



Global Education First Initiative

The UN Secretary-General's Global Initiative on Education

MEDIA ADVISORY

Malala and Kailash Satyarthi join World Leaders to put *#EducationFirst for Sustainable Development*

2014 Nobel Laureates, Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi, are joining forces in their tireless fight for the right to education and for the millions of children deprived of their childhood, at the Global Education First Initiative (GEFI) high-level event on 26 September. Along with Heads of State and Government, international advocates and UN Principals, they will call for bold commitments to education as the key to eradicating poverty, protecting the planet and achieving truly sustainable development.

The purpose of the event, *#EducationFirst for Sustainable Development*, is to raise political momentum for inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning as part of the ambitious new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to galvanize transformative action in all countries to put every child in school, improve the quality of learning, and foster global citizenship.

The benefits of education permeate all walks of life. Yet 124 million children and youth are still out of school, 250 million children lack basic skills, even after four years of education, and 757 million adults, two thirds of whom are women, cannot read or write. After agreeing to the *Education for All (EFA)* goals in April 2000 and the *Incheon Declaration* in May 2015, world leaders will finally celebrate the adoption of the *Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development*, which includes a transformative education goal.

WHO:

Keynote Speaker: First Lady of China and UNESCO Special Envoy for the Advancement of Girls and Women's Education, Peng Liyuan

Guest Speakers: Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Malala Yousafzai
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Kailash Satyarthi

- President of Croatia, Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović
- President of Republic of Korea, Park Geun-Hye
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia, Julie Bishop
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Børge Brende
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, Taieb Baccouche
- Director-General, UNESCO, and GEFI Executive Secretary, Irina Bokova
- UN Special Envoy for Global Education, Gordon Brown
- Representative of the Secretary-General, Ban Soon-taek
- Board Chair of Global Partnership for Education, Julia Gillard
- Vice President for Human Development, World Bank Group, Keith Hansen
- Deputy Executive Director, UN Women, Lakshmi Puri
- President, Education International, Susan Hopgood
- GEFI Youth Advocacy Group members

MODERATORS: Chernor Bah and Henry Bonsu

WHEN: Saturday, 26 September 2015, 3:00pm–5:00pm

WHERE: Conference Room 4, UN Headquarters, New York

Please note: a limited number of seats will be available for media

The GEFI event will be webcast live on UN Web TV: <http://webtv.un.org/>

For more information, visit: <http://www.globaleducationfirst.org/>

Social media: Live tweeting will take place throughout the event. Follow the conversation: @GlobalEduFirst using #EducationFirst

MEDIA CONTACTS:

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More details from MALU can be found at <http://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/>

For an embed code of the live webcast from UN Web TV:

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For more information on the event, please also visit <http://www.globaleducationfirst.org/5519.htm>