

Living Well with Super Diversity: Importance of Education to Cultural Diversity and Media Literacy Education

Keynote Address

Together 4 Peace: Education for Building a Peaceful and
Sustainable Future in Asia-Pacific
UNESCO Webinar III: Living Well with Super Diversity
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(ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN)

Presentation Structure



(1) CONCEPT OF PEACE
TRANSFORMATION



(2) EDUCATION AND PEACE



(3) GOOD PRACTICES ON
CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND MEDIA
LITERACY

(1) Concept of Peace Transformation

Peace and peace related activities:

peace construction, peace keeping, peace maintenance, peacebuilding, mediation, reconciliation, culture of prevention, culture of peace, etc.

Does peace necessarily relate to the absence of war only or could imply other dimensions?

(1) Concept of Peace Transformation

“The expanded UN peace agenda has mainstreamed a range of societal concerns in peace discourses that were previously relegated to the sidelines. Today, peace is not only about war and large-scale violence, but also about social justice, poverty alleviation, women’s empowerment, and harnessing the potential of young people and children’s welfare. It also brings to the fore environmental, health and cultural concerns, including heritage, music, theatre and sports...”

UNESCO. 2018. Long Walk of Peace. Towards a Culture of Prevention. Paris: UNESCO, p. 23.

(1) Concept of Peace Transformation

Conceptually new dimensions of peace come to the fore:

“peace dividend” (from “demographic” towards “peace” dividend)

“positive peace”

“human flourishing” (from “human capital” towards “human flourishing”)

“GDH” (“gross development happiness”, from GDP to GDH)

What does this tell us?

the rapidly transforming realities

the need to change ourselves to adjust to new realities on all planes - institutional, relational, cognitive

the cognitive factor – our mindset – is the crucial one

how to deal with, how to make peace with, how to live peacefully with the “Other”

(2) Education and Peace

Today, at a times of highways of knowledge and cross-roads of cultures, where mobility and dialogue are the ways of life, the education becomes the vehicle and tool that helps to know and contribute to living peacefully with the “Other”

Super and Hyper Diversity

“Delors Report” (1996)

four basic pillars on the role of education, i.e.

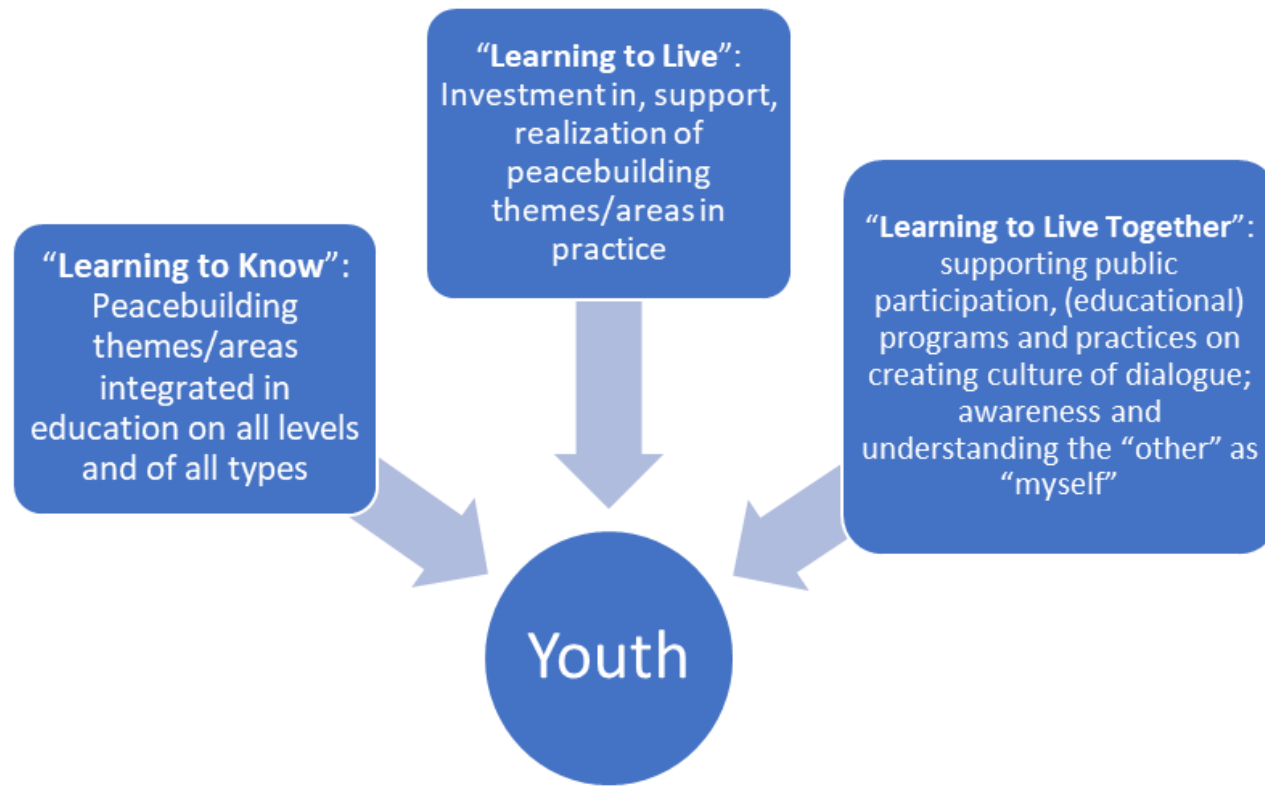
“learning to know”,

“learning to do”,

“learning to be”,

“learning to live together”

UNESCO Report on “Youth of Central Asia: Challenges for Peacebuilding” (2019)



Central Asia at the Crossroads of Cultures

Promoting intercultural dialogue, tolerance and equity among 8-12 year-old students in Central Asia



(3) Good Practices on Cultural Diversity and Media Literacy

(a) Primary Education Level

Textbook for the 8–12-year-old students of Kazakhstan, “Central Asia at the Crossroads of Cultures”

To promote intercultural dialogue, tolerance and equity among the school students and to do this in a comprehensive way

(b) Higher Education Level

The theme of cross-cultural encounters through the course design and elaboration

The special course “East and West in World History” (al-Farabi Kazakh National University) for MA students.

Goal is to shape knowledge and skills of the students to critically analyze the methodology, nature and key nodal points relating to interactions between eastern and western countries, or East and West, and to apply and correlate the acquired knowledge and skills in research and practice.

(c) Capacity-Building and Skills Development Level

Research Capacity-Building Seminar-Training on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) for researchers, organized by UNESCO Cluster Office Almaty and International Research Centre-Kazakhstan (IRCK) in Almaty (2019)

<http://en.unesco.kz/research-capacity-building-training-workshop-on-preventing-violent-extremism>



(d) Community Outreach Level

Hybrid (offline and online) discussions in partnership with the Institute Sorbonne-Kazakhstan on Intercultural Dialogue with participation of the UNESCO UNITWIN Network for Interreligious Dialogue and Intercultural Understanding, researchers, professionals, UNESCO Associated Schools, etc. (2017-2018)



Festivals of Cultures and Exhibitions

The Cultural Festival “The Art of Weaving – the Way of Living” celebrating the 150 jubilee of Mahatma Gandhi, was a multi-fold event, comprising of International Conference, Photo and Artifacts Exhibitions (2018).

In this format it has been held in Kazakhstan for the first time.





Festival of Cultures

Promotion of UNESCO Activities

Publishing Table Calendar-2020:

- Reflecting idea of peace through cultural heritage
- Promoting the UNESCO Youth Eyes on Silk Roads Photo Contest Project



(e) Personal Outreach Level

Open public/guest/other lectures, blogs/vlogs to promote the cause of cultural diversity on various platforms, both personal or collective, through Youtube, thematic platforms, or social networks

Open lectures on cross-cultural theme, particularly, on its symbolic representation in the art of Central Asia.


From Gandhara to Serindia: Cross-Cultural Encounters and Images of the “Other” in Central Asian Art (2020)

<https://www.facebook.com/108786380929530/videos/600314937349140/?sfnsn=wiwspmo&extid=bRs0euO93750Xwsi&d=n&vh=e> (in English language)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szpibZojJ7w> (in Russian language)

Living Well with Super Diversity

education on various levels and in various formats is the powerful tool to address the themes of super/hyper diversity



this could bring positive changes to make the cross-cultural encounters a peaceful and organic way of living

Thank you very much!

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