

JMUN LIV CONFERENCE 2025

Committee: UNESCO

Agenda Item: Reducing Inequalities in Digital Education

School: Keystone Schools

The Country of Ukraine is a large Eastern European nation that gained full independence in December 1991, following the dissolution of the Soviet Union. With our capital as Kyiv, the president as Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and a total population of over 42 million, Ukraine is a unitary multiparty republic and a founding member of the United Nations. As a committed member of UNESCO, we promote the organization's mandate in education, science, culture, particularly in the face of significant challenges. Despite the ongoing conflict, Ukraine is focused on the protection of the cultural heritage, ensuring the continuity of education.

The Country of Ukraine states that digital education of good quality should be a right of every child, not a privilege. Unfortunately, millions of students still do not have access to reliable internet, suitable devices, and teachers, which makes the difference between children who can learn online and those who cannot grow even more. The digital gap is a serious issue that threatens to make it impossible to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal 4 of providing inclusive and equitable quality education for everyone.

Through digital tools, Ukraine has experienced how quickly these instruments become indispensable when schools are closed due to crises or conflicts. Even though Ukraine is at war, teachers and students there have regularly held online lessons through various platforms and by using digital resources, thus demonstrating that education is the one thing that cannot be stopped. These kinds of national initiatives have contributed to an increase in internet usage and digital skills; however, there are still some vulnerable groups, such as people living in rural areas, internally displaced persons, and those coming from low-income communities, who continue to face barriers in accessing digital learning in an inclusive manner.

The Country of Ukraine sees the organization's human-centred approach as extremely beneficial for digital learning with its leading and normative guidance concerning the safe and inclusive use of technology in educational institutions. An international effort such as the Global Education Coalition clearly shows that solidarity is capable of offering devices, connectivity, and open resources to learners who would otherwise be left out. These measures serve as a reminder to states of their obligation to respect and protect learners' rights, privacy, and mental well-being while using digital tools.

Therefore, The Country of Ukraine is of the opinion that resolving disparities in digital education necessitates addressing three priority areas: First, access; second, skills; and third, safety. Every learner ought to be provided with access to affordable, high-quality internet as well as at least one suitable device which should be ensured through investment both in infrastructure and in community learning spaces. It is a must that students and teachers possess sound digital literacy skills and are competent in the use of technology and artificial intelligence in a responsible manner while platforms and content should be created in such a way that they are gender-friendly, accessible, and that children with disabilities can use them without any difficulties.

The Country of Ukraine is willing to work with all other member states to share good practice, extend the availability of low-cost devices and content in local languages, and work on developing offline solutions for those areas where the signal is weak.

SOURCES:

1. <https://www.unesco.org/en/ukraine-war>
2. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Ukraine>
3. <https://webportal.nrada.gov.ua/en/ukraine-shapes-the-global-unesco-agenda-cultural-heritage-education-ai-freedom-of-expression/>
4. <https://www.munpoint.com/mun/documentcenter/positionpaper-9713-1655141398-2559.pdf>