

POLICY PAPER ON GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION IN EUROPE

I. INTRODUCTION

[SOLIDAR](#) is a European network of Civil Society Organisations, trade unions and social movements brought together by the common objective of advancing social justice in Europe and beyond.

SOLIDAR organises its work for lifelong and lifewide learning through the SOLIDAR Foundation structure. The purpose of the Foundation is to gather both the external policy work and the internal learning needs in what we consider a learning house for the network.

SOLIDAR Foundation engages, through member and partner organisations, citizens in EU decision making processes, empowers people through lifelong learning and VET, and voices their concerns to the EU institutions by carrying out active lobbying, project management and coordination, policy monitoring, research and awareness-raising.

In the framework of our work on promoting inclusive learning and sustainable societies, SOLIDAR Foundation is currently looking for expert(s) to draft a policy paper on Global Citizenship Education which will constitute the third and final publication of SOLIDAR Foundation's policy cycle on GCE (2023-2025) looking at this topic from different angles.

II. BACKGROUND, OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE OUTPUT

Global Citizenship Education (GCE) has been a central topic to the work of the SOLIDAR Foundation membership across Europe and beyond. The scope, outreach, nature, methodology and pedagogies associated with the approaches taken by the members reflect the diversity of SOLIDAR Foundation's network.

The membership of SOLIDAR Foundation accounts for providers of informal and non-formal education, and partners of formal education providers, which operate at national level either as networks of such providers in their country or as stand-alone providers. Therefore, when discussing GCE, the reference should always be non-formal and informal learning, while connecting how knowledge developed in such contexts can be best used to enhance the work done in formal education.

A common frame that reunites the membership of SOLIDAR Foundation is the fact that each one of them is striving to achieve social justice through education, ensuring that all learners have access to quality, public education that is done in a lifelong learning manner. Moreover, members developed a shared definition of Global Citizenship Education¹, and a group of them has worked on the conceptualisation of a shared methodology². SOLIDAR Foundation and its members understand GCE as political education on a global scale which prepares learners to develop a sense of belonging to the global community, to get involved and to take an active role in society in order to contribute to a

¹ See Frank, Andrei & Gambardella, Elisa [Citizenship and Lifelong Learning Monitor](#) 2020, p. 9.

² Thanks to the [Project AKA Active Citizens](#), co-funded by the CERV programme.



peaceful, just world in which ecological resources are preserved³. In 2023, SOLIDAR Foundation also published the Policy paper [We All Belong: The role of GCE in supporting democratic participation and addressing current global challenges](#) which discusses recent policy developments connected to GCE at European level, including a reflection on the relevance of GCE delivered in informal and non-formal education for supporting democratic participation and addressing the current global challenges. This publication constituted the first building block of a three years-long work. The second building block is represented by the [Policy Paper on Global Citizenship Education and Democratic Participation in Europe](#), published in 2024. This looked into how GCE and democratic participation are related and its pointers show that political investment in GCE can result in enhanced democratic participation, notably for transnational elections such as those for the European Parliament.

Following up on the findings of these two publications, the policy paper to be released in 2025 should further the knowledge of the impact of Global Citizenship Education on inequalities, notably looking at learners with diverse socio-economic backgrounds.

The general objectives of the publication are as follows:

- to map the provision of GCE for learners with different socio-economic backgrounds and innovative practices in this field
- to investigate whether certain socio-economic backgrounds are particularly deprived of GCE, and if and how this relates to their participation in the democratic processes and community life

The publication should conclude with policy recommendations for policymakers on the meaningful mainstreaming of Global Citizenship Education across all types of education. The publication should be meant to show the role of GCE in supporting democratic participation and addressing inequalities, and advocate for a good usage of this across Europe.

III. PROCEDURES

a. Application Process:

Applications need to be submitted electronically to Elisa Gambardella (elisa.gambardella@solidar.org) and Alexandra Matthys (alexandra.matthys@Solidar.org) no later than Monday 31st March 2025, at midnight.

The proposal should include:

1. A copy of (each) researcher's CV
2. A document that contains the following information:
 - a. A proposed methodology and related timeline
 - b. Critical review of and comments on the research question and concept for the policy paper as outlined in section II

³ Ibid.



c. Provisional literature review

3. Proof of similar assignment(s) handled in the past.

b. Time Frame

No.	Activities	Timeline
1	Publication of the call for tenders	18 February 2025
2	Deadline to submit an application	31 March 2025
3	Evaluation of proposals	1-4 April 2025
4	Communication of results	10 April 2025
5	Cooperation Agreements signed	21 April 2025
6	Policy RT (Bxl)	12-20 May 2025 (exact date TBD)
7	Check in & Feedback Meeting	TBC June & July 2025
8	First draft of the publication	8 September 2025
9	Final draft of the publication	7 October 2025

IV. BUDGET AVAILABLE

SOLIDAR Foundation will provide financial support of EUR 5000 (VAT included).

V. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The payment shall be made with the following instalments:

1. 30% of the total financial support paid after the cooperation agreement is signed.
2. 70% of the total financial support paid after the submission of the final report approved by SOLIDAR Foundation team.

VI. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE PROPOSAL AND THE RESEARCHER(S):

a. Researchers

- Experience in producing research for EU-level advocacy purposes.
- Peer reviewed publications on subjects relevant to this call.
- Previous collaborations with (progressive) CSOs will be an asset.
- Being associated with a university or a research institution will be an asset.

b. Proposals

1. Overview

- The critical review and comments to the concept for the policy paper outlined in Section II are well articulated.
- The literature review is appropriate/adequate to address the research question.



2. Understanding of Research Problem and Issues

3. Quality of Research Design

- Appropriate methodology
- Feasibility for meeting the deadline and ensuring that data can be collected and interpreted

For further information and informal queries, you may contact us at the above mentioned email addresses.