

FACING THE URGENCY AND NEED OF THE GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL PACT

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DIFFICULTIES OR RESISTANCES

We educators know well that learning, real learning, takes time and requires a well-designed learning process. In this case the call is to animate educational processes that allow school communities and society at large, to understand that we are in a new era that invites to recognize that we are all sharing our planet and that we need to build a new sense of common responsibility for one another. We need to go beyond the idea of nations to the idea of a common home. It does not mean that people do not feel rooted in their local and national communities but rather that they open their hearts and minds to all and begin to see others not as rivals, foreigners or enemies but as fellow humans.

IMPROVING EDUCATION

Today, more than ever, education must be built around the idea of encounter... encountering others, encountering nature, encountering God. Yes, any good education will need to equip people with the kind of skills, knowledge and experiences needed to become excellent professionals, but this must be accompanied by an education that prepare them and foremost to be responsible, sympathetic and open to others, to nature and to spirituality. Human beings that can recognized their own cultural and social roots but at the same time can interact in openness and respect with other human beings from different cultural, social and religious backgrounds, building on what is common and respecting what is different.

INTEGRAL EDUCATION

A holistic education today is central to a humanity that requires collaboration and commitment from all to address the immense challenges that we face today in our world: the environmental crisis, the social, cultural and political crisis that polarize the world. A holistic education today requires hearts connected, heads united and hands together, not based in uniformity but based on appreciation of our personal,

communal and cultural values and openness to others'. A respect that must go beyond merely tolerating others and really engaging in a dialogue in which we all learn to appreciate others and build consensus to build unity in diversity. The concepts of global citizenship and interculturality capture well the spirit of this new context.

LIGHTS AND CLUES

We educators also know that real learning can only happen because of a well-planned and long process. An educational Alliance that aims to create such learning will require commitment from all stakeholders of education and it will require some basic structures that can follow-up and animate the implementation of such alliance. Only a well intention declaration will not be enough. We educators know that quality education that aims to the betterment of students and society can only succeed with a sustained effort that is willing to learn from mistakes and setbacks.

* Taken from ['Luces para el camino. Pacto Educativo Global. Una educación de, con y para todos. Hacia una sociedad más fraterna solidaria y sostenible'](#) (SM-PPC-OIEC)