

# Celebrating World Catholic Education Day 2021

May 13, 2021 (Ascension, 40 days after Easter)



Photo: © PEDER

## Towards a Global Compact on Education



# Towards a Global Compact on Education

## Excerpts from Remarks by Pope Francis

*“To educate is always an act of hope, one that calls for cooperation in turning a barren and paralyzing indifference into another way of thinking that recognizes our interdependence... We consider education to be one of the most effective ways of making our world and history more human. Education is above all a matter of love and responsibility handed down from one generation to another.”*



Photo: © Korea.net (Jeon Han)



Video: © Vatican News.

[Click on the image to view the video.](#)

*“Education is a natural antidote to the individualistic culture that at times degenerates into a true cult of the self and the primacy of indifference. Our future cannot be one of division, impoverishment of thought, imagination, attentiveness, dialogue and mutual understanding. That cannot be our future.”*

Source: Remarks from Pope Francis delivered on October 15, 2020 through a video message for the event organized by the Congregation for Catholic Education at the Pontifical Lateran University on a Global Compact for Education.

# Commitments for the Global Compact

## Excerpts from Remarks by Pope Francis

*“We commit ourselves personally and in common:*

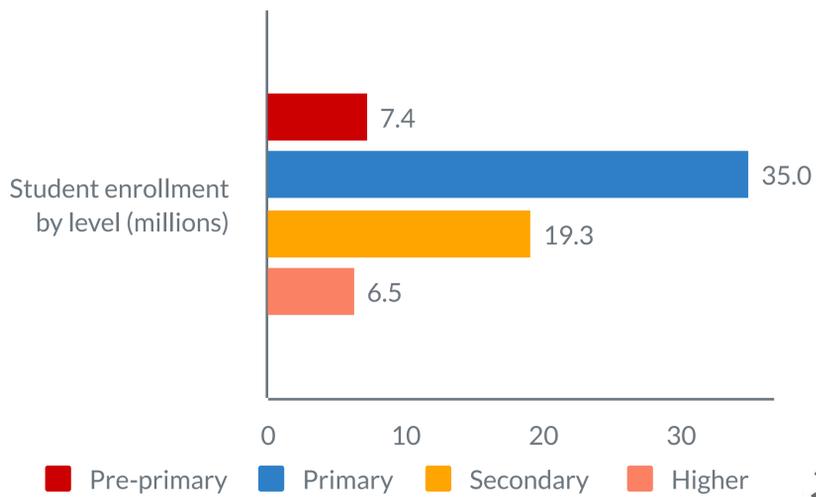
- First, to make human persons in their value and dignity the centre of every educational programme, both formal and informal, in order to foster their distinctiveness, beauty and uniqueness, and their capacity for relationship with others and with the world around them, while at the same time teaching them to reject lifestyles that encourage the spread of the throwaway culture.*
- Second, to listen to the voices of children and young people to whom we pass on values and knowledge, in order to build together a future of justice, peace and a dignified life for every person.*
- Third, to encourage the full participation of girls and young women in education.*
- Fourth, to see in the family the first and essential place of education.*
- Fifth, to educate and be educated on the need for acceptance and in particular openness to the most vulnerable and marginalized.*
- Sixth, to be committed to finding new ways of understanding the economy, politics, growth and progress that can truly stand at the service of the human person and the entire human family, within the context of an integral ecology.*
- Seventh, to safeguard and cultivate our common home, protecting it from the exploitation of its resources, and to adopt a more sober lifestyle marked by the use of renewable energy sources and respect for the natural and human environment, in accordance with the principles of subsidiarity, solidarity and a circular economy.*
- Finally, dear brothers and sisters, we want to commit ourselves courageously to developing an educational plan within our respective countries, investing our best energies and introducing creative and transformative processes in cooperation with civil society. In this, our point of reference should be the social doctrine that, inspired by the revealed word of God and Christian humanism, provides a solid basis and a vital resource for discerning the paths to follow in the present emergency.”*

Source: Remarks from Pope Francis delivered on October 15, 2020 through a video message for the event organized by the Congregation for Catholic Education at the Pontifical Lateran University on a Global Compact for Education.

# Statistics about Catholic Education

## Global enrollment in Catholic education

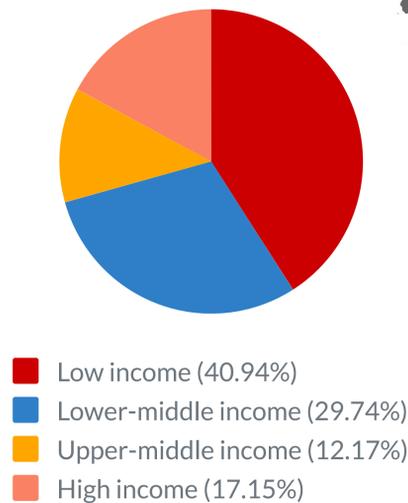
68.2 million students, including 35.0 million in primary school



The 5 top countries by enrolment at the pre-school, primary, and secondary levels are all low or lower-middle income: DR Congo, Kenya, Malawi, India, Uganda (income classification from the World Bank)



Share of all primary school students by level of income of the country



## Selected contributions of Catholic schools and universities

### Contributions to education systems

- In sub-Saharan Africa, 11.0% of all primary school students are in a Catholic school
- In low income countries, 13.7% of all primary school students are in a Catholic school
- Catholic education contributes to education pluralism and the right to education
- In many Catholic schools, student learning tends to be comparatively higher

### Contributions to communities

- Catholic schools and universities emphasize values and integral human development
- Catholic schools and universities enroll children from all backgrounds and faiths

### Economic contributions

- Budget savings for states of more than US\$ 100 billion (PPP) per year in 38 countries
- Contribution to the future earnings of today's workers of at least US\$12 trillion

Source: [\*Global Catholic Education Report 2021: Education Pluralism, Learning Poverty, and the Right to Education\*](#).

# Educating Children and Youth

## Illustrative quotes from two dozen interviews

### **Fr. Alexandre Bingo, Burkina Faso**

*"The school of faith wants to combat ignorance of the religion of the other and promote ... respect for the other in their religious practice."*

### **Kathy Mears, United States**

*"[During the pandemic] I have seen our teachers and school leaders go above and beyond the call of duty."*

### **Sr. Patricia Parraguez Núñez, Chile**

*"Catholic education's purpose is the humanization of the person in the image of Christ. The integral formation that Catholic education seeks is its great strength."*

### **Leonardo Franchi, United Kingdom**

*"Few academics will make earth-shattering discoveries. Academic life is about preserving, curating and, when possible, enhancing the intellectual inheritance of humanity."*

### **Louis-Marie Piron, France**

*"The teacher is not solely a knowledge expert. The school must awake the potential of each young person ... [and] boost young people's talent for solidarity."*

### **Sr. Martha Séide, Italy**

*"The aim of the education of Don Bosco and Mary Dominic Mazzarello is to accompany young people to become honest citizens and good Christians."*

### **Br. Peter Tabichi, Kenya**

*"It is all about having confidence in the student. Every child has potential, a gift or a talent. I try to engage students in various activities and mentor them."*

### **Fr. Alain Manalo, Philippines**

*"Catholic schools belong to the minority in Asia, including the predominantly Catholic Philippines. But they are known to offer excellent quality education and Christian values formation, ... for holistic human development."*

### **Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, Canada**

*"Our teachers and students are learning about First Nations people, about native spirituality and incorporating some practices into religious education. They are developing ways to overcome racism."*

# Useful Resources

## Selected reports available for (free) download

To download reports, click on the visuals below.

### World Catholic Education Day 2021



Celebrating Educators and Working Together for the Global Compact on Education May 2021



### Global Catholic Education Report 2021



Education Pluralism, Learning Poverty, and the Right to Education Quentin Wodon March 2021



### Educatio Si Bulletin



Issue 8, Spring 2021

#### GLOBAL REPORT 2021 AND COMMITTING OIEC TO THE GLOBAL COMPACT

Edited by Philippe Richard and Quentin Wodon Spring 2021

**GLOBAL CATHOLIC EDUCATION REPORT 2021**  
**INFORME MUNDIAL SOBRE EDUCACIÓN CATÓLICA 2021**  
**RAPPORT MONDIAL SUR L'ÉDUCATION CATHOLIQUE 2021**

Catholic schools and universities serve 68 million students and contribute to the right to education especially in low income countries.  
 Las escuelas y universidades católicas atienden a 68 millones de estudiantes y contribuyen al derecho a la educación, especialmente en los países de bajos ingresos.  
 Les écoles et universités catholiques accueillent 68 millions d'étudiants et contribuent au droit à l'éducation, en particulier dans les pays à faible revenu.

#### COMMITTING OIEC TO THE GLOBAL COMPACT

Proceedings of the OIEC Event Held on February 25, 2021 - Actas del evento de la OIEC celebrado el 25 de febrero de 2021 - Actes de l'événement tenu par l'OIEC le 25 février 2021

Herrnara Gloria Patricia Corredor  
 Père Boutros Azar  
 Father Alain P. Manalo  
 Jean Brunet  
 Maria de Jesus Zamarripa  
 Hermano Nestor Anaya  
 Father Jose Alberto Mesa

Letter of Commitment from OIEC for the Global Compact - Carta de compromiso de la OIEC con el Pacto Global por la Educación - Lettre d'engagement de l'OIEC avec le Pacte Educatif Mondial

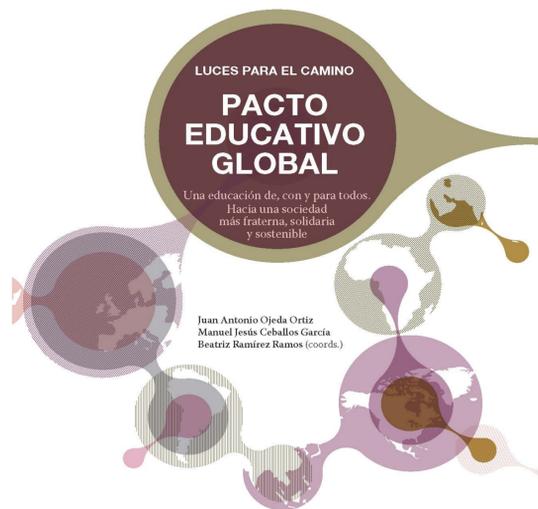
Road Map: Promoting and Building the Global Compact from the Bottom Up - Hoja de Ruta: Promover y construir el Pacto Educativo Global desde lo local - Feuille de Route: Promouvoir et construire le Pacte éducatif global depuis le local

Prospectiva: Rehacer juntos el Pacto Educativo Global - Educar con sentido, en la cultura del encuentro  
**In collaboration with - Avec la collaboration de - En colaboración con**

### Ensuring a Bright Future for All Children



Interviews at the Frontline of Working with Children at Risk Globally Edited by Quentin Wodon April 2021



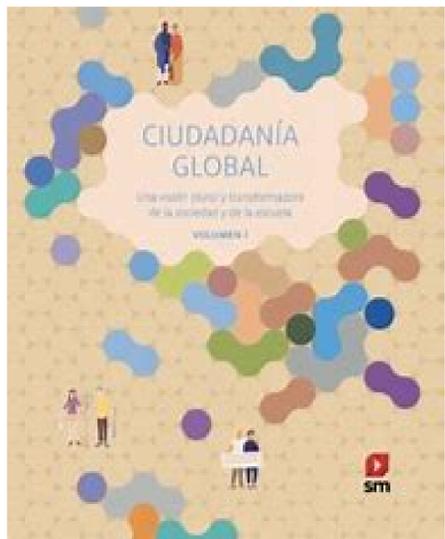
**CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS AND THE FUTURES OF EDUCATION:**  
 A Contribution to UNESCO's Futures of Education Commission  
 by the International Office of Catholic Education  
 and the Global Pedagogical Network - Joining in Reformation

Paul Barber, Michel Bertet, John Choi, Katerina Czerwitski, Njobati Frederick Fondzenyuy, Ignasi Grau I Callizo, Helga Hambroek, Joseph Herveau, Annika Kastner, Jonathan Laabs, Alain Manalo, José Mesa, Samuel Mutabazi, Augusta Muthigani, Philippe Richard, Annette Scheunpflug, Birgit Sendler-Koschel, Maureen White, and Quentin Wodon<sup>1</sup>

November 2020

This document is available among others at [www.GlobalCatholicEducation.org](http://www.GlobalCatholicEducation.org), <http://oiecinternational.com/>, and <https://www.gpenreformation.net/>.

<sup>1</sup> Several of the authors serve with OIEC or GPE/Reformation in a volunteer capacity. These authors endorse this contribution on a personal basis. The contribution need not necessarily reflect the views of their employer.



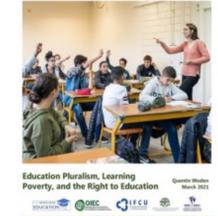
For a short (9') video on key findings from the Global Catholic Education Report 2021, click on the visual on the right.

#### IHD (Integral Human Development) Shorts

The Global Catholic Education Report 2021: Education Pluralism, Learning Poverty, and the Right to Education

Quentin Wodon March 21, 2021

#### Global Catholic Education Report 2021



Other resources are available on OIEC'S website (<http://oiecinternational.com/>) and at Global Catholic Education (<https://www.globalcatholiceducation.org/>).

# Committing to the Global Compact

For more information, visit our websites



Click on the logos to access the websites.



This brochure was designed by the Global Catholic Education project



# Celebrating World Catholic Education Day 2021: Towards a Global Compact on Education

