



**Organisers:** Lifelong Learning Platform, European Association for the Education of Adults, European Commission, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning

**Day and time:** Thursday 5 December, 10.30-12.30

**Room:** Permanent Representation of Lower Saxony to the EU, rue Montoyer, 61

**Register here** → [link](#)

**Participation and inclusion in learning and education: leave no one behind!**  
*Official launch of the GRALE 4 Report (UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning)*

### Concept

The ongoing debate on participation in learning and education continues to gain momentum in Europe and globally. In the European Union, the current Finnish Presidency has presided over debates and conclusions on the need for continuous training and lifelong learning, including at the high-level [Tripartite Social Summit](#) on 16 October where EU leaders discussed investment in skills and improving access to adult training. This debate resonates at the global level where progress on achieving many of the **UN Sustainable Development Goal 4 targets** on education and lifelong learning has been slow, to the extent that a review of the goal at the high-level [Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#) in July announced a “global learning crisis” encompassing different sectors of education. In light of these developments, the rapid pace of change and pressing societal challenges that we are facing in the world, participation in quality learning throughout the lifespan, including outside the formal system, is undoubtedly key to foster resilience and adaptability, particularly for the most vulnerable in society. But how to maximise this participation? And how can it contribute to more resilient and inclusive societies that leave no one behind?

Building on these issues, the debate will see the official launch of the fourth edition of the [Global Report on Adult Learning and Education](#) (GRALE 4) by the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL). The topic of the report, “**Leave no one behind: Participation, equity and inclusion**”, calls upon countries for major changes to achieve sustainable development goals by 2030. UNESCO’s Fourth Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE 4) brings an urgent call in reviewing policies in the light of the evidence in participation and investing in a sustainable provision that is accessible to all learners ensuring the realisation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

### Agenda

*Master of Ceremony: Mr Peter van der Hijden*

10.15 - Arrival and registrations

10.30 -10.40 - Opening - Welcoming words and introductions

- Mr Michael Freericks, Director of the Permanent Representation of Lower Saxony to the EU
- Ms Gina Ebner, Secretary-General of the European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA)
- MEP Gunther Sidl, Member of the European Parliament and of the Parliament's Lifelong Learning Interest Group

10.40-11.00: Launch of the Global Report on Adult Learning and Education – Leaving no one behind

- Mr David Atchoarena, Director of UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL)

11.00 - High-level panel discussion: Participation, equity and inclusion in adult learning and education: leave no one behind!

- Mr David Atchoarena, Director of UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL)
- Ms Tatjana Babrauskiene, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee
- Ms Manuela Geleng, Director for Skills, DG EMPL, European Commission
- Ms Sylvia Liuti, FORMA.Azione srl, Coordinator of SEQUENCES project on Early Childhood Education and Care
- Ms Lucie Susova, Education and Lifelong Learning Coordinator, SOLIDAR Foundation

12.00-12.30: Q&A

12.30 – Closing

*A light refreshment will follow the event*