

## Bergamo UNESCO Chair

on Human Rights and Ethics of International Cooperation

E-mail: [redazione.news.cattedraunesco@unibg.it](mailto:redazione.news.cattedraunesco@unibg.it)



### PAIDEIA Project: human rights education

The Paideia Project stems from the awareness that the theoretical knowledge of human rights and its legislative support ought to be supplemented by an effective application of the same rights in different domains. Hence, the Project aims at fostering human rights within the activity sectors of its different promoters.

The Project relies on the collaboration of the Diocesan Council for Secular Associations (CDAL, *Consulta Diocesana Associazioni Laicali*), the CISL union and the research community “CULTURE RELIGIONI DIRITTI NON VIOLENZA [Cultures, religions, rights, non-violence]”. The Project offers human rights education to social workers and individuals operating in the fields of international cooperation, migration and education, especially those occupying leading positions; in the selection of the participants, young people will be privileged over their older counterparts.

The course is scheduled into 10 lessons beginning in September 2013; the first part, addressing general introductory issues, will be followed by a second part involving the analysis of case studies related to the participants' everyday experience and favoring the application of a new human-right based approach.



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## Education and Sustainable Development Project

The Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) set up a dialogical platform focusing on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and, in November 2012, organised a workshop aimed at illustrating the Education for Sustainable Development programs implemented, at national level, by some African countries (e.g. Mauritius and Lesotho). As a result of these initiatives, the Bergamo UNESCO Chair, in collaboration with the ADEA, is devising an assessment project in order to evaluate the actual efficacy of these programs in terms of providing the participants with the necessary know-how in order to meet the economic needs of their countries.

The assessment project will be carried out in Malawi in collaboration with the ADEA Working Team for informal education.

## Project on "the accessibility of the right to basic education" in Burkina Faso

The project represents the continuation of the research analyzing the indicators for the right to basic education in Burkina Faso, which was carried out by the Interdisciplinary Institute of Ethics and Human Rights (*Institut interdisciplinaire d'éthique et des droits de l'homme*) of Fribourg University (Switzerland) during the years from 2001 through 2005, in collaboration with the UNESCO Chair of the University of Bergamo (cf. *La mesure du droit à l'éducation. Tableau de bord de l'éducation pour tous au Burkina Faso*. Paris, 2005: Karthala/collectif IIEDH/APENF, 153). The research involved a network of local actors operating in the field of both formal and informal education, under the coordination of the Association for Informal Education (*Association pour l'Éducation non Formelle*, APENF).

The second phase of the project aims at supporting the Association for Informal Education in the implementation of a study investigating the elements that may ensure the full accessibility of basic education by granting cultural rights.





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## ReSeCo Project

The ReSeCo (*REtail SEctor COmpetencies*) Project is concerned with enhancing the quality of vocational education and training in the retail sector and, in particular, young people's personal and social competencies. It constitutes an 'innovation transfer' of a set of teaching and learning arrangements, and it is included in the Leonardo-da-Vinci Project and in the EU *Lifelong Learning Programme*.

In order to enhance the students' personal and social skills, four teaching-learning arrangements (TLA) were elaborated: i) self-assessment of one's strengths and weaknesses; ii) self-assessments of one's potential; iii) development of critical abilities; iv) time management. The four TLAs have already been tested on a sample of 1.113 students living in the European countries collaborating to the Project, i.e. Germany, United Kingdom, Italy and Poland.

The Italian Institutes involved in the testing and evaluation phase are the Holy Family Education Agency (*Ente di Formazione Sacra Famiglia*) in Comonte, Seriate (Bergamo province); the St. Vincent Centre for Professional Education and Training (*Centro di Formazione Professionale Patronato San Vincenzo*) in Bergamo, the Bergamo Educational Agency - Professional and Higher Education Training Centre MACHINA (*Azienda Bergamasca Formazione – Centro Formazione e Istituto Tecnico Superiore MACHINA*) and the Brescia "Lonati" Fashion and Design Institute.

Thanks to the suggestions, comments and indications provided by the teachers who agreed to collaborate to the testing and evaluation phase, the ReSeCo researchers will be able to adjust the four TLAs and make them more suitable to both the teachers' and the students' needs. The results of their work will be published in a volume which will be translated in several European languages; the Italian version of the volume, published by Bergamo *Sestante Edizioni*, will be distributed free of charge, upon request, to the local professional and training schools.

Further information are available at the following link:

[http:// www.unibg.it/struttura/struttura.asp?cerca=dsfc\\_reseco](http://www.unibg.it/struttura/struttura.asp?cerca=dsfc_reseco)



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## PUBLICATIONS

### Human Rights and International Cooperation: The Ethics of Reciprocity

by Stefania Gandolfi and Felice Rizzi

Edizioni Sestante - Bergamo University Press, Bergamo, 2013

Human rights are an essential ingredient of development, a crucial dimension of our shared social life fostering the dynamics of social change, and the very essence of democracy. Human rights are believed to incorporate the noblest and most fruitful outcomes of social action and are frequently advocated as the solution to all problems, though the prerequisites and the consequences of their implementation are often difficult to accept.

In this essay, human rights are discussed in order to delineate a new approach to poverty reduction and international cooperation. The Authors argue that the latter could be realized not by trying to address the needs and tackle the problems, but rather by formulating answers that recognize people's individual and collective dignity.

### “How Long Will it Take to Lift One Billion People out of Poverty?”

The presentation of the study entitled “**How Long Will it Take to Lift One Billion People out of Poverty?**”, by Martin Ravallion, one of the major "poverty reduction" experts of the Bretton Woods Institute, may have led to a substantial change of mind in the World Bank leadership. After decades of a nearly complete ban on mentioning poverty reduction among its objectives, World Bank President Jim Yong Kim, in a speech delivered at Georgetown University on April 2, 2013 acknowledged the necessity to "work relentlessly towards these goals of helping specific vulnerable groups all over the world to rise above the poverty line". Jim Yong Kim's words sound like a significant change in perspective after years in which the World Bank had indicated economic growth as the only key to development, thus disregarding the role played by inequality and extreme poverty in preventing billions of people from leading a decent life. This statement represents an opportunity which ought to be sized and calls for a careful monitoring of the World Bank's upcoming policies.

[http://econ.worldbank.org/external/default/main?](http://econ.worldbank.org/external/default/main?pa-gePK=64165259&theSitePK=469382&piPK=64165421&menuPK=64166093&entityID=000158349_20130122091052)

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<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/speech/2013/04/02/world-bank-group-president-jim-yong-kims-speech-at-georgetown-university>



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*Mgr Olivier Schmitthaesler*

## Inter-university cooperation between Bergamo and Cambodia

A second mission to Phnom Penh, which took place from the 9th to the 15th of March 2013, enabled the staff of the Bergamo UNESCO Chair to consolidate the partnership with the Royal University and opened new perspectives for cooperation with the Phnom Penh Diocese.

The Royal University vice-chancellor for the international relationships, Phal DES, awarded a research grant to two local students, whose papers are published on the Bergamo UNESCO Chair website. A meeting with Bishop Mgr Olivier Schmitthaesler, who is also the Chancellor of St. Paul University (situated at a distance of 60 km from Phnom Penh), enabled the staff of Bergamo UNESCO Chair to schedule a workshop, to be held on an annual basis at St. Paul University, specifically devoted to the teaching staff as well as to civil society *cadres* and other leading figures.



## International ISPI Conference

On May 6, 2013 the staff of the Bergamo UNESCO Chair attended the international Conference "Tertiary Education as a Key for Africa's development" which was held in Milan. Stefania Gandolfi delivered a speech on "*L'Università africana fra autenticità culturale e internazionalizzazione*" [African universities between cultural authenticity and internationalization efforts].

## Workshops held in Cuba

Two workshops for civil society *cadres* and leading figures were held in Guantanamo and Baracoa. The workshops addressed the following issues:

- Guantanamo (April 12, 2013): The cooperation between peoples;
- Baracoa (April 13, 2013): Ethics of development

During a meeting with the representatives of the UNESCO Chair in La Havana (that took place on April 11, 2013), the staff of the Bergamo UNESCO Chair discussed the perspective of inter-university cooperation.

## Missione in Honduras

On April 8-9, 2013, the Roman Catholic University *Nostra Signora Regina de la Paz* [Our Lady Queen of peace] hosted a meeting in the presence of the University chancellor, Dr. Elio David Altchoarena, the vice-chancellor Dr. Misael Arguijo Alvarenga, and the coordinator of the research team "*Concepción*" Mr. Ramos, that enabled the representatives of the Bergamo UNESCO Chair to schedule a number of cooperation initiatives aim at supporting scientific research as well as at the organization of workshops for the university teaching staff and other leadership figures in civil society.



*El papel de la Universidad y la cooperación internacional*



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## The Scientific Committee of Bergamo UNESCO Chair for the years 2012-2014:

Prof. Stefania GANDOLFI - President

Prof. Giuliano BERNINI

Prof. Michele BRUNELLI

Prof. Alessia DI PASCALE

Prof. Paola GANDOLFI

Prof. Federica GUERINI

Prof. Marco LAZZARI

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Prof. Mauro MAZZA

Ing. Giuditta PEZZOTTA

Prof. Silvio PREMOLI

Prof. Felice RIZZI

Prof. Francesco TAGLIARINI



Se desiderate ricevere ulteriori informazioni relative alla cattedra UNESCO in “Diritti dell’uomo ed etica della Cooperazione Internazionale”, potete contattarci ai seguenti indirizzi:

Email: [cattedra.unesco@unibg.it](mailto:cattedra.unesco@unibg.it)

Telefono: +39 035-2052945

Website: [www.unibg.it/cattedraunesco](http://www.unibg.it/cattedraunesco)

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