



► **The First Inter-University Contest on Mediation:**

UNESCO Beirut, in partnership with the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie with the University Saint Joseph's Professional Center for Mediation (CPM) launched the First Inter-University Contest on Mediation. The contest aimed to enhance the role of youth and actively engage them in promoting the culture of dialogue and peace, and endorsing the principles of working jointly to use dialogue and mediation as main tools to resolve conflicts, and contribute to achieving world peace. Ten teams from 6 universities in Lebanon participated in this initiative and students were trained by mediators from the Center for Mediation of Saint Joseph University, and competed for four days on mediating conflicts and settling disputes based on specifically designed case studies. This contest contributes to strengthening the role of universities as peace incubator by teaching students mediation as a way to resolve crises and conflicts.

► **Publication of 2 manuals in English:**

- A teacher's guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002446/244676e.pdf>
- Preventing Violent Extremism through education, a guide for policy makers
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002477/247764e.pdf>

► **Organization of a high level panel in the Baku International Forum on the role of youth in promoting PVEE**

8. Upcoming activities

1. Mainstreaming PVEE in national curricula in selected countries (2017-2018)
2. Co-organizing an international conference on volunteerism and PVEE (September 25 to 27, 2017 Paris)
3. Training youth on promoting PVEE: a series of workshops at national and regional levels (2018)
4. Producing a guide on PVE targeting community practitioners (2017)

9. In a nutshell

Key words to bear in mind!

**Solidarity - Tolerance - Human Rights - Respect for Diversity - Learning to live together
Empowerment - Compassion - Inclusion - Partnership - Resilience.**

10. Resources

- UNESCO's website on PVE
<http://en.unesco.org/preventing-violent-extremism>
- A teacher's guide on the Prevention of Violent Extremism
UNESCO: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002446/244676e.pdf>
- Preventing Violent Extremism through education, a guide for policy makers
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002477/247764e.pdf>
- The ABCs of Global Citizenship Education – UNESCO
https://en.unesco.org/system/files/abcs_of_gced.pdf
- Global Citizenship Education: Preparing learners for the challenges of 21st century
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002277/227729e.pdf>
- Global Citizenship Education: Topics and learning objectives
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002329/232993e.pdf>
- UNESCO's conference on ways to prevent violent extremism in cyberspace
<http://en.unesco.org/events/international-conference-youth-and-information-and-communication-technologies-preventing>
- UNESCO's video: Preventing violent extremism through education
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79MTkVumCcQ>
- UNESCO's video: Global Citizenship Education to prevent violent extremism
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhwVKKPDm4A>
- <http://www.hawer.org/>
- Hawer Unesco Youtube: Global Citizenship Education in the Arab States
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkpZBdv8gcM>
- Hawer: UNESCO Beirut: GCED Conference in the Arab States
<http://hawer.org/gallery/video-gallery/video/unesco-beirut-gced-conference-in-the-arab-states>



Beirut Office

Preventing
Violent
Extremism

*"It is not enough to counter
violent extremism...
we need to prevent it!"*



1. What is Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE)?

Violent extremism refers to the beliefs and actions of people who support or use ideologically-motivated violence to achieve radical ideological, religious or political views. Violent extremist views can be exhibited along a range of issues, including politics, religion and gender relations. No society, religious community or worldview is immune to such violent extremism. There is no single profile or pathway for radicalization, or even speed at which it happens. Nor does the level of education seem to be a reliable predictor of vulnerability to radicalization.

2. Understanding the roots of Violent Extremism (VE)

There are socio-economic, psychological and institutional factors that lead to violent extremism. There are contextual factors that provide a favorable terrain to the emergence of violent extremist groups, such as:

- Fragile states, the lack of rule of law, corruption and criminality;
- Poor socio-economic conditions and lack of opportunities;
- Marginalization, inequalities, injustice and discrimination;
- Attraction of charismatic leadership and social communities and networks.

3. Role of Education in PVE

Education can:

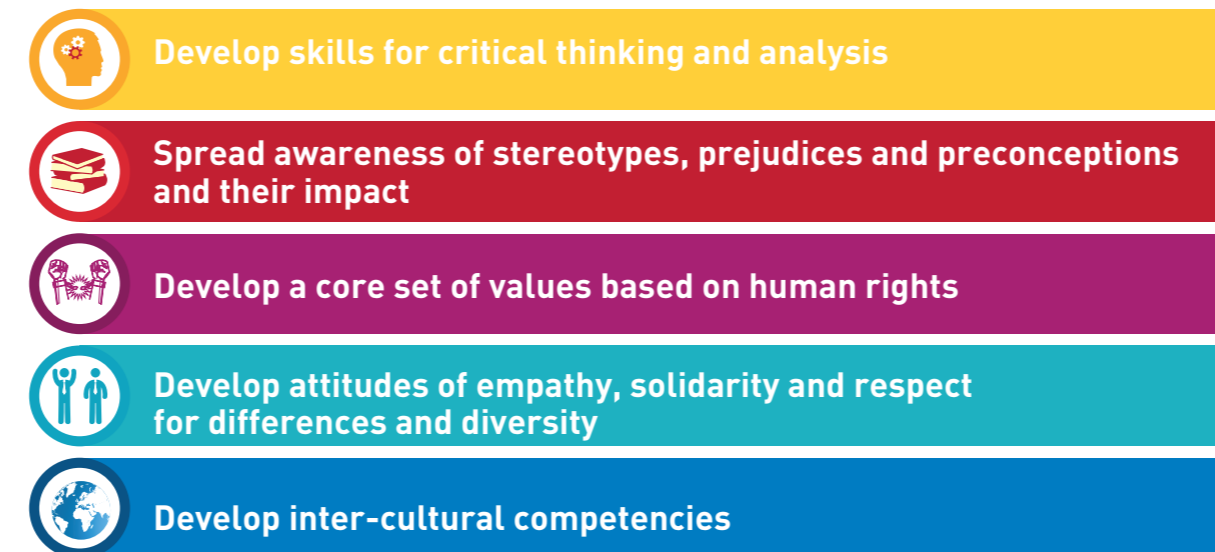
- Help learners develop their critical thinking to investigate claims, verify rumours and question the legitimacy and appeal of extremist beliefs.
- Help learners develop the resilience to resist extremist narratives and acquire the social-emotional skills they need to overcome their doubts and engage constructively in society without having to resort to violence.
- Help young people develop the communication and interpersonal skills they need to dialogue, face disagreement and learn peaceful approaches to change.
- Foster critically informed citizens able to constructively engage in peaceful collective action.

4. UNESCO's response to VE

UNESCO Beirut Office is committed to offer technical guidance for education professionals on how to address the concrete challenges posed by violent extremism and how to plan and implement effective preventive education related actions, contributing to national and regional efforts.

5. Goals of our program

UNESCO's Preventing Violent Extremism through Education (PVEE) Program promotes Education for skills, jobs, critical thinking, dialogue, resilience, citizenship, and youth participation.



6. We work with



7. Key activities

► **Training of education practitioners on global citizenship and preventing violent extremism:**

Under the patronage of the Minister of Education in Lebanon Mr. Marwan Hamadeh, and in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Faculty of Education of the Lebanese University, UNESCO Beirut organized on 22-25 May 2017 a "National Workshop on Mainstreaming Global Citizenship Education (GCED) and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) in the National Teacher Preparation Program in Lebanon". The workshop introduced Education practitioners to educational approaches that are needed to ensure that education systems contribute to promoting GCED/PVEE, fostering a positive sense of identity and belonging, and building young people's resilience to violent extremism messaging. This initiative highlights the important role of education in building peace, promoting values, and preventing violent extremism. More than 60 professors from the Lebanese university participated in the workshop.

