



Global Education First Initiative

The UN Secretary-General's Global Initiative on Education



GLOBAL
OBSERVATORY
FOR INCLUSION



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YAG Youth
Advocacy
Group

Project: #DrawDisability

#DrawDisability is a global campaign launched by the **United Nations Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative (GEFI)**, in partnership with the **Global Observatory for Inclusion (GLOBI)** and the **United Nations Global Education First Initiative Youth Advocacy Group (GEFI-YAG)**. It aims to enhance awareness among children and youth on disability by inviting them to reflect on their understanding of the concept of disability and to portray, by drawing, how they see Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in their communities. The perspectives of children and youth may highlight struggles and challenges, as well as accomplishments and successes PWD have encountered and achieved in their communities. The drawings are expected to trigger further discussions on the inclusion of PWD in different communities around the world. The title of the project is purposely a hashtag to maximize the virality of the awareness raising campaign.

Background

Every person regardless of language, ethnicity, gender, faith, or ability has rights, as clearly inscribed in the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**. The **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)** further sets forth a distinct set of rights for every child. The **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)** ensures that every person with a disability fully enjoys access to basic services such as education and health care as well as equal opportunities to decent jobs and civic participation to contribute to the human, social and economic development of society. While the CRPD has provided the normative framework for Persons with Disabilities to advance their rights, it is important to emphasize that more needs to be done especially when it comes to raising awareness on disability.

A vast number of Persons with Disabilities is still prevented from enjoying their basic human rights including their right to education. There are 58 million children who do not have access to education. Vulnerable and marginalized groups, including children with disabilities, are often excluded from equal opportunities to access quality education. Societies must create an inclusive and welcoming environment and develop values of tolerance, empathy, and respect.

One way of bringing this perspective forward is to actively involve the school community using a creative form of expression, that is, the art of drawing. If children and youth are informed and motivated about the issue of disability, their perceptions and actions can change the lives of millions, most importantly of those with disabilities around the world, by challenging stereotypes and attitudes. Art is a narrative tool for social change.

How to participate?

#DrawDisability will be launched online on December 3, 2014, on the occasion of the **International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)**. The campaign has two main objectives:

- ✍ To **encourage dialogue and raise awareness** on disability and related issues among teachers and learners within educational environments
- ✍ To create a **global art project** focused on disability

Teachers will be invited to promote critical reflections and awareness on disability within the classroom. Teachers will be asked to raise particular awareness on “invisible disabilities”, and to help their students in finding creative ways to represent the whole spectrum of disabilities, impairments and conditions. Teachers’ guidelines will be provided to facilitate this process. Children with and without disabilities will then be encouraged to **#DrawDisability**.

All drawings received will be uploaded and displayed on a dedicated section of globi-observatory.org. The general public will be invited to share the photos on social networks using the hashtag **#DrawDisability**.

Early submissions by April 1, 2015 are highly encouraged as selected drawings will be showcased at the **World Education Forum** in May 2015 in Incheon, South Korea, and the **Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP-CRPD)** in June 2015 New York, USA. These exhibitions will aim to maximize awareness raising efforts on the challenges of disabilities and the importance of inclusive education.

The deadline for all submissions will be July 15, 2015 after which date, the general public will be invited to vote their favorite drawings on-line. The 60 most voted drawings by the public will be shortlisted and a designated jury will then select the 30 best drawings based on: Message/Disability relevance (40%), Creativity (30%), Technique (20%), and Overall impact (10%). The final selection of 30 artworks will be exhibited on the sidelines of the 70th United Nations General Assembly.

How to submit?

The drawings will be divided into two age groups: 6-11 and 12-17 years old.

Format of drawings: A4 paper (or 8.5’ X 11” sized paper) and any coloring medium with the following information – title of the artwork with a 3-5-sentence description; name, age, sex, country, city, school, and class of the author.

Types of submission: scanned images of the drawings; digital pictures of the drawings using digital cameras or smartphones; original drawings can be sent using the traditional postal system to GLOBI for upload.

Via on-line submission form: www.globi-observatory.org/DrawDisability

Via email: drawdisability@globi-observatory.org

Via postal system: GLOBI, Via Pietro Cossa 280/10, 10151 Torino, Italy

Timeline

Date	Activity	Venue
December 3, 2014 International Day of Persons with Disabilities	Project Launch	<i>Online</i>
April 1-3, 2015	Gathering of 'early' entries for showcasing in Incheon/New York	<i>Online</i>
May 2015	First exhibition	<i>Incheon, South Korea</i>
June 2015	Second exhibition	<i>New York City, USA</i>
July 15, 2015	Deadline for submission of drawings	<i>Online</i>
July 16-August 1, 2015	Online voting (to determine the Top 60 drawings – 30 for each age group)	
August 1-5, 2015	Voting of the jury (to determine the Top 30 drawings – 15 for each age group)	
September 2015	Third exhibition UNGA	<i>New York City, USA</i>
December 3, 2015 International Day of Persons with Disabilities		<i>TBC</i>