A delegation from the OIEC (Office International de l’Enseignement Catholique) composed of Philippe Richard, Juan Antonio Ojeda, Hervé Lecomte, Alejandra Beigbeder and Carlos González met on February 10, 2022 with H.E. Mgr. Vincenzo Zani and other members of the Congregation for Catholic Education (CEC) at the Congress Hall of the Dicastery. The purpose of the meeting was to present the Project promoted by the OIEC: “PLANET FRATERNITY”, which unites schools, classes and students from different countries (mainly Catholic, but also non-Catholic), to work together, twinning and building a more human, fraternal, solidarity and sustainable world. Then the OIEC World Congress in Marseille was presented, to be held in December 2022, to which the CEC has also been invited. Finally, the OIEC representatives wished to share what they have done and promoted regarding the Global Compact on Education. Brother Ojeda reported that the guidebook that had been prepared for the GCE had been translated into 15 languages and many religious congregations had accepted it and contextualised it from their local reality.

Mgr. Zani expressed his satisfaction with the Planet Fraternity project and stressed the connection between this project, the Marseilles Congress and the Global Compact on Education. After distributing the GCE Vademecum and Guidelines to those present, Mgr. Zani concluded the meeting by launching the idea of an Education "EXPO", in view of the Jubilee in 2025.
The study seminar promoted by the Rome Forum of Catholic-inspired NGOs, the Dicastery for the Service of Integral Human Development and the Permanent Mission of the Holy See to FAO, IFAD and WFP took place on Wednesday 22 February 2022. The meeting offered a discussion on the ways and approaches in which Catholic-inspired institutions help to promote effective and appropriate initiatives to combat hunger in the world. Representatives from Rome-based United Nations agencies also spoke.

H.E. Card. Michael Czerny, Prefect of the Dicastery for Integral Human Service, opened the session by stressing that the mitigation of food crises depends solely on our behaviour.

His Excellency Mgr Vincenzo Zani, Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education, gave a presentation entitled "Education and intergenerational dialogue: keys to building the present and preparing the future". In his presentation, Mgr. Zani took up the themes of Pope Francis contained in his Message for the World Day of Peace on 1 January 2022, where the Holy Father indicated Education as one of the three instruments for building peace in the world.

Fernando Chica Arellano, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to FAO, IFAD and WFP, closed the session.

A delegation of the State Forestry Corps of the Carabinieri, composed of Commander-General of the Army Corps Antonio Pietro Marzo, Gen. D. Davide de Laurentis, Commander Colonel Raffaele Pio Manicone, the Commander’s aide-de-camp, Lt. Col. Alessandro Basile, accompanied by Dr. Pierluigi Sassi, President of Earth Day Italy, met on 3 February with His Eminence Giuseppe Versaldi, Cardinal Prefect and His Excellency Mgr. Vincenzo Zani, Secretary of the CEC, at the Congregation for Catholic Education. A presentation was made of the conference to be held on 19-22 May 2022 on the theme of legality, to which headmasters, teachers, environmental associations, indigenous peoples, Italian, European and non-European journalists will be invited. The delegation asked to cooperate with the Global Compact on Education specifically with regard to the GCE’s 7th objective of safeguarding the common home.
P AS GLOBAL PACT
FIDAE webinar on GCE

As part of the training webinars promoted by FIDAE, the training meeting of February 2, 2022 was dedicated to the theme "Global Educational Pact: how to revitalize the commitment for and with the new generations by focusing on the person". The speaker was Father Armando Matteo, Undersecretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Here are the other March Webinars dedicated to the theme of the Global Educational Pact: 9/3/22 "Promoting women" with Paola Bignardi; 16/3/22 "Empowering the family" with Monsignor Franco Giulio Brambilla; 23/3/22 "Opening up to welcome" with Monsignor Carlo Maria Radaelli; 30/3/22 "Renewing the economy and politics" with Alessandra Gerolin.

OMAEC AND GCE

The World Organization of Former Students of Catholic Education (OMAEC: Organisation Mondiale des Anciens Élèves de l’Enseignement Catholique) organised and conducted a webinar on the Global Compact on Education on 19 February 2022. The speaker was Quentin Wodon, World Bank economist and OMAEC USA correspondent.

PONTIFICAL COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

On February 22, 2022, Prof. Rodrigo Guerra Lopez and Ms. Emilce Cuda, respectively Secretary and Head of Office of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, met with H.E. Msgr. Zani, Secretary of the CEC, to introduce themselves as new members of the Pontifical Commission and to present the project of their Commission and Loyola University Chicago "Building Bridges North-South", an online synodal meeting between Pope Francis and university students. Bishop Zani introduced them to the Congregation for Catholic Education and offered the GCE Vademecum and Guidelines.

BUILDING BRIDGES NORTH-SOUTH

An online synodal meeting between Pope Francis and university students was held on 24 February 2022, organised by the Pontifical Commission for Latin America and Loyola University Chicago.

This historic meeting between the Pope and university students from North, Central and South America addressed the salient challenges of our time. The Pope dialogued with these university students who shared concrete educational projects that aim to transform environmental and economic realities from a new perspective.
On 19 February 2022, the Association of Parents of Catholic Schools (AGeSC) held a meeting on the Global Educational Pact broadcast live via streaming. The title of the meeting was: "Global Compact, Community Pacts: The centrality of School as relationship, knowledge, values. What future for the Italian Public School?"

On 24 January 2022, on the fourth International Education Day, UNESCO wanted to emphasise that our world is at a turning point. Widening inequalities, a damaged planet, increasing polarisation and the devastating impact of the global pandemic confront us with a generational choice: continue on an unsustainable path or radically change course. Education is the key to charting a course towards greater justice and sustainability, but it is failing as millions of children, youth and adults have seen their exposure to poverty, violence and exploitation increase.

On 20 February 2022, the Association of Parents of Catholic Schools (AGeSC) held a meeting on the Global Educational Pact broadcast live via streaming. The title of the meeting was: "Global Compact, Community Pacts: The centrality of School as relationship, knowledge, values. What future for the Italian Public School?"

UNESCO’s International Commission on the Futures of Education has published a report entitled “Reimagining our futures together” which highlights the power of education to bring about profound change in our humanity which faces a twofold challenge: fulfilling the unfulfilled promise of guaranteeing the right to quality education for every child, young person and adult and fully realising the transformative potential of education as a pathway to a sustainable collective future. To do this, we need a new social contract for education, grounded in human rights and based on principles of non-discrimination, social justice, respect for life, human dignity and cultural diversity.

Many bright spots already exist. This report tries to identify them and build on them. It is not a manual or a project, but an opening for a vital conversation.

To access the full report: https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379707/PDF/379707eng.pdf.multi