



# ALL OVER THE WORLD TO CHANGE IT!

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SOCIALIST YOUTH

## STUDENTS MANIFESTO

Students Working Group

LINE/  
LÍNEA/  
LIGNE:

TEXT/ TEXTO/ TEXTE

### 1 Preamble

2 Student politics remain critical in youth struggles for a just world. IUSY as an international  
3 movement cannot afford to be complacent about student politics and struggles. IUSY be-  
4 lieves that student's rights are fundamental for the youth of the world to become active and  
5 critical citizens in our society. For the youth to realize its full potential and contribute positive-  
6 ly towards development" it is must access public education at all levels. Therefore" we aim to  
7 build a network that will champion the interest of students within IUSY structures and at a  
8 global level.  
9 The students manifesto focuses on the following outlined demands that are central in educa-  
10 tion and student affairs.

### 11 Themes

#### 12 1. Quality of Education

13 The importance of education is in its power to liberate the oppressed. Institutions of learning  
14 must be free from any form of indoctrination by ruling governments and non-state actors that  
15 might intend to use education for political gains.  
16 Our goal is not only to make sure everyone has access to education but also to ensure it is  
17 quality education.  
18 IUSY believes in quality education that empowers students to face contemporary challenges  
19 facing society. IUSY believes that quality education is a combination of the following;  
20 Quality education implies quality educational structures meant to make learning easier and  
21 comfortable and under a secure environment.  
22 Quality education must allow students to be critical thinkers, with the capacity to develop  
23 their own ideas and conduct research. This is impossible to achieve where there is no aca-  
24 demic freedom. Academic freedom is critical for creativity, innovation and dynamism in the  
25 learning process.

#### 26 2. Autonomy of Schools, Colleges and Universities

27 Autonomy of schools, colleges and universities is key to safeguard the right to education and  
28 contribute development of a good educational system geared towards reaching goals that  
29 are set by the public. Autonomy should be understood as the full authority of institutions to  
30 determine their own governing bodies, to choose their authorities, to exercise teaching, re-  
31 search and extension functions, and administrative and management activities, without any  
32 interference of the government.  
33 The public is funding these institutions does not mean that politicians should interfere in the  
34 administration on these institutions. Securing academic freedom is one of the most important



# ALL OVER THE WORLD TO CHANGE IT!

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF SOCIALIST YOUTH

35 things.

36 We advocate for the protection of schools, colleges and universities under international law  
37 when there is a war. Schools are usually an easy target by militaries and insurgents in time of  
38 war. This is an infringement of the right to education which should be protected at all cost.  
39 We support the UN agreement to protect schools during war.

### 40 **3. Equality**

41 We recognize education as a right and social good that should be at the disposal of the pub-  
42 lic. It is only through a public and free education that will see the true commitment of the  
43 governments to guarantee this right to education. We are principally opposed privatization of  
44 education that is oriented towards market ends: far from an education that promotes the cre-  
45 ation of knowledge and the creation of alternatives to the current problems facing society.

46 The management of schools must be radically democratized to represent all stakeholders in-  
47 volved, more especially students.

48 Equality in education is fundamentally necessary for improving access to women and other  
49 marginalized groups such as indigenous people, LGBTQI community, the disabled. It is there-  
50 fore paramount in promoting gender equality and a redress to other forms socio-economic  
51 inequalities.

### 52 **4. Free Education (Access to education)**

53 Education is a human right declared by the UN human rights declaration. However, magni-  
54 tudes of people are still not enjoying this basic human right because of a host of imped-  
55 iments; gender, race, sexual orientation, economic and social background. Access to educa-  
56 tion is incredibly important in fighting inequalities and injustice. With evidence of increasing  
57 inequalities in the globe, education remains an important mechanism for social mobility. Ac-  
58 cess to quality education is fundamental in the development of the humanity. Our generation  
59 lives in a time technological advancement, whereby access to education can be promoted by  
60 studying through the internet, that is distance learning. Investing in those, we can provide  
61 necessary lectures for those that can not take them in their own town, city or even country. It  
62 is very easy to implement, and it provides wide range of access to education for those that  
63 are unavailable to attend to classes. Mainly targeted are people with disabilities or that have  
64 social and economic background. In the backdrop of magnitudes of people still not being  
65 able to access internet, it is therefore imperative to make access to internet widely available  
66 to improve education.

67 IUSY calls for the realization of the right to education by making education accessible and  
68 free for all people. States have a responsibility towards securing access to education through  
69 increased public funding.

### 70 **5. Internationalisation of Education**

71 As an international movement we believe in the internationalization of education. An interna-  
72 tional accreditation of qualification is necessary in a globalizing world and making it easier for  
73 labour to seek employment across the globe. The need for a global student movement is sig-  
74 nificantly important considering that the challenges faced by students are not only local but  
75 global too. We shall collaborate with like-minded organizations in pursuit of establishing an  
76 international student movement that shall champion the rights of students at a global level.