



## **Global climate education and urgent need for a sustainable world**

There is no doubt that climate education in schools needs to be updated. The young generation will have to face challenges and opportunities of the climate crisis in their lives. Bearing this fact in mind it is crucial to equip society with appropriate adaptation tools, as well as to transfer knowledge and develop skills. Although various communities have organized several events to raise global awareness of climate change over the years, it is necessary to reform the core curriculum in schools, enabling the introduction of universal, interdisciplinary and comprehensive climate education. This task belongs to policymakers and decision-makers - now is the time to act! The planned event will be organized in the context of article 12 of Paris Agreement "*Parties shall cooperate in taking measures, as appropriate, to enhance climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information, recognizing the importance of these steps with respect to enhancing actions under Paris Agreement*".

**Our goal is to implement climate education in every European country.** By working together with governments we want to make climate education accessible for every student at all levels of education, regardless of their ethnicity, age, sex and social status.

The panel will be attended by **representatives of 5 youth climate organizations from Poland** that which signed an agreement over political divisions regarding the need for climate education - Polish Council of Youth Organizations PROM, Youth Climate Strike, Youth Ecological Council, Council of Children and Youth of the Republic of Poland, Youth Climate Council. Young people will take part in a panel discussion with a representative of the state administration - **Mrs. Anna Moskwa, the Minister of Climate and Environment.** **Representatives of the UN Global Compact Network Poland** will conduct a discussion to name the greatest challenges faced by young people and indicate the need to introduce an intergenerational and inter-institutional dialogue on climate education.

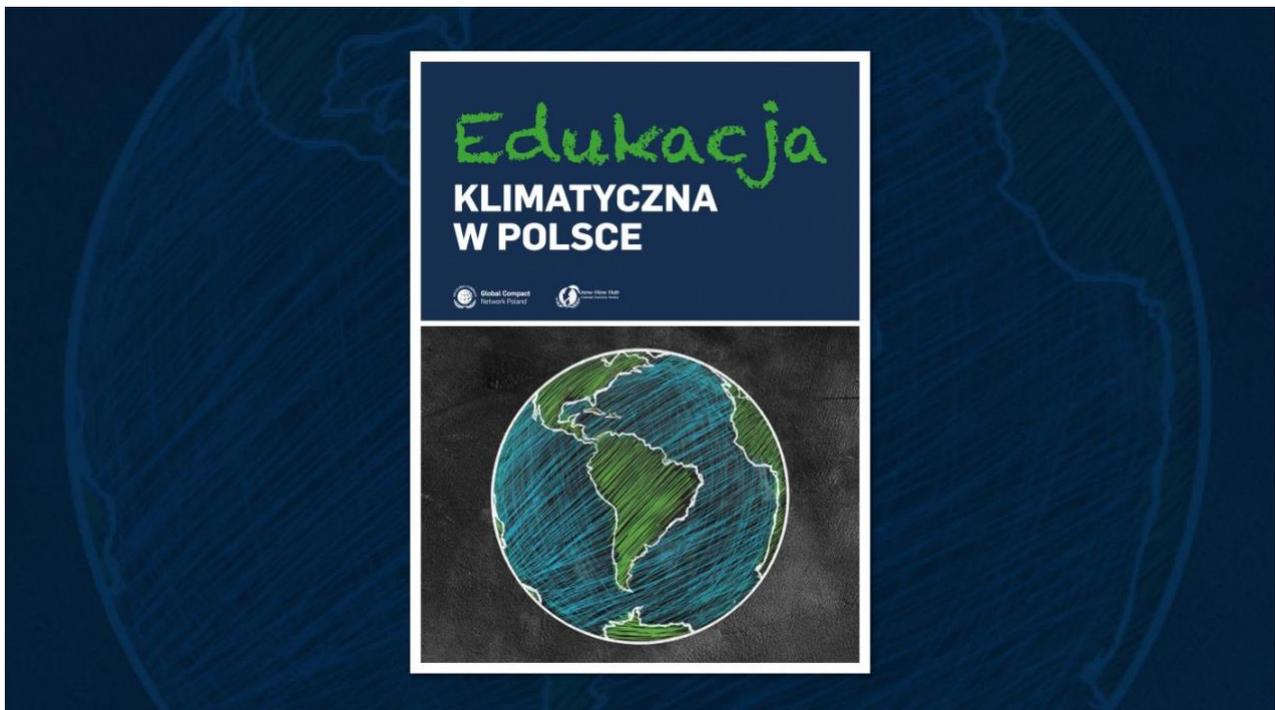
**Date: November 9 at 1:15 p.m. till 2:45 p.m.**

**Where? Blue Zone, UNFCCC zone, Room 2,**



**Climate education must be available for everyone, regardless of their ethnicity, age, sex and social status and must be provided at every level of education.** During the panel, we would like to draw attention to the need for interdisciplinary climate education of young people. We want European and global society to have a thorough education about the key risks to ecosystems and all species groups. That the next generations would know and not believe in climate change. By inviting them to the panel, we want to show the potential progress in climate education in the context of a roundtable for climate education take in Poland (15th of July) and its consequences in the following **9 countries**:

- Slovak Republic,
- Republic of Lithuania,
- Republic of Finland,
- Federal Republic of Germany,
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
- Republic of Turkey,
- Republic of Uganda
- United States of America
- Hellenic Republic





**Climate education must be integrated into the core values of every curriculum and thus be taught in every subject and discipline. Students must learn about the scientific, social and ethical aspects of the climate crisis.**

On World Youth Skills Day (July 15) was held the inaugural meeting of the Round Table for Climate Education, the purpose was to start a dialogue on the introduction of climate education in Polish schools. During the meeting, together with Partners - Youth Climate Strike, Polish Ecological Club, WWF Poland, IKEA Retail Poland and Ringer Axel Springer, we summed up the first stage of the **"YES for Climate Education"** campaign, under which we are collecting signatures for a petition to introduce reliable climate education in Polish schools.

On the day of the event, almost 60 thousand signatures persons, and together with the content of the petition, were forwarded to the Chancellery of the Prime Minister.

UN Global Compact, in cooperation with numerous non-governmental institutions, youth, teachers, educators, and the government administration in Poland, started regular meetings and debates in the form of roundtable meetings for climate education. Additionally, UN Global Compact Network Poland, in cooperation with specialists, respected scientists in many fields, created the report "Climate education in Poland", which was an introduction to the discussion on climate education. Climate education is also a proposal to conduct training in the field of climate change for decision-makers, in particular employees of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Climate and Environment, as well as experts preparing the assumptions of the core curriculum, members of Opinion Boards and Social Councils operating at the Minister. It should also be remembered that introducing any changes should be associated with social acceptance, therefore it is important to involve a group of experts, scientists, parents, youth, teachers and educators in the reform process.



Over 70 people (due to COVID-19 restrictions) took part in the inaugural meeting of the Round Table for Climate Education - representatives of government and local administration, representatives of the UN system, the world of politics and science, teachers and teachers, youth and non-governmental organizations. The participants of the meeting unanimously emphasized the necessity to introduce climate education in Polish schools. The advisor to the President of the Republic of Poland for Youth Affairs, Łukasz Rzepecki, read a letter from the President of the Republic of Poland, Andrzej Duda, in which the President emphasized the importance of improving the efficiency, habits and attitudes in the field of climate education.



There is a clear need for the process that began in Poland to be an example for other countries. Therefore, during the panel discussion, we want to identify problems existing in other European countries. A success achieved by young people was the signing of an agreement "Climate Youth Dialogue" by all youth organizations working for the climate in Poland. Despite their different political views, they decided to go hand in hand with a common goal - to educate their peers and try to counteract climate change.

The following five organizations are signatories to the "Climate Youth Dialogue"

- Polish Council of Youth Organizations PROM
- Youth Climate Strike
- Youth Ecological Council
- Council of Children and Youth of the Republic of Poland
- Youth Climate Council

**The UN Global Compact** is unparalleled in its ability to unite companies with every stakeholder group working to advance sustainable development, including Governments, civil society, investors, academia and the United Nations. Together, through bold actions and collaboration between all sectors of society, we can end extreme poverty and hunger, fight inequalities and address climate change, ensuring no one is left behind.

