



Declaration on Health & Education: Keys to Development

29th June 2015, Brussels

We are young people from different European Countries of diverse cultural, social and economic backgrounds. We affirm the intrinsic dignity of each person from conception to natural death. This dignity is the foundation for all Human Rights and development. We recognize that development cannot be achieved without health and education efforts, and that development should pursue the integral growth of the human person and of the society.

Authentic development starts with the responsibility of the individual, and extends to the family, community, national and international levels including the European Institutions. Its holistic approach addresses the fundamental human rights to education and health and all the basic needs such as clean water, nutrition, sanitation, housing, security, employment and social support. Both health and education in particular empower people to contribute to development in their communities, nations, and the world.

We call upon the special responsibility of the European Union and its Member States on development to reach the objective of 0.7 % of GNI dedicated to development aid with at least 50% going towards the LDC's. To ensure this we encourage countries to establish a monitoring body that will oversee this on-going process.

We recognize the right of each person to the highest attainable standard of health. Health affects an individuals' participation in the work and social spheres. Good health requires not only medical care, but also clean water, sanitation, good nutrition, psychological well-being and education necessary to comprehend medical advice and make informed decisions. Stressing the importance of prevention in health care programmes as well as social support, especially for the elderly. Noting that maternal and reproductive health present a continuing challenge and particular concern in both developed and developing nations, efforts should be made to promote knowledge-based healthcare for all.

Primary education must be available to all on an equal basis and should flow from an authentic understanding of the human person, and foster respect for self and others in solidarity with particular recognition to women and girls.

Good health and quality education are essential for authentic development and are key to enhancing solidarity and democratic values. They equip people with opportunities to thrive as individuals and as members of their communities. Health and education foster human



creativity and ingenuity both of which facilitate prosperity, equality and responsible management of natural resources.

We call upon individuals and the European institutions, to implement policies that respect the dignity of the Human person by ensuring the right to life, health and education for all. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, the human person must be at the centre of development.

This Declaration has been issued following the organisation of the Emerging Leaders Conference. It represents the voice of the young participants present at the event.

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