Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN EDUCATION: HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED USE AT THE SERVICE OF THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

For her upcoming report to be presented to the General Assembly in October 2024, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to education, Ms. Farida Shaheed, will consider the human rights-based use of artificial intelligence in education at the service of the advancement of the right to education.

The report will build on the outcomes achieved by other United Nations human rights mechanisms on the topic.

For the purposes of this questionnaire, artificial intelligence (AI) refers to the use of computer programming that enables systems to learn and adapt autonomously, and to process data based on specific set of algorithms. Such AI systems include various techniques such as machine learning and large language models, including generative AI, which generates new content such as text, images, and videos.

In educational settings, AI is often used for tasks ranging from enhancing teaching and research methodologies, student assessment and personalizing learning experiences to improving decision-making processes through predictive analytics and adaptive systems. It is crucial to address potential risks associated with AI in education, including gender and other biases in algorithms, disparities for marginalized groups in terms of access to necessary devices and connectivity required to use AI-based education programmes and the reinforcement of harmful stereotypes through AI-generated content.

The Special Rapporteur intends to take stock of international guidelines, national legislation, academic and corporate guidelines and codes of conduct, as well as innovative practices of the use of AI in educational settings, in the framework of ensuring the enjoyment of the right to education by all.

Name of the country/entity submitting information	
Contact details (will be deleted from the published form)	

Questions (feel free to respond to those which are relevant to your work)

1. Please provide examples of **how AI tools and systems, including generative AI, are used in education process and related decision making** in your country, organization or educational institution, with examples of specific software where relevant.

2. Please provide **specific evidence of the known impact** of AI tools and systems on learners and teachers and on education systems in general, both positive and negative and explain how the impact is monitored. For example, how does the use of AI affect:

   a. persons with special learning needs, learners with different linguistic and cultural backgrounds, women and girls;

   b. access to education of populations marginalized or underserved due to ethnicity, socio-economic status, displacement and other factors;

   c. human interaction between teachers and students;

   d. students' and teachers' human rights, privacy, safety, engagement, agency and critical thinking;

   e. perpetuation of stereotypes and inequalities;

   f. the type of information or disinformation that learners and educators are exposed to;

   g. assessment of learning;

   h. education management.

3. Please provide examples of **legislation, regulations** (including codes of conduct or institutional rules) or **policies** addressing or covering the use of AI in educational context, including **ethical or human rights concerns** around AI development and use, data privacy, bias mitigation, transparency, academic integrit**y**, plagiarism and proper attribution. Is due diligence mandated for the use of AI in educational context? Do students have clear guidance for citing AI usage?

4. Please provide examples of **participation** of teachers, parents, students or communities in the development of nationwide or internal regulations addressing the use of AI in education. What has been the feedback from teachers, students and parents? Are there mechanisms in place to solicit such feedback?

5. How does the education system support management staff, teachers and students in understanding how to use AI and how AI works? Please provide examples and /or texts of curricula that address both the **technological and human dimensions of AI competency** (both how it works (the techniques and the technologies) and what its impact is on people (on human cognition, privacy, agency)).

6. Please provide examples of existing **professional development programmes for teachers** to use AI technologies. What training and support are provided to educators to effectively utilize AI tools in their daily work?

7. Please provide examples of policies addressing **gaps and inequalities** in access to necessary conditions for the use of AI in teaching and learning, for instance

aimed at reducing the digital divide between students with easy access to AI tools at home and those dependent on school resources? What measures are in place to ensure that trustworthy and pedagogically appropriate AI tools and resources are accessible to all students, regardless of their socio-economic background or geographical location?

8. Please provide examples of state-supported **collaboration or partnership** between public educational institutions and corporations producing AI tools for education. Does the education system enforce contracts with specific software providers or is there a choice, at which level and is it informed by feedback from teachers, parents and students, as appropriate? How are data sovereignty and localization being addressed in the context of using international or foreign-developed AI tools in education?

9. What are the main **challenges** encountered during the implementation of AI in education? Have there been any technical, ethical, financial or regulatory hurdles in deploying AI solutions in the educational context?

10. Are there any specific areas within education where you see significant potential for AI integration in the **future**?

How to submit information

Submissions should be sent electronically no later than **27 May 2024 to** hrc-sr-education@un.org, using the email title: "Contribution: AI in education".

Please select and answer the questions most relevant for your work. Kindly limit your responses to **3,000 words** and attach annexes where necessary. To facilitate their consideration, please send responses in a Word document, and in English, French, Russian or Spanish. **Please clearly specify the entity making the contribution on the document itself and add paragraph numbers**.

All inputs received will be posted on the OHCHR website. Please **do not include any personal details** which you would not want to be found online. Please indicate if you have any objections regarding to your reply being posted on the OHCHR website.