



**GLOBAL COMPACT  
ON EDUCATION**

**NEWSLETTER**  
*April/2022 (English)*

[www.educationglobalcompact.org](http://www.educationglobalcompact.org)

## **LINES OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON EDUCATION** Casina Pio IV - GCE Conference - 30-31 May and 1 June 2022



On 30-31 May and 1 June 2022, the Conference entitled "Lines of Development of the Global Compact on Education" will take place in the Casina Pio IV. The conference will be attended by the Magnificent Rectors, the Delegates for the Global Compact on Education (GCE) and other members of the universities leading the research work on the themes of the Global Compact on Education. A number of experts from the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and other collaborators of the Congregation for Catholic Education have been invited to the Conference. They will help in the afternoon of the first day (30 May) to reflect on the current challenges of Education worldwide and guide the debate on the proposed topics. The working group of the LUMSA University that coordinates the activities concerning the GCE and other invited guests from international organisations involved in the field of education and on the themes proposed by the Global Compact on Education will be present at the Conference.

The five thematic areas and their lead universities are as follows:

- 1) "Dignity and Human Rights": Notre Dame University - Indiana (USA); Universidad Catolica Silva Henriquez - Santiago (Chile).
- 2) "Fraternity and Cooperation": Università Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore - Milan (Italy); Ethiopian Catholic University - Addis Ababa (Ethiopia).
- 3) "Technology and integral ecology": Pontificia Universidad Javeriana - Bogota (Colombia); Australian Catholic University (Australia).
- 4) "Peace and Citizenship": Pontifical Lateran University (Italy); Boston College - Boston (USA).
- 5) "Cultures and Religions": University Of Santo Tomas - Manila (Philippines); Sophia University Institute - Loppiano (Italy).

The final aim of this Conference is to prepare a strategic work plan concerning the GCE for the coming years.

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# YOUTH FOR THE EARTH

Bishop Vincenzo Zani at *Earth Day 2022*

22 APRILE  
#OnePeopleOnePlanet

UNA MARATONA MULTIMEDIALE PER  
CELEBRARE L'EARTH DAY DELLE NAZIONI  
UNITE

IN PARTNERSHIP CON RAI

#EarthDay2022 #OnePeopleOnePlanet #OPOP22 #IoCiTengo

From **9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on 22-4-2022**, a space was aired dedicated to young people and their extraordinary centrality in climate and social issues. Active citizenship, sustainability, science and fun... to train the ecological awareness of young people and children. The Earth is in their hands!

- **ALL DOWN TO (THE) EARTH:** a moment dedicated to the youngest children and focused on **scientific disclosure** through **entertainment and fun**, to train ecological sensitivity from an early age. Presented were the results of the #IOCITENGO contest realised in collaboration with numerous schools, the projects with which Italy's schools are participating with originality and enthusiasm in the Festival of Education for Sustainability and the **Global Educational Pact** in the presence of **H.E. Monsignor Vincenzo Zani**, Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education.

- **RI GENERATION:** a space dedicated to young people and their extraordinary centrality in the climate issue. A project inspired by the Ministry of Education's Ri-Generation School programme, which opens a new season of knowledge of nature and its beauty through the culture of education for sustainability. Many projects and contents are offered to young people, including the Baby Mayors Project (an example of active citizenship). Thousands of schools remotely connected.

- **MAKE NOISE:** review of projects implemented by young people ahead of **COP27** in November 2023 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. On the eve of **COP YOUTH 26**, **Pope Francis** addressed young people saying: "*Remember that you are the present and not the future of humanity, so make noise to shake the consciences of those who govern the world today*". Hence the idea of a module dedicated to the presentation of the initiatives of the new generations, including the "**FATE CHIASSO - Appunti dell'Ippogrifo**" edited by **Ludovica Sassi** and **Lucrezia Tuccillo**, illustrated by the **street artist Maupal** and co-produced by the **publisher Frate Indovino** and the non-profit organisation **Earth Day Italia**.

From <https://www.onepeopleoneplanet.it/giovani-per-la-terra>

## TOGETHER IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL VILLAGE

Students of Sophia University Institute  
visiting the CEC



(From Professor Roberto Catalano's blog we extracted the story of the visit to the CEC).

For three days I was in Rome with ... a truly fantastic group: Brazilians, mostly, but also a Congolese, a Chilean, two French, a Pakistani, an Italian-Argentinean, one from Sierra Leone. In addition, two Italians and an Egyptian joined us for a few moments. The world!

The first day opened with a two-hour meeting at the Dicastery of Catholic Education to deepen its mandate within the universal Church, but also to grasp the spirit of the **Global Compact on Education** that Pope Francis has launched in the past two years and in which Sophia is actively engaged as a very young institute to offer a specific contribution especially in the area of intercultural and interreligious dialogue. After an articulate presentation by Monsignor Vincenzo Zani, Secretary of the Dicastery, a very spontaneous and profound dialogue began, prompted by students from different cultural contexts who highlighted educational emergencies in Brazil, Chile, Congo. What emerged was a realistic panorama of the situation of education in general and of Catholic education in particular and, alongside this, the relevance of Pope Francis' intuition in launching a global educational pact, which, by the way, was originally suggested by a group of rabbis. It is, therefore, interreligious in itself. In fact, this initiative already involves groups and institutions of different cultural and religious backgrounds.

An experience that makes us understand the value of that 'educational village' Pope Francis speaks of in the **Global Compact on Education**. It is not a new structure or superstructure, but a *locus* where teachers and students work, think, learn together. Of course. Because in the village one is always together, with different roles, but with common goals. And, above all, we all train and continue to train together!

(R.C.)

## CATÓLICA DO PARANÁ (BRASIL)

A training meeting on the Global Education Pact

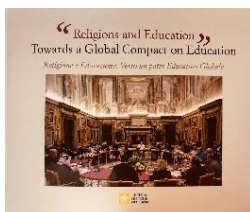


On 14 April 2022, the Rectorate of the Catholic University of Paraná (Brazil) held an online training meeting on the **Global Compact on Education**. The Rector of the PUC-PR Prof. Dr. Rogério Renato Matteucci, invited Fr. Ezio L. Bono, as a member of the Global Compact on Education Committee to deliver a communication, in which he presented the GCE in 3 points: 1) what the Global Compact on Education is; 2) how it arose and its significance; 3) the theoretical and practical commitment of the universities that adhere to the **Global Compact on Education**.

PUC-PR has shown great commitment to the Educational Covenant, as evidenced by the dossier sent to the GCE Secretary, where numerous activities carried out from 2019 to the present day are recorded. This university has made a commitment to translate into Portuguese and publish the GCE guidelines for universities. In addition, it will work together with Notre Dame University (USA) and Universidad Silva Henríquez (Chile) on the theme "Dignity and Human Rights", and will participate in the Conference of Universities to be held on 30-31 May and 1 June 2022 in the Vatican.

## RELIGIONS AND EDUCATION

Book of the World Meeting of Representatives of Religions published



On 5 October 2021, on the occasion of World Teachers' Day, a world meeting of Representatives of Religions was held in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace, entitled:

"Religions and Education. Towards a **Global Compact on Education**". To commemorate that important event, the Congregation for Catholic Education published at the Libreria Editrice Vaticana, a souvenir book, where in addition to the photos of that memorable meeting, the speeches delivered by the Holy Father, the Representatives of Religions, the Vice President of UNESCO and the Message of the Representatives of Religions to Teachers were published.

## TOWARDS CLOSER COOPERATION - IRAQ AND CEC

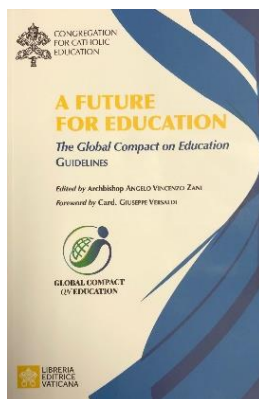
Interest in the Global Compact on Education



On 22 April 2022, a meeting took place at the Congregation for Catholic Education between the First Secretary of the Embassy of Iraq to the Holy See, Mr. Miqdad AlNoori, and the Secretary of the CEC, H.E. Monsignor Vincenzo Zani.

The Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and the Iraqi Ministry of Culture, through the Embassy, expressed their interest in signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the CEC, concerning cultural, scientific and educational cooperation, in order to develop the scientific skills of Iraqi students. A planned future cooperation will be part of the Global Educational Pact and will aim to promote reciprocal visits, memoranda of understanding between Iraqi and Catholic universities, conferences and exhibitions, publications and other cultural events.

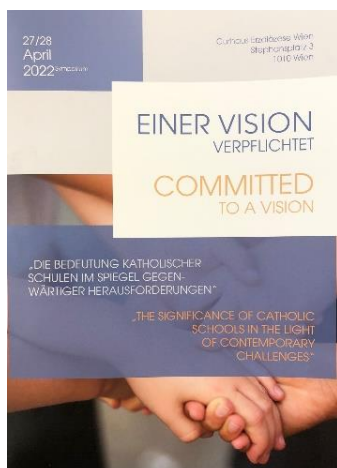
## GCE GUIDELINES IN ENGLISH



The Congregation for Catholic Education has published, at the Libreria Editrice Vaticana, a volume entitled 'A Future for Education' which includes guidelines for research by universities on the themes of the **Global Compact on Education**. This is a translation of part of the book published in Italian entitled "Educazione tra crisi e speranza" (Education between crisis and hope). It will soon also be translated into Spanish and Portuguese.

# International Symposium in Vienna: 'COMMITTED TO A VISION'

The significance of Catholic schools in the light of contemporary challenges



Catholic schools are an “indispensable component” in the Austrian education system and - like Caritas - enjoy enormous prestige and reputation among the population: this was emphasised by education experts at an International Symposium organised by the Inter-diocesan Office for Education (IDA)

on Catholic public schools in Vienna. On 27/28 April, some 120 experts from twelve European and overseas countries discussed the present and future of the Catholic education and school system under the title 'Committed to a Vision'.

The head of the section of the Ministry of Education, Doris Wagner, referred in particular to the great importance of Catholic public schools in Austria. Catholic public schools make an "essential contribution to the overall concert" of Austrian schools and educational institutions and, in addition to a high level of education, also stand for "holistic education", Wagner said.

The international aspects of Catholic education were presented at the Symposium by the Undersecretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education, Fr. Friedrich Bechina, and the President of the



The Symposium concluded with an address by the Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education, Archbishop Angelo Vincenzo Zani entitled: 'The contribution of Catholic schools to current challenges'. In his speech, His Excellency Mgr. Zani focused on three aspects: identifying the most urgent challenges currently facing Catholic schools; summarising the main contributions indicated by the documents of the Congregation for Catholic Education over the last ten years; and briefly illustrating the objectives launched by Pope Francis with the '**Global Compact on Education**', which opens up a new perspective of commitment for the Church and its educational institutions.

The Vatican's Dicastery for Education has addressed current challenges several times in the past decade in various documents, the archbishop informed. He mentioned problems such as the fragile communication between generations and the uncertainty of many parents about their role as educators, the advance of 'transhumanism' with the aim of 'improving' human beings with biotechnology, the new aggressive nationalisms linked to a loss of historical consciousness, the disturbed relationship between human beings and nature or the environment, and also the secularisation of Western societies, which is linked to an 'erosion of fundamental values'. All this calls for measures for a 'humanisation of education', which is also a goal of the Catholic Church, assured Archbishop Zani. In the archbishop's words, the Catholic Church wanted to make a substantial 'contribution to the renewal of the educational passion for and with the younger generations'. The pandemic and now the war in Ukraine have brought a 'change of epoch'. It is necessary to learn to live with the associated uncertainties and also 'to have the courage to resist the negative forces'. This could succeed through a 'global village of education', which, according to Bishop Zani, would be possible through a cohesive and functioning humanity with leaders who should already be prepared for this not only intellectually, but also endowed with values such as a sense of responsibility and community spirit.



'International Office of Catholic Education' (OIEC), Paul Barber.

P. Bechina referred to the great diversity of Catholic schools, which number some 220,000 worldwide and are attended by some 70 million pupils. In this diversity, one can only exist if one does not only see oneself as a teacher (Magistra), but is willing to learn from one's social environment. In this sense, Catholic schools are also central places of dialogue with 'the world': "We must get out of the feeling of being a tightly fenced flock. We must not be afraid of confront ourselves with everything that is out there", said Fr Bechina.

<https://www.kirche-schule-bildung.at/pages/religionsunterricht30/home/aktuelles/article/138391.html>