



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



**UNODC**  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

# Global Citizenship Education for the Rule of Law: Doing the right thing

UNESCO and UNODC have established a partnership to promote the rule of law and a culture of lawfulness through education. Combining their resources and expertise, they are seeking to build the capacities of educators, teachers and policy-makers to plan and undertake educational activities that empower learners to take constructive and ethically responsible decisions in their daily lives that support justice, human rights and strong institutions to defend them.

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*The partnership was established within the context of UNESCO's efforts to promote Global Citizenship Education and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's Education for Justice initiative (E4J) to develop resources for teachers and policymakers. As such, it aims to advance Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, in particular Target 4.7 on education for human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity, and SDG 16, calling for effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.*

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## Why is it important to promote the rule of law through education ?

- To nurture trust. Education systems that uphold and promote respect for the rule of law, in adherence with international human rights and fundamental freedoms, nurture trust between learners and public institutions.
  - To build understanding. Education that adheres to the principles of the rule of law develops learners' ability to critically understand essential elements of accountability, equality and fairness.
  - To act constructively. Promoting the rule of law through education helps learners acquire the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes they need to contribute constructively to society. It also allows them to positively shape public institutions and their policies, thereby encouraging non-violent and peaceful avenues of civic engagement.
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## What are we doing?

- Producing guidance materials to help education professionals understand the full meaning of the rule of law and its implications for education.
  - Developing toolkits for primary and secondary level educators around a set of values and skills that promote the rule of law in formal and non-formal educational settings.
  - Leading sub-regional capacity-building for educational professionals on the rule of law, as well as the prevention of violent extremism through education.
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The UNESCO/UNODC partnership *Global Citizenship Education for the Rule of Law: Doing the right thing* aims to strengthen the capacities of policy-maker, educators, teacher trainers and curriculum developers to promote the rule of law through education. More specifically, the partnership supports professionals in education to design and implement educational interventions that equip learners with the knowledge, attitudes and skills to constructively and responsibly engage in society, uphold the principle of justice and help build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

By bringing together UNESCO's work in support of Global Citizenship Education and UNODC's Education for Justice (E4J) initiative under the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, the partnership aims to contribute to the achievement of SDG 4 on Education and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

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### Further information

UNESCO/UNODC partnership:  
<https://en.unesco.org/themes/gced/rule-law>

UNESCO's work on preventing violent extremism through education (PVE-E):  
<https://en.unesco.org/preventing-violent-extremism/edu-as-tool>

UNODC's Education for Justice (E4J) initiative:  
<https://www.unodc.org/e4j>

## Stay in touch

**UNESCO Division for Peace and Sustainable Development  
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**UNODC's Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration  
Education for Justice (E4J) initiative**

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