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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council (resolution [2019/18](#))

Education for Justice and the rule of law in the context of sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are the indispensable foundation of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

Reaffirming also the right of everyone to education, which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and is recognized by States parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,² the Convention on the Rights of the Child,³ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁴ the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁵ and other relevant instruments,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁶ are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging the importance of taking measures to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, including expanded opportunities for all children, particularly girls, to access quality education, as well as the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

² See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

⁶ Resolution [70/1](#).



Recognizing the important and positive contribution of young people to efforts to maintain and promote peace and the rule of law,

Reaffirming the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,⁷ in which Member States emphasized that education for all children and youth, including the eradication of illiteracy, was fundamental to the prevention of crime and corruption and to the promotion of the rule of law and human rights while respecting cultural identities, and stressed the fundamental role of youth participation in crime prevention efforts,

Taking note of the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030 – towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all, adopted at the World Education Forum 2015, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 22 May 2015,⁸ which affirmed the understanding of education as a main driver of development that is essential for peace, tolerance, human fulfilment and sustainable development, as well as key to achieving full employment and poverty eradication,

Acknowledging the importance of working to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, adult and distance education, including technical and vocational training – so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development,

1. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,⁷ adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Recalls* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁶ in which Member States committed themselves to the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and to ensuring that all learners acquired the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including through education for sustainable development;

3. *Urges* Member States to provide access to education for all, including technical and professional skills, and to promote lifelong learning skills for all, and invites Member States to promote educational programmes related to crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law, in particular for children and young people;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to integrate crime prevention and criminal justice strategies into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes, in particular those affecting youth, with a special emphasis on programmes focused on increasing educational and employment opportunities for youth and young adults;

5. *Invites* Member States, in accordance with domestic legislation, to encourage strengthened cooperation between the crime prevention and criminal justice sectors and the education sector, as well as other relevant sectors, to promote

⁷ Resolution 70/174, annex.

⁸ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum 2015, Incheon, Republic of Korea, 19–22 May 2015* (Paris, 2015).

the integration of education on justice and the rule of law into their education systems and programmes;

6. *Emphasizes* the right to education, recognizes that investment in universal, quality and inclusive education and training is the most important investment that States can make to ensure the short- and long-term development of youth, reiterates that access to inclusive, equitable and quality formal and non-formal education at all levels, including, as appropriate, catch-up and literacy education, including in information and communications technologies, for those who did not receive formal education, information and communications technologies and volunteerism are important factors that enable young people to acquire the relevant skills and to build their capacities, including for employability and entrepreneurial development, and to obtain decent and productive work, and calls upon Member States to take the actions necessary to ensure that young people have access to such services and opportunities, which will allow them to be drivers of development;

7. *Invites* Member States to develop awareness-raising programmes to convey key values based on the rule of law and supported by educational programmes, to be accompanied by economic and social policies promoting equality, solidarity and justice, and to reach out to young people, drawing on them as agents of positive change;

8. *Also invites* Member States to intensify, in line with their domestic legal frameworks, national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination, by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 4, 5, 8, 10 and 16;

9. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, in the area of education on justice and the rule of law, including under the Education for Justice initiative, which is a key component of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration: Towards the Promotion of a Culture of Lawfulness;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to promote education on the rule of law and justice in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in particular under the Global Citizenship Education for the Rule of Law: Doing the Right Thing partnership, and welcomes in this regard the launch of the joint publication entitled *Strengthening the Rule of Law through Education: A Guide for Policymakers*;

11. *Notes* that the main theme of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Kyoto, Japan, in 2020, is “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda”, and welcomes the fruitful discussions and deliberations at the regional preparatory meetings for the Fourteenth Congress on that subject, particularly those relating to education;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report on its activities to promote education on justice in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Doha Declaration to be submitted at the Fourteenth Congress;

13. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.