
GLOBAL CALL

for action



On International Students' Day, 17th November 2014, we call on student organisations around the world to stand up for **free education**. On 17th November, we commemorate past student struggles and draw attention to the current ones. In 2014, as policy makers around the world gather to set a global education framework in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, we take action to assert the common student interest. We declare, most fundamentally that: **education is a right**. To guarantee the educational, civic and social rights of students and citizens, **we demand free education**; which means an education that is, at all levels:

FREE OF COSTS AND FEES
EDUCATION IS A RIGHT
NOT A PRIVILEGE!

Education is not a commodity to be bought and sold but the key to the development of an informed and emancipated society. Education must remain a public responsibility, in service of the public good. The universal right to education should be guaranteed through the abolition of all financial barriers to education, including tuition fees and hidden costs. **Education is a right, not a privilege!**

FREE OF DISCRIMINATION
EDUCATION IS A PATH
TO EMANCIPATION!

Education systems often replicate the oppressive structures of wider society, perpetuating discrimination and social inequality. Instead, educational institutions must actively deconstruct prejudice and stereotypes to ensure the equal rights of all people in education and in society. **Education is a path to emancipation!**

FREE OF FEAR
STUDENT RIGHTS ARE
HUMAN RIGHTS!

Increasingly, students are targeted by institutions, governments and regimes in their imposition of damaging educational and social reforms. Those in power must live up to their responsibilities: upholding students' rights to express themselves and organise without fear; protecting students in conflict and guaranteeing their right to engage in civil society. **Student rights are human rights!**

--

We, the undersigned, call on student organisations around the world to unite in solidarity on 17th November: to defend our rights and stand up for **free education**, to take collective action to fight for fairer education systems and juster societies for all.

To co-sign the call, as an organisation or individual, contact Luke Shore at: luke@obessu.org

European Students' Union (ESU)
Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions (OBESSU)
Commonwealth Students' Association (CSA)
Mediterranean Network of Students (MedNet)
Canadian Federation of Students (CFS/FCEE)
United States Student Association (USSA)
All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU)
National Union of Students, Denmark (DFS)
National Union of Students, Italy (UDU)
LINK - Coordinamento Universitario, Italy
Rete degli Studenti Medi, Italy
National Union of Students in Norway (NSO)
The Student Union of Latvia (LSA)
Coordinator of Student Representatives of Public Universities, Spain (CREUP)
Academic Federation for Information and External Representation, Portugal (FAIRE)
Bulgarian School Student Union (BSSU)
Student's Alliance of Moldova
Constanta School Students Association, Romania
"Gheorghe Șincai" Students of History Association, Romania
Students Organization of West University of Timisoara (OSUT), Romania
Indian Student Parliament, India
United Youth's Voice Coalition, Philippines
Monash Students' Association (MSA), Australia
Sudtiroler HochschülerInnenschaft (SH.ASUS), Italy
Austrian Students' Union (ÖH), Austria
The student union for the faculty of educational sciences and the faculty of arts and sciences at Linköping University (StuFF)
The student union at Linneaus University in Kalmar and Växjö, Sweden
Students union of Serbia (SUS)
European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA)
Kunsill Studenti Universitarji (KSU), Malta
Teknologkåren vid Lunds Tekniska Högskola (TLTH), Sweden

ESU represents 47 national student unions from 39 European countries. OBESSU represents 24 national school student unions from 19 European countries. MetNet represents 13 national student unions from 12 countries. CSA represents students in the 53 countries of the Commonwealth.
