



**Belgrade Declaration of International Foundation for Sustainable Peace and
Development (IFSPD)
26 October 2019
Belgrade (Serbia)**

We, the scholars, experts, diplomats, artists, representatives of international organizations, civil society and the media, intellectuals from 38 countries who are actively cooperating members of the International Foundation for Sustainable Peace and Development (hereinafter referred to as IFSPD), participating at the 18th IFSPD Meeting of the Board of Directors, on 26 October 2019 in Belgrade, Serbia:

- Guided by the IFSPD Charter, the objectives of Article 2 of the United Nations Charter, the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations General Assembly Resolution GA (A / RES / 70/209) "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)", GA resolution (A / RES / 70/137) on the Rights of the Child, GA resolution (A / RES / 69/2) on education for democracy, GA resolution (A / RES / 69/145) on World Youth Skills Day, 1998 World Declaration on Higher Education for the 21st Century adopted by UNESCO's World Conference, European Parliament resolution of 12 June 2018 on modernization of education in the EU (2017/2224(INI)); Education 2030: Incheon Declaration of 2015, and taking into account other international documents:

- emphasizing the accomplishment of significant success in achieving the goals set by the IFSPD over the past 10 years through coherent work;

- highly appreciating the significant achievements in solving a multitude of humanitarian problems, especially in the field of education and health care, the spread of information and communication technologies, the formation of a society based on knowledge and progressive thinking;



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- guided by the fact that respect for such principles such as human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality, humanism, racial, ethnic and cultural diversity are of paramount importance;
 - supporting the achievement of sustainable development goals in countries represented in the IFSPD, and addressing the major challenges facing humanity;
 - noting the need to ensure, on an ongoing basis, the implementation of the economic, social and environmental measures constituting sustainable development;
 - emphasizing that education is the main foundation of society and the country as a whole;
 - advocating for education for all, and promoting the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) system in the practice of teaching, training, awareness-raising and upbringing;
 - expressing a strong desire to contribute to the improvement of the education of children, youth and adults, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all Member States of the United Nations in 2015, namely to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, as well as to create lifelong learning opportunities for all;
 - expressing concern about the presence of centralization in educational policy;
 - alarmed by the fact that education remains a high-risk sector for corruption and political influence, especially in higher education;
 - emphasizing serious concerns about poor infrastructure as well as the difficult situation of human resources in education, due to low wages and lack of opportunities for personal growth of teachers;



- assessing as a serious problem the absence and / or inadequate preschool education, which serves the task of forming initial skills and abilities, as well as the absence and / or inadequate working conditions, both for teachers and students;
- emphasizing the importance of developing creative and critical thinking among students in order to form research skills, but also the need to apply theoretical knowledge in practice in order to strengthen the confidence of future specialists in their knowledge;
- being aware of the existence of many countries' still big problems regarding the sustainable development, and also taking into account the problems in education such as a partial success of cross-border cooperation between countries in the field of education, as well as a strong dropout of students;
- stressing the importance of ensuring access to education for vulnerable groups, especially children affected by conflict, violence and natural disasters, as well as the inadmissibility of attacks on educational institutions,

IFSPD declares the following:

- In its activities, IFSPD will remain committed to international documents and principles of humanism and will;
- contribute to improving the education of children, youth and adults, especially in regards to the improvement of the learning environment, taking into account the social, cultural and ethnic aspects of human development;
- monitor the development of information and communication technologies (ICT), and contribute to this development in accordance with IFSPD's capabilities;



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- encourage the development of friendly relations in cooperation between nations based on mutual trust, strengthening inter-civilizational dialogue, expanding sensible civil societies;
 - continue to conduct research, scientific and practical conferences, round tables and wide discussions on the problems of education and their solutions;
 - motivate and inspire young talents, as well as support the activities, creativity and inventions of people with high intellectual and scientific potential;
 - analyze such aspects as innovations, forecasts for the future, urgent tasks of the 21st century and continue with the research;
 - expand cooperation with other international organizations, influential non-governmental organizations and think tanks, operating in accordance with the above-mentioned objectives, aimed at addressing contemporary global and local challenges;

By accepting this Declaration, we consider it important to send it to the UN, UNESCO, OSCE, EU, CoE for consideration in their activities.

