

Open Education 2030

Call for Vision Papers

School Education

Worldwide education/Cooperative education

José Ramón Jiménez Gil

Only if Europe is seen as an inclusive school and Globalization as Cooperation will we be able to speak about Equity.

Nowadays, Education is following a path which leads us to a worldwide education. What does it mean?

It simply means that education is no longer an isolated aspect belonging to a local and political authority. Worldwide Education is becoming a reality and some of the tools we teachers use confirm that.

There will be a day when pupils will be taught by different teachers from different countries. That is an idea I love. Imagine your students having some lectures by Skype or any other future tool to come. Imagine yourself teaching students from Sweden, Portugal, Germany from your own school. Imagine yourself preparing your lessons with other European teachers.

In some way, that is something we are doing today. Etwinning has provided us with this kind of education. Etwinning was launched in 2005 (only 8 years ago) and it was a revolution in the way of teaching and learning. If we have been able to change the way of understanding education in 8 years what will happen in 17 years to come?

Comenius has also made borders disappear. People travel all around the world and people bring with them their way of learning, studying and education itself.

Let me compare this idea with the “Camino de Santiago” centuries ago. People travelling along the Way learnt from the local inhabitants and citizens from the small villages along the Way learnt from the travellers.

This comparison leads us to the second part of the main title: Cooperative education.

Cooperation should not be understood as a way of exchanging material and information. That is the way education has been for many years: the teachers as transmitters and the students as receivers.

We teachers will not only teach but we will also learn from our peers and from our new students. Students will not be passive agents any more. They will be active part in the learning process.

Even the local school will take another different role. It will be in charge of providing students with the tools and materials they will need making possible the equality and equity every child deserves.

Cooperation must be seen as collaboration from the very beginning of the process to the end of it. This way not only teachers but also learners will get engagement and motivation.

It will not be the teacher the one to assess. Evaluation will be a global process where teachers, pupils, parents and society will be involved

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José Ramón Jiménez Gil

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This new point of view forces us to change our mind and the pedagogical methodologies and practices we are used to. The school is no longer an isolated event affected by the city and society that surrounds it. School is part of a global way of understanding the world we live in nowadays. Students from different parts of the world will be linked by means of education and this fosters active citizenship and inclusion.

We are said to be living in a global world where economic and social aspects equally affect us regardless of the city or country we live in but Education has not followed this path in the same way. There are still more differences than similarities in the way education works around the world.

Economic issues are impediments which avoid every single person to access the same type of education and it is in this point where governments should play their roles providing and making possible that every child has the right to be educated in the same way.

To sum up we can say that we teachers and pupils are ready to carry out and undertake this new task.

Worldwide and Cooperative Education are the keys to get learners/teachers engagement and motivation, to make possible public and private interaction and to foster active citizenship and inclusion. That is: Equity.

What are we waiting for? Let's see each other in 2030.