School-related gender-based violence (SRGBV) affects millions of children, families, and communities. These are acts or threats of sexual, physical, or psychological violence that occur in and around schools, perpetrated due to gender norms and stereotypes and applied by unequal power dynamics (UNESCO, UNGEI, 2015).

SRGBV includes but is not limited to verbal and sexual harassment, sexual abuse, corporal punishment, and bullying. This type of violence violates the fundamental rights of boys and girls, producing gender discrimination, and many times, generating long-term consequences for those who suffer from it. School-related gender-based violence not only compromises the well-being of children and adolescents but can also harm their cognitive and emotional development. It can lead to increased truancy, poor academic results, school dropouts, low self-esteem, depression, teenage pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV, which negatively affect learning and well-being.

Although no updated data shows its magnitude in the region, forms of SRGBV have been found in all the countries of the world where school-related gender-based violence has been studied. According to the Third Regional Comparative and Explanatory Study (LLECE-UNESCO, 2016), in countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, and the Dominican Republic, over 40% of students reported having experienced all types of bullying (physical and psychological); and according to CEPAL (2020) between 60% and 76% of women have experienced some form of gender-based violence. Studies from around the world have shown that physical, sexual, and psychological violence are prevalent in schools in all world regions.

Furthermore, research shows that girls are more likely to experience psychological violence, cyberbullying, violence, and sexual harassment. On the other hand, boys tend to face higher
rates of corporal punishment than girls (Pinheiro, 2006, UNESCO / UNGEI, 2015, UNICEF, 2011). Similarly, the evidence indicates that most LGBTIQ students (Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender, Intersex and Queer) report having experienced bullying or violence based on their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression (Plan / ICRW, UNESCO and others, 2014).

The Global Guidance on School-related gender-based violence published by UNESCO and UN Women indicates that facing this phenomenon requires the commitment and leadership of national and local governments, NGOs, and civil society. The latter becomes especially relevant in contexts of massive closure of schools due to COVID-19. The differences between educational and domestic spaces have become increasingly diffuse and where girls and boys must interact in unprotected digital contexts.

Considering the above, UNESCO, the Global Working Group to End SRGBV, the Regional Education Working Group, UNGEI, UNICEF and Plan International have organised a regional dialogue space between key education sector actors. This public webinar aims to promote good practices for the prevention of gender violence in schools in the region, involving NGOs, civil organisations, national and local governments, and youth organisations.

The online seminar, open to all audiences, will present the main results of thematic meetings held with various educational actors, highlighting the challenges identified, as well as the transformative actions that are being carried out by different educational actors.

Objectives

- To discuss, based on the voices of young people and actors in education, about sexual and gender-based violence, its effect when guaranteeing of the right to education, and well-being; and different partners’ roles to address it.
- To identify the main challenges related to school-related gender-based violence and the transformative actions that different actors implement in Latin American countries.
- To improve networking and sharing of lessons between organisations of the United Nations system, technical teams from Ministries of Education, civil society and youth organisations and other relevant educational actors linked to the prevention of school-related gender-based violence.
- To disseminate recommendations and transformative actions to address School-related gender-based violence within national educational systems of Latin America.
## Agenda

**Thursday, 9 September 2021**  
11:00 – 13:00 horas (GMT -3, Santiago de Chile time)  
Zoom: [https://unesco.org.zoom.us/j/91234900503](https://unesco.org.zoom.us/j/91234900503)  
Access code: 873569  
YouTube: [https://youtu.be/axR7j23_GRE](https://youtu.be/axR7j23_GRE)

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| 11:00 - 11:10 | Welcome UNESCO  
Mary Guinn Delaney, Regional Advisor on Education for Health and Well-being, OREALC / UNESCO Santiago |
| 11:10 – 12:10 | Transformative experiences in the education sector – Round table  
- Yeny Rivas – Gerenta de Género, Ministerio de Educación (El Salvador)  
- Camila Palomino Padilla – Sin Tabúes (Perú)  
- Melanie Parra – Tú decides (Bolivia)  
- Jorge Herrera – DILO Escuelas Incluyentes (México)  
- Denisse Carreira – Teacher, Coordinator of Acao Educativa (Brazil) and Malala Fund Champion |
| 12:10 – 12:45 | Questions from the audience to the panellists  
Moderator: Vanessa Villa – Papaya Tropical |
| 12:45 – 13:00 | Key messages from the discussion and closing  
Mariana Cruz – IPPF/WHR |