More relevant than ever: celebrating the two-year anniversary of the Abidjan Principles on the right to education

Friday 12 February, 2pm GMT

There’ll be much to celebrate on 12 February for education supporters, policy-makers, activists, and enthusiasts: it will be two years since the adoption of the landmark Abidjan Principles on the right to education. Since then, they have participated to transform the conversation on education to put human rights at the centre. Join us on 12 February at from 2pm to 3.15pm GMT for a short and exciting participatory event to celebrate and reflect on the journey of the Abidjan Principles.

The Abidjan Principles on the human rights obligations of States to provide public education and to regulate private involvement in education were adopted on 13 February 2019 in Cote d’Ivoire and were signed by 57 education and human rights experts from around the world. The Principles compile and unpack existing provisions in human rights law and provide guidance on how to put them into practice in the contemporary context, including the rapid expansion of private sector involvement in education.

Since their adoption, the Abidjan Principles have quickly gained recognition and momentum. The Principles have been recognised by eight of the main international and regional human rights treaty bodies, used by national courts, and referred to in policy-documents and publications.
Two years in, and with unprecedented changes in education related to COVID-19, it is an important moment to take stock of the journey so far, reflect on the achievements, and discuss the way forward. For this purpose, a series of five videos is being published. One video will be released weekly, every Friday, until the anniversary of the Principles, with interviews and footage from the Abidjan conference.

**When?** Friday 12th February from 2pm to 3.15pm GMT


This 75-minute dynamic webinar will feature short remarks from some of the experts that were behind the Abidjan Principles, and the stakeholders. Each of the experts will make short 3 minutes remarks, before opening the floor for a participatory reflection, celebration, and mapping of the next steps.

**Discussants include:**

- Professor Ann Skelton, Chair of the drafting committee
- Dr Koumba Boly Barry, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education
- Honorable Lady Justice Lydia Mugambe, Uganda high court
- Ram Gaire, Program manager, National Campaign for Education - Nepal
- Professor Aoife Nolan, Member of the European Committee of Social Rights
- Soledad García Muñoz, Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural, and Environmental Rights
- Magdalena Sepulveda, Executive Director, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

*Moderator:* Professor Joshua Castellino, Executive Director, Minority Rights Group