



Universal Periodic Review of Philippines RIGHT TO EDUCATION

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES FROM PREVIOUS CYCLES

Out of the 257 recommendations offered during the 3rd UPR Cycle of 2017, the Philippines accepted all those concerning education under paragraphs 133.219 – 133.225, committing to prioritise expenditure towards public education. Main issues in education include high dropout and low enrollment rates, as well as discrimination.

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

After the 3rd cycle, the Philippines decided to prioritise public education in its budgetary expenditure. By 2022, the Philippines invested less than 5% of overall GDP towards education in the last decade.

CHALLENGES

- A. Access to education
- B. Quality of education and educational facilities
- C. War on Drugs

IMPACTS

- A. The Philippines retained the highest dropout rates in Southeast Asia at 6.83% (elementary) and 7.82% (secondary) due to issues of poverty and armed conflict. In 2020, 2.8 million students remained outside of the educational system.
- B. The Philippine Department of Education acknowledged the need for 60 million textbooks, 2.5 million chairs and over 80,000 sanitary facilities to improve the poor quality of education. 2018 PISA data by the OECD Filipino students last out of 79 countries for reading comprehension and next to last for science and math.
- C. Independent research highlighted how the ‘War on Drugs’ policies kill family breadwinners that effectively leave children without appropriate financial support for their education.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue increasing the financial, logistical, and legislative support to all schools and levels of education, especially in preparation for a more uncertain, post-pandemic society.
2. End the killing of children as a result of the ‘War on Drugs’ campaign, especially the loss of breadwinners and other family members which effectively stops children from returning to education.
3. Hand out devices to follow online classes and working with the private sectors to extend internet connectivity, implementing a Learning Continuity Plan for those who do not have devices or internet through the TV and radio.
4. Reopen schools across all levels of education which prioritises the emotional and cognitive development of children within a healthy environment that conducive to learning and results in realizing the full potential of learners, whilst reducing the rate of poverty, dropping out, child labour, sexual violence, teenage pregnancy, and young marriages.

BROKEN CHALK

Broken Chalk is an Amsterdam-based NGO established in 2020, focused on raising awareness on human rights violations in the educational field. Together with our international sponsors and partners, we aim to remove obstacles in education; contribute to the achievement of peace and tranquility in the society through adaptation studies in an environment of intercultural tolerance; prevent radicalism and polarization; and eliminate the opportunity gap in education for all.

SOURCES



Philippines UN-UPR

To access the full report please scan the QR code or visit the following link:
<https://brokenchalk.org/submission-to-the-universal-periodic-review-of-the-united-nations-human-rights-council-philippines/>



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