

Contextualising Global Citizenship Education: Young People and Social Change

While there are robust debates about the meaning and validity of the concept of global citizenship, it is widely acknowledged that young people need to be better educated for interconnectivity, both to enhance their competencies in a globalised world and to equip them to act effectively on their responsibilities. This presentation outlines what global citizenship means to young people and explores the conditions within which they are able to develop a capacity for global responsibility and cosmopolitan outlooks. It considers how new transition patterns and increased mobility are complicating the ways youth today can position themselves as global citizens. It outlines the evidence base regarding young people's attitudes and practices in relation to global issues and openness towards difference, looks at the state of play of global citizenship education, and identifies principles of effective initiatives.