



SIDE-EVENT 8

**The Right to Inclusive Education: Concerns, Issues and Challenges**

*organised by the group of NGOs on the right to education*

Inclusive education concerns not only vulnerable children, but exists primarily to "support and welcome diversity amongst all learners" (UNESCO, Open file on Inclusive Education, 2001). As such, it stems from the belief that education is a basic human right and the foundation for a more just society. In this sense, it is the means of ensuring that "Education for All really does mean *all*". (Reference Document, Inclusive Education: the way of the future, p.6)

The Special Event's objective will be to bring together selected NGOs under the auspices of the OIDEL in order to reflect over the problems and issues in the realization of inclusive education—from the perspective of the right to education.

Organised by the group of NGOs on the right to education:

OIDEL  
AVSI  
BICE  
University College Henry Dunant  
Dominicans for Justice and Peace  
IIMA  
IFUW  
IFFD  
New Humanity  
Hearts Home  
VIDES  
Women's Board  
Chair UNESCO (University of La Rioja)  
Chair UNESCO (University of Bergamo)  
Chair UNESCO (University of Fribourg)

with the support of UNESCO and the OHCHR

**Panel Composition**

- J. Dias Ferreira**  
Trainer, CeFEP, Public Department of Instruction,  
Geneva, Switzerland
- A. Fernandez**  
Director General of OIDEL

**Objectives**

- Clarifying the concept of inclusive education (IE) in its legal, political and cultural aspects on the basis of international provisions (which are the instruments of the UN and of the UNESCO);
- Conceiving IE as a true reflection of the system, as education for all.

**Panel Composition (cont.)**

- F. Ferrer**  
Professor of Comparative Education, Autonomous  
University of Barcelona, Spain
- P. Meyer-Bisch**  
Coordinator of the Institute for Ethics and Human  
Rights and UNESCO Chair, University of Fribourg,  
Switzerland
- T. del Prado**  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- K. Singh**  
Secretary of the Joint UNESCO Committee on  
Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the Right  
to Education, UNESCO
- J. C. Tedesco**  
Minister of Education, Argentina

**Support Documentation**

- Concept Paper on the Inclusive Education of the Joint Expert Group UNESCO (CR) / ECOSOC (CESCR) for the Monitoring of the Right to Education (2008)
- Reference Document for the ICE (document ED / IBE / CONFINTED 48 / 4)
- Document prepared by the NGO Group
- Document Overcoming Exclusion through Inclusive Approaches in Education UNESCO, Conceptual Paper (2003)