

CHILD CONSULTATIONS

on early childhood education, free pre-primary education and free secondary education

Hi! Hello from the United Nations Human Rights Office!

We want to hear from you! In September 2025, representatives of governments, organisations led by children and working on children's rights, other related organisations, and children themselves will meet in Geneva, Switzerland, to talk about **early childhood education, free pre-primary education** and **free secondary education**. We are working to ensure that children's views about these topics are included in the discussion. It's important that children, like you, can contribute with your thoughts and ideas. We want to make sure that your voices are heard because they are very important to make sure your rights are respected!

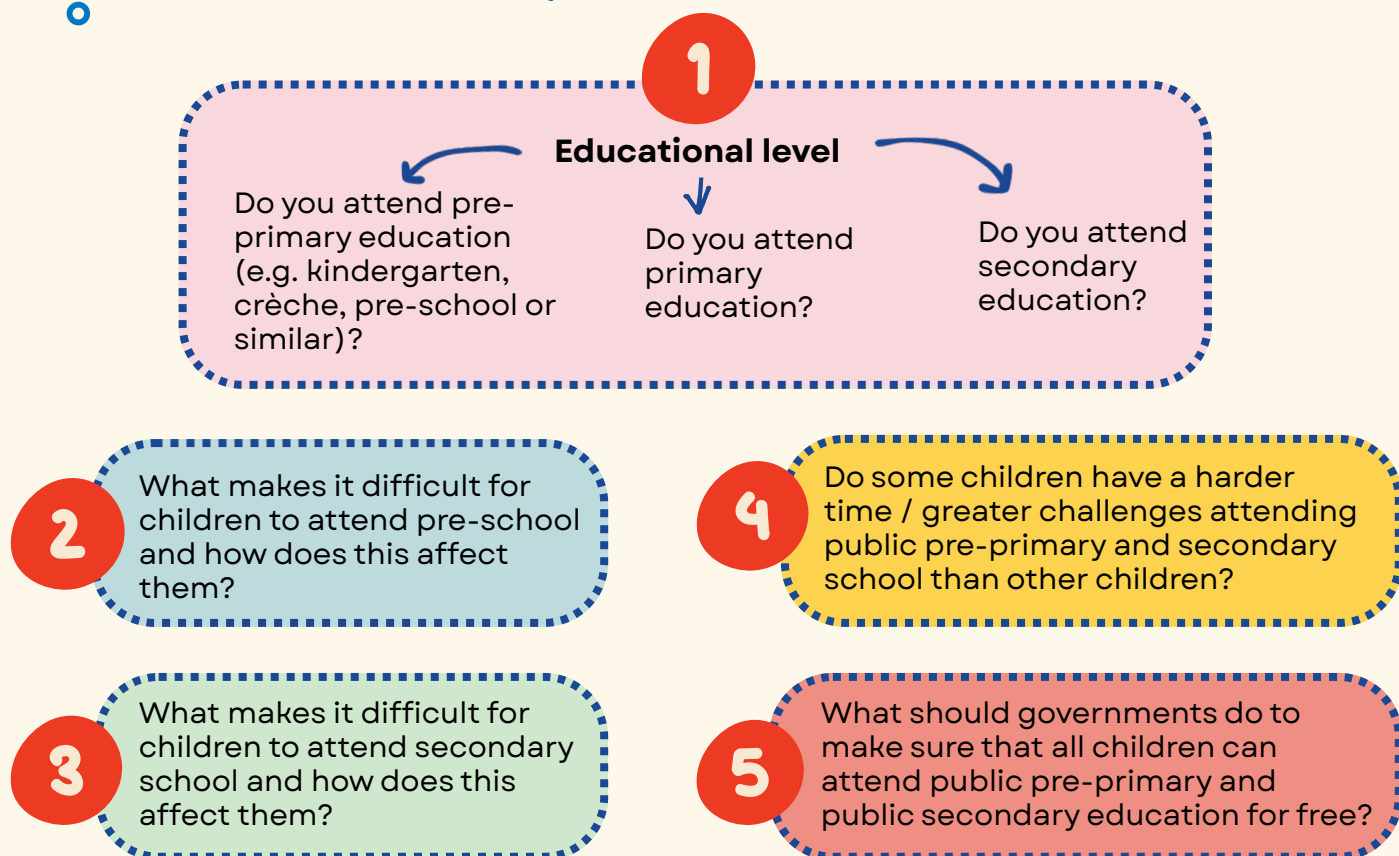


How can you participate and share your views?

Organisations are holding consultations with children about this process in different places around the world and probably you are reading this information sheet because you are interested to take part. The consultation will be a discussion led by an adult and/or child who is helping you to go through the main questions. After the consultation, the organisers of the consultation will prepare a report, which will be sent to the UN Human Rights Office. You can also help with that.



What will be the questions at the consultation?



What will happen after?



Stay tuned!



A compilation of children's views will be sent to partners who organized child consultations and posted [online](#).



An official update on the meeting and a child-friendly summary version will be published in June-July 2026. You can also regularly check the [UN Human Rights Office's website](#) for news.

What is it helpful to know before the consultation?

What are children's rights?

Children's rights are promises that governments have made to children and young people under 18 years old to help them enjoy a good life in all places where they live and stay safe from danger. The **Convention on the Rights of the Child** explains who children are, all their rights, and the responsibilities of governments. All the rights are connected, they are all equally important and they cannot be taken away from children.



What is the right to education?



One of these rights is the right to education. All children and young people have the right to education no matter who they are: for example, their race, gender or disability; if they're in detention, or if they're a refugee. Education is important for children's development and health. It helps them to keep them safe and well, and to prepare them for a good job and to be part of society.

However, [according to UNESCO](#), 251 million children and young people around the world are not going to school. There are many reasons why children and young people are not going to school and we would like to talk more about that today!