

HOW DOES EDUCATION BRING ABOUT PEACE?

The link between Education and peace drives us to peace education which refers to the process of acquiring values, knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviors to live in harmony with oneself, with others, and the natural environment.

Education is a significant contributor to peace, when there is education, there comes knowledge, power, safety, security, and peace. Education leads to peace and is a part of 'building back better' by supporting the transformation of the security situation, political institutions, economic regeneration, and social development of societies.

Therefore, Education can contribute to peace as follows: -

- ✓ Education creates peaceful societies through strengthening the teaching and understanding of shared values (e.g., morals) and attitudes enabling individuals to live together in a diverse environment.
- ✓ Education helps to develop identities and deal with the legacies and grievances of the previous conflict, improving social cohesion and moving societies towards reconciliation.
- ✓ Education impacts life skills to an individual for gaining self-esteem and self-confidence that can lead to living in harmony with one another. Thus, it promotes peace and development in the society
- ✓ Education reduces poverty, improves health, increases gender equality, and boosts economic growth for children and adults to become active participants in the transformation of their societies
- ✓ Education in itself reduces the risk of conflict if a population feels provided for.
- ✓ Education and skills training can help reduce the risk of people turning to or returning to conflict and can support economic regeneration.
- ✓ Education of former combatants can reduce grievances and support reintegration by giving ex-combatants skills needed for work.
- ✓ Early Childhood Development interventions have been shown to have a positive impact on peace.
- ✓ Access to education can reduce bad attitudes towards and participation in violence and raise awareness of injustice and discrimination.

In summary, it can be stated that:

- Education social services have historically been used both as a means to catalyze conflict, and to build peace. Education becomes a driver of conflict when education services are made accessible only for some, and not for everyone. Where education services are poor in quality, irrelevant for employability, or abilities to cope effectively in challenging circumstances, citizens respond with frustration and resentment.
 - Where education systems are being hijacked to polarize society, or where education instruments and tools communicate disrespect or discriminate against minority groups, education naturally turns into a tool of divisiveness.
 - On the other hand, education services that are equitably accessible; that are of quality and relevance that reinforce a common narrative; that strengthen intergroup relationships and identities; and that are fairly administered across constituent groups education do foster both vertical and horizontal social cohesion.
1. The role of education is to empower children and adults to become active participants in the transformation of their societies. Education can create peaceful societies by strengthening the teaching and understanding of shared knowledge, values and attitudes enabling individuals to live together in diverse environments.