ITALIA

Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale

COMITATO INTERMINISTERIALE PER I DIRITTI UMANI

Italy's contribution to the Report on ensuring quality education for peace and tolerance for every child - Human Rights Council Resolution 54/5

November, 2024

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Following the *Call for Submissions*, Italy is pleased to share the following information.

Since the school year 2024/2025, the new *Guidelines on Civic Education* have been adopted, redefining learning goals and objectives on a national level. The contents of these Guidelines are aimed at promoting education in respect of the human person and his or her fundamental rights, valuing principles such as individual responsibility and solidarity, the awareness of belonging to a national community, the respect of the environment and the quality of life.

More in detail: the centrality of the human person is emphasised, enhancing talents and the culture of respect for every human being for each student, which is a basic pillar of democratic societies; recalling Article 2 of the Italian Constitution – which defines 'mandatory duties of political, economic and social solidarity'- the development of a culture of duties is highlighted to ensure respect for the rules that underpin our societies and to foster civil coexistence; education is key to combat all forms of crime and illegality; the importance of respecting the environment and the quality of life of citizens is highlighted, jointly with the protection of Italy's rich cultural, artistic and monumental heritage, the promotion of health and correct lifestyles, starting with diet, sporting activity and psychophysical wellbeing, combatting addictions from drugs, smoking, alcohol, gaming and gambling; finally the education for an ethical use of digital technology as well as the responsible use of electronic devices.

Italy is part of the *UNESCO Associated Schools Network* (UNESCO-ASPnet), which brings together educational institutions from around the world for the common goal to build the defences of peace in the minds of students and young people. The Network has also been recognised as an effective tool for achieving Goal 4. 7 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In Italy, the system of Associated Schools is regulated by a Circular of the Ministry of Education and Merit in collaboration with the Italian National Commission for UNESCO. In this endeavour, UNESCO targeted materials have been and are disseminated such as: a handbook to help teachers adequately address the issue of sustainable development: '*Education for Sustainable Development Goals-Learning Objectives'*, designed as a guide for education professionals on the use of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda in learning processes and translated into Italian; a Guide for Members of the Network of Associated Schools to highlight the meaning of network membership, opportunities and expectations.