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*Speaker  
House of Representatives*  
  
*3/2/21*



International Parliamentary  
Network for Education

Dear Speaker,

I am writing to warmly request your support in the endeavors of the International Parliamentary Network for Education (IPNEd), a new initiative aiming to strengthen the links between parliamentarians across the globe in support of Sustainable Development Goal 4, 'Quality Education'.

Attached to this letter is a summary of IPNEd for your perusal, providing an overview of the Network's working methods and current policy priorities of: financing, learning and equity.

IPNEd's Global Executive, formed of two Global Co-Chairs and seven Regional Representatives, is seeking to build the membership of the Network amongst parliamentary champions for education across the world. Over 190 parliamentarians from 40 parliaments worldwide have so far joined the Network, and we seek to expand membership of IPNEd in your national parliament.


As IPNEd Regional Representative for Europe, I am writing to request your assistance in extending the invitation to interested parliamentarians to become members of IPNEd. I have attached a letter from IPNEd's Co-Chairs which can be shared with parliamentary champions for education who are interested in joining this global network of advocates for education.

I am also copying this letter to the President of the relevant Committee on Education, who I invite to become a founding member of IPNEd in the national parliament, and who I hope might be able to further assist in extending the invitation to join the Network to colleagues on the Committee.

Should you have any queries regarding the International Parliamentary Network for Education, or this particular request, then you are invited to contact either myself or IPNEd's Executive Director, Joseph Nhan-O'Reilly, at [director@ipned.org](mailto:director@ipned.org).

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



**Hon. Giulio Centemero**  
Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of Italy  
Regional Representative for Europe | International Parliamentary Network for Education

Dear Parliamentarian,

We are writing on behalf of the International Parliamentary Network for Education (IPNEd) to invite you to become a member of our global network of parliamentary champions for education.

IPNEd is a new initiative aiming to strengthen links between parliamentarians across the globe in support of Sustainable Development Goal 4, 'Quality education'.

IPNEd's mission is to grow and deepen political understanding of and commitment to inclusive and equitable quality education. We seek to achieve this through working with individual parliamentarians along with groups of parliamentarians at the national, regional and global level.

The mechanism for joining the network is affirming IPNEd's Declaration. We have attached a copy of our Declaration, for your perusal.

In affirming our Declaration, we ask parliamentarians to commit to take action and demonstrate leadership to deliver quality education for all. Working with the IPNEd Secretariat and civil society partners we will then support you and your parliamentary colleagues in delivering on that commitment.

We hope you will be able to join the network and can commit to affirming IPNEd's Declaration. Your long-standing commitment to education would make you an invaluable member of our network and we look forward to hopefully working with you to accelerate quality education for all.

To confirm that you agree to the Declaration, or should you require any further information about IPNEd, please email [info@ipned.org](mailto:info@ipned.org). We would also be grateful for any suggestions of parliamentary colleagues who may also be interested in joining the network.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Harriett Baldwin MP  
Co-Chairs | International Parliamentary Network for Education

Senator Dr Gertrude Musuruve Inimah



# International Parliamentary Network for Education

Education lights every stage of the journey to a better life. It is essential for the realization of individual potential, national economic growth, social development and for fostering global citizenship.

In 2015, the international community committed to include a goal on education, SDG 4, among the 17 Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by 2030.

The commitment was to 'ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all'.

With just ten years to go, that promise is at serious risk.

- 258 million children and adolescents still do not have access to school.
- Meanwhile, millions of children with access to school do not acquire basic skills, including the ability to read.

Emergencies and conflicts interrupt children's education, robbing them of their potential and exposing them to violence, trafficking, child labour, early marriage and recruitment by armed groups.

Financing for education remains substantially underfunded. Current estimates predict a \$1.8 trillion funding shortfall across middle and low income countries compared to the resources required to meet SDG 4.

At current rates of progress, half of the world's 1.6 billion children and youth will be out of school or failing to learn by 2030. Twice as many girls as boys will never start school.

This is nothing short of a global crisis of learning. Solving it will require renewed political commitment combined with unprecedented practical action.

## Growing political commitment and leadership

The International Parliamentary Network for Education (IPNEd) has been created to grow and deepen that commitment, and to mobilise political leadership to accelerate quality education for all. To do this work with individual parliamentarians along with groups of parliamentarians at the national, regional and global level.

## Supporting individual political leaders

IPNEd works with individual parliamentarians supporting them as policy makers, legislators and advocates.

## Collective action and advocacy in national parliaments

Recognising that sustainable reform relies on alliances, IPNEd supports collective action and advocacy by parliamentarians working together.

Where they already exist, IPNEd supports the work of national multi-party groups on education and, where they don't, IPNEd facilitates the creation of groups.

We encourage and facilitate collaboration with national stakeholders outside of parliaments, building broad alliances that support sustained political commitment to, and leadership on, education.

Over time, we are confident that the national cross party groups that we support will play a critical role in delivering inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

## Regional learning and joint action

IPNEd also brings together parliamentarians from across their regions to learn, share ideas, and agree on joint and individual actions that expand and accelerate educational progress.

## International collaboration for better implementation and accountability

At the global level IPNEd facilitates collaboration of parliamentarians to deliver coordinated messaging, calls for action and improved accountability.

## Priorities

Our three broad policy priorities are:

1. Achieve higher total and better quality financing for education.
2. Ensure policy makers prioritize helping the furthest behind first.
3. Secure a focus on the quality of education and improved learning.

Within these broad priorities, and led by the interests of our parliamentary members, we expect to launch initiatives focused on specific areas of concern.

## An invitation to join

Over the next twelve months, IPNEd will invite parliamentarians to join the Network by indicating their support for our Founding Declaration, which will set out our shared vision of how SDG 4 can be achieved and the role of parliaments and parliamentarians in delivering a properly-funded system of education that is high quality, inclusive and accessible to all children and young people.

For more information contact [info@ipned.org](mailto:info@ipned.org) or visit [www.ipned.org](http://www.ipned.org)

# Founding Declaration of the International Parliamentary Network for Education



International  
Parliamentary  
Network for  
Education

**We, parliamentarians from around the world, recognise that education is a fundamental human right.**

We welcome the commitment embodied in Sustainable Development Goal 4: 'inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all'.

We acknowledge that we are decades behind in delivering SDG 4. The long-lasting impact of COVID-19 on learning is an immense risk to delivering the promise envisioned in Agenda 2030 of leaving no one behind. Millions of children and young people are missing out on their right to quality education because of who they are or where they live. We acknowledge further that some children are in school but are not learning.

We are particularly concerned that there is a continuous global learning crisis among the most marginalised children and young people.

Addressing this challenge requires renewed political will combined with major increases in long-term and sustainable funding for education.

We have a unique responsibility and platform to help deliver properly-funded and accountable systems of education that are high quality, inclusive and accessible to all children and young people.

We therefore commit to achieving:

1. Higher total and better financing for education, ensuring that spending is efficient, accountable and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Prioritisation of the furthest behind, so that no child is denied their right to education simply because of who they are or where they live.
3. Higher-quality education which delivers learning outcomes.

To achieve these goals, we pledge to:

1. Use our role as policy makers, legislators and advocates in our national parliaments to secure improved educational outcomes.
2. Seek to influence governments both domestically and internationally towards supporting our course of action.
3. Reach across political divides, working with other parliamentarians and stakeholders, to build broad alliances, including national multi-party groups on education.
4. Connect with parliamentarians from across our regions to learn, share ideas, and agree on joint and individual actions that accelerate educational progress.
5. Collaborate with parliamentarians from around the world, reaching across geographical divides, to call for increased international resources for education and improved accountability for the implementation of SDG 4.
6. Ensure that we are consciously inclusive, both in engaging fellow parliamentarians and in our advocacy for education to be accessible for the most marginalised - including girls and women, refugees and internally displaced people, crisis-affected children and youth, and people with disabilities.
7. Scrutinise funds and resources disbursed for the purpose of achieving SDG 4.

**And, to this effect, we hereby agree to become members of the International Parliamentary Network for Education, to initiate and mobilise our collective influence as parliamentarians, both in our own countries and beyond, to accelerate quality education for all, so that no child is denied their right to an education.**

To sign the Declaration and become a founding member of the International Parliamentary Network for Education please email [info@ipned.org](mailto:info@ipned.org)

🐦 @IPNEducation

🌐 [www.ipned.org](http://www.ipned.org)

