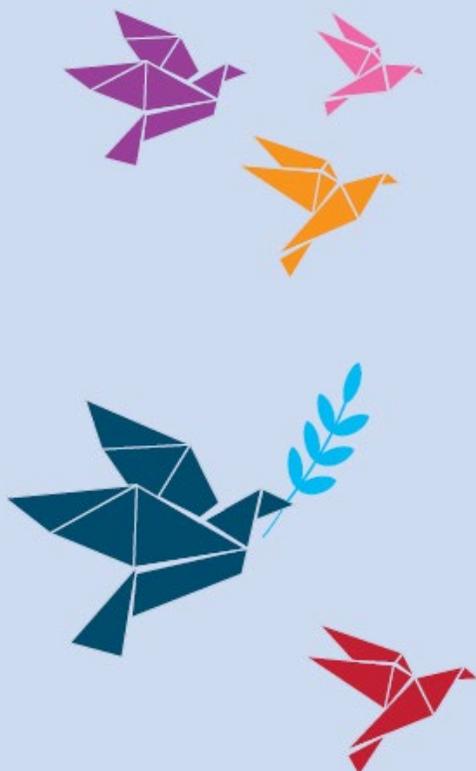
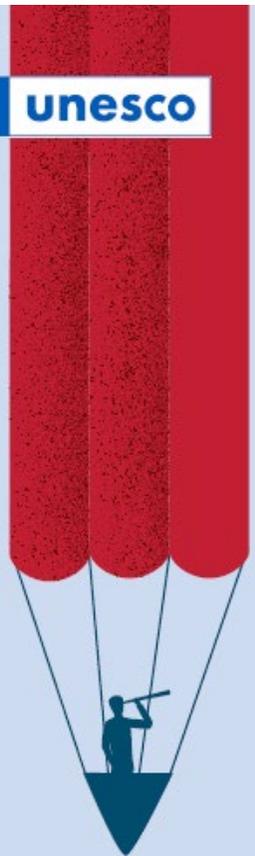


EASG Side event: Building peace, justice and strong institutions through education

Education for international understanding, peace and human rights

Katarina Popović

*Secretary General, International Council for Adult Education (ICAE);
Department for Adult Education, Belgrade University, Serbia*



Recommendation on
Education for Peace, Human Rights
and Sustainable Development

An explainer

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura
Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture
Организация объединенных наций по вопросам образования, науки и культуры
منظمة الامم المتحدة للتربية والعلم والثقافة

Recommendation concerning education for
international understanding, co-operation and peace and
education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms

adopted by the General Conference at its eighteenth session
Paris, 19 November 1974

**UNESCO dedicates the International Day of
Education 2024 to countering hate speech**

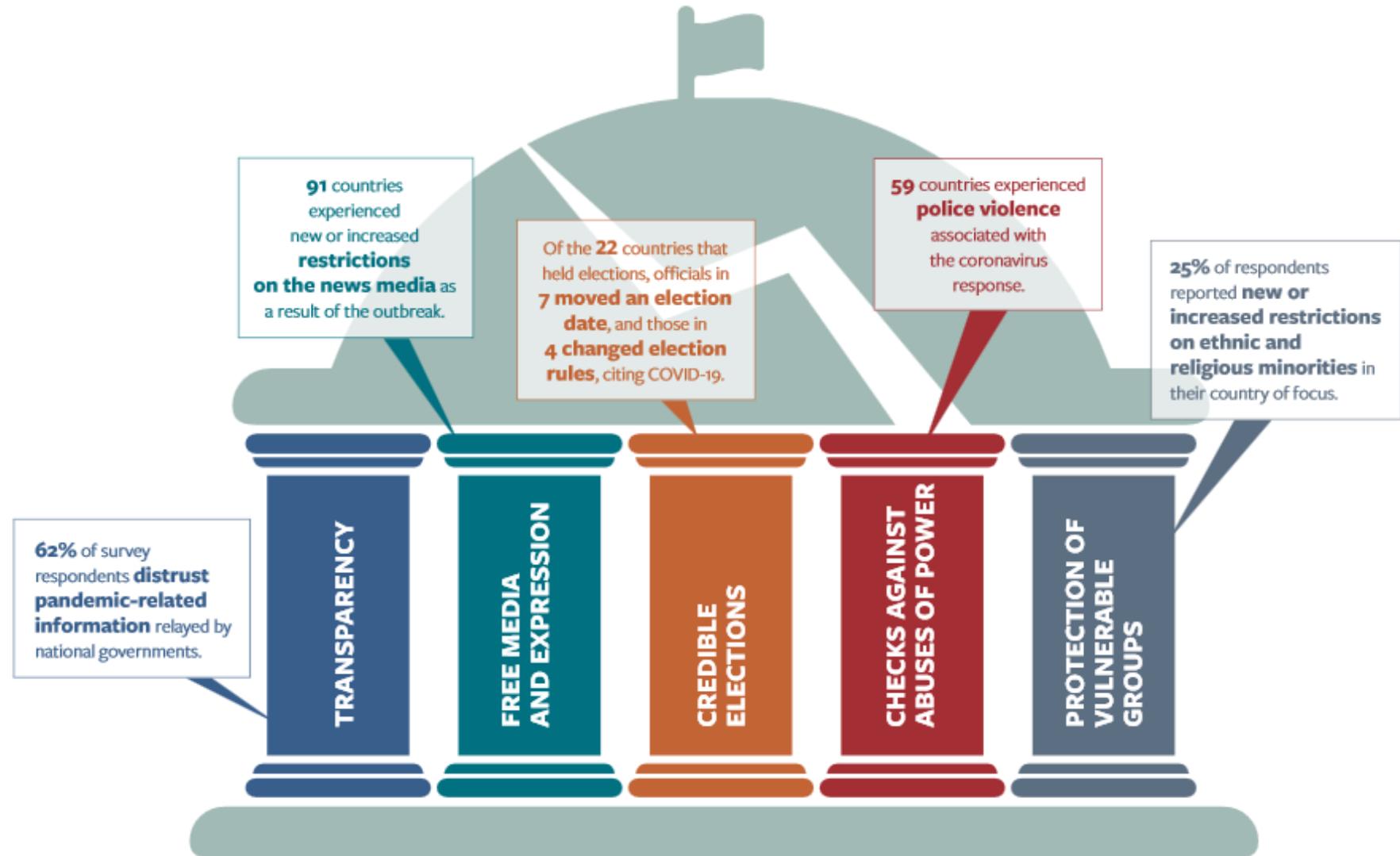
This year, UNESCO is dedicating the International Day of Education on 24 January to the crucial role education and teachers play in countering hate speech, a phenomenon which has snowballed in recent years with the use of social media, damaging the fabric of our societies." The accelerated spread of hate speech is a threat to all communities. Our best defense is education, which must be at the heart of any peace efforts," said UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay.

Decline in democracy, peace...

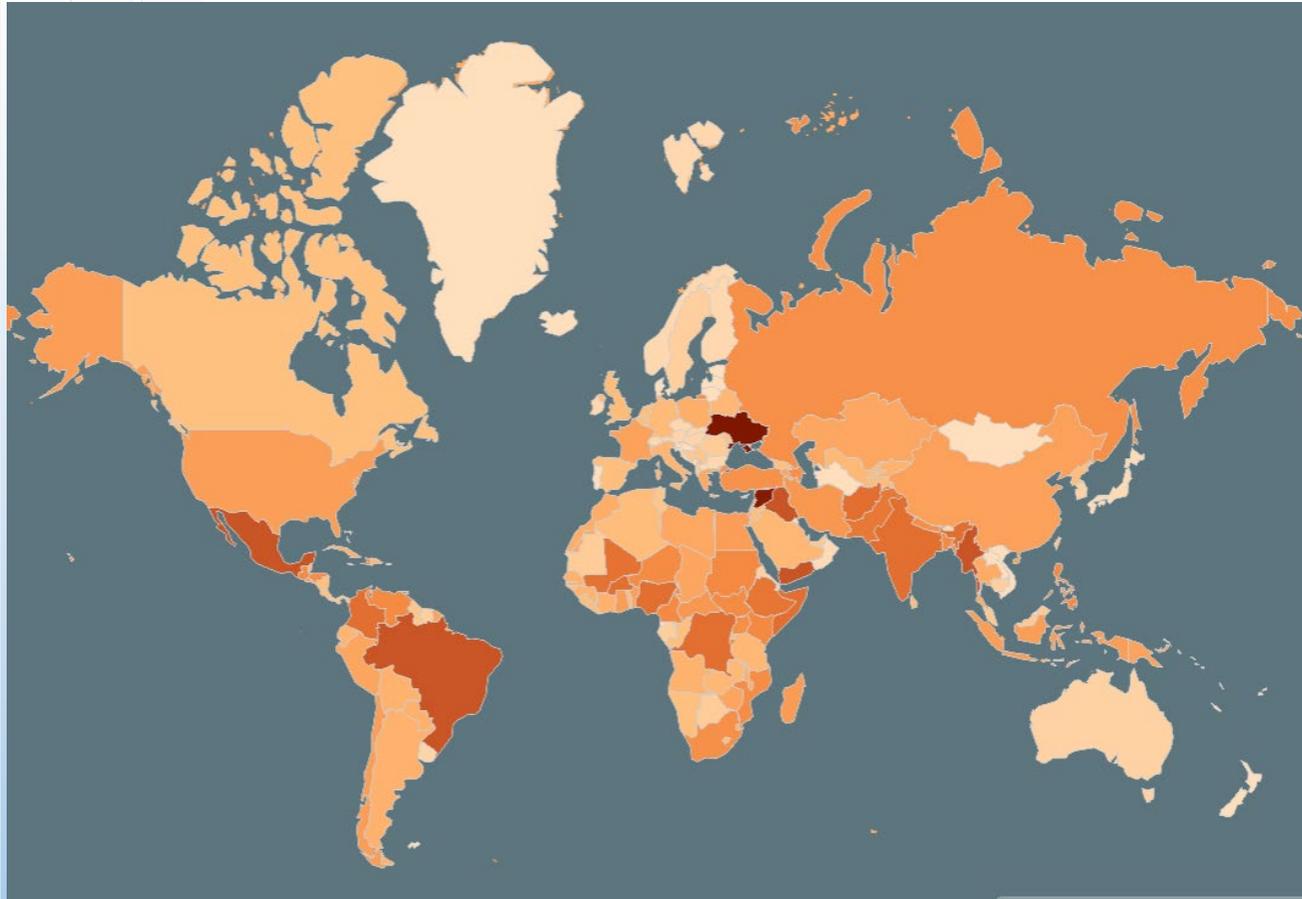
Amnesty International and Freedom House:

- ▶ New and unresolved conflicts erupted or persisted...
- ▶ Violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.
- ▶ Civilians were made collateral damage, millions were displaced, thousands killed, subjected to sexual violence and trafficking (ca 50 mil. slaves!)
- ▶ Ineffectiveness of international response, paralysis at the UN Security Council, paralysis of multilateral bodies and lack of accountability of powerful states
- ▶ 67 countries introduced new laws to restrict freedom of expression, association or assembly. The condition of democracy and human rights has worsened in 80 countries... In the USA, at least 36 states introduced more than 80 pieces of draft legislation limiting freedom of assembly

- ▶ Authoritarian and democratically elected leaders alike have failed to be candid about the impact of the corona virus (incl. US)
- ▶ Government abuses are also affecting elections.



Military expenditures globally in trillions of USD



2018: 1.85

2019: 1.92

2020: 1.98

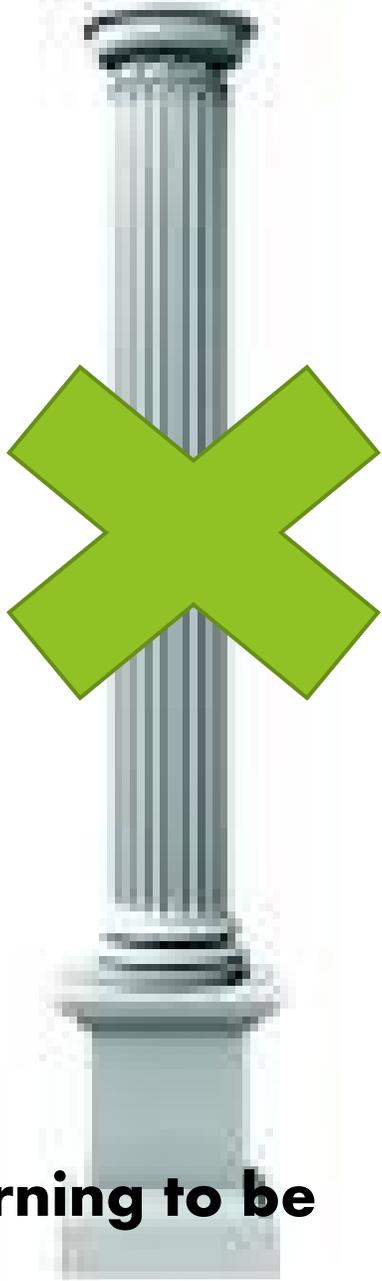
2021: 2.11

2022: 2.24

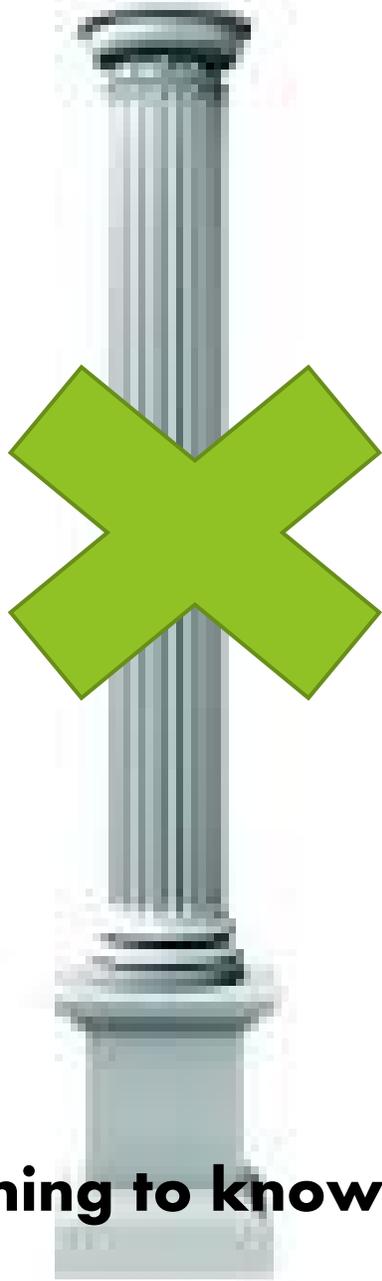
2023: 2.443

\$ 2.443.000.000.000

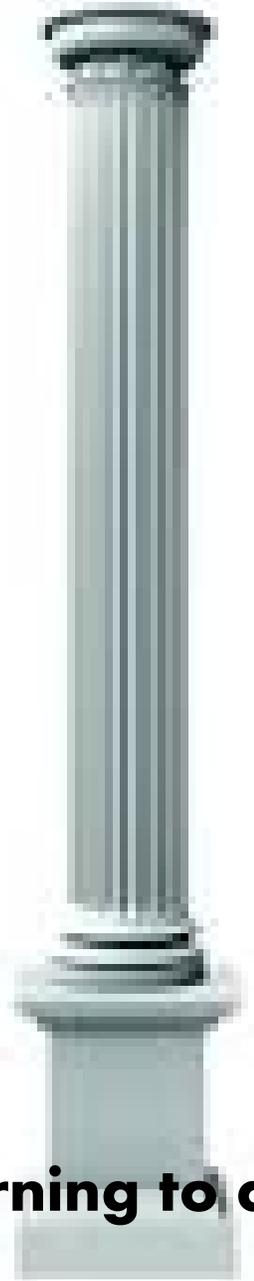
(Annual finance gap of almost \$100 billion per year for countries to reach their education targets by 2030)



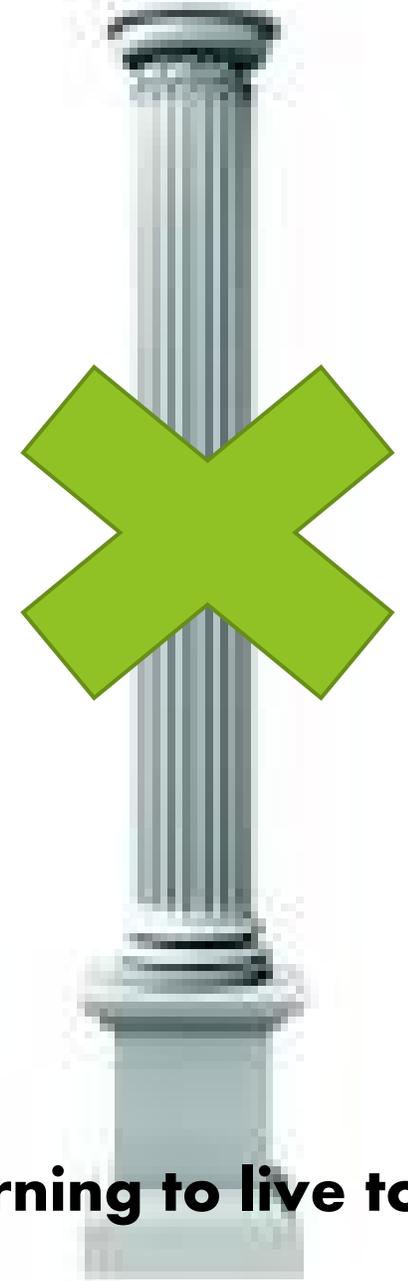
Learning to be



Learning to know



Learning to do



Learning to live together

Challenges

- ▶ Profit-oriented approach to the social and economic reality
- ▶ Miserable funding for peace
- ▶ The positivistic character of the SDGS - measurable, outcome-based...
- ▶ Not-ambitious approach („promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence...“)
- ▶ Global power architecture, systemic inequalities
- ▶ In education:
 - Focus on skills (OECD!)
 - Focus on pragmatic subjects
 - Traditional way of teaching
 - Poorly trained teachers

What is needed for a lasting peace?

- **New understanding of peace (more than the absence of war!)**
- **Significantly increase financing for SDG 4.7!**
- **Prioritising peace – not in the rhetorics, but in the reality**
- **Prioritise peace over the selfish geo-political interest**
- **Make efforts for peace, democracy and social justice
PARALLEL**
- **Fight violence, poverty and inequalities PARALLEL**
- **Limit military industry!**

Education should include global issues / global responsibility



- Global social, economic and political issues
- Global challenges like poverty, inequality, climate change, and sustainability
- Interconnectedness of the world
- Links between global goals and local actions
- Global responsibility
- Universal values, human rights and social justice

The way of teaching should be transformed



- Directly: Awareness raising, workshops on peace, tolerance, democracy... (content)
- Indirectly: Through teaching approaches and styles (methods)

- Education across ages!
- Formal, non-formal and informal learning!
- Include content relevant for peace and democracy
- Incorporate democratic principles into classroom management
- Expose students to diverse perspectives
- Encourage respectful dialog, critical thinking, team work, solidarity

The methods should be transformed



- Support social-emotional and embodied learning
- Integrate current events
- Create learning situations in education context
- Engage in a real-life situations and events
- Create local/community initiatives
- Apply public pedagogy! (organise visits to public spaces, governm. offices, go to exhibitions, organise public forums, solidarity actions, advocacy actions...)





