Futures of Education Report as taking place across different times and spaces. Besides, major challenges remain, including huge **inequalities** across all levels of education. **It is now time to consider expanding the right to education framework.**

Objectives

As UNESCO is reflecting on the [evolving dimensions of the right to education](#), this side meeting aims to discuss the need to expand the international legal framework to address **existing and emerging education challenges and opportunities**, in order to build the foundation for the transformation of education. Highlighting areas that are required to be urgently addressed, the discussions will revolve around the **five Thematic Actions Tracks** of the Transforming Education Summit.

Format and modalities

The side meeting, structured around an **expert panel discussion**, will take place in a hybrid format, **online and in Room VII** (Fontenoy Building, UNESCO HQ). To follow the discussion online, please use this link: <http://webcast.unesco.org/events/2022-06-TES-Pre-Summit/>

Agenda

Wednesday, 29 June 2022

9:00 to 10:00 am

Introduction: **Mr Borhene Chakroun**, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems, Education Sector, UNESCO

Panel discussion:

- **Ms Delphine Dorsi**, Director, Right to Education Initiative
- **Ms Koumbou Boly Barry**, UN Special rapporteur on the right to education
- **Ms Mercedes Mayol Lassalle**, World President, World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP)
- **Mr Bede Sheppard**, Deputy Director, Children's Rights Division, Human Rights Watch
- **Ms Ana Raquel Fuentes**, Human Rights Advocacy - Education Policy Research, Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education (CLADE)
- **Mr Vernor Muñoz**, Head of Policy, Advocacy and Campaigns, Global Campaign for Education (GCE)
- **Ms Maria Ron Balsera**, TaxEd Alliance Coordinator, ActionAid

Question and answer session

Concluding remarks: **Mr Borhene Chakroun**, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems, Education Sector, UNESCO