



Celebrating teachers: Presentation of the Highlights of the UNESCO Global Report on Teachers and award ceremony of the Global Teacher Prize

8 November, 18:30-20:00 CET

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About the event

Organised by the Varkey Foundation, **the Global Teacher Prize** is an annual award which aims to highlight the importance of the teaching profession, as well as the fact that the invaluable contributions of teachers to society deserve to be recognised and celebrated. Each year, one outstanding teacher is chosen from an international shortlist of nominees to receive an award of US\$1 million for their exceptional service to their students and community.

Since its inauguration in 2015, the Global Teacher Prize has gone from strength to strength, receiving over 8,000 applications and nominations yearly. Past winners have included teachers from the United States, Palestine, Canada, the United Kingdom, Kenya and India. The Prize has also inspired the establishment of over 40 National Teacher Prizes to recognise and celebrate teachers at the country level.

The 2023 Global Teacher Prize award ceremony will be hosted in partnership with UNESCO and Dubai Cares to recognise the crucial role of teacher prizes in enhancing the social status and prestige of the profession globally. This is more important now than ever. [Research conducted by UNESCO and the International Teacher Taskforce](#) indicates that in recent years, the attractiveness of the teaching profession has been steadily diminishing worldwide. As a result, we are currently facing a severe global teacher shortage.

At this event, ***the Highlights of the first UNESCO-Teacher Task Force Global Report on Teachers***, focusing on teacher shortages, will be presented. It will provide rich new data and insights on issues and challenges teachers face worldwide and offer recommendations for practical strategies to improve teacher recruitment, retention, and qualification.

Many aspects undermining the teaching profession's attractiveness are material, including poor pay, unmanageable workloads and precarious working conditions. But it is also essential to recognise the importance of social factors. Teachers must feel they are trusted, properly valued for their work, and given the respect they deserve. To reverse the current global teacher shortage, teachers in all countries must receive greater social and political recognition for their invaluable contributions to society.

After presenting the highlights of the Report, a panel discussion moderated by ADG/ED, Ms Stefania Giannini, will follow. The Ministries of Education from Finland, Indonesia and South Africa will address some of the critical issues affecting teacher shortages, including:

- Teacher shortages are a global problem but affect differently each region; for example, Sub-Saharan Africa has the most severe shortage, with 15.1 million additional teachers needed, one-third of the global required. Thus, how do we direct international aid to support the regions furthest behind? What should be the role of the international community in addressing teacher shortages?
- What strategies can be used to secure adequate teacher funding, and what role should the national governments play with the international community?
- What can governments do to support a holistic approach for teachers to ensure they are motivated, recruited, retained, with good working conditions and their status elevated?
- Teacher status should be enhanced and recognised; this can also be achieved through teachers' leadership roles and autonomy in planning their courses. How can teachers be involved and empowered to feel valued and central to teaching and learning?
- What good practices could be shared from your context to reduce attrition and ensure the well-being of teachers? To what extent other countries' governments can implement

Agenda

8 November, 18:30-20:00 CET	
UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France	
18:30	Poetry recital: Ms. Alexandra Huynh
18:35	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome address from Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO

<p>18:40</p>	<p>Video: the importance of teacher shortages and UNESCO’s Global Report on Teachers</p> <p>Panel discussion: Highlights of the UNESCO-Teacher Task Force Global Report on Teachers</p> <p>Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO</p> <p>Ministerial panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, South Africa • H.E. Mikaela Nylander, Vice-Minister, State Secretary to the Minister of Education, Finland • H.E. Suharti, Deputy Minister of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology, Indonesia
<p>19:00</p>	<p>Global Teacher Prize Finalist Introductions and Q&A Hosted by Mr Stephen Fry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten finalists of the Global Teachers Prize
<p>19:30</p>	<p>Tribute Performance Performed by Ms Rachel Modest</p>
<p>19:35</p>	<p>Winner Announcement, Trophy Presentation and winner speech Hosted by Mr Stephen Fry</p>
<p>19:50</p>	<p>Closing Remarks Delivered by Mr Stephen Fry</p>
<p>20:00</p>	<p>Cocktail</p>