



IIMA
Human Rights Office
Istituto Internazionale
Maria Ausiliatrice



Fondazione
Comboniane
nel Mondo - onlus



CONGREGATION OF
OUR LADY OF CHARITY
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

57th Session of the HRC

Item 3 – GD on HC Report on Solutions to promote digital education
for young people and to ensure their protection from online threats
Geneva, 18 September 2024

Oral statement submitted by
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And co-signed by
**VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for
Women, Education and Development**

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (RGS)

With the support of
Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions (RNDM)

Fondazione Comboniane nel Mondo Onlus

As the representative of a group of adolescents and young women from several countries,¹ I express the appreciation of this NGO coalition for the report of the High Commissioner on digital education for young people.

Girls and young women are particularly discriminated regarding **digital education**. We lack access to internet facilities and digital devices, even worst for those living in rural areas and with poor financial resources. At school, we see that the teachers are often not prepared to accompany us in the use of digital tools and online platforms.

Lack of **online safety and security** is a major barrier for us. Not only do we lack the training to use safely the digital tools, we also lack information on how to report abuses. Even when procedures to report are known, there is little reply from authorities receiving the complaints.

We fully support all the recommendations of the High Commissioner. Among them, we urge States to prioritize:

¹ Peru, Ecuador, India, Kenya, Nepal, South Sudan, Italy, Spain, Germany, France, and Hungary.

Recommendation 104 (a) regarding the need for legal and policy frameworks for a comprehensive human rights approach to digital education;² and

(c) on the inclusion of digital education in school curricula for students and teachers alike;³

Thank you.

² “To enact and implement the necessary legal and policy frameworks, anchored in human rights obligations, to establish a comprehensive approach to promote digital education and to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of young people online”, Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on Solutions to promote digital education for young people and to ensure their protection from online threats (A/HRC/57/28), p. 17, § 104 (a).

³ “To develop and include digital, media and information literacy in formal education curricula at all levels for students and teachers alike, including outside the formal education system”, *Ibidem*, p. 17, § 104 (c).