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Consultation CONFINTEA VII MFA and ICAE Members update March 2022

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Response to the Online Public Consultation of the CONFINTEA VII Draft Marrakech Framework for Action

The ICAE together with CSO colleagues who are members of the CONFINTEA VII Consultative Committee – DVV International, ASPBAE and representatives of academia, have been actively contributing to the drafting of the Preliminary Marrakech Framework for Action (MFA). We are pleased to note that a significant number of our initial comments have made it to this preliminary draft. However, we recognise that there are a few more key issues in the new draft (https://www.uil.unesco.org/sites/default/files/medias/fichiers/2022/03/Preliminary%20Draft%20MFA%20-%20EN%20-%20CONFINTEA%20VII%20-%20Online%20Consultation_0.pdf) that the ICAE and key colleagues would continue to advocate for.

An opportunity to send comments is given in the **Online Public Consultation** is just launched by the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning: <https://www.uil.unesco.org/en/seventh-international-conference-adult-education/mfa>. The online consultation is structured as a survey, available in English, French, and Spanish and will last until April 13. We are glad to share [the preliminary ICAE's comments on the Draft Marrakech Framework for Action](#), that have been prepared by the ICAE in collaboration with our CSO colleagues. This might be useful when you will prepare **your own comments**; it would be great if you could share a copy of your comments with us!

Important information about the survey: Please note the text box to add comments or suggestions will open after you click YES or NO, depending on the question!

We aim to provide you with a more detailed guide to the online survey through a **Global Briefing on the Online Public Consultation; on Monday, at 3 pm Paris time,**

Zoom link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87369201380?pwd=SHJCTDNETIQzdmh5UjJHdituUUJVQT09>

Meeting ID: 873 6920 1380

Passcode: 205335

After the conclusion of the online consultation, the comments will be consolidated, and a Draft Marrakech Framework for Action will be prepared and translated into the six UN languages as the Draft MFA that will be tabled during the CONFINTEA VII Conference in June 2022 in Morocco. This will be one more opportunity to comment the Draft and propose the changes. **A Drafting Committee** will be constituted at the start of the conference to receive final comments. We expect that there will be civil society representation in the Drafting Committee. The final draft will be tabled for adoption by consensus at the conclusion of the Conference.

We are glad to announce that the Consultation process will be supported by a 10-days of Action – **WE ARE ALE campaign** in the social media that will highlight our core principles of justice, well-being and change. We invite you to engage in the campaign to ensure the voices of civil society and the educators, learners and communities we work with will have a Marrakech Framework for Action that will not just shape our ALE practice but help shape our shared future.

[Download and read our comments on the Draft MFA here](#)

ICAE members update March 2022

Dear members,

This monthly ICAE Newsletter includes a variety of updates and events for you:

1. Update on Pre-CONFINTEA Activities in North America (Tom Sork, ICAE Vice President in North America)

2. Appeal for the immediate release of Sergey Priyma, chairman of the Ukrainian Association of Learning Cities
3. ICAE and EASG at the ECOSOC Partnership Forum 2022
4. DVV International Webinar on the we-are-ale campaign
5. SAFE Project website and research report published

We hope you will enjoy the read :)

Your ICAE Team

Update on Pre-CONFINTEA VII Activites in Latin America

Timothy Ireland, ICAE Vice-president, Latin America

The month of March has already proved that civil society organizations in Latin America are alive, well and busily preparing for the upcoming CONFINTEA VII despite all the uncertainties which still surround it.

The Latin American Platform of Regional Networks for Youth and Adult Education, set up during the preparations for the Latin American sub-regional consultation in July/2021, must be seen as one of the important conquests for ALE in Latin America. To have all the Regional Networks for Youth and Adult Education speaking with one voice lends greater strength to their demands and recommendations. The two Regional Meetings on 9th and 11th March, were well attended with well over 100 participants in each. The Platform is now preparing a 10-point manifesto to be released as soon as possible as well as a devolution for the participants of the recommendations formulated in the country working groups. With this, the Platform seeks to contribute to the mobilization of the ALE community in each country and provide inputs for the online Consultation on the Marrakech Framework of Action which should take place shortly, according to UIL.

The International meeting organised by the UNESCO Chair in Youth and Adult Education (EPJA) at the University of the Republic in Montevideo, Uruguay, also provided an important space for discussions on ALE in Latin American in the perspective of CONFINTEA VII. The ICAE took part in a panel discussion along with other members of the Platform on the current situation of youth and adult education in the region. The meeting concluded with a Declaration endorsed by the participants and the UNESCO Chair.

In the month of April, the UNESCO Chair in Youth and Adult Education at the

Federal University of Paraiba in João Pessoa, Brazil, is organising a live discussion in which professor António Nóvoa, who was a distinguished member of the International Commission of the Futures of Education and of the Confintea Consultative Committee will situate the CONFINTEA discussions in the light of the findings and recommendations of the “Reimagining our futures together” Report on 28th April.

It is worth remembering what Julius Nyerere, the ICAE’s first president, said at the ICAE’s first World Assembly held in Dar-es-Salaam, in 1976: "(...) *there is a saying that nothing which is easy is worth doing, and it could never be said that adult education is not worth doing! For it is the key to the development of free men and free societies. Its function is to help men to think for themselves to make their own decisions, and to execute these decisions for themselves.*"

Appeal for the immediate release of Sergey Priyma

Supporting our member organisation DVV International, ICAE appeals for the immediate release of Sergey Priyma, chairman of the Ukrainian Association of Learning Cities. Mr Priyma was kidnapped in Ukraine on 13 March.

On 13 March 2022 Russian military kidnapped the chairman of the Melitopol (Ukraine) district council Sergey Priyma. The democratically elected local politician was taken away in an unknown direction. Neither his family, nor colleagues and the community of Melitopol know where and in what condition he is.

We know Sergey Priyma as a dedicated local politician who has done a lot for his community and the whole district. He is the chairman of the Ukrainian Association of Learning Cities and one of the initiators for the establishment of learning cities in the Ukraine. With his support several Ukrainian cities joined the UNESCO Global network of learning cities.

As participant of numerous international projects and initiatives Mr Priyma is an activist and advocate for the right to education at any age, argues for humanistic values and promotes good governance and active participation of citizens in democracy.

We, the undersigned organisations, condemn the Russian aggression against Ukraine and the violence and terror against civilians.

We call on the occupational forces of the Russian Federation in Ukraine to release Mr Priyma immediately!

Read the appeal here: <https://www.dvv-international.de/en/our-work/news/detail/appeal-to-release-sergey-priyma>

ICAE and EASG at the ECOSOC Partnership Forum 2022

The [2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum](#) was held on 2 February 2022 on the *“Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”*. Multiple actors and stakeholders participated, including countries, the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, as well as international organizations, parliamentarians, local governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, scientists, academia, women, youth and others.

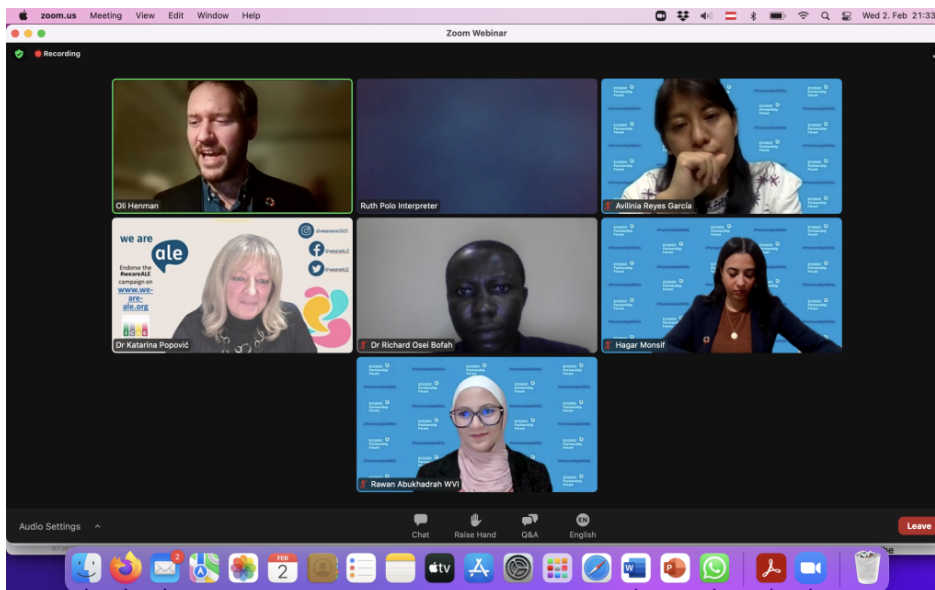
Participants debated solutions and policies to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic guided by the SDGs. They were expected to (a) exchange new ideas, expectations and priorities which should be explored further by the Council and the high-level political forum in the following months; and (b) shine the spotlight on forward-looking actions and partnerships by countries and all relevant stakeholders that can help recover from the pandemic and accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda.

Katarina Popovic spoke on behalf of the [Education and Academia Stakeholder Group \(EASG\)](#) during a spotlight session on Education for all as a key step of the recovery.

Key Issues discussed

- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education infrastructure and the major challenges faced across the globe to provide free quality education for all
- The particular challenges for access to education faced by marginalised communities were highlighted
- Limitations of online learning

Read more on the session and Katarina Popovic’s session-statement on **Lifelong learning in times of COVID-19: education for resilience and transformation** on the ICAE-website <http://icae.global/en/2022/01/icae-and-easg-at-the-ecosoc-partnership-forum-2022/>



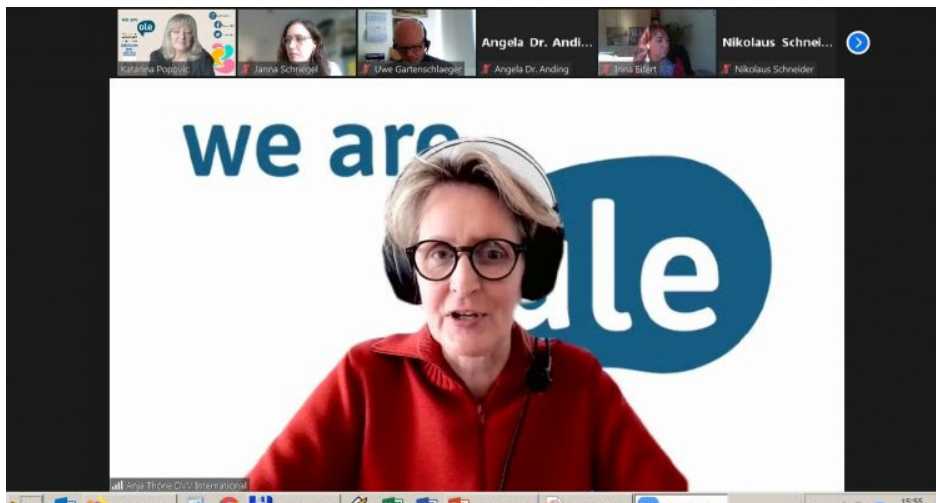
DVV International Webinar on the we-are-ale campaign

Our lobbying efforts for increased attention for adult education repeatedly encounter the difficulty that there is neither a uniform global name nor a uniform understanding of our education sector. For this reason, DVV International led a branding process with the aim of giving adult education a global name and empowering civil society to speak with one voice. As a successful outcome, the international professional community has for the first time created and applied a common, global name and definition of adult learning: ALE. ALE stands for “Adult Learning and Education” and is to be used worldwide.

The International Council of Adult Education (ICAE) is leading a campaign to disseminate the name and understanding of ALE. ICAE is the most important global civil society actor in adult education. DVV International has already committed to support ICAE in campaigning and lobbying and to apply the global name ALE.

On 10th March a webinar took place to introduce the campaign to DVV members.

In conversation with Katarina Popovic, General Secretary of ICAE and Professor of Adult Education, the potentials of ALE for the vhs-Landesverbände and Volkshochschulen in Germany were discussed. Using practical examples, the use of ALE and the accompanying lobbying and marketing materials were presented.



SAFE Project website and research report published

In the Safe SpAces For Learning project, criteria for safe spaces for adult learners are discussed and developed.

A research report as well as recommendations are already available on the project website under the following link: <https://www.safespacesale.eu>

The project is led by EAPTV (Escola Profissional Amar Terra Verde / Portugal). Project partners are ICAE (International Council for Adult Education) / Serbia, The Vienna Adult Education Centres (lernraum.wien) / Austria, Dafni Kek / Greece, Patatrac / Italy, EAEA (European Association for the Education of Adults) / Belgium.



Please do not hesitate to contact us at anytime in case you do have any further questions.

Your ICAE Team

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