

## OMEP Seminar Series 2021-2022

### Early childhood care and education (ECCE) in debate

#### Seminar I: Rights from the start: how to advocate for early childhood?

**Monday, August 23th, 2021**

7:00 am Buenos Aires

3:30 pm India

12:00 pm Madrid

6:00 am New York

7:00 pm Seoul

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#### Background

The pandemic caused by COVID-19 has forced OMEP to postpone the 2020 and 2021 World Conferences. Therefore, it is timely and necessary to **enable a new space to continue political and pedagogical debates**, strengthening the knowledge of our community, the capacities of the organizations and its members.

Education is not only a human right, but the tool to achieve all other rights and the catalyst for the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda. The elimination of poverty, good health and well-being, sustainable development, citizenship, gender equality, decent work, responsible consumption, among other objectives, **will not be possible without developing, enriching and enhancing education from the birth of all people.**

It is necessary to promote in the OMEP community to promote reflection and updating **the achievements related to SDG 4.2** regarding access and quality of ECCE and **SDG 4.7**, which highlights the importance of education for sustainable development, human rights, gender equality and promoting a culture that values diversity and global citizenship.

Throughout the **OMEP Seminar Series 2021-2022** we will share perspectives and experiences that reflect the knowledge, diversity and richness of policies and pedagogies built around the world, for early childhood education in relation to the serious crisis that has caused the Pandemic.

It also will be an opportunity to provide a space for the exchange of ideas about our flagship initiative "**Decade for Early Childhood: Development, Education and Care**", putting into debate the central themes that will help define the content and orientation of our proposals.

Likewise, it will enable reflection on different aspects of the OMEP Strategic Plan, the meanings, actions and intra- and interregional articulations, strengthening the vision and action of the National Committees and of each member.

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## Discussion

The Webinar will include keynote presentations from three specialists who have several expertise on children and political advocacy: **Rajakumari Michaelsamy**, **Giovanna Modé** and **Mercedes Mayol Lassalle**, and it will be coordinated by **Soon Hwan Kim**, President of OMEP Korea.

**Rajakumari Michaelsamy** is a human rights professional with over 15 years of experience in various aspects of human rights including human rights education, research, monitoring, training, intervention and advocacy. Being an ardent advocate of right to education, she has closely worked with children and educators in India from pre-primary to secondary level. She joined RTE in February 2021, and has previously worked with a range of national and international NGOs and organisations, including Pax Romana -IMCS Asia Pacific, People's Watch-Tamil Nadu, Indian Social Institute, Child Rights and You, and Amnesty International India.

She holds a Master's degree in Human Rights from the University of Essex and a Postgraduate Diploma in International Human Rights Law from the National Law School of India University.

**Giovanna Modé** is the Head of Policy of the Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education (CLADE, for its acronym in Spanish), a regional network based in São Paulo. As such, she actively participated in the civil society advocacy process towards the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the United Nations (2012-2015), and more recently in its follow-up and implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean. She holds a Master's (2010) and PhD (2019) studies in Sociology of Education by the School of Education of the University of São Paulo, in the research programme "Education and Social Sciences: Inequalities and Diversity". Her research topics include education, human rights, children's rights, and international migration, with several articles and reports published.

**Mercedes Mayol Lassalle** is the World President of OMEP (World Organization for Preschool Education) since January 1, 2020. National Normal Teacher, Graduate in Education Sciences, University of Buenos Aires. Former Director of the Early Childhood Education area of the City of Buenos Aires. Currently, she is a Professor in the Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education at the University of Buenos Aires and in the Regional Program for Training in Planning and Management of

Educational Policies, IPE-UNESCO Buenos Aires, Office for Latin America. Elected member of the Coordination Group of the Collective Consultation of NGOs on EDUCATION 2030 – CCNGO / ED 2030.

**Soon Hwan Kim** is an associate professor of Early Childhood Education at Ewha Womans University in Seoul, Korea. Currently, she is serving as president of the OMEP KOREA and also working as an editor of Asia-Pacific Journal of Research in Early Childhood Education.

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## Agenda

- 1- **Opening** by Soon Hwan Kim (5 minutes)
- 2- **Presentation** by Mercedes Mayol Lassalle (15 minutes)
- 3- **Presentation** by Rajakumari Michaelsamy (15 minutes )
- 4- **Presentation** by Giovanna Modé (15 minutes)
- 5- **Questions** by Soon Hwan Kim (5 minutes)
- 6- **Closing** by Soon Hwan Kim (5 minutes)

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## Methodology

- The Seminar will have **simultaneous translation channels in the three official languages of OMEP.**
- The live transmission will be carried out through the **OMEPWorldTV YouTube Channel**. The video will then be available in the three official OMEP languages.
- After the live Seminar, **an asynchronous debate will be promoted** during the week, for those people who could not attend live.