



Vatican City, 27 November 2025

Message for the Solemn Session of the Federal Senate of Brazil

on the occasion of the celebration of the Global Compact on Education

Most Excellent President of the Federal Senate,
esteemed Senators,
civil and religious authorities,
dear educators, students, and friends of Brazil,

I wish to express, on behalf of the Dicastery for Culture and Education and the Holy See, my profound gratitude for this Solemn Session dedicated to the Global Compact on Education. The fact that this initiative is included in the official calendar of the Federal Senate is an eloquent sign of the responsibility that Brazil feels toward the younger generations, democracy, and the common good.

The Global Compact on Education, launched by Pope Francis in 2020, has become a shared path for hundreds of schools, universities, and educational communities in this great nation. Today's Solemn Session is a sign of communion and hope: an invitation to renew the educational alliance between public and private institutions, between the State and civil society, between the academic world and the ecclesial world.

In the context of the Jubilee of the Educational World, recently celebrated in Rome, Pope Leo XIV inaugurated a new educational season called **"Constellations of Hope."** In his recent Apostolic Letter *Drawing New Maps of Hope*, the Holy Father reminds us that all authentic education must help build maps capable of orienting life, kindling desire, and generating the future.

Brazil carries in its heart a deeply evocative image: the constellation that shines on its national flag. The stars remind us that a nation is great when it knows how to orient itself together; when it looks to a common sky; when it recognizes that every young person is a light to be protected and encouraged to shine.

Today, I invite you to add new educational constellations to that national constellation — constellations created by the encounter of your extraordinary energies: those of public institutions, Catholic movements, universities, local communities, popular schools, businesses, and families. Only together can we trace a map of hope and draw constellations that guide the way.

Alongside the seven original objectives of the Global Compact on Education — placing the person at the centre, listening to the voice of young people, promoting women, strengthening the family, fostering hospitality, renewing politics and the economy, and caring for our common home — Pope Leo indicated three new objectives needed for our time:

- Cultivating interior life
- Generating a human-centred digital culture
- Building peace

1. Cultivating interior life

Our young people, immersed in constant noise and increasing social pressures, have a vital need for silence, meaning, and depth.

Education must help cultivate interior life, forming young people capable of listening, discernment, and responsibility; offering educational spaces that develop not only skills but also conscience; helping each young person rediscover an “inner place” where freedom can take root.

A nation that protects the inner life of its youth is already protecting its future.

2. Generating a human-centred digital culture

Technology needs a soul.

Generating a human digital culture means making digital tools instruments of equity rather than exclusion; promoting critical education capable of discerning what builds up and what harms; protecting young people from manipulation, hate speech, addiction, and misinformation; supporting innovative projects that make technology a force for social justice and environmental care.

3. Building peace

Building peace means educating for dialogue and reconciliation; offering young people tools to manage conflicts non-violently; promoting courageous educational policies in the most vulnerable territories; supporting projects that unite culture, sports, art, and social inclusion.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
the Global Compact on Education is not a document: it is a journey. It is a promise. It is a culture of hope.

Today, the Federal Senate of Brazil turns its gaze toward this global mission. I encourage you to continue this path with determination, building together — State, universities, schools, families, communities, and civil society — a great national educational alliance that will illuminate both the country and the world.

May Brazil always make new constellations of hope shine on the faces of its young people.

I greet you all with esteem and gratitude.

José Tolentino Card. de Mendonça
Prefect