



**Statement by His Eminence Cardinal Pietro Parolin  
Secretary of State and Head of the Delegation of the Holy See  
at the Transforming Education Summit**

New York, 19 September 2022

Mr. / Madam Moderator,

The Holy See welcomes this opportunity to participate in the Transforming Education Summit and wishes to thank the Secretary General for convoking this meeting on such a vital topic.

The Catholic Church, who from her origins has always accompanied evangelization with the transmission of knowledge, culture and science, continues to be engaged in the front line of education, with schools and universities scattered throughout all continents, where more than 70 million students, many of whom are non-Catholic and non-Christian, receive quality education

Moved by the strong conviction that through education we can strive for a better world, Pope Francis launched the Global Compact on Education, pointing out that education is “one of the most effective ways of making our world and history more human.” involving multiple actors and international stakeholders to rebuild the fragile educational alliance

To this end, Pope Francis invites all those who work in the field of education to be guided by the following four pillars: *know thyself, know thy neighbour, know creation, know the Transcendent*. It is this tension toward the destiny and vocation of humanity which gives education its deeper meaning and convinces young people of its value. The unification of these four pillars will make education truly integral, overcoming the dichotomies between its cognitive, emotional and ethical aspects.

To bring about this holistic vision of education, the Pope invites educational organizations around the world to review their educational projects and curricula.

As Pope Francis says, “every change calls for an educational process that involves everyone. There is thus a need to create an ‘educational village’, in which all people, according to their respective roles, share the task of forming a network of open, human relationships. According to an African proverb, ‘it takes a whole village to educate a child’. We have to create such a village before we can educate. In the first place, the ground must be cleared of discrimination and fraternity must be allowed to flourish.”

The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and now the war in Ukraine, not to forget the many other ongoing conflicts in different regions of the world, make the need for a global educational pact ever more urgent. Education will help us to overcome the many existing fractures in our societies, building stronger and more resilient communities, based upon the values of human fraternity and mutual solidarity.

Thank you Mr. / Madam Moderator