



UNESCO  
Publishing

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

COMING SOON

# Rethinking Education

Towards a global common good?



# Contents

## Introduction

### 1. Sustainable development: A central concern

- Challenges and tensions
- New knowledge horizons
- Exploring alternative approaches

### 2. Reaffirming a humanistic approach

- A humanistic approach to education
- Ensuring more inclusive education
- The transformation of the educational landscape
- The role of educators in the knowledge society

### 3. Educational policy-making in a complex world

- The growing gap between education and employment
- Recognizing and validating learning in a mobile world
- Rethinking citizenship education in a diverse and interconnected world
- Global governance of education and national policy-making

### 4. Education as a common good?

- The principle of education as a public good under strain
- Education and knowledge as global common goods
- Considerations for the way forward





# Rethinking Education

Towards a global common good?

We are living in a world characterized by change, complexity and paradox. Economic growth and the creation of wealth have cut global poverty rates, yet vulnerability, inequality, exclusion and violence have escalated within and across societies throughout the world. Unsustainable patterns of economic production and consumption promote global warming, environmental degradation and an upsurge in natural disasters. Moreover, while we have strengthened international human rights frameworks over the past several decades, implementing and protecting these norms remains a challenge. And while technological progress leads to greater interconnectedness and offers new avenues for exchange, cooperation and solidarity, we also see proliferation of cultural and religious intolerance, identity-based political mobilization and conflict. These changes signal the emergence of a new global context for learning that has vital implications for education. Rethinking the purpose of education and the organization of learning has never been more urgent.

This book is intended as a call for dialogue. It is inspired by a humanistic vision of education and development, based on respect for life and human dignity, equal rights, social justice, cultural diversity, international solidarity and shared responsibility for a sustainable future. It proposes that we consider education and knowledge as global common goods, in order to reconcile the purpose and organization of education as a collective societal endeavour in a complex world.

## Order form

Yes, I wish to order \_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of *Rethinking Education: Towards a global common good?* (ISBN 978-92-3-100088-1)

Price: € 15.00 × \_\_\_\_\_ = € \_\_\_\_\_

Plus postage rate for any order: € 5.50 (Europe), € 10.00 (for the rest of the world)

**Total:** € \_\_\_\_\_

### Enclosed payment by:

Cheque\*

VISA     MasterCard     Eurocard

Card number :

Expiry date :

Three-digit verification code: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Cheques (except Eurocheques) in euros, payable to DL Services sprl and drawn on a bank established in France or in Belgium.

### Delivery address:

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street and no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Post code and city: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please return this order form with your payment to:

#### DL Services – C/O Michot

Chaussée de Mons 77 Bergense steenweg, B 1600 Sint Pieters Leeuw, Belgium

Tel.: + 32 477 455 329

E-mail: [jean.de.lannoy@dl-servi.com](mailto:jean.de.lannoy@dl-servi.com)

IBAN: BE79 0014 4605 9933    BIC/SWIFT: GEBABEBB

### You can also order on line at:

[www.unesco.org/publishing](http://www.unesco.org/publishing) (secure payment)

### List of national distributors:

<http://publishing.unesco.org/distributors.aspx>



UNESCO  
Publishing

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France

[www.unesco.org/publishing](http://www.unesco.org/publishing)

E-mail: [publishing.promotion@unesco.org](mailto:publishing.promotion@unesco.org)