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UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education 2025 Laureates

The UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education (GCED) provides an exceptional global platform to promote the visibility and recognition of projects and initiatives in the field of GCED from around the world.

In its inaugural edition in 2025, the Prize honours a school project in the Amazon rainforest in Ecuador that guides children to become empathetic community leaders, and a youth-led non-governmental organization in the United Republic of Tanzania that involves youth nationwide in fora and festivals to promote peace and security.

About the Prize

Established in 2024 and funded by the Republic of Korea, the UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education is the first of its kind.

Awarded every two years, the Prize recognizes outstanding efforts in promoting and advancing GCED through two categories:

- youth-led organizations and
- general: individuals, institutions, non-governmental organizations and other entities.

An international jury recommends two finalists to UNESCO's Director-General. Each laureate receives 50,000 USD.



More information



<https://www.unesco.org/en/prizes/global-citizenship-education>

Meet the 2025 laureates



United Republic of Tanzania

The African Leadership Initiatives for Impact (ALII)

The African Leadership Initiatives for Impact (ALII), a youth-led NGO in the United Republic of Tanzania, receives the 2025 Prize for its “Youth4Peace Agenda Project”. With the aim of creating unity, social cohesion and sustainable development, the project empowers young people to become changemakers and supports them in promoting peace and countering misinformation, hate speech and discrimination.

Grounded in local needs and youth priorities, the project promotes key universal values of global citizenship such as dialogue and understanding, conflict resolution, cross-cultural participation and collaboration. The organization has reached over 50,000 young people through targeted and mass educational online campaigns, educational outreach

through secondary schools, youth peace festivals, and the annual national Forum on Youth, Peace and Security. Through its Youth for Peace Coalition and Agenda, young change- and policy-makers have a platform to co-create and inform the country's National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security.

More information

 <https://alii-africa.or.tz>

 <https://www.facebook.com/people/The-African-Leadership-Initiatives-for-Impact/61564331940833/>

 @ALII_Africa



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Ecuador

Bosque Escuela Tena — Guardians of the forest, builders of the future

Bosque Escuela Tena, a school in the Kichwa Tamia Yura community of Tena, in the Amazon region of Ecuador, receives the 2025 Prize for its “Guardians of the forest, builders of the future” programme. Founded in 2023, the school guides children from preschool to high school to protect nature and to become guardians of a just and sustainable future.

Amazonian and ancestral wisdom are interwoven with innovation in multicultural and multilingual spaces, fostering respect for diversity and heritage through creative, hands-on educational activities that nurture global citizenship in learners.

Transforming the surrounding forest into a living classroom, the programme addresses today’s challenges, including

climate change, by valuing cultural diversity and connecting youth to their heritage, and by developing ecological awareness and personal responsibility. By engaging with elders, artists, and scientists, students learn skills for intercultural dialogue, conflict resolution and ecological stewardship.

Since 2023, the programme has enrolled over 110 children and youth.

More information

UNESCO and Global Citizenship Education



There is an urgent need to address the interconnected and complex challenges of the twenty-first century, such as the resurgence of armed conflicts, worsening climate change, rising forms of hatred, polarization, discrimination and racism, and persistent and growing inequities at both local and global levels today.

The UNESCO Recommendation on Education for Peace, Human Rights and Sustainable Development (2023) provides a framework to address these issues through education.

Global Citizenship Education (GCED) is an approach which responds to challenges by promoting a sense of belonging to a global community and encouraging the active participation of every person to collaborate and find solutions. It seeks to empower people of all ages and across different groups to work together and find solutions in solidarity.

With universal values of human rights and empathy at its core, GCED helps learners to make meaningful impact at local, national, regional or international level.

GCED aims to equip learners with:

- a deep knowledge of global issues and universal values such as justice, equality, dignity and respect,
- cognitive skills to think critically, systemically and creatively, adopting a multi-perspective approach,
- non-cognitive skills, including social skills, such as empathy and conflict resolution, and communicative skills and aptitudes for networking and interacting with people of different backgrounds, origins, cultures and perspectives, and
- behavioural capacities to act collaboratively and responsibly, and to strive for collective good.

More information



<https://www.unesco.org/en/global-citizenship-peace-education>

UNESCO – a global leader in education

Education is UNESCO's top priority because it is a basic human right and the foundation for peace and sustainable development. UNESCO is the United Nations' specialized agency for education, providing global and regional leadership to drive progress, strengthening the resilience and capacity of national systems to serve all learners. UNESCO also leads efforts to respond to contemporary global challenges through transformative learning, with special focus on gender equality and Africa across all actions.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization

The Global Education 2030 Agenda

UNESCO, as the United Nations' specialized agency for education, is entrusted to lead and coordinate the Education 2030 Agenda, which is part of a global movement to eradicate poverty through 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Education, essential to achieve all of these goals, has its own dedicated Goal 4, which aims to “*ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.*” The Education 2030 Framework for Action provides guidance for the implementation of this ambitious goal and commitments.



Stay in touch

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<https://www.unesco.org/en/prizes/global-citizenship-education>

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