

# Approaches global citizenship education for multicultural experiences: what school can do?

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**Abstract.** Global citizenship education has an increasingly important role to play in facing today's global challenges, especially in the context of multicultural experiences. This article aims to explore various approaches that can be taken by educational units in developing global citizenship education that focuses on multicultural experiences. Through a literature review, this study identified approaches that could be applied in educational units, such as intercultural teaching, project-based learning, active participation in local and global communities, and the use of information and communication technology. These approaches are designed to enable students to develop a deep understanding of cultural diversity, universal values, human rights, equality, and social justice. In addition, these approaches also encourage the development of intercultural skills, critical thinking skills, empathy, cooperation, and sensitivity to global issues. Application of these approaches in education units will help create an inclusive learning environment, enrich the student experience, and prepare them to contribute as aware, responsible and empathetic global citizens. In an increasingly global connected context, these approaches offer broad insights and solutions that can be applied by education units to develop global citizenship education that promotes multicultural experiences.

**Keywords:** Global citizenship, Global challenges, Multicultural experiences

## 1. Introduction

Multicultural problems are challenges or conflicts that arise in the context of cultural diversity, values and identities in a society that consists of individuals from different cultural backgrounds. Several multicultural problems that often arise, first: Prejudice and discrimination: Prejudice and discrimination arise when individuals or groups feel superior or have the belief that their culture is better than other cultures. This can result in unfair treatment or oppression of minority groups[1].

The second is cultural conflict: cultural differences in terms of language, tradition, religion and social norms are often a source of conflict between individuals or groups[2], [3]. Misunderstanding and disagreement can cause tension between the groups. Third, Social inequality: In a multicultural society, social and economic disparities between different

groups can occur[4]. This can result in injustice, social tension, and a lack of equal opportunities for all citizens. Fourth, Isolation and alienation: Minority individuals or groups may experience isolation and alienation in a society dominated by the majority culture[5]. They can feel rejected or not recognized for their identity and contribution. Fifth, Difficulties in communication: Different languages or different styles of communication can cause barriers to social interaction and intercultural understanding[6], [7]. Ineffective communication can deepen misunderstandings and conflicts. Sixth Multiple identities: Individuals growing up in a multicultural environment may face challenges in developing a consistent identity. They must deal with the expectations and demands of their own culture and that of the majority culture. Seventh, Use of stereotypes: Cultural stereotypes and prejudices can affect perceptions and judgments of certain individuals or groups. Negative stereotypes can reinforce injustice and discrimination.

The education system can also create injustice in terms of ethnicity or race. Sometimes, there are unfair preferences or treatment towards certain ethnic groups. This can create tension and tension over access to equal education for all students. Racial discrimination in education destroys the principle of equality and hinders the potential of children from minority groups. To overcome this problem, collective efforts are needed from both the government, educational institutions and society. First, there is a need for policies that support inclusive and equitable education for all levels of society. Equal access to education and good quality education must be the right of all children regardless of social, gender or ethnic background.

In addition, education that prioritizes the values of tolerance, equality and rejection of all forms of discrimination must be strengthened. Teachers and educational staff need to be trained to recognize and overcome discrimination in the classroom. The curriculum should also reflect respect and value the contributions of various social and cultural groups. In facing discrimination and social injustice in the education system, it is important for society to unite and play an active role in fighting for change. Collaboration between all parties involved can create an educational environment that is inclusive, fair and equitable. Thus, the education system will become a vehicle for encouraging social progress and equality for all individuals.

## **2. Method**

The research method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. The descriptive research method is defined as a problem-solving procedure investigated by describing or describing the state of both the subject and the research object [8]. While data collection uses literature review, this is used in this study where researchers use secondary data in the form of documents derived from journals and books, through various print and electronic media, websites or blogs, or other sources. Content analysis was used to analysis 34 reference journal articles global citizenship education and multicultural published from 2010 to 2022. Content analysis is a research technique usually applied to the social sciences and humanities [9]

### 3. Results and Discussion

It is important to admit that multicultural problems are not always negative. In an environment of inclusiveness and mutual understanding, cultural differences can be a source of ideas, perspectives and progress. Global citizenship education is an approach in education that aims to prepare students to face complex global challenges. However, as is the case with many fields of education, Global citizenship education also has some problems.

Some of the problems in Global citizenship education that often arise include:

1. **Limited resources:** Implementation of Global citizenship education requires adequate resources such as trained teaching staff, books, and teaching materials. However, in many countries, these resources are limited, making it difficult to implement effective global citizenship education [10], [11].
2. **Differences in global understanding:** Global citizenship education has a global focus and must involve multiple perspectives [12], [13]. However, sometimes there are differences in global understanding between educators, students, and communities. This can lead to misunderstandings and difficulties in promoting mutually respectful understanding across cultures.
3. **Incomplete curriculum:** Global citizenship education curriculum may be incomplete or inadequate, and may not address all aspects related to global challenges [14], [15]. This can cause students not to understand global issues properly and are not trained in making wise decisions.
4. **Challenges in assessment:** Assessments of Global citizenship education can be difficult because many things are difficult to measure, such as different experiences and unique cultural understandings [16]. These challenges can make it difficult to evaluate and measure the success of Global citizenship education.
5. **Lack of awareness about the importance of Global citizenship education:** Some people may not realize the importance of Global citizenship education, so they don't prioritize this education [17]. This can result in Global citizenship education not receiving sufficient attention within the education system, thereby not reaching its full potential.
6. **Challenges in implementation:** Global citizenship education requires a collaborative and multi-stakeholder approach [18]. However, sometimes administrative, policy and social challenges can complicate the implementation of Global citizenship education.
7. **Inequality of access:** Not all students have equal access to quality Global citizenship education [17]. Students from low-income families or who live in remote areas may have difficulty accessing quality global citizenship education.

The global citizenship education approach to multicultural experiences includes a variety of strategies and methods that aim to develop a deeper understanding of global citizenship and

respect for the diversity of cultures in this world. The following are some of the aspects that might be covered in such an approach:

1. **Multicultural awareness:** Effective global citizenship education focuses on developing an awareness of the cultural diversity and social differences in the world [19]. This involves exposing students to the different cultures, values, languages and practices that exist in different countries and communities.
2. **Development of global understanding:** This approach aims to help students understand how global issues are interrelated and how actions in one place can have an impact in another [20]. This understanding covers topics such as international trade, climate change, global conflicts, and international cooperation.
3. **Intercultural skills:** Global citizenship education teaches the skills necessary to interact with people from different cultural backgrounds. Students are taught how to communicate effectively, develop empathy, respect the perspectives of others, and resolve conflicts that may arise due to differences [21].
4. **Case studies and cultural comparisons:** Students are given the opportunity to study case studies on cultures and societies in different countries [22]. They can compare political systems, social policies, cultural values, and educational systems between different countries. This approach helps students develop a better understanding of cultural differences and evaluate the social, political, and economic implications of those differences.
5. **Global collaboration:** Through digital technology and partnerships with schools in different countries, students can engage in collaborative projects that allow them to interact and work together with students from different cultures [23]. This kind of collaboration promotes cross-cultural understanding, knowledge exchange, and the development of global teamwork skills.
6. **Action learning:** The global citizenship education approach aims not only to increase understanding, but also to inspire positive action [24]. Students are encouraged to become responsible global citizens and contribute to solutions to global problems, whether through participating in volunteer activities, advocating for global issues, or taking an active role in social projects focused on social change.

The global citizenship education approach is an approach that emphasizes the importance of developing the understanding and skills necessary to become a responsible global citizen and engage in global issues. This approach teaches that global problems such as poverty, climate change and armed conflict cannot be solved by one country or one group alone, but require cooperation and collaboration across national boundaries.

In a multicultural experience, a global citizenship education approach can help individuals to understand values and cultures that are different from their own, as well as broaden their understanding of global problems and how they can contribute to solving them. The following

are some examples of multicultural experiences that can be combined with a global citizenship education approach:

1. International student exchange programs: These programs allow students to spend time in another country and learn about the culture, language and everyday life of that country [25]. Students can also learn about the global problems facing the country and how other countries can help solve them.
2. International collaborative activities: Activities such as research projects, debates, and cross-country sports can help students build collaboration skills and mutual understanding with people of different cultures [26], [27]. This activity can be organized via the internet, so that students can participate from their respective locations.
3. Volunteer experience abroad: Students can work as volunteers in other countries to help the community in areas such as health, education, or the environment [14], [28]. As well as helping society, students can also broaden their experience by learning languages

In dealing with the problems of Global citizenship education, it is necessary to make efforts to increase awareness about the importance of Global citizenship education and increase support and accessibility to global citizenship education [29], [30]. In addition, it is important to strengthen training and support for teachers and teaching staff in order to implement Global citizenship education effectively.

Global citizenship education is becoming increasingly important in today's increasingly connected world. Schools have a very significant role in introducing this approach to their students [31], [32]. By creating learning environments that support multicultural experiences, schools can play a major role in the formation of global citizens who are aware of differences in culture, language, and values. A global citizenship education approach in schools can include introductions to various cultures through history, literature, and arts subjects. In addition, schools can also organize events and activities that encourage intercultural interaction, such as cultural festivals, student exchanges, and international collaborative projects. In this way, schools not only provide knowledge about the wider world, but also foster a deeper understanding of the similarities and differences between cultures.

Through this approach, schools can help students develop important skills such as tolerance, empathy, and cross-cultural understanding [25], [26]. This is an important step in shaping future generations who can contribute positively in overcoming global challenges, promoting peace, and building bridges between nations. In an effort to create rich multicultural experiences for students, schools need to integrate global citizenship education into their curriculum. It's not just about introducing students to foreign cultures, but also about teaching them how to understand and appreciate those differences.

One way schools can do this is by developing a curriculum that includes subjects such as social studies, foreign languages, and cultural studies [33], [34]. In this lesson, students can learn about history, culture, and global issues that impact multicultural societies. In addition, this approach should also include practical learning, such as student exchanges, international collaborative projects, and visits to local multicultural communities. In addition, schools can also promote an open and inclusive attitude by implementing policies and programs that support

diversity. This includes supporting students with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds and holding activities that celebrate diversity. By integrating global citizenship education into the curriculum and school culture, schools can play an important role in forming competent and caring global citizens, ready to face global challenges and establish positive relationships with multicultural communities around the world.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The conclusion on how schools can approach global citizenship education for multicultural experiences can be summarized as follows: Promote diversity and inclusion, Integrate global perspectives into the curriculum, Encourage intercultural interactions, Develop critical thinking and empathy, Foster global awareness and responsibility, Provide professional development for teachers. By implementing these approaches, schools can play a significant role in preparing students to become informed, engaged, and responsible global citizens who appreciate and respect cultural diversity, understand global interdependence, and actively contribute to a more inclusive and sustainable world. Some recommendations relate to approaches that schools can take to promote effective global citizenship education: (1) Multicultural Curriculum: Schools can develop curricula that include multicultural material that reflects various cultures, histories, and global issues. This can include subjects such as world history, religious studies, and broader social studies. (2) Teacher Training: Teachers need to receive adequate training in global citizenship education and how to deal with cultural differences in the classroom. This will help them facilitate meaningful discussions and understand the needs of students from various backgrounds. (3) Active Learning Experiences: Schools can encourage practical learning experiences, such as visits to historical sites, museums, or multicultural institutions. Students may also engage in research projects that require cross-cultural collaboration. (4) International Cooperation: Schools may form partnerships with schools abroad for cultural exchange or project collaboration. This opens the door to deeper global understanding. (5) Lessons on Tolerance and Empathy: Through specific lessons, such as those on tolerance, empathy, and cultural understanding, schools can help students develop these important skills. (6) Diverse Classrooms: Creating culturally and socially diverse classrooms can help students interact with different people, thereby broadening their view of the world. (7) Student Empowerment: Give students the opportunity to speak up and participate in school decision making. This can help them feel like they have a role in shaping an inclusive and multicultural school environment. (8) Providing Resources: Schools can provide additional resources, such as books, films, and learning materials that focus on multiculturalism and global citizenship. (9) Inclusive Environment: It is important to create an inclusive school environment, where all students feel welcome and valued regardless of their cultural or ethnic background. (10) Evaluation and Assessment: Schools need to develop evaluation methods that reflect student achievement in the development of multicultural understanding and global citizenship.

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