

GENDER EQUALITY OF CONTEMPORARY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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The right to education has been recognized as one of the basic human rights which means a right to free education (primary, secondary, high etc) for all people disregarding the age, nationality, gender etc. The right to education is reflected in article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states: «Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children» [4].

One of the fundamental pillars of educational equality lies in ensuring universal access to education. While significant strides have been made globally, disparities persist, hindering the realization of equal opportunities. Socioeconomic factors, geographical location, and gender continue to influence access to education [1]. In many parts of the world, marginalized communities face barriers such as insufficient infrastructure, lack of qualified educators, and financial constraints. Efforts to bridge these gaps include government initiatives, NGOs, and international collaborations aimed at providing resources and support to underserved populations.

The UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education reaffirms that education is not a luxury, but a fundamental human right. It highlights

states' obligations to ensure free and compulsory education, bans any form of discrimination and promotes equality of educational opportunity. States that have ratified the Convention are obliged to implement the right to education as it is elaborated in the text. The main provisions of the treaty include:

- Primary education free and compulsory.
- Secondary education in its different forms, generally available and accessible to all.
- Higher education equally accessible to all on the basis of individual capacity.
- Equivalent standards of education in all public educational institutions of the same level and conditions in relation to quality.
- Opportunities for those who missed all or part of their primary education and their continuation of education.
- Training opportunities for the teaching profession without discrimination [3].

The Convention expresses the fundamental principle of equality of educational opportunities, enshrined in UNESCO's Constitution. This is of critical importance in face of growing disparities in education and the need to ensure equality, equity and inclusion.

Historically, girls and women have faced barriers that limit their access to schooling, including cultural norms, discriminatory policies, and economic factors. Efforts to address this issue involve policy reforms, awareness campaigns, and targeted interventions to overcome obstacles that disproportionately affect one gender. Achieving gender parity in enrollment rates is crucial, but equal emphasis must be placed on retention and progression to higher levels of education.

Gender-based violence and harassment, both within and outside educational institutions, remain significant impediments to achieving gender equality in education. Schools and universities play a crucial role in fostering safe and respectful environments, addressing incidents of harassment promptly, and implementing policies that prioritize the well-being of all students. Education serves as a powerful tool for challenging attitudes that contribute to gender-based violence, promoting a culture of respect and equality.

In the 21st century, gender inequality is still an obstacle to universal access to education. Conservative attitudes towards the female gender role challenge women's and girls' ability to fully exercise their right to education. In 2019, an estimated 260 million children worldwide did not have access to school education [2].

The pursuit of gender equality in contemporary educational opportunities is a dynamic and ongoing process that requires concerted efforts from policymakers, educators, and society at large. By addressing issues related to access, inclusivity, stereotypes, and violence, educational institutions can play a pivotal role in fostering a more equitable society. Empowering individuals of all genders through

education not only benefits individuals but contributes to building more inclusive and progressive communities on a global scale. Ensuring equal access to education for all genders remains a fundamental goal.

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**ВИКОНАВСЬКЕ ПРОЧИТАННЯ ПІСНІ Д. ЕЛЛІНГТОНА
І М. ГАМБЛЕРА «IN A MELLOW TONE»
(НА ПРИКЛАДІ ВЕРСІЙ MANHATTAN TRANSFER, LAMBERT,
HENDRICKS & ROSS, ELLA FITZGERALD)**

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Музична композиція «In a Mellow Tone», також відомий під назвою «In a Mellotone», – це джазовий стандарт 1939 року, складений Дюком Еллінгтоном, з текстом, написаним Мілтом Габлером. Пісня була