

Global Week of Action - Reloaded 2009

(05th Nov. + 09-18th Nov.)

Following the "International Day of Action against the Commercialization of Education" on Nov. 5th 2008 and the „Reclaim your Education – Global Week of Action“ [20-29/04/2009] the „International Students Movement“ is calling for another Global Week of Action in Nov. 2009.

More and more people realize, that the forces responsible for the increasing privatisation and commercialisation of public education (like many other aspects of life) function globally and therefore the only way to effectively confront them in the long run is to unite in our struggle worldwide.

Students, teachers, workers and parents around the world are asking themselves: "Is the public education system actually serving the interests of the public, or is the focus increasingly shifting to implement education systems that primarily serve private and business interests?"

Once introduced – the tuition fees sky-rocket, universities and schools are turned into businesses, student debt keeps increasing and public education budgets (unlike the budgets for military and „security measures“) are cut in most places.

Institutions of higher education become highly dependant on their ability to attract private sponsorships (usually from economic actors). Consequently only those institutions and faculties that are deemed „valuable“ by sponsors are able to survive.

Public education systems, from kindergarten to university, should make an individuals emancipation their priority, be tuition-free and accessible to all. A democratic society only exists, if it consists of emancipated and self-determined individuals, who are able to reflect critically on their (social) environment, developments and power structures. Any system, that doesn't fulfil these criteria should not be considered democratic.

The fact, that groups and movements in more than 20 countries on 5 continent united during the international day and global week of action confirms the global scope of our struggle. Education activists in various countries agreed to call for another Global Week of Action this year during the following time frame:

Nov. 5th 2009 ["Warm-up" Day of united Action] + **Nov. 9 - 18th 2009** ["Global Week of Action"]

People around the world will unite to counter the commercialization and so-called "neoliberal" reforms within the sector of public education between November 9 – 18th. Furthermore Nov. 17th marks the "International Students' Day". With every internationally co-ordinated protest each local movement is strengthened. Barriers between different groups worldwide are overcome and we get closer to our goal of establishing free and emancipatory public education systems, which are accessible to all.

It is up to each group to decide in what way and for how many days they wish to express their protest during this week. These can be bigger or smaller actions. But it is vital that we co-ordinate this together and establish a constant flow of information between the groups involved. Therefore please get in touch with us, as soon as you decided to unite with activists around the world with some sort of protest action as part of the "Global Week of Action - Reloaded".

"One World - One Struggle; Education is NOT for \$A£€!!"

More information can be found here: <http://emancipating-education-for-all.org>
Please send your questions and comments to: united.for.education@gmail.com

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What is the "International Students Movement"?

The "International Students Movement" is a platform used by groups and activists around the world struggling against the commercialization and privatization of public education to network and co-ordinate protests together.

The platform is independent from any political parties, unions or other institutions. It is dominated by grassroots movements and generally open to everyone [students, pupils, teachers, parents, workers,...]. The forces pushing for the increasing commercialization of public education [unleashed by global competition] - just like the commercialization of every other aspect of life - are located on the global level. To effectively counter this development groups struggling for free and emancipatory public education need to unite internationally and globally.

The "International Students Movement" makes use of the following tools:

- this **website**: <http://emancipating-education-for-all.org>
- various **forums**: <http://emancipating-education-for-all.org/forum>
- a **mailing list** [~3-4 mails per week]
- regular **international online chats** [1-2 times a month; details are communicated via the mailing list]

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**for Free and Emancipating
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