

Ref.: CL/4510

Subject: **Call for nominations for the 2025 UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education**

Dear Minister,

It is my pleasure to invite your Government to submit nominations for the first edition of the UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education.

The Prize, supported by the Republic of Korea, will reward formal and non-formal education initiatives that prepare young generations for responsible and active citizenship, notably by promoting intercultural exchange, student participation in public life and digital citizenship.

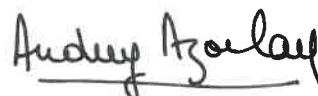
Two recipients will be selected for their efforts in this field: one youth-led organization and one individual, institution or non-governmental organization. Each of them will receive a monetary award of \$50,000.

Governments may present up to three nominees for the Prize. UNESCO encourages Member States to implement a national selection process and to publicly announce their selected nominees.

Nominations must be submitted in English or French by midnight on **1st September 2025 at the latest** (UTC+1, Paris time) via an online platform available at the following address: <https://unesco.sharepoint.com/sites/committees/GCED>.

The Secretariat of the Prize (email: GCEDPrize@unesco.org) is at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours sincerely,



Audrey Azoulay
Director-General

Enclosures: Statutes of the UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO
Permanent Delegations to UNESCO
Field Offices of UNESCO
UNESCO Institutes for Education

To Ministers responsible for relations with UNESCO

ANNEX I

STATUTES OF THE UNESCO PRIZE FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the “UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education” is to reward the efforts of individuals, institutions, or organizations who have contributed to the development and diffusion of Global Citizenship Education (GCED) worldwide, in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 4 - Education 2030 agenda, specifically target 4.7, and beyond. The objective of the Prize is in conformity with UNESCO’s policies and will contribute to UNESCO’s Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2029 (41C/4), particularly Strategic Objective 3 “building inclusive, just and peaceful societies by promoting freedom of expression, cultural diversity, education for global citizenship, and protecting the heritage.” The Prize will contribute to the Programme of the Organization in the field of GCED and to the implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Education for Peace, Human Rights and Sustainable Development (2023).

Article 2 – Designation, amount and periodicity of the prize

2.1 The Prize shall be entitled “*UNESCO Prize for Global Citizenship Education*”.

2.2 The Prize shall be funded by the Republic of Korea and shall consist of \$623,000 per two-year cycle for an initial period of six years (2024-2029), which shall cover both the monetary value of the Prize and the costs of administering the Prize. Any interest that may accrue will be added to the overall contribution. The Prize will include a medal and a certificate.

2.3 All funds received and the interest accrued thereon shall be kept in a special interest-bearing account for the Prize.

2.4 The full staff support and operating/management costs of the Prize, including all costs related to the award ceremony and public information activities are included in the \$623,000 per two-year cycle contribution by the Republic of Korea. To this end, the Director-General will determine a mandatory overhead cost amount to be applied and charged against the funds in the special account, which is to be established under the financial regulations for the prize.

2.5 The Prize shall be awarded biennially for an initial six-year period (2024-2029). The Prize shall consist of two awards of US \$50,000 each, recognizing achievements in two categories: (1) youth-led organizations and (2) individuals, institutions, non-governmental organizations or other entities.

Article 3 – Conditions/Qualifications of candidates

Candidates shall have made a significant contribution to the promotion of global citizenship education. Prizes may be conferred upon individuals, youth-led organizations, institutions, non-governmental organizations or other entities.

Article 4 – Designation/Selection of the prize-winner/s

The two prize-winners shall be selected by the Director-General of UNESCO on the basis of the assessments and recommendations made to him/her by a jury.

Article 5 – Jury

5.1 The Jury shall consist of five independent members, being personalities with a recognized reputation in the field of Global Citizenship Education, also taking into consideration the need for equitable geographical distribution, gender equality and the principle of non-payment of honoraria. They shall be appointed by the Director-General for two-year periods for a maximum period of six years. Representatives and alternatives of Members of the Executive Board cannot be appointed as

jurors. Jurors involved in a real or potential conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from further deliberations or be asked by the Director-General to do so. The Director-General may replace members of the jury for reason.

5.2 The Jury shall elect its own chair and deputy chair. Members shall receive no remuneration for their work, but will receive allowances for travel and accommodation, if required. A quorum of three jurors present will be required for jury deliberations to proceed. The working languages for deliberations by a jury shall be English and French.

5.3 The Jury shall conduct its business and deliberations in conformity with these Statutes and shall be assisted in the performance of its task by a member of the UNESCO Secretariat designated by the Director-General. Decisions shall be taken by consensus to the extent possible, and otherwise by secret ballot until a simple majority is obtained. A member shall not take part in a vote concerning a nomination from his or her country.

5.4 The Jury shall meet every two years for the evaluation of all Prize submissions.

5.5 The Jury shall send an assessment of nominations and accompanying recommendations to the Director-General of UNESCO no later than three months before the planned Prize award ceremony.

Article 6 – Nomination of candidates

6.1 Upon receipt of the funding of the Prize by UNESCO, as indicated in Article 2 above, the Director-General of UNESCO shall officially invite the submission of nominations to the Secretariat of the Prize biennially from the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, as well as from non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with the Organization and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize.

6.2 Nominations shall be submitted to the Director-General by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions, and by non-governmental organizations maintaining official partnerships with UNESCO. A self-nomination cannot be considered.

6.3 All nominations must be submitted via an online platform made available for this purpose by the UNESCO Secretariat. In order to be considered complete and eligible, nominations must be accompanied by a recommendation - in the form of a formal validation of the nomination form - submitted via the online platform from the nominating Member State or NGO in official partnership with UNESCO.

Article 7 – Procedure for the awarding of the Prize

7.1 The Prize shall be awarded by the Director-General at an official ceremony held for that purpose on a date determined by the Director-General. UNESCO shall present to the prize-winners a check for the amount of the prize as well as a medal and a certificate. UNESCO shall officially announce the names of the prize winners.

7.2 If a work being rewarded has been produced by two or three persons, the prize shall be awarded to them jointly. In no case may a prize amount be divided between more than three persons.

7.3 The prize-winners, if possible, shall give a lecture on a subject relevant to the work for which the prize has been awarded. Such a lecture shall be organized during or in connection with the Prize ceremony.

7.4 The work produced by a person since deceased shall not be considered for a prize. If, however, a prize-winner dies before she or he has received the prize, then the prize may be presented posthumously (awarded to relatives or institution).

7.5 Should a prize-winner decline the prize, the jury shall submit a new proposal to the Director-General.

Article 8 – Sunset clause – mandatory renewal of the Prize

8.1 Six months prior to the agreed end of the term of the Prize, the Director-General of UNESCO together with the donor will undertake a review of all aspects of the Prize and decide about its continuation or termination. The Director-General will inform the Executive Board of UNESCO about the results of this review.

8.2 In case of termination of a Prize, any unspent balance of funds shall be returned to the donor unless otherwise agreed, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the Special Account of the Prize.

Article 9 – Appeals

No appeals shall be allowed against the decision of UNESCO with regard to the award of the Prize. Proposals received for the award of the Prize may not be divulged.

Article 10 – Amendments to the Statutes of the Prize

Any amendment to the present Statutes shall be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.